

# Groton Daily Independent

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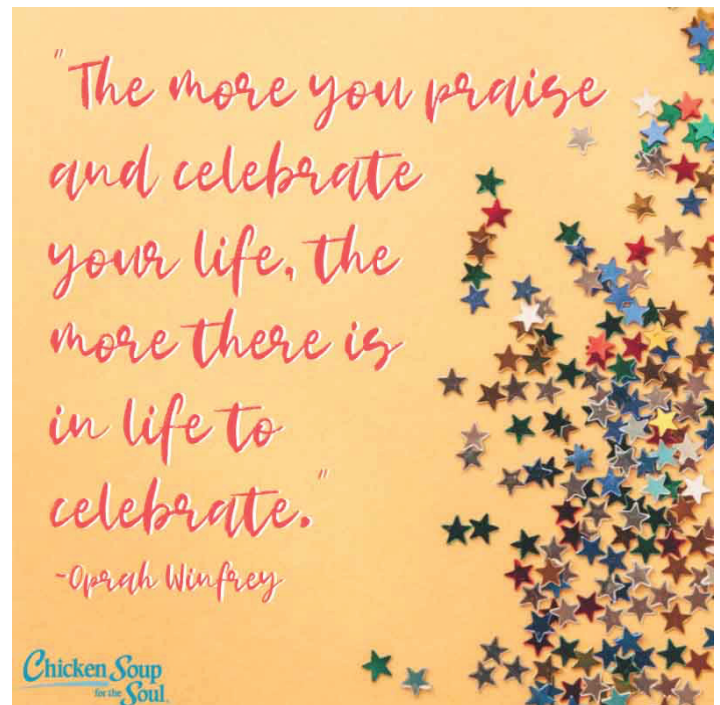
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## Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Tuesday, Oct. 22

End of First Quarter  
Volleyball hosting Northwestern (7th/C matches at 5 p.m., 8th/JV matches at 6 p.m. followed by the varsity match)

### Thursday, Oct. 24

7 p.m.: First Round Football Playoffs - Groton Area at Webster Area

### Friday, Oct. 25

Volleyball hosting Milbank (C/JV matches start at 6 p.m. followed by the varsity match)

### Saturday, Oct. 26

State Cross Country Meet at Huron  
ACT Testing at GHS, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 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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It's Volleyball Action on GDILIVE.COM



**Northwestern  
Wildcats VS**



**Groton Area Tigers**

7:15 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019  
at Groton Area High School

**The Broadcast of this event is made possible by these sponsors:**

**Hanlon Brothers  
Bahr Spray Foam  
DeHoet Trucking  
Allied Climate Professionals  
Milbrandt Enterprises  
Professional Management Services  
BaseKamp Lodge  
John Sieh Agency  
Groton Auto Works**

**Make sure you tell them "THANK YOU!" and Patronize them as well!**

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## Lady Netters avenge loss to Langford Area

Groton Area's volleyball team avenged an Saturday loss to Langford Area with a 3-1 win over the Lions. The match was played Monday in Langford and was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The broadcast was sponsored by Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., C & B Operations, Weber Landscaping, Groton American Legion Post #39 and Dakota Risk Management.

Overall, the Tigers posted a 9-3 in all of the games played. The seventh graders won their match by game scores of 25-11 and 25-20. The eighth graders won their match by game scores of 25-23, 22-25 and 15-7. The junior varsity team won their match by game scores of 19-25, 27-25 and 15-8. The varsity team won their match by game scores of 25-21, 13-25, 25-22 and 25-16.

Langford Area's Ady Dwight proved to be a power house in the first part of the match. She scored seven kills in the first game, 11 kills and a block in the second game, five kills and a block in the third game and three kills in the fourth game. Coach Chelsea Hanson had said in an interview with GDILIVE.COM that containing Dwight was really not an option, but limiting her kills would be crucial in the match. Hanson said that they switched up the strategy for the match by putting the taller girls in the front line.

Eliza Wanner led the Tigers with 19 kills and three ace serves. Nicole Marzahn had 16 kills, one ace serve and a block. Indigo Rogers had nine kills and two blocks. Madeline Flihs had six kills. Payton Colestock had two ace serves, Kenzie McInerney had two kills and Stella Meier had one kill. Kaylin Kucker had 49 assists.

Ady Dwight led the Lions with 26 kills and two blocks. Hanna Miller had 10 kills. Chesney Olson had nine kills and a block. Mallory Miller had three kills while Olyvia Dwight had a block and an ace serve and Alyssa Keough had one ace serve.

The first game was tied six times with Langford Area leading for the first half of the game. The Lions held a 15-12 lead before the Tigers scored four straight points to take a 16-15 lead and went on for the 25-21 win.

Ady Dwight had 11 kills and a block in the second as she helped power Langford Area to a 25-13 second game win. Groton Area could not get any footing in the second game as the Lions opened up a double-digit lead over Groton Area, 20-10.

Groton had a the early lead in the third game, taking an 18-10 lead at one point, but the Lions would battle back to tie the game at 19 and 20. Groton Area would score three straight points to take a 23-20 lead and went on for the 25-22 win.

Groton Area took control of the fourth game early on and opened up a double digit lead at 22-12 to post the 25-16 win.

Both teams had five serving errors in the match.

Groton Area, now 21-6, will host Northwestern today.

Region 1	Seed Points	W-L
1 <a href="#">Groton Area</a>	43.667	21-6
2 <a href="#">Aberdeen Roncalli</a>	43.633	23-7
3 <a href="#">Redfield</a>	42.182	14-8
4 <a href="#">Webster Area</a>	41.655	19-10
5 <a href="#">Tiospa Zina</a>	40.263	12-7
6 <a href="#">Milbank</a>	38.125	9-15
7 <a href="#">Sisseton</a>	37.148	5-22

Groton City Council Meeting Agenda  
October 22, 2019 – 7:00pm  
Groton Community Center

1. Public Comments - pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1  
(Public Comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)
2. Groton Leadership Institute Chicago Event Summary
3. Minutes
4. Bills
5. Payment Request No. 3 Final-\$260,074.78 & Certificate of Substantial Completion
6. September Finance Report
7. First reading of Ordinance #730 Revised definition of “Structure” in the Planning and Zoning Ordinance
8. Consider write off of Skyline utility bill late fees \$12,091.75
9. Governor Noem Holiday Declaration: November 29, December 23 & 24
10. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
11. Electric Lineman Apprentice wages
12. Adjournment

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## Coaches Prep Polls - Final Regular Season Poll will be released next Monday for classes 11AAA-11A only.

### 9B

1. Colman-Egan (21) 8-0 105
  2. Dell Rapids St. Mary 7-1 70
  3. Wolsey-Wessington 6-2 66
  4. Harding County 7-1 43
  5. Langford Area 6-2 17
- Others: Herreid/Selby Area 13

### 9A

1. Sully Buttes (15) 8-0 98
  2. Canistota-Freeman (4) 7-1 73
  2. Britton-Heccla (2) 7-0 73
  4. Gregory 7-1 35
  5. Howard 7-1 25
- Others: Warner 4, Burke 3

### 9AA

1. Viborg-Hurley (21) 8-0 105
  2. Bon Homme 7-1 80
  3. Deuel 7-1 65
  4. Hamlin 6-2 20
  5. Lemmon/McIntosh 7-1 18
- Others: Parker 10, Baltic 9, Arlington/Lake Preston

6

### 11B

1. Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan (20) 8-0 146
  2. Winner (12) 8-0 139
  3. Webster 8-0 64
  4. McCook Central/Montrose 7-1 43
  5. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 6-2 37
- Others: St. Thomas More 31, Mobridge-Pollock 12, Sioux Valley 8, Beresford 2

### 11A

1. Dell Rapids (17) 8-0 144
  2. Tea Area (14) 7-1 130
  3. Canton (1) 6-2 89
  4. Lennox 4-4 38
  5. Madison 4-4 32
- Others: Dakota Valley 30, Tri-Valley 10, West Central 5, Custer 2

### 11AA

1. Pierre (32) 8-0 160
  2. Brookings 7-1 127
  3. Huron 4-4 75
  4. Mitchell 4-4 63
  5. Sturgis 3-5 37
- Others: Yankton 15, Spearfish 3

### 11AAA

1. SF Roosevelt (28) 7-1 155
  2. SF Lincoln (3) 7-1 124
  3. Brandon Valley (1) 6-2 95
  4. O'Gorman 6-2 67
  5. Harrisburg 5-3 42
- Others: SF Washington 2



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Today



Sunny and Breezy

High: 48 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear then Chance Snow

Low: 29 °F

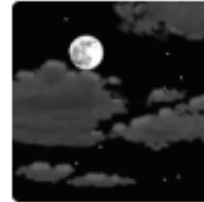
Wednesday



Chance Snow then Partly Sunny

High: 42 °F

Wednesday Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 26 °F

Thursday



Sunny

High: 46 °F

## Mostly Clear & Breezy Today

Clipper Early Wednesday Could Bring A Wintry Mix With Light Snow Accumulations

Today Wednesday Thursday  
40s to low 50s 40s 40s



Breezy



Early Morning Rain/Snow Mix



National Weather Service  
Aberdeen, SD

Updated: 10/22/2019 4:29 AM Central



Published on: 10/22/2019 at 12:34AM

As low pressure departs the region this morning, it will remain breezy to windy, especially across far eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota. A fast moving system will pass through South Dakota early Wednesday. This feature will bring a rain and snow mix to the area, with some accumulations possible during the morning commute.

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## Today in Weather History

October 22, 1992: Record heat occurred on this date. Temperatures rose into the upper 70s to the mid-80s across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. The record highs were 79 degrees at Mobridge and Timber Lake, 80 degrees at Sisseton, 82 degrees at Aberdeen, 83 degrees at Wheaton, and 85 degrees at Pierre. Although not a record high, Kennebec rose to 87 degrees on this date in 1992.

1884: A drought which began in August, extended through September and continued until the last week October brought hardship to Northern, Central, and Eastern Alabama. The 22nd was the first day of general showers, and gentle rains fell from the 26th to the 29th.

1997: Game 4 of the World Series between the Cleveland Indians and the Florida Marlins was the coldest game in World Series history. The official game-time temperature was 38 degrees at Jacobs Field in Cleveland. Wind chills as low as 18 degrees was reported during the game.

1998: Tropical Depression Thirteen formed on October 22 over the southwestern the Caribbean Sea. By the 24th, this tropical depression became Hurricane Mitch. This hurricane would rapidly intensify over the next two days, reaching Category 5 strength on the 26th. Hurricane Mitch would end up being the second deadliest hurricane in the history of the Atlantic Ocean.

1965 - The temperature soared to 104 degrees at San Diego, CA. Southern California was in the midst of a late October heat wave that year. Los Angeles had ten consecutive days with afternoon highs reaching 100 degrees. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1985 - A guest on the top floor of a hotel in Seattle, WA, was seriously injured while talking on the phone when lightning struck. Several persons are killed each year when the electrical charge from a lightning bolt travels via telephone wiring. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Yakutat, AK, surpassed their previous all-time yearly precipitation total of 190 inches. Monthly records were set in June with 17 inches, in September with 70 inches, and in October with more than 40 inches. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987) Twenty-two cities in the eastern U.S., most of them in the southeast states, reported record low temperatures for the date. Morning lows of 30 degrees at Athens GA, 28 degrees at Birmingham AL, and 23 degrees at Pinson AL, were the coldest of record for so early in the season. (The National Weather Summary) Showers produced heavy rain in southern California, with amounts ranging up to five inches at Blue Jay. Flash flooding resulted in two deaths, ten injuries, and more than a million dollars damage. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A "nor'easter" swept across the coast of New England. Winds gusted to 75 mph, and large waves and high tides caused extensive shoreline flooding. A heavy wet snow blanketed much of eastern New York State, with a foot of snow reported in Lewis County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A storm system moving out of the Gulf of Alaska brought rain to the Northern and Central Pacific Coast Region, with snow in some of the mountains of Oregon, and wind gusts to 60 mph along the Oregon coast. Six cities in Florida reported record low temperatures for the date, including Tallahassee with a reading of 34 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 49 °F at 12:07 AM**

**Low Temp: 42 °F at 10:22 PM**

**Wind: 39 mph at 9:39 PM**

**Day Rain: 0.13**

**Record High: 82° in 1992**

**Record Low: 8° in 1895**

**Average High: 55°F**

**Average Low: 30°F**

**Average Precip in Oct.: 1.49**

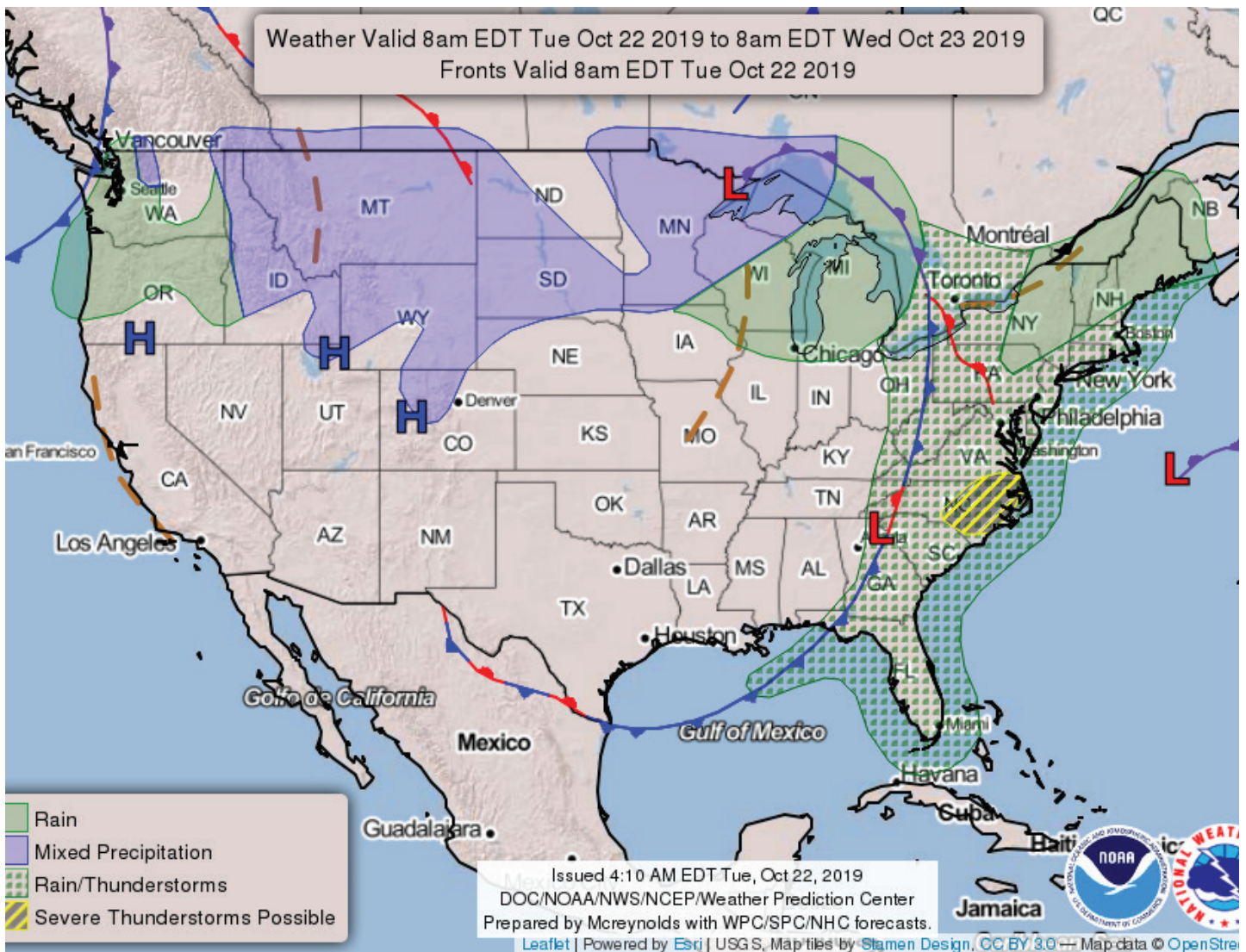
**Precip to date in Oct.: 1.55**

**Average Precip to date: 19.97**

**Precip Year to Date: 26.57**

**Sunset Tonight: 6:37 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:00 a.m.**







## THE MOST OF THE MOMENT

A soldier who served in Vietnam was assigned the duty to meet a senator at the airport near his command. It was his responsibility to see that he was taken safely to the office of the commanding general.

As they walked to the car, the soldier stopped to help an elderly woman who was having difficulty carrying her luggage. After a few more steps, he picked up some items that had fallen from the arms of a mother who was having a problem with her child. Then he picked up a child that had tripped and fallen down.

Impressed, the senator asked, "Who taught you to be so kind and gentle and helpful?"

Quickly, and without hesitation, the soldier replied, "During my tour of duty in Vietnam, Sir, it was my duty to clear the fields of mines. I never knew if my next step would be my last. So, I learned then and there to get everything I could out of every moment I had."

Twice the Apostle Paul said in his writings, "Make the most of every opportunity." He challenged the early Christians to be alert and aware of the people God brought into their lives. He wanted to impress them with the fact that whatever time we have to present His plan of salvation to others is limited and that opportunities to witness once gone will never return.

We too are obligated to accept this challenge. When time is gone, it is gone forever!

Prayer: Help us, Father, to realize the shortness of life, the length of eternity, and our responsibility to be faithful witnesses. Empower us to share! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Ephesians 5:16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.

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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

### Teen accused of killing Wyoming girl waives speedy trial

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota teenager charged with fatally shooting a girl from Wyoming has waived his right to a speedy trial.

The Argus Leader says the waiver means the 17-year-old defendant gave up his right to have his case brought to trial in 180 days from his arraignment as specified under South Dakota law.

The teen has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity in the shooting death of 16-year-old Shayna Ritthaler of Upton, Wyoming, whose body was found Oct. 7 in the basement of his home near Sturgis. The Associated Press isn't naming the defendant because his lawyer is trying to get the case moved to juvenile court.

Ritthaler had been listed as a runaway Oct. 3. Authorities are still identifying how Ritthaler and Campbell knew each other.

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

### Monday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### Volleyball

Aberdeen Christian def. Great Plains Lutheran, 25-22, 13-25, 25-19, 13-25, 16-14  
Aberdeen Roncalli def. Sisseton, 25-14, 25-17, 26-24  
Burke def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-22, 25-20, 25-23  
Chadron, Neb. def. Hot Springs, 25-5, 25-8, 25-6  
Colman-Egan def. Hamlin, 25-16, 25-21, 25-20  
Custer def. Edgemont, 16-25, 22-25, 25-18, 25-17, 15-8  
Ethan def. Avon, 18-25, 25-12, 25-17, 25-21  
Faulkton def. Lower Brule, 25-6, 25-6, 25-9  
Freeman def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-13, 25-20, 25-12  
Groton Area def. Langford, 25-21, 13-25, 25-22, 25-16  
Highmore-Harrold def. Crow Creek, 26-24, 25-20, 25-21  
Irene-Wakonda def. Canistota, 14-25, 26-24, 22-25, 25-18, 15-4  
Kimball/White Lake def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-13, 25-14, 24-26, 25-20  
Miller def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-8, 25-16, 25-11  
Platte-Geddes def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 23-25, 25-17, 23-25, 26-24, 15-7  
Rapid City Christian def. Harding County, 25-23, 25-13, 25-13  
Scotland def. Hanson, 25-20, 25-23, 25-20  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Brandon Valley, 25-22, 25-6, 25-15  
South Border, N.D. def. Herreid/Selby Area, 25-15, 25-17, 25-21  
Sturgis def. Red Cloud, 25-8, 25-12, 25-15  
Sunshine Bible Academy def. Iroquois/Doland, 25-21, 20-25, 16-25, 25-20, 15-12  
Tiospa Zina Tribal def. Flandreau Indian, 25-15, 25-6, 25-4  
Tri-State, N.D. def. Wilmot, 25-11, 25-20, 25-18  
Winner def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-13, 25-18, 17-25, 25-22

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## South Dakota Volleyball Polls

By The Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Here is the South Dakota media volleyball poll. Teams are listed with first place votes in parenthesis, record, points and previous ranking.

### Class AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Watertown	(15)	16-1	75	1
2. S.F. O’Gorman	-	16-4	60	2
3. Huron	-	13-5	30	3
4. S.F. Roosevelt	-	15-8	25	4
5. S.F. Washington	-	18-7	22	5

Others receiving votes: Aberdeen Central (11-7) 6, R.C. Stevens (16-8) 4, S.F. Lincoln (10-7) 3.

### Class A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. S.F. Christian	(8)	23-8	64	3
2. Miller	(5)	26-2	58	2
3. Dakota Valley	(2)	27-3	57	1
4. McCook Central-Montrose	-	-	19-3	29 4
5. Winner	-	17-4	9	RV

Others receiving votes: Parker St. Thomas More (28-5) 5, Hill City (25-3) 2, Madison (18-8) 1.

### Class B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Northwestern	(15)	32-0	75	1
2. Faulkton Area	-	17-4	41	2
3. Faith	-	22-3	40	3
4. Chester Area	-	19-7	37	5
5. Ethan	-	21-5	15	RV

Others receiving votes: Kadoka Area (25-3) 7, Castlewood (20-3) 4, Warner (18-9) 4, Burke (22-4) 2.

## Man steals car in Sioux Falls with child in back seat

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say a man stole a car from outside a convenience store without realizing a 2-year-old child was strapped in the back seat.

Police say the 36-year-old man stole the vehicle around 8 a.m. Monday. The child’s mother had left the car unlocked and running in the parking lot while she went in the store.

Police used the mother’s cellphone that was left in the car to find its location. Officers found the vehicle about 15 minutes after it was stolen, but the child was no longer in the car. The suspect told police that after realizing the child was in the vehicle, he dropped her off in her cars seat outside of a laundromat.

Authorities found the child still sitting outside the landromat. She was not hurt.

## Police identify man killed in Sturgis shooting

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Police in Sturgis say the man who was fatally shot inside a home over the weekend had lived there years ago.

On Monday, Sturgis Police Chief Geody VanDewater identified the victim as 32-year-old Matthew Flagler of Sturgis. Flagler died of a single gunshot wound to the chest.



VanDewater calls the shooting “an isolated event” and says there is no public safety issue. He declined to identify the address of the home or its occupants.

The Rapid City Journal reports one of the residents called authorities early Sunday to report someone was inside one of their vehicles. The police chief says when the vehicle’s owner went inside to contact authorities, the suspect entered the home, refused to leave and was shot.

The police chief says Flagler was not armed.

## Ex-Tennessee Gov. Bredesen introduces renewable energy firm

By JONATHAN MATTISE Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A new business venture by former Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen takes on global warming by helping companies fund solar panels in communities with dirty-power electric grids.

The Democrat plans to introduce Clearloop on Tuesday at a conference headlined by former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg. It’s Bredesen’s first big public foray since losing a U.S. Senate bid last year. Former campaign staffers Bob Corney and Laura Zapata are teaming up with him in the company.

Clearloop will offer short-term agreements that enable companies to compensate for their carbon emissions impact by paying to fund new solar panels in communities with the dirtiest electric grids.

The agreements would offset companies’ carbon footprints, either product by product or service by service. The companies’ labels can then feature a symbol customers can use to track their purchases to the corresponding solar panels built.

Bredesen believes this idea will make it easier to reduce the health and environmental impact of carbon emissions by sidestepping the yearslong renewable energy contracts that some larger companies agree to as they seek recognition for trying to curb climate change.

“I see it as a way of really reaching into a different world of companies that are not the big dogs, who have got some C-suite executive worrying about sustainability, like Walmart does or Procter & Gamble does,” Bredesen told The Associated Press. He said many companies “would like to do something but need to lean on somebody else’s expertise to simplify it.”

If a company wants to reclaim the carbon emissions released to produce a coffee cup, for example, there will be an offsetting solar panel built somewhere tied directly to that cup, Bredesen said.

And Bredesen already has a solar panel company he founded, Silicon Ranch, that can assist.

Shell, the international oil and natural gas giant, became Silicon Ranch’s largest shareholder last year in a deal worth up to \$217 million. Silicon Ranch is now the U.S. solar platform for Shell.

Silicon Ranch also announced plans last year to help build one of three new solar projects under a utility’s agreement to provide 100% renewable energy for Facebook’s data center in Newton County, Georgia.

Bredesen said Clearloop will focus on building in the states that are most dependent on coal-fired power, including Kentucky, West Virginia, Wyoming and the Dakotas.

Clearloop doesn’t have signed contracts yet because the company is just starting up, but Bredesen said the project is generating plenty of discussion.

“You want to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, you need to do it at scale. I would hope it ultimately could be a very big operation,” Bredesen said.

Bredesen has largely kept a low profile since his loss to Republican U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn last November. Bredesen has donated to former Vice President Joe Biden’s presidential campaign but insisted he hasn’t picked his preferred candidate yet. He wants someone appealing to swing voters in Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Florida and similar key states.

“I contributed money to Joe Biden when they asked because he had been very good to me in my campaign and I explained that wasn’t a primary endorsement, it was simply returning the favor,” Bredesen said. “Although, I like him. I like him a lot.”

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## Minnesota man drowns while duck hunting in South Dakota

WEBSTER, S.D. (AP) — A duck hunter from Minnesota has drowned in a South Dakota lake.

Day County Sheriff Ryan Rucktaeschel says three Minneapolis area men were duck hunting on Bitter Lake near Waubay late Saturday morning when their boat began taking on water.

Two Watertown men also on the lake heard cries for help. KWAT reports the men were able to rescue two of the hunters, who were taken to a hospital to be treated for hypothermia.

Conservation officers recovered the body of the 38-year-old man who drowned in 14 feet of water.

The sheriff says life jackets were on the boat. Authorities are investigating why the boat sank, but the sheriff says it may have been due to "overloading" of people and hunting gear.

The names of the hunters were not released.

Information from: KWAT-AM, <http://www.gowatertown.net>

## South Dakota Prep Polls

By The Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Prep Media football polls for the week of October 21 are listed below, ranking the top-five teams in each class. First-place votes received are indicated in parentheses.

### Class 11AAA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Sioux Falls Roosevelt	(21)	7-1	105	1	
2. Sioux Falls Lincoln	-	7-1	84	2	
3. Brandon Valley -	6-2	62	3		
4. Sioux Falls O'Gorman	-	6-2	42	5	
5. Harrisburg	-	5-3	22	4	

Others receiving votes: None.

### Class 11AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Pierre (21)	8-0	105	1		
2. Brookings	-	7-1	84	2	
3. Mitchell -	4-4	54	3		
4. Huron -	4-4	38	4		
5. Sturgis -	3-5	28	5		

Others receiving votes: Yankton 5, Douglas 1.

### Class 11A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Tea Area (16)	7-1	100	1		
2. Dell Rapids	(5)	8-0	89	2	
3. Canton -	6-2	63	5		
4. Dakota Valley	-	5-3	34	5	
5. Lenox -	4-4	14	RV		

Others receiving votes: Tri-Valley 9, Madison 6.

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## Class 11B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs		
1. Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan	(19)	8-0	103	1		
2. Winner (2)	8-0	86	2			
3. Webster Area	-	8-0	60	3		
4. St. Thomas More	-	7-1	42	4		
5. Mount Vernon-Plankinton	-	6-2	20	5		

Others receiving votes: McCook Central-Montrose 2, Mobridge-Pollock 2.

## Class 9AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Viborg-Hurley	(21)	8-0	105	1	
2. Bon Homme	-	7-1	82	2	
3. Deuel	-	7-1	64	3	
4. Parker	-	6-2	43	4	
5. Hamlin	-	6-2	17	RV	

Others receiving votes: Lemmon-McIntosh 2, Baltic 2.

## Class 9A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Sully Buttes	(16)	8-0	98	2	
2. Canistota-Freeman	(4)	7-1	76	1	
3. Britton-Hecla	(1)	7-0	74	3	
4. Howard	-	7-1	42	4	
5. Gregory	-	7-1	25	5	

Others receiving votes: None.

## Class 9B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Colman-Egan	(21)	8-0	105	1	
2. Dell Rapids St. Mary	-	7-1	84	2	
3. Wolsey-Wessington	-	6-2	60	3	
4. Harding County	-	7-1	45	4	
5. Langford Area	-	6-2	19	5	

Others receiving votes: Herreid-Selby Area 2.

## Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press undefined

### Aberdeen American News, Oct. 19

#### Deserved honors keep coming for legendary Reifel

In the last couple of years, one of South Dakota's greatest leaders has been honored several times. That makes us smile.

You don't have to dig very deep into former U.S. Congressman Ben Reifel's legacy to uncover his consistent courage, perseverance and commitment of service to others.

Reifel (Sept. 19, 1906-Jan. 2, 1990), also known as Lone Feather, was raised on the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Reservation. He has degrees from South Dakota State University and Harvard, and several honorary degrees, including one from Northern State University.

This summer in Sioux Falls at a groundbreaking for a middle school, Reifel was honored as part of his

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latest namesake. Reifel Middle School is scheduled to open in northwestern Sioux Falls in fall 2021.

That is a great fit. Reifel worked tirelessly for education. He believed that education was the key to lifting up everyone, including his fellow Native Americans.

Farmers also had a great friend in Reifel, who served in Congress for 10 years (1961-71). The Republican was all about service to others, including his country as he achieved the rank of lieutenant colonel during his stint in the Army.

For five years (1955-60), Reifel served as the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Aberdeen Area Office that oversaw a three-state region. He then became the nation's first elected U.S. representative of Sioux or Lakota descent.

He served on numerous service groups. He also was on the national board for groups like the Protestant Episcopal Church and Boy Scouts of America.

His leadership abilities and style, his sincere interest in others and his insights into how to make the world around him better were invaluable to many. He freely shared his gifts, which is one of the reasons he was so highly sought after by many.

He performed a lifetime of good works.

That is one of the reasons why Reifel has remained relevant in the state he loved and the state that loved him.

In May, U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson of South Dakota introduced legislation that would rename the post office in Rosebud the Ben Reifel Post Office Building.

A couple of years ago, Gov. Dennis Daugaard designated Sept. 19 as Ben Reifel Day in South Dakota.

Such honors for Reifel started long ago.

In 1990, members of Congress changed the name of Cedar Pass Visitor Center at Badlands National Park to Ben Reifel Visitor Center. Meanwhile, the SDSU campus in Brookings has its Ben Reifel Hall and Sisseton High School has its Ben Reifel Gymnasium.

No one is more deserving of such honors than Reifel.

He was born in a log cabin with a sod roof and dirt floor as one of five boys in his family. He had few resources for education, and he had to work hard to earn it.

"He touched many lives through his lifetime with his commitment of service to others," Reifel's oldest granddaughter Lisa Moss told the Sioux Falls Argus Leader this summer at the middle school groundbreaking. "And he had a way of making others feel like they were significant and important because he was genuinely interested in them. This school will continue that legacy by bearing his name."

We hope the story of Ben Reifel is always told not only in South Dakota schools, but in schools across the nation.

His inspiring story is worth telling over and over again.

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## **Black Hills Pioneer, Oct. 19** **Hemp: Cash crop or cops' nightmare?**

Hemp.

How can such a small word cause such polarizing opinions?

South Dakotans are currently in the throes of a debate on whether the state should make industrial hemp legal.

A bill to do just that was vetoed by Gov. Kristi Noem during the last session of the South Dakota Legislature.

Since that veto, the Industrial Hemp Study Committee — an interim committee of the Legislature — has been busy studying the matter at length.

Here is the committee's charge:

To study the regulation and cost of implementing an industrial hemp program.

To determine what the economic impacts of the production and sale of industrial hemp would be;

To find out the potential costs or challenges for law enforcement;

And, to study requirements for registration, licenses, and permits; as well as seed certification and access.



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Hemp, the lesser-known cousin of marijuana, is also in the cannabis sativa family, one of three main subtypes of the cannabis plant.

Unlike marijuana, hemp is a non-intoxicating crop that contains less than 1% of the psychoactive substance tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) which gives marijuana users a high.

Hemp fiber can be used to make fabrics and textiles, rope and paper. Hemp seeds and flowers are often used for health foods and organic body care including the controversial CBD oil.

The 2018 Farm Bill changed federal policy regarding industrial hemp, including the removal of hemp from the Controlled Substances Act and the consideration of hemp as an agricultural product. But, the feds are still in the process of working toward developing regulations to implement the 2018 Farm Bill provisions.

According to the National Conference of State Legislators, only South Dakota, Idaho, and Mississippi do not allow cultivation of hemp in their states.

Rep. Thomas Brunner, R-Nisland, chair of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee of the 2019 Legislature and Butte County rancher, was a co-sponsor on the original bill to legalize the growth, production, and processing of industrial hemp and derivative products in the state.

He said during last year's session that if South Dakota didn't act, it would be left behind in the hemp production race.

Researchers say that hemp will grow on most any type of ground, including lesser quality and more alkaline soils.

"All I can think of is Butte County. This would be a perfect place for hemp to grow," he said during a crackerbarrel at Newell last winter.

Gov. Noem wrote in a newspaper column this fall that, as a farmer and rancher, she would be thrilled to get a new crop into the hands of the state's producers, especially as ag markets struggle.

"A new source of revenue for farmers would be great. But industrial hemp is not the answer," she said.

Legalizing industrial hemp legalizes marijuana by default, she said.

Here's Noem's justification — legalizing industrial hemp weakens drug laws. It hurts law enforcement. It's a step backward. South Dakota already faces a drug problem. Families continue to be ripped apart by substance abuse.

"South Dakota must lead by example. We cannot rush into legalizing industrial hemp without knowing the cost we will pay. The safety and health of the next generation is not worth the gamble," she said.

As we have done so many times on other issues, there needs to be a period of give-and-take on the part of the legislators and the governor. Legislation will surely be introduced during the 2020 South Dakota Legislative Session.

Hopefully the federal government will have regulations in place by then on which the state can base their laws.

We believe the state should proceed with caution and weigh the benefits to an ailing farm economy when it comes to legalizing the growth, production and processing of industrial hemp in South Dakota.

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## Rapid City Journal, Oct. 20

### SD budget shaping up as a challenge

Gov. Kristi Noem will unveil her next budget proposal in about 80 days. Meanwhile, she's keeping her spending priorities under tight wraps.

J.K. Rowling probably revealed more before the Harry Potter finale. For her second year as governor, Noem likely wishes she, too, could work magic.

The four pillars of Noem's gubernatorial campaign remain intact, including a no-additional-taxes pledge, so the budget challenges looming large will put program cuts in the offing. The real question: How much?

Inside the Journal offices this past week, Noem expressed a desire to continue subsidizing the extension of rural broadband. She also hoped state bounties for pheasant predators would return next spring. But those desires could easily run into expected money shortages.

While Noem isn't tipping her hand on priorities, the litany of state woes she outlined effectively com-

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municates to legislators that no pool of funds will stand available for them. It could get interesting.

Without citing specific numbers, Noem dismissed as modest what once was hoped to be a windfall from new internet sales taxes resulting from the Supreme Court victory in South Dakota vs. Wayfair. Conservative lawmakers unsuccessfully moved in the last legislative session to funnel that anticipated revenue toward reducing a half-cent sales tax.

Noem says now the state was wise in not counting those chickens early. Don't expect her to support the sales-tax reduction next year, either.

The rest of the state funding picture, meanwhile, sounded positively bleak. You might think South Dakota was the land of pharaoh's Egypt after hearing a recitation of plagues rolling through since winter — a bomb-cyclone snowstorm, tornadoes, endless rains and floods, delayed and forgone crop planting, international trade shocks, a fifth year of depressed grain prices, small-refinery ethanol waivers, and the repeal of internet taxes which had poured millions into state and municipal coffers.

And the picture doesn't look to improve soon. Farmland remains saturated heading into winter, so ag woes could easily extend into spring. Economic forecasters, meanwhile, say that although the Midwest continues to gain ground, growth has slowed noticeably.

Add in some pre-existing or perpetual needs — state technical schools are too expensive, hampering workforce development; the meth crisis continues unabated, driving up law enforcement and prison costs — and the Legislature's coming spending debates could turn grim.

In the last session, county governments complained state prison reform and presumptive probation had unfairly shifted prisoner costs onto them. Many counties now find themselves in even worse funding straits because of the widespread disaster declarations.

Noem has called this past year's wet and windy growing season the largest slow-rolling natural disaster in state history. So far this year, federal disasters have been declared for 58 of 66 counties and on three reservations. Funding requests so far total \$56 million, but additional requests are likely.

The federal government pays 75 percent of authorized funding, leaving the state to match 10 percent and local governments 15 percent. Predominantly rural counties don't have that kind of money. Longstanding state limits on local tax increases, meanwhile, allow few options for finding it. Noem said rural legislators have already begun raising the issue. Meanwhile, the state's own share of disaster spending could climb above \$5.6 million.

For now, Noem is directing department heads to tighten belts and recommend further cuts. We could speculate more on what lies ahead, but it's probably better to wait and allow the governor to explain her plans.

Many expect the battle over industrial hemp to provide the grand drama of next year's legislative session, but hemp could easily become overshadowed by money. Unfortunately, there are no magic wands.

## US diplomat drawn into Trump's Ukraine effort set to testify

By LYNN BERRY Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — William Taylor has emerged as an unlikely central player in the events that are at the heart of the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump.

The retired career civil servant was tapped to run the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine after the administration abruptly ousted the ambassador. He was then drawn into a Trump administration effort to leverage U.S. military aid for Ukraine.

And then he apparently grew alarmed.

"I think it's crazy to withhold security assistance for help with a political campaign," he wrote in excerpts of text messages released by impeachment investigators in Congress.

Now, members of Congress will hear directly from Taylor. The former Army officer is scheduled to testify behind closed doors Tuesday in an inquiry trying to determine if Trump committed impeachable offenses by pressing the president of Ukraine into pursuing information that could help his campaign as Trump withheld military aid to the Eastern European country.

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Taylor had been serving as executive vice president at the U.S. Institute of Peace, a nonpartisan think tank founded by Congress, when he was appointed to run the embassy in Kyiv after Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch was removed before the end of her term following a campaign against her led by Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani.

He was chosen for the post because he was among only a handful of former officials with experience in Ukraine who would be perceived as neutral by local officials and wouldn't raise objections at the White House, according to a colleague.

"It was a very short list, but Bill was at the top of it," said the colleague, who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity. "We were very grateful he agreed to do it."

Taylor, who had served as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine from 2006 to 2009, was welcomed back to Kyiv as a steady hand.

"He's the epitome of a seasoned statesman," said John Shmorhun, an American who heads the agricultural company AgroGeneration.

He said Taylor's experience has shown in his handling of the Trump administration's efforts to pressure Ukraine. "He seems to know the difference between right and wrong," Shmorhun said.

"We need guys like Bill Taylor working in Ukraine, helping to deal with the politics in Ukraine, having a strong arm."

Before retiring from government service, Taylor was involved in diplomatic efforts surrounding several major international conflicts. He served in Jerusalem as U.S. envoy to the Quartet of Mideast peacemakers. He oversaw reconstruction in Iraq from 2004 to 2005, and from Kabul coordinated U.S. and international assistance to Afghanistan from 2002 to 2003.

He is a graduate of West Point and served as an Army infantry platoon leader and combat company commander in Vietnam and Germany.

He arrived in Kyiv a month after the sudden departure of Yovanovitch and the inauguration of Ukraine's new president, prepared to steer the embassy through the transition. He was most likely not prepared for what happened next.

In July, Trump would have his now-famous phone conversation with President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in which he pressed him to investigate unsubstantiated claims about Democratic rival Joe Biden and a debunked conspiracy theory involving a computer server at the Democratic National Committee. Trump at the time had quietly put a hold on nearly \$400 million in military aid that Ukraine was counting on in its fight against Russian-backed separatists.

In the follow-up to the call, Taylor exchanged texts with two of Trump's point men on Ukraine as they were trying to get Zelenskiy to commit to the investigations before setting a date for a coveted White House visit.

In a text message to Gordon Sondland on Sept. 1, Taylor bluntly questioned Trump's motives: "Are we now saying that security assistance and WH meeting are conditioned on investigations?" Sondland, U.S. ambassador to the European Union, told him to call him.

In texts a week later to Sondland and special envoy Kurt Volker, Taylor expressed increased alarm, calling it "crazy to withhold security assistance for help with a political campaign."

He said not giving the military aid to Ukraine would be his "nightmare" scenario because it sends the wrong message to both Kyiv and Moscow. "The Russians love it. (And I quit)."

In a stilted reply, Sondland defended Trump's intentions and suggested they stop the back and forth by text.

U.S. diplomats based at the Kyiv embassy have refused to speak with journalists, reflecting the sensitivity of the impeachment inquiry. The embassy press office did not respond to a request for comment on Monday.

Publicly, as in his texts, Taylor has continued to stand up for Ukraine, a country he describes as on "the front lines" of a war with Russia.

Speaking to university students on Aug. 31, Taylor said Ukraine was showing its commitment to a "demo-

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cratic, European, prosperous future" and could count on U.S. support.

"We know you have challenges. We know your large neighbor has started a war against your country. We stand with you in resisting that aggression," Taylor said, according to remarks published on the embassy website.

It was a message that would be repeated in a "Music of Freedom" concert this past weekend by the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band performing together with Ukrainian musicians.

Joseph Pennington, the acting No. 2 while Taylor is in Washington, addressed the mostly Ukrainian audience, saying he hoped they would "feel the support and commitment to democracy that our two countries cherish" and "recognize the power of the enduring partnership between the United States and Ukrainian armed forces."

The lyrics of the first song, "Over There," may have been lost on many in the audience as the refrain "the Yanks are coming" cheerfully rang out in the Kyiv concert hall.

But there was no missing the parting words from Pennington: "Glory to Ukraine."

AP Diplomatic Writer Matthew Lee in Washington contributed to this report.

## Democrats' 2020 race has a new shadow: Hillary Clinton

By **BILL BARROW** Associated Press

Some Democrats are putting up caution signs for Hillary Clinton as she wades back into presidential politics by casting 2020 candidate Tulsi Gabbard as a "Russian asset," mocking President Donald Trump's dealings with a foreign leader and drawing counterattacks from both.

Bernie Sanders, who lost the 2016 nomination to Clinton and is running again in 2020, took to Twitter with implicit criticisms of his erstwhile rival. "People can disagree on issues," Sanders wrote Monday, "but it is outrageous for anyone to suggest that Tulsi is a foreign asset."

Larry Cohen, one of Sanders' top supporters, was more conciliatory but warned in an interview that Clinton could harm the eventual 2020 nominee by weighing in against specific candidates, even a longshot like Gabbard.

The former first lady, U.S. senator and secretary of state has "put a lifetime into the Democratic Party. She deserves to be heard," said Cohen, a prominent member of the Democratic National Committee who also chairs Our Revolution, the spinoff of Sanders' last presidential campaign. But "in this senior leader role she has," Cohen said, "it's her job to embrace the range of politics within the party and not polarize within it."

Her scuffle with Gabbard and other recent headlines she's driven demonstrate that the 71-year-old remains a political lightning rod, just as she's been through much of the last three decades. The dynamics raise questions about how Clinton and her party can best leverage her strengths and navigate her weaknesses through next November.

For her part, aides say Clinton isn't attempting any calculated play.

"The short of it is that she's on a book tour and is feeling unconstrained about speaking her mind," said Clinton spokesman Nick Merrill. "It's easy to over-ascribe a strategy about every word she utters, but it's as simple as that. She's out there telling the truth."

Yet the results can frustrate those trying to win the office that Clinton twice lost, a reality presidential hopeful Cory Booker observed with a carefully calibrated critique while he campaigned Monday in New Hampshire. "We need to focus on winning this election ... talking about the urgencies that we have before us and not indulging in what I think is, for me, not a relevant story," Booker said, targeting the news media more than Clinton or Gabbard.

There's no settled playbook for former nominees — or former presidents — in party politics.

Sitting senators like Democrat John Kerry and Republican John McCain returned quietly to Capitol Hill. Democrat Al Gore became a leading advocate for climate action. McCain's running mate, Sarah Palin, has made perhaps the biggest recent splash as a conservative media sensation who helped stoke a base that



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ultimately embraced Trump.

But Clinton "is in her own category," said Karen Finney, a top aide on her 2016 campaign.

The first woman to win a major party presidential nomination — and the national popular vote leader with almost 3 million more votes than Trump — Clinton remains a popular figure in her party, even after enduring criticism for losing key Midwestern states to Trump. For Republicans, she's an evergreen foil, used currently in the Mississippi governor's race, where Democratic nominee Jim Hood, a longtime attorney general, is being attacked for acknowledging he voted for her over Trump.

Finney said the 2016 circumstances, a continued focus on Russian interference and the ongoing House impeachment inquiry against Trump all add to the intensity of feelings for Democrats and Republicans alike: "That gives her a unique voice and perspective."

The latest fracas started last week when Clinton suggested on a podcast that Russians are "grooming (Gabbard) to be the third-party candidate."

Clinton produced no evidence that Moscow is directly backing Gabbard, but Russian state-owned media and a number of alt-right websites have promoted the congresswoman's Democratic campaign, and the Russian Embassy has defended her on Twitter. A military veteran, Gabbard has carved an unusual political profile with criticisms of long-held U.S. foreign policy and defenses of Trump.

Gabbard retorted by calling Clinton "the queen of warmongers ... and personification of the rot that has sickened the Democratic Party for so long."

Trump piled on as well. "Anybody that is opposed to her is a Russian agent," Trump complained at the White House on Monday. "These people are sick. There's something wrong with them."

Separately, Clinton needled Trump in recent days by tweeting a parody letter in the voice of President John F. Kennedy to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev during the Cold War's Cuban Missile Crisis. The document, originally from comedian Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show, played off Trump's recent letter warning the Turkish president that history would judge him "forever as the devil" if he didn't "work out a good deal!" over Kurdish lands in northern Syria.

And amid all that, the State Department released its final report into Clinton's use of a private email server as secretary of state, an issue Trump seized upon in 2016 to paint Clinton as corrupt.

Illustrating the perpetual Clinton dichotomy, most mainstream media and Democratic partisans emphasized the report's core finding that there was "no persuasive evidence of systemic, deliberate mishandling of classified information," while conservative media and Republicans played up the determination that 38 current and former State Department officials violated protocol on handling sensitive information.

Cohen, the Sanders backer, said none of that means Clinton isn't in prime position to help Democrats in 2020. And Booker, even as he lamented the Gabbard kerfuffle, called Clinton an "extraordinary statesperson in our party."

Clinton has headlined at least two DNC fundraisers this cycle and more are expected. Merrill said she talks regularly to several Democratic presidential candidates. And Finney predicts Clinton "will be out on the trail in 2020," if not for the nominee, then for "any of the record number of women who will be running" for other offices.

And while Republicans, including Trump, continue aiming at a long-favored target, not everyone in the GOP thinks it will work as well as it has in the past.

"All the things that she warned us about in 2016 have come true," said GOP strategist Rick Tyler. "So she has the gravitas to weigh in. ... She's now a net positive for Democrats, not a negative."

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Associated Press writers Kevin Freking in Washington and Hunter Woodall in Concord, N.H., contributed to this report.

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

## Canada's Trudeau wins 2nd term but loses majority

By **ROB GILLIES** Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau won a second term in Canada's national elections Monday, losing the majority but delivering unexpectedly strong results despite having been weakened by a series of scandals that tarnished his image as a liberal icon.

Trudeau's Liberal party took the most seats in Parliament, giving it the best chance to form a government. However, falling short of a majority meant the Liberals would have to rely on an opposition party to pass legislation.

"It's not quite the same as 2015. It's not all owing to the leader," said Robert Bothwell, a professor of Canadian history and international relations at the University of Toronto. "Trudeau is prime minister because the rest of the party was able to pull itself together and prevail. While Trudeau certainly deserves credit for what has happened he's really going to have to demonstrate qualities that he hasn't yet shown."

Still, the results were a victory for Trudeau, whose clean-cut image took a hit after old photos of him in blackface and brownface surfaced last month.

"I'm surprised at how well Trudeau has done," said Nelson Wiseman, a political science professor at the University of Toronto. "I don't think anybody expected Trudeau to get a majority but they are not that far off."

With results still trickling in early Tuesday, the Liberals had 156 seats — 14 short of the 170 needed for a majority in the 338-seat House of Commons.

"Tonight Canadians rejected division and negativity. They rejected cuts and austerity. They elected a progressive agenda and strong action on climate change," Trudeau said early Tuesday.

His address to supporters came, unusually, as his Conservative rival, Andrew Scheer, had just begun speaking to his own supporters, forcing networks to tear away from Scheer's speech. But the prime minister struck a conciliatory note: "To those who did not vote for us, know that we will work every single day for you, we will govern for everyone," Trudeau said.

The Canadian vote came down to what was essentially a choice between the handsome and charismatic Trudeau and Scheer, the Conservatives' unassuming leader who was seen as the perfect antidote to Trudeau's flash and celebrity.

Trudeau reasserted liberalism in 2015 after almost 10 years of Conservative Party government in Canada, but scandals combined with high expectations damaged his prospects.

Perhaps sensing Trudeau was in trouble, Barack Obama made an unprecedented endorsement by a former American president in urging Canadians to re-elect Trudeau and saying the world needs his progressive leadership now.

Trudeau, son of the liberal icon and late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, is one of the few remaining progressive world leaders in the Trump era and even appeared on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine under the headline "Why Can't He Be Our President?"

Scheer, 40, is a career politician who was seen as a possible antidote to Trudeau's flash. But Bothwell said late Monday that he expected Scheer to resign.

"He's gone," Bothwell said. "He ran a really dirty campaign. There is nothing to be proud of on his side. He had the opportunity and blew it."

Among other things, Scheer called Trudeau a phony who couldn't even remember how many times he had worn blackface.

In his concession speech, Scheer said the results showed Trudeau was much weakened since his 2015 election, when pundits had predicted the beginning of another Trudeau dynasty.

"Tonight Conservatives have put Justin Trudeau on notice," Scheer said. "And Mr. Trudeau when your government falls, Conservatives will be ready and we will win."

Trudeau also was hurt by a scandal that erupted this year when his former attorney general said he pressured her to halt the prosecution of a Quebec company. Trudeau has said he was standing up for jobs, but the damage gave a boost to the Conservative Party.

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Trudeau's Liberals will likely rely on the New Democrats to form a new government and pass legislation. Opposition New Democrat leader Jagmeet Singh said early Tuesday he had congratulated Trudeau and vowed to play a constructive role in Parliament.

Wiseman, from the University of Toronto, said Monday's results left the Conservatives deeply disappointed. "They had an opportunity here to win," he said.

Scheer had promised to end a national carbon tax and cut government spending, including foreign aid, by 25%.

Trudeau embraced immigration at a time when the U.S. and other countries are closing their doors, and he legalized cannabis nationwide.

His efforts to strike a balance on the environment and the economy have been criticized by both the right and left. He brought in a carbon tax to fight climate change but rescued a stalled pipeline expansion project to get Alberta's oil to international markets.

His also negotiated a new free trade deal for Canada with the U.S. and Mexico amid threats by U.S. President Donald Trump to scrap it.

Trump, who has clashed with Trudeau over trade, tweeted his congratulations early Tuesday, saying, "Canada is well served."

Pat Gill, a Vancouver retiree, said she voted for Trudeau.

"I think people know he's made some mistakes," said Gill, who is 74. "I'm hoping he's learned in the last four years. I still think he's our best bet."

Associated Press writer Jim Morris in Vancouver, British Columbia, contributed to this report.

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press undefined

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

### 1. ERDOGAN WARNS KURDISH FIGHTERS TO PULL OUT

The Turkish president says up to 1,300 Syrian Kurdish fighters have yet to vacate a northeastern Syrian area invaded by his troops, hours before a five-day cease-fire is set to expire.

### 2. TRUDEAU WINS 2ND TERM IN CANADA

The prime minister loses the majority in Parliament but delivers unexpectedly strong results despite having been weakened by a series of scandals.

### 3. UK LEADER AIMS TO HEAVE BREXIT BILL OVER THE LINE

With an Oct. 31 deadline looming, lawmakers will first be asked to approve Boris Johnson's deal in principle, followed by a vote on the government's schedule for debate and possible amendments.

### 4. US DIPLOMAT DRAWN INTO TRUMP'S UKRAINE EFFORT SET TO TESTIFY

In excerpts of text messages released by impeachment investigators, William Taylor wrote: "I think it's crazy to withhold security assistance for help with a political campaign."

### 5. 'JUST TOO MUCH'

Some uber-rich favor a wealth tax, arguing that the government could spend their money more effectively than they could by improving schools, upgrading infrastructure and protecting the environment.

### 6. HILLARY CLINTON STIRS UP 2020 RACE

The runner-up in the 2016 presidential election casts White House hopeful Tulsi Gabbard as a "Russian asset" and mocks Trump's dealings with a foreign leader.

### 7. WHERE A RIVER FACES A THREAT

The Vjosa, running from Greece to Albania, is one of Europe's last wild rivers. But it faces threat from dam construction, AP finds.

### 8. HYPERINFLATION LEADS TO BARTER SYSTEM IN VENEZUELA

In the socialist country, where motorists have long enjoyed the world's cheapest gasoline, they are starting to pay for fill-ups with small helpings of food, candy or just a cigarette.

## 9. WHO IS THE MOST DANGEROUS CELEBRITY ONLINE

Alexis Bledel, star of "Gilmore Girls" and "The Handmaid's Tale," has been named the celebrity most likely to lead web searchers to malware or a virus.

## 10. PATS SWARM JETS TO REMAIN UNBEATEN

New England's blitz-happy defense forces Sam Darnold into five turnovers and the Patriots remain undefeated by cruising to a 33-0 victory over the New York Jets.

## 'Just too much': Meet the uber-rich who want a wealth tax

By JOSH BOAK AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — When the grand vacation homes of Newport Beach were empty on a beautiful Memorial Day weekend, Molly Munger decided it was time for the U.S. to consider taxing wealth.

As her family's boat moved through the harbor a few years ago, Munger, whose father is a billionaire investor, saw that many of her neighbors' houses were sitting dark and vacant. She knew why: The owners now controlled enough money to holiday at one of their several other luxury homes. It didn't sit right, she said.

"It's just too much to watch that happen at the top and see what is happening at the bottom," said Munger, 71, a California civil rights lawyer whose father, Charlie, built his fortune as vice chairman of Warren Buffett's firm Berkshire Hathaway. "Isn't it a waste when beautiful homes on the beach are empty for most of the summer?"

Munger is now among a handful of billionaires and multimillionaires making a renewed push for the government to raise their taxes and siphon away some of their holdings. As Democratic presidential candidates debate a new tax on wealth rather than on incomes, this group of uber-rich people is urging them on.

"I believe in free markets. I'm the daughter of a capitalist. But not Darwin-like free, unregulated and red in tooth and claw," Munger said.

The chief argument from these tycoons, financiers and scions is that the government could spend their money more effectively than they could on their own by improving schools, upgrading infrastructure and protecting the environment. It challenges a long-standing belief among many politicians and economists that lower taxes on corporations and investment incomes are the most efficient way to deliver growth and spread wealth down the income ladder.

The idea also is a direct challenge to the reputed billionaire in the White House, Donald Trump, who once backed a wealth tax but in 2017 enacted a dramatic tax cut that favored the rich.

Twenty people, including one who remained anonymous, signed on to a letter this summer essentially asking to be taxed more. The group included financier George Soros, Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes and heiress Abigail Disney, and others often involved in liberal causes. Bill Gates, the world's second richest person, didn't sign it but has since said he "wouldn't be against a wealth tax" on a net worth that roughly exceeds \$100 billion.

While Democrats have long pushed for higher taxes on the top income tiers, the current debate goes further — whether to impose annual taxes on what people own, not just on what they earn.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren has endorsed a wealth tax on holdings above \$50 million that could potentially raise as much as \$2.75 trillion over 10 years. Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders' tax would start at \$32 million. At last week's presidential debate, South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar and former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke, expressed openness to levying a wealth tax, while Tom Steyer argued for higher taxes on his own \$1.6 billion fortune.

There were some detractors: Tech entrepreneur Andrew Yang argues wealth taxes in other nations have failed to raise enough revenues.

Former Vice President Joe Biden criticized the Warren and Sanders plans as "demonizing wealth" and argued instead for focusing on income taxes and raising the rates charged on earnings from investments.

Biden's view is backed by many in the economic establishment, even those who say they support using the tax code to counter income inequality.



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Larry Summers, the former treasury secretary and Harvard University president, argues a wealth tax is essentially unworkable. The richest Americans would find ways to avoid it, making it difficult to implement and unlikely to break the hold on politics by powerful companies and rich donors, he said Friday at a panel on wealth taxes at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington. Summers estimates that changes to the income tax could raise more than \$2 trillion over 10 years from the top earners, but he doubts that a wealth tax would curb the influence of the richest Americans.

But the economists who developed the idea dispute the notion that tax avoidance is an unbreakable law of nature. Wealthier Americans paid taxes in the past when tax avoidance was viewed as freeloading, said Emmanuel Saez, an economist at the University of California at Berkeley whose work has drawn attention to the wealth tax as a fix for worsening inequality.

"The tax system reflects the values of society," he said.

The top 1% of Americans hold nearly 40% of the country's wealth, while the bottom 50% of Americans effectively control none of it, according to the World Inequality Database, an index Saez helped develop. Many in the wealthiest sliver of that top 1% pay lower rates than most Americans because of how their income gets taxed, according to his calculations.

Ian Simmons is among the well-off declaring they're ready to pay more.

Simmons runs an investment fund called the Blue Haven Initiative with his wife, Liesel Pritzker Simmons. The 43-year-old joined the effort to recruit other moneyed families to support a wealth tax in the June letter.

The idea of taxing a relatively steady base of trillions of dollars felt consistent to Simmons with what he first learned at the Harvard University introductory economics class taught by Martin Feldstein, who was President Ronald Reagan's economic adviser.

"This is really a conservative position about increasing the stability of the economy in the long term and having an efficient source of taxation," he said.

Simmons' family money came in part from mail order retailer Montgomery Ward, which opened in 1872, an innovation aided by the U.S. Postal Service. The Hyatt hotel chain that helped form his wife's family fortune was aided by the government's construction of the interstate highway system.

That's part of the reason he supports a wealth tax - because his family's fortune stems in part from government programs, echoing Warren's key argument for her tax plan.

When Simmons called the retired real estate developer Robert Bowditch this year to endorse the idea, the 80-year-old did the math on what it would mean for his own lifestyle. He figured it would cut into some of his charitable giving, but the returns would be much greater because the public would be able to decide in a democratic fashion on how the money would be spent.

"Charitable giving by itself simply cannot provide enough money to support public goods and services, such as public education, roads and bridges, clean air," Bowditch said. "It has to be done by taxes."

Rich people have had limited success as advocates for tax hikes. In 2011, billionaire Buffett's declaration that he paid a lower tax rate than his employees spawned President Barack Obama's proposal to raise rates on people making more than \$1 million. The so-called "Buffett rule" fizzled in Congress.

In 1999, when Trump was mulling a presidential bid for the Reform Party, he proposed a one-time tax of 14.25% on fortunes above \$10 million, saying at the time that it could eliminate the national debt.

"It's a win-win for the American people," Trump said then. Asked if the president still supports the idea, the White House did not respond.

## Trump viewed Ukraine as adversary, not ally, witnesses say

By LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Behind closed doors, President Donald Trump has made his views on Ukraine clear: "They tried to take me down."

The president, according to people familiar with testimony in the House impeachment investigation, sees the Eastern European ally, not Russia, as responsible for the interference in the 2016 election that was investigated by special counsel Robert Mueller.

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It's a view denied by the intelligence community, at odds with U.S. foreign policy and dismissed by many of Trump's fellow Republicans but part of a broader skepticism of Ukraine being shared with Trump by Russian President Vladimir Putin and his key regional ally Viktor Orban of Hungary.

Trump's embrace of an alternative view of Ukraine suggests the extent to which his approach to Kyiv — including his request, now central to the impeachment inquiry, that the Ukraine president do him a "favor" and investigate Democrats — was colored by a long-running, unproven conspiracy theory that has circulated online and in some corners of conservative media.

On Monday, Trump derided the impeachment probe anew as a "witch hunt," insisting that he did nothing wrong in his phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy.

But those testifying in the impeachment inquiry, now entering its fifth week, are recalling that Trump's views on Ukraine were seen as a problem by some in the administration.

Some of those testifying recalled a May meeting at the White House when U.S. officials, just back from attending Zelenskiy's inauguration in Kyiv, briefed Trump.

Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland, special envoy Kurt Volker and other witnesses have described Trump as suspicious of Ukraine despite well-established American support for the fledgling democracy there. That's according to publicly released transcripts, as well as people familiar with the private testimony to impeachment investigators. They spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss it.

Several witnesses have testified that Trump believed Ukraine wanted to destroy his presidency.

One career State Department official, George Kent, told lawmakers that Putin and Orban had soured Trump's attitude toward Ukraine. Russia and Ukraine have been foes since Putin's invasion of Crimea in 2014, as Kyiv tries to align with the West, while Putin and Orban grow closer.

"President Trump was skeptical," Sondland testified, according to his written remarks. Sondland said that only later did he understand that Trump, by connecting the Ukrainians with his personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, was interested in probing the 2016 election as well as the family of his potential 2020 rival, Joe Biden.

"It was apparent to all of us that the key to changing President Trump's mind on Ukraine was Mr. Giuliani."

House Democrats launched the impeachment inquiry after a whistleblower filed a complaint that included Trump's July call with Zelenskiy. The call was placed the day after Mueller testified to Congress and brought an end to the two-year Trump-Russia probe.

"Our country has been through a lot and Ukraine knows a lot about it," Trump told Zelenskiy, according to a rough transcript of the call released by the White House.

"I would like you to find out what happened with this whole situation with Ukraine, they say CrowdStrike," Trump said. "The server, they say Ukraine has it."

Trump was airing the conspiracy-theory view, shared by Giuliani, that the security firm CrowdStrike, which was hired by the Democratic National Committee to investigate the 2016 hack of its email, may have had ties to Ukraine.

CrowdStrike determined in June 2016 that Russian agents had broken into the committee's network and stolen emails that were subsequently published by WikiLeaks. The firm's findings were confirmed by FBI investigators and helped lead to Mueller's indictments of 12 individuals from Russia's military intelligence agency.

But the loose conspiracy theory contends that the DNC email hack was a setup, bolstered by fake computer records, designed to cast blame on Russia. Even the president's Republican allies have tried to dissuade Trump from it.

"I've never been a CrowdStrike fan; I mean this whole thing of a server," said Republican Rep. Mark Meadows of North Carolina last week.

Meadows, a confidant of Trump, said he's sure Ukraine had some role in the U.S. election. But he views the search for the email server as farfetched. "I would not, on my dime, send a private attorney looking for some server in a foreign country," Meadows told reporters.

Perhaps contributing to the conspiracy theories surrounding CrowdStrike and the DNC is the fact that

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the FBI never took possession of the actual computer server that would have held the hacked emails.

Instead, the FBI relied on the forensics provided by CrowdStrike.

The FBI had "repeatedly stressed" to the DNC its desire to have access to servers, former FBI Director James Comey testified at a March 2017 hearing before a House panel. But he acknowledged it is not unusual for the FBI to use such forensics in place of the actual hard drive during cyber investigations.

Other Republicans have also tried to convince Trump it was not Ukraine that was involved.

Trump's former homeland security adviser, Tom Bossert, said Giuliani had done Trump a disservice by pushing the false story.

"I am deeply frustrated with what he and the legal team is doing and repeating that debunked theory to the president," Bossert said in September on ABC. "It sticks in his mind when he hears it over and over again," said Bossert, who also was an adviser to President George W. Bush. "That conspiracy theory has got to go. They have to stop with that. It cannot continue to be repeated."

On the call, Trump went on to ask Zelenskyy to also look into Burisma, the Ukraine gas company with links to Biden's family. Biden's son Hunter served on the board when the former vice president was the Obama administration's main emissary to Ukraine.

Last week, Trump's acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, acknowledged that Trump essentially engaged in a quid pro quo in seeking Zelenskyy's help in exchange for military aid the White House was withholding from Ukraine.

Mulvaney said the request was not improper because Trump wanted help with the 2016 investigation rather than looking ahead to 2020. It is against the law to seek or receive help of value from a foreign entity in U.S. elections.

Mulvaney later clarified his comments, saying, "The president never told me to withhold any money until the Ukrainians did anything related to the server."

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Associated Press writers Eric Tucker and Alan Fram in Washington contributed to this story.

## Erdogan warns Kurdish fighters to pull out of Syrian region

By SUZAN FRASER Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Tuesday up to 1,300 Syrian Kurdish fighters have yet to vacate a northeastern Syrian area invaded by Ankara, hours before a five-day cease-fire between Turkish troops and Syrian Kurdish fighters was set to expire there.

Erdogan said up to 800 Syrian Kurdish fighters have already left under the deal that brought the pause in fighting following Turkey's incursion and renewed threats to resume the offensive if all the Syrian Kurds don't depart before the deadline runs out at 10:00 p.m.

The Turkish leader spoke to reporters before traveling to Russia for a high-stakes meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The pullout occurred under the terms of a U.S.-brokered deal for a 120-hour pause in fighting that expires Tuesday night, to allow Syrian Kurdish fighters to leave areas Turkey controls following its incursion into northeast Syrian to drive the fighters away from its borders.

Turkey launched the operation into northern Syria on Oct. 9, saying it aimed to push out Syrian Kurdish fighters it considers terrorists and an extension of a Kurdish insurgency within Turkey.

The move came days after President Donald Trump suddenly announced he was pulling American forces out of the area, essentially abandoning Kurdish allies in the battle against the Islamic State group and paving the way for the incursion Turkey had long promised to carry out.

Turkey seeks to establish what it calls a "safe zone" extending more than 400 kilometers (250 miles) along the Turkish-Syrian border and about 30 kilometers (19 miles) inside Syria, where it plans to resettle about 2 million of the roughly 3.6 million Syrian refugees currently living in Turkey.

"If America does not keep to its promises, our offensive will continue from where it left off, with a much greater determination," Erdogan said. "There is no place for the (Kurdish fighters) in Syria's future. We

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hope that with Russia's cooperation, we will rid the region of separatist terror."

Erdogan and Putin are meeting in Sochi for talks expected to focus on border areas that are currently held by Syrian government forces.

Although Turkish officials say the cease-fire agreement specifically covers a roughly 120-kilometer (75-mile) stretch between the Syrian border towns of Tal Abyad and Ras al-Ayn, Erdogan has made clear he wants Turkish military presence along the full stretch of the border from the Euphrates River to Syria's border with Iraq.

Turkey's military said Tuesday at least 136 vehicles, carrying fighters, had left the region. It said it had recorded a total of 41 violations since the cease-fire came into effect. Kurdish officials have also accused Turkey of cease-fire violations.

Turkey's incursion into Syria has led to an international outcry, which has in turn enraged Erdogan, who has accused his NATO allies of not standing by Turkey.

European Council President Donald Tusk on Tuesday condemned the incursion and called on Erdogan to pull his troops out of the region.

Tusk told EU lawmakers in Strasbourg, France that "no one is fooled by the so-called cease-fire" agreement, and that Turkey, which is a candidate for EU membership, "needs to end its military action permanently, withdraw its forces and respect international humanitarian law."

He said that "any other course means unacceptable suffering, a victory for Daesh (the Islamic State group), and a serious threat to European security."

Separately, Germany's defense minister proposed the establishment of an internationally controlled security zone in Syria.

Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer told German news agency dpa that "the creation of an internationally controlled security zone with the inclusion of Turkey and Russia" would have the goal of deescalating the situation in northern Syria.

The German parliament would need to decide on whether German troops could participate in such a zone, Kramp-Karrenbauer said. She also told broadcaster Deutsche Welle that Chancellor Angela Merkel had been informed of the proposal.

Syrian state media reported Tuesday that government forces entered new areas in the northeastern province of Hassakeh as part of an agreement they reached with the main Syrian Kurdish group in the area after Trump's decision to withdraw U.S. forces from northern Syria, essentially abandoning their Kurdish allies in the fight against IS.

The areas that the Syrian government and the Kurds agreed that the government would enter are outside the cease-fire agreement reached between the U.S. and Turkey.

Syrian President Bashar Assad visited territory captured from Turkey-backed Syrian fighters in the northwestern province of Idlib on Tuesday, where he described Erdogan as a "thief."

State media showed images of Assad standing among Syrian soldiers in what the report said was strategic southern Idlib territory. The media quoted Assad as calling Erdogan a "thief who robbed factories, wheat and fuel and is today stealing territory" — apparently referring to Turkey's invasion this month into northeastern Syria to push out Syrian Kurdish fighters.

Turkey has also carried out other incursions into Syria and controls territory east of Idlib. It also has observation points inside Idlib, negotiated with Russia, to monitor a cease-fire there between the government and opposition fighters and jihadi groups.

Meanwhile, U.S. troops pulling out of Syria were heading to neighboring Iraq, but Iraq's military said Tuesday the troops did not have permission to stay in the country.

The Iraqi military in a statement said the American troops currently withdrawing from Syria have acquired permission from the Iraqi Kurdish regional government to enter Iraq to later be transferred out of the country. It added that these troops do not have any approval to stay in Iraq.

The statement appears to contradict U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper who has said that under the current plan, all U.S. troops leaving Syria will go to western Iraq and the military will continue to conduct operations against the Islamic State group to prevent its resurgence.



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Esper said he has spoken to his Iraqi counterpart about the plan to shift the more than 700 troops leaving Syria into western Iraq.

Associated Press writers Elena Becatoros in Istanbul, Kirsten Grieshaber in Berlin and Sarah El Deeb in Beirut contributed to this report.

## Louvre exhibit acclaims Da Vinci, 500 years after his death

By CLAIRE PARKER Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Much about Leonardo Da Vinci remains an enigma: the smile of the “Mona Lisa”; why the world’s most famous painter left so many works unfinished; and more recently, who bought the contentious “Salvator Mundi.”

A new exhibit at the Louvre, however, opening Thursday and marking the 500th anniversary of the Italian master’s death, tries to sketch out as complete a picture of the artist and thinker as possible.

Drawing from the Louvre’s permanent collection and institutions around the world, the exhibit brings together some 160 works. They include Da Vinci masterpieces, dozens of studies and scientific sketches, and pieces by other artists in Da Vinci’s orbit. Visitors can also experience a virtual reality portion of the exhibit that delves into the story behind the “Mona Lisa.”

“We wished, in order to pay homage to the artist, to be able to show the entirety of Leonardo Da Vinci’s career and his development and to explain, ultimately, the sense of his life,” curator Vincent Delieuvin told The Associated Press.

The exhibit runs through Feb. 24, 2020. Visitors must reserve tickets online in advance, and the Louvre said it has already pre-sold 220,000 tickets as of Monday morning.

More than 10 years in the making, the project began when Louis Frank, the exhibit’s other curator, translated a Renaissance-era Da Vinci biography to round out existing knowledge about the painter’s life. That biographical emphasis is evident in the exhibit’s design, which traces the artist’s trajectory from his apprenticeship with Florentine sculptor Andrea del Verocchio to his death in France in 1519.

With a whole room devoted to his scientific pursuits, it seeks to capture the quest for knowledge and perfection of a man Delieuvin called “a universal genius.”

“Leonardo Da Vinci, he is one of those rare men, those personalities who fascinate us, because he was universal,” Delieuvin said. “He had an interest in all aspects of nature, we all see ourselves in his personality.”

“Mathematicians, geometry specialists, doctors, artists, everyone sees a part of themselves in Leonardo,” he added.

Several of Da Vinci’s completed paintings will be on display, including “La Belle Ferronniere” and “The Virgin and Child with Saint Anne.” The “Mona Lisa” will remain in its case, upstairs. Visitors will be able to see “Portrait of a Musician” on loan from the Vatican and “Benois Madonna” from St. Petersburg, among other works the Louvre borrowed for the occasion.

Some pieces proved more difficult to obtain. The “Vitruvian Man,” Da Vinci’s famous drawing of the ideally proportioned male figure, arrived in France from Venice’s Accademia Gallery only days before the exhibit’s opening.

Italian heritage group Our Italy tried to block the loan, saying the drawing was too fragile to be moved. An Italian court originally suspended the loan before ruling last week that it could travel to France for eight weeks. In exchange, the Louvre will lend several works by Raphael to Rome next year.

The dispute fanned the flames of a broader debate about Da Vinci’s legacy and Italian national identity.

“A Leonardo Da Vinci exhibit is very difficult to do, since Da Vinci has become a symbol,” Delieuvin said, calling it “natural” that some museums are reluctant to lend pieces from their collections.

Though Da Vinci died in France, Delieuvin said Louvre officials recognize and celebrate the painter’s Italian roots.

“I assure everyone that the French have never appropriated Leonardo Da Vinci,” he said. “Leonardo is a genius who is evidently Italian, he was entirely formed in Italy, and he would not have become Leonardo



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Da Vinci in France.”

Another, still-absent piece has also drawn significant attention. The Louvre put out a call for the “Salvator Mundi” but has yet to receive the painting, which sold to an anonymous buyer for a record-breaking \$450 million in 2017.

It’s unclear where the painting is, but speculation abounds that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman is its new owner. Art experts, meanwhile, remain divided over whether Da Vinci in fact painted the work.

For now, a variation of “Salvator Mundi” created in Da Vinci’s studio hangs in the Louvre exhibit. Delieuvin said he does not know who owns the original, but he’s holding out hope it will be sent over.

Delieuvin has said the Louvre will withhold judgment on its provenance until they have the painting in hand.

## **Patriots blitz Darnold, Jets 33-0 to remain undefeated**

**By DENNIS WASZAK Jr. AP Pro Football Writer**

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Tom Brady set the tone and the New England Patriots’ blitz-happy defense took over from there.

Bill Belichick’s bunch is still undefeated after another absolutely dominant performance.

Brady threw a TD pass to Phillip Dorsett, Sony Michel ran for three scores and New England forced Sam Darnold into five turnovers while cruising to a 33-0 victory over the New York Jets on Monday night.

“We were able to make some plays early in the game,” Belichick said, “and play pretty solid for 60 minutes.”

The Patriots improved to 7-0 for the third time in franchise history, and first since 2015. They also swept the two-game season series against their AFC East rivals for the fourth straight year, outscoring the Jets (1-5) 63-14 in the two meetings this year.

And, the top-ranked Patriots defense was a big reason in this one.

“They’re just playing great football,” Brady said. “They cover the rush. They stop the run. Make critical plays. It’s awesome to watch.”

Darnold was the AFC offensive player of the week after leading New York to a 24-22 win over Dallas last Sunday in his return from missing three games with mononucleosis.

He was miserable against New England, finishing 11 of 32 for 86 yards and a 3.6 quarterback rating. ESPN had Darnold wear a microphone during the game, and he was caught on the sideline saying, “I’m seeing ghosts” at one point.

“It was a rough night out there,” Darnold said. “And obviously, I’ve got to be better and learn from the mistakes, but we will get better.”

Belichick blitzed Darnold often, giving the second-year quarterback little time and forcing him into bad — and often ugly — throws. Devin McCourty, Duron Harmon, Stephon Gilmore and Terrence Brooks all had interceptions. Darnold also lost a fumble on a sack, and later knocked an errant snap out of the back of the end zone for a safety.

“I don’t know, man,” a smiling McCourty said when asked if there were “ghosts” on the field. “We were just locked in tonight as a defensive unit. When you get a lot of time to prepare for a game, you start going over everything over and over again. I think it showed for us tonight as a defensive unit.”

Brady was 31 of 45 for 249 yards with a TD and an interception before leaving with 2:55 left to chants of “Brady! Brady!” from the Patriots fans who stayed until the end at MetLife Stadium.

They watched New England take total control from the beginning.

Michel’s 3-yard touchdown run capped an efficient drive by Brady to open the game. The Patriots went 16 plays and 78 yards while eating up 8:47, and converted four third downs along the way. The last came on third-and-2 when Brady pitched it to Michel, who easily zipped into the end zone.

“Our guys were ready to go today,” Belichick said. “We got off to a good start. That was a great opening drive. It took up most of the first quarter.”

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New England made it 10-0 a few minutes later after McCourty intercepted Darnold's first pass of the game, coming on the Jets' second play from scrimmage. New England turned the turnover into a 34-yard field goal by Mike Nugent.

After the Jets went three-and-out, Brady went back to work. On fourth-and-6 from the 35, Belichick opted to leave the offense on the field instead of having Nugent try for a 53-yard field goal.

And, it paid off.

Brady connected with Ben Watson for 7 yards to extend the drive. After a 2-yard run by Michel, Brady threw a perfectly placed ball to Dorsett, who caught the pass over Trumaine Johnson in the end zone for a 26-yard touchdown.

"We had good balance," Brady said.

New England took advantage of another turnover by Darnold on the Jets' next drive when John Simon popped the ball out of the quarterback's hand for a strip-sack and Kyle Van Noy recovered. The Patriots linebacker ran 39 yards for what was initially called a touchdown, but officials then ruled he was down.

Four plays later, it appeared James White had a 4-yard touchdown run, but it was wiped out by an illegal block in the back penalty on Julian Edelman. Brady's pass to Jakobi Meyers fell incomplete on third-and-goal from the 3, but Brian Poole was called for defensive holding. Michel ran it in from the 1 three plays later to make it 24-0 with 9:18 left in the first half.

Darnold's third turnover came on the Jets' next possession when his throw to the end zone was intercepted by Harmon. Gilmore picked off Darnold on New York's opening drive of the second half.

It only went downhill from there on the Jets' next possession when Ryan Kalil's snap sailed over Darnold's head and he knocked it out of the back of the end zone for a safety.

Michel added a 1-yard TD run with 12:32 left to cap the scoring.

"Obviously, that was brutal," Jets coach Adam Gase said. "We couldn't do anything right. All three phases, we were bad. It was just a bad performance."

## CENTER OF ATTENTION

Kalil injured his right elbow late in the second quarter and was replaced by Jonotthan Harrison. Kalil returned to open the second half with a sleeve over his elbow, but again left after his wayward snap.

## STATS

It was New England's second shutout this season after winning 43-0 at Miami in Week 2. ... The Patriots dominated the opening quarter, outgaining the Jets 141 yards to 14 while holding the ball for 12:34 compared to just 2:26 for New York. ... Brady's 29 regular-season wins vs. the Jets are his second-most against any opponent, with only his 31 against Buffalo more.

## MAWAE HONORED

Former Jets center Kevin Mawae received his key from the Pro Football Hall of Fame during a halftime ceremony. Mawae, who played for New York from 1998-2005, was inducted in August.

## UP NEXT

Patriots: host Cleveland next Sunday.

Jets: at Jacksonville next Sunday.

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

## One of Europe's last wild rivers is in danger of being tamed

By ELENA BECATOROS and JOHN FLESHER Associated Press

ALONG THE VJOSA RIVER (AP) — Under a broad plane tree near Albania's border with Greece, Jorgji Ilija fills a battered flask from one of the Vjosa River's many springs.

"There is nothing else better than the river," the retired schoolteacher says. "The Vjosa gives beauty to our village."

The Vjosa is temperamental and fickle, changing from translucent cobalt blue to sludge brown to emerald green, from a steady flow to a raging torrent. Nothing holds it back for more than 270 kilometers (170 miles)

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in its course through the forest-covered slopes of Greece's Pindus mountains to Albania's Adriatic coast.

This is one of Europe's last wild rivers. But for how long?

Albania's government has set in motion plans to dam the Vjosa and its tributaries to generate much-needed electricity for one of Europe's poorest countries, with the intent to build eight dams along the main river.

It's part of a world hydropower boom, mainly in Southeast Asia, South America, Africa and less developed parts of Europe. In the Balkans alone, about 2,800 projects to tame rivers are underway or planned — a "dam tsunami," says Olsi Nika of EcoAlbania, a nonprofit that opposes the projects.

Some tout hydropower as a reliable, cheap and renewable energy source that helps curb dependence on planet-warming fossil fuels like coal, oil and natural gas. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says it has "significant potential" to further reduce carbon emissions.

But some recent studies question hydropower's value in the fight against global warming. Critics such as EcoAlbania say the benefits of hydropower are overstated — and outweighed by the harm dams can do.

Rivers are a crucial part of the global water cycle. They act as nature's arteries, carrying energy and nutrients across vast landscapes, providing water for drinking, food production and industry. They're a means of transportation for people and goods, and a haven for boaters and anglers. Rivers are home to a diversity of fish — including tiny minnows, trout and salmon — and provide shelter and food for birds and mammals.

But dams interrupt their flow, and the life in and around them. While installing fish ladders and widening tunnels to bypass dams helps some species, it hasn't worked in places like the Amazon, says Julian Olden, a University of Washington ecologist who has studied the impacts of dams in Brazil, Australia and the U.S.

Dams block the natural flow of water and sediment, and can cause harmful temperatures swings. They also can change the chemistry of the water and cause toxic algae to grow.

"Once dams go in, there's almost no going back," Olden says. "You starve a river of water. It's unsurprising that its inhabitants are likely to disappear."

Those who live along the riverbank or rely on the waterway for their livelihood fear dams could kill the Vjosa as they know it. Its fragile ecosystem will be irreversibly altered, and many residents will lose their land and homes.

"It's like humans," says Elton Pashollari, a river rafting guide whose clients are increasingly attracted by the Vjosa's wildness. "What happens if one of your arteries, it stops, blood doesn't circulate anymore? It's the same thing with the Vjosa."

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From Ilia's plane tree near the Greek border, the Vjosa flows north through narrow gorges before passing by the town of Tepelene, growing more languid and broadening into wide gravel banks, its flow splitting into strands — what scientists call a braided river.

This characteristic is typical of wild rivers and is critical to the local ecosystem. It creates diverse habitats and allows sediment to flow, fertilizing the floodplains and rejuvenating the riverbed.

It is here that the Vjosa reveals another side of its wild nature. After seasonal floods, the river can change course, its braids re-forming along the deep gravel that serves as a filter and self-purification system. It skips from left to right to the center, across an area around 1.5 kilometers (1 mile) wide.

"A natural river is a dynamic river ... a living river," says Nika of EcoAlbania. "It's living day by day and it changes its face. After each flood, you could never see the same scenery."

The river's ability to clean itself has proved crucial in a country where waste management is often rudimentary. For years, people have dumped trash in gullies that washed into the river, leaving trails of plastic and cloth clinging to tree branches. Some towns still dump raw sewage, but the river's self-cleansing means that the overall water quality is passable.

About 25 kilometers (16 miles) northwest of Tepelene, the riverbed narrows into another tight, steep gorge teeming with life, where birds swoop from trees anchored precariously in the cliff-face. Just beyond that comes the first sign of how dramatically a dam would affect the river and the life connected to it.

Emerging from the canyon, it like a strip mine. This is Kalivac, one of the proposed dam sites. An Italian

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company was awarded a contract in the late 1990s. Construction began, but never finished, plagued with delays and financial woes. It now lies derelict with guards stationed to prevent looting.

Half the hill on one side has been dug away, creating giant steps into the rock. Vehicles sit abandoned, a digging machine sunken into the ground, branches and debris clinging to its frame.

Now, the government has awarded a new contract for the site to a Turkish company.

For Benedikt Baeumler, a German advertising executive kayaking the length of the river, the sight was a shock.

"I felt like there's all this wonderful nature, and then suddenly to see these stairs, like the Egyptian pyramids," he says.

A few days earlier and several miles upriver, the 43-year-old had been ambivalent about the hydropower projects, noting his own country had also dammed its rivers.

But what he saw at the Kalivac site changed his mind.

"It was really unbelievable what they did to nature, removing entire parts of the mountain," he said, setting up camp on a sandbar back in June. "I hope this dam is never built."

Many locals agree. Dozens of residents from the village of Kute, further downriver, joined nonprofits to file what was Albania's first environmental lawsuit against the construction of a dam in the Pocem gorge, a short distance downriver from Kalivac. They won in 2017, but the government has appealed.

The victory, while significant, was just one battle. A week later, the government issued the Kalivac contract. EcoAlbania plans to fight that project, too.

Ecologically, there is a lot at stake.

A 2018 study led by University of Vienna's Fritz Schiemer found the Vjosa was incredibly diverse. The team logged more than 90 types of aquatic invertebrates in the places where dams are planned, plus hundreds of fish, amphibian and reptile species, some endangered and others endemic to the Balkans.

But "the majority of the specific biodiversity will disappear in the case of the planned dam constructions," they warned.

Dams can unravel food chains by reducing populations of insects that feed fish and by limiting spawning, which in turn leaves less prey for fish-eating birds and mammals. But the most well-known problem with building dams is that they block the paths of fish trying to migrate upstream to spawn. The U.S. Atlantic salmon population has plummeted, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in great part due to dams.

As pressure to build dams intensifies in less developed countries, the opposite is happening in the U.S. and western Europe, where there's a movement to tear down dams considered obsolete and environmentally destructive.

More than 1,600 have been dismantled in the U.S., most within the past 30 years, according to the advocacy group American Rivers. In Europe, the largest-ever removal began this year in France, where two dams are being torn down on Normandy's Selune River.

With so few wild rivers left around the globe, the Vjosa also is a valuable resource for studying river behavior.

"Science is only at the beginning of understanding how biodiversity in river networks is structured and maintained," says researcher Gabriel Singer of the Leibniz-Institute in Germany. "The Vjosa is a unique system."

For Shyqyri Seiti, it's much more personal.

The 65-year-old boatman has been transporting locals, goods and livestock across the river for about a quarter century. The construction of the Kalivac dam would spell disaster for him. Many of the fields and some of the houses in his nearby village of Ane Vjose would be lost.

"For me, the river is everything," he says. "Someone will benefit from the construction of the dam, but it will flood everyone in the area. ... What if they were in our place, how would they feel to lose everything?"

His love for the river runs deep: It feeds his family by providing work and fish to eat and sell. He taught



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his five children to swim here. Every morning, he runs down to the river just to take in the view.

Seiti has protested against the plans, but some of his neighbors disagree. The mayor, Metat Shehu, insists the community "has no interest" in the matter.

"The Vjosa is polluted. The plants and creatures of Vjosa have vanished," Shehu says while tending his goats. The biggest issue, he adds, is that villagers are being offered too little to give up their land. He hopes the dam will bring investment to the area.

About 10 kilometers (6 miles) downriver of Ane Vjose lies the village of Kute, on a hill overlooking the Vjosa as it snakes its way north to the sea. Kute residents joined the lawsuit against the Pocem dam that would flood their fields, some houses and, crucially for many, a cemetery. Relieved by their victory, they now wait anxiously for the outcome of the government's appeal.

There are some signs in their favor. In August, the government announced it was canceling a project in central Albania's Holta Canyon near the town of Gramsh, and would tear down part of a dam that's already built. The Infrastructure and Energy Ministry said in a statement the decision came after discussions with residents and an environmental review. Energy ministry officials rejected multiple interview requests to discuss the Vjosa River and the country's hydropower plans.

Could the Vjosa projects also be stopped?

Jonus Jonuzi, a 70-year-old farmer who grew up along the river, still has hope.

He raised his children here and now watches his grandchildren play in its waters. Before dawn each day, he crosses a bridge over a narrow gorge to tend to his goats before his son drives them to drink from a local spring, where the water emerges cold and crystal clear.

"Everything I have, I have because of the river," he says. "Albania needs electrical energy. But not by creating one thing and destroying another. Why do such damage that will be irreparable for life, that future generations will blame us for what we've done?"

Flesher reported from Traverse City, Michigan.

This Associated Press series was produced in partnership with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

## Tornado slams Dallas; 4 killed in Arkansas, Oklahoma

By JAMIE STENGLE and JAKE BLEIBERG Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A tornado tossed trees into homes, tore off storefronts and downed power lines but killed no one in a densely populated area of Dallas, leaving Mayor Eric Johnson to declare the city "very fortunate" to be assessing only property damage.

A meteorologist said Monday that people took shelter thanks to early alerts, and that it was fortunate the tornado struck Sunday evening, when many people were home.

"Anytime you have a tornado in a major metropolitan area, the potential for large loss of life is always there," said Patrick Marsh, the warning coordination meteorologist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma. "We were very fortunate that the tornado did not hit the Dallas Cowboys' stadium or the State Fair, where you would have had a lot of people that were exposed."

The tornado crossed over two major interstates. "If that happened at rush hour, I think we'd be talking about a different story," he said.

The National Weather Service said the tornado that ripped through north Dallas was an EF3, which has a maximum wind speed of 140 mph (225 kph). The agency said another tornado in the suburb of Rowlett was EF1, with maximum wind speeds of 100 mph (160 kph).

The late-night storms spawned tornadoes in several states, killing at least four people in Arkansas and Oklahoma. The Storm Prediction Center said severe thunderstorms could continue through Monday night along the Gulf Coast from southeastern Louisiana to the Florida Panhandle, with damaging winds and a



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couple of tornadoes possible.

In one Dallas neighborhood, Dustin and Lauren Collins said they felt lucky as they cleared debris from the yard of their largely intact home.

"When other people's homes are in your front yard, you just realize — just the magnitude of the storm," said Lauren Collins, 36.

Dustin Collins, 37, said he gathered his family together after receiving the tornado alert. They climbed into the bathtub and pulled a mattress over top, huddling there with their 8-month-old son.

"We just sat in the bathtub and sang songs, trying to keep everyone calm," Lauren Collins said.

At a nearby shopping center, the fronts and roofs of stores were ripped away. Ruptured pipes were still spewing water Monday morning, drenching the piles of mangled drywall, insulation and steel framing inside the brick building.

Nearby, Georges Benamou said he was in his bedroom when a tree branch fell through the flat roof of his single-story home and into the living room.

"I heard some crack, crack, crack, and then I heard some trees falling on top of the roof," he said.

Brent Huddleston, 43, said he sheltered with his 9- and 11-year-old children in a closet as the house shook around them. They later found parts of street and shopping center signs that had been blown into their yard.

"It hit really fast," he said.

Dallas Fire-Rescue spokesman Jason Evans said no firefighters were hurt when the storm made the roof of Station 41 collapse.

The tornado that caused widespread damage in north Dallas passed closed to the home of former President George W. Bush and former first lady Laura Bush but caused no damage. Bush spokesman Freddy Ford said in a statement that "the Bushes are safe and praying for their neighbors around DFW who weren't as fortunate."

Tornadoes are not common in October, and cities are rarely hit because they don't have a big footprint in the tornado belt, according to tornado scientist Harold Brooks of the National Severe Storms Laboratory.

It's like "randomly throwing darts," Brooks said.

A study by Brooks last year found that only one-third of the most violent tornadoes hit communities of more than 5,000 people.

The storm system disrupted flights in the Dallas area, northwestern Arkansas and at Memphis International Airport in Tennessee, where windows were broken.

One person died when a tree fell on a home in Rogers, Arkansas, about 150 miles (240 kilometers) northwest of Little Rock, according to the Benton County Department of Public Safety. In northeastern Arkansas, an EF1 tornado injured at least five people in Tyrone.

Authorities said severe thunderstorms were responsible for the deaths of at least three people in eastern Oklahoma.

Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation spokeswoman Brooke Arbeitman said two teenage boys died of carbon monoxide poisoning late Sunday in Weleetka, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) east of Oklahoma City. She said the 14- and 15-year-old boys were using a portable gas generator in a travel trailer after the storms knocked out power. The father of the younger boy discovered their bodies Monday morning.

Another person died late Sunday night when a tree blew onto a mobile home near Valliant, about 170 miles (275 kilometers) southeast of Oklahoma City, emergency management officials said.

In Tennessee, the storm downed several large trees in Memphis, blocking roads in residential neighborhoods. The federal weather agency confirmed an EF1 tornado was on the ground for about two minutes early Monday morning. An apartment complex and car dealerships and other businesses suffered damage, but no injuries or deaths were reported.

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Associated Press writers Mallika Sen in New York; Heather Hollingsworth in Kansas City, Missouri; Jill Bleed in Little Rock, Arkansas; Diana Heidgerd in Dallas; Clarice Silber in Austin, Texas; and Seth Borenstein in Washington, D.C., contributed.

## Israel's Netanyahu gives up on forming new coalition

By JOSEF FEDERMAN Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Monday that he had failed to form a majority government in parliament, marking a major setback for the embattled Israeli leader that plunges the country into a new period of political uncertainty.

In a statement, Netanyahu said he had worked "tirelessly" to establish a unity government with his chief rival, former military chief Benny Gantz, but been repeatedly rebuffed. Facing a Wednesday deadline, Netanyahu said he was returning the "mandate" to President Reuven Rivlin, who will now ask Gantz to try to form a coalition. Gantz, however, could face an equally difficult task.

While Netanyahu remains at the helm of his Likud party, his announcement marked the second time this year that he has been unable to form a government. With Israel's attorney general set to decide in the coming weeks on whether to indict Netanyahu in a series of corruption cases, the longtime Israeli leader could come under heavy pressure to step aside. One party rival, Gideon Saar, has already indicated he would challenge Netanyahu if Likud holds a primary.

In last month's national election, Netanyahu fell short of securing a 61-seat parliamentary majority. But Rivlin gave Netanyahu the first opportunity to form a government because he had more support — 55 lawmakers — than Gantz, who was supported by only 54.

Netanyahu had hoped to form a broad "unity" government with Gantz, who heads the centrist Blue and White party. But Netanyahu insisted that his coalition include his traditional allies, a collection of hardline and religious parties, drawing accusations from Gantz that he was not negotiating in good faith.

"Since I received the mandate, I have worked tirelessly both in public and behind the scenes to establish a broad, national unity government. That's what the people want," Netanyahu said in a statement.

"During the past few weeks, I made every effort to bring Benny Gantz to the negotiating table. Every effort to establish a broad national unity government, every effort to prevent another election," he said. "To my regret, time after time he declined. He simply refused."

For Netanyahu, who marked his 70th birthday on Monday, it was another painful setback. In an earlier election in April, Netanyahu also failed to win a parliamentary majority and was forced to call the indecisive Sept. 17 election. Now, for the first time since Netanyahu was elected in early 2009, the country faces the possibility of choosing a different leader.

In a short statement, Gantz's Blue and White party said that "now is the time of action."

"Blue and White is determined to form the liberal unity government, led by Benny Gantz, that the people of Israel voted for a month ago," it said.

Gantz has vowed to unify the country and restore national institutions after Netanyahu's decade-long rule, which has deepened Israel's religious and political divides and been roiled by corruption allegations.

In contrast to Netanyahu, whose political career spans three decades, the 60-year-old Gantz is a newcomer who only burst onto the scene over the last year. The towering former general's party, Blue and White, is a newly formed centrist coalition that includes the popular secular politician Yair Lapid as well as other former senior military officers and some of Netanyahu's fiercest critics.

At times, Gantz has criticized Netanyahu's handling of security issues, particularly in the Gaza Strip, and has touted his time as army chief, when he oversaw a devastating 2014 war in Gaza. He also has hinted at reviving the peace process with the Palestinians. But Gantz has been vague, apparently wary of alienating potential coalition partners, and focused most of his efforts at portraying himself as a fresh alternative to Netanyahu.

There is no guarantee, however, that Gantz will succeed.

He has expressed willingness to form a partnership with Likud, but not if Netanyahu continues to lead while he faces such serious legal problems. For the time being, Likud has remained steadfastly behind its leader.

Without Likud, Gantz will have a hard time securing a majority in parliament. The opposition to Netanyahu includes a diverse group of parties, ranging from Arab parties to the secular ultranationalist party

Yisrael Beitenu, that are unlikely to sit together in partnership.

If Gantz fails during his 28-day window, a majority of lawmakers could try to endorse a third candidate, something that has never happened before. And if that fails, the country would be forced into the unprecedented scenario of a third election in under a year.

## US diplomat in Ukraine text messages to testify to Congress

By LYNN BERRY Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — William Taylor has emerged as an unlikely central player in the events that are at the heart of the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump.

The retired career civil servant was tapped to run the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine after the administration abruptly ousted the ambassador. He was then drawn into a Trump administration effort to leverage U.S. military aid for Ukraine.

And then he apparently grew alarmed.

"I think it's crazy to withhold security assistance for help with a political campaign," he wrote at one point in excerpts of text messages released by impeachment investigators in Congress.

Now, members of Congress will hear directly from Taylor. The former Army officer is scheduled to testify behind closed doors Tuesday in an inquiry trying to determine if Trump committed impeachable offenses by pressing the president of Ukraine into pursuing information that could help his campaign as he withheld military aid to the Eastern European country.

Taylor had been serving as executive vice president at the U.S. Institute of Peace, a nonpartisan think tank founded by Congress when he was appointed to run the embassy in Kyiv after Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch was removed before the end of her term following a campaign against her led by Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani.

He was chosen for the post because he was among only a handful of former officials with experience in Ukraine who would be perceived as neutral by local officials and wouldn't raise objections at the White House, according to a colleague.

"It was a very short list, but Bill was at the top of it," said the colleague, who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. "We were very grateful he agreed to do it."

Taylor, who had served as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine from 2006 to 2009, was welcomed back to Kyiv as a steady hand.

"He's the epitome of a seasoned statesman," said John Shmorhun, an American who heads the agricultural company AgroGeneration.

He said Taylor's experience has shown in his handling of the Trump administration's efforts to pressure Ukraine. "He seems to know the difference between right and wrong," Shmorhun said.

"We need guys like Bill Taylor working in Ukraine, helping to deal with the politics in Ukraine, having a strong arm."

Before retiring from government service, Taylor was involved in diplomatic efforts surrounding several major international conflicts. He served in Jerusalem as U.S. envoy to the Quartet of Mideast peacemakers. He oversaw reconstruction in Iraq from 2004 to 2005, and from Kabul coordinated U.S. and international assistance to Afghanistan from 2002 to 2003.

He is a graduate of West Point and served as an Army infantry platoon leader and combat company commander in Vietnam and Germany.

He arrived in Kyiv a month after the sudden departure of Yovanovitch and the inauguration of Ukraine's new president, prepared to steer the embassy through the transition. He was most likely not prepared for what happened next.

In July, Trump would have his now-famous phone conversation with President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in which he pressed him to investigate unsubstantiated claims about Democratic rival Joe Biden and a debunked conspiracy theory involving a computer server at the Democratic National Committee. Trump at the time had quietly put a hold on nearly \$400 million in military aid that Ukraine was counting on in its

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fight against Russian-backed separatists.

In the follow-up to the call, Taylor exchanged texts with two of Trump's point men on Ukraine as they were trying to get Zelenskiy to commit to the investigations before setting a date for a coveted White House visit.

In a text message to Gordon Sondland on Sept. 1, Taylor bluntly questioned Trump's motives: "Are we now saying that security assistance and WH meeting are conditioned on investigations?" Sondland, U.S. ambassador to the European Union, told him to call him.

In texts a week later to Sondland and special envoy Kurt Volker, Taylor expressed increased alarm, calling it "crazy to withhold security assistance for help with a political campaign."

He said not giving the military aid to Ukraine would be his "nightmare" scenario because it sends the wrong message to both Kyiv and Moscow. "The Russians love it. (And I quit)."

In a stilted reply, Sondland defended Trump's intentions and suggested they stop the back and forth by text.

U.S. diplomats based at the Kyiv embassy have refused to speak with journalists, reflecting the sensitivity of the impeachment inquiry. The embassy press office did not respond to a request for comment on Monday.

Publicly, as in his texts, Taylor has continued to stand up for Ukraine, a country he describes as on "the front lines" of a war with Russia.

Speaking to university students on Aug. 31, Taylor said Ukraine was showing its commitment to a "democratic, European, prosperous future" and could count on U.S. support.

"We know you have challenges. We know your large neighbor has started a war against your country. We stand with you in resisting that aggression," Taylor said, according to remarks published on the embassy website.

It was a message that would be repeated in a "Music of Freedom" concert this past weekend by the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band performing together with Ukrainian musicians.

Joseph Pennington, the acting No. 2 while Taylor is in Washington, addressed the mostly Ukrainian audience, saying he hoped they would "feel the support and commitment to democracy that our two countries cherish" and "recognize the power of the enduring partnership between the United States and Ukrainian armed forces."

The lyrics of the first song, "Over There," may have been lost on many in the audience as the refrain "the Yanks are coming" cheerfully rang out in the Kyiv concert hall.

But there was no missing the parting words from Pennington: "Glory to Ukraine."

AP Diplomatic Writer Matthew Lee in Washington contributed to this report.

## Trump urges GOP to 'get tougher and fight' impeachment

By JILL COLVIN and MATTHEW DALY Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump called on fellow Republicans on Monday to "get tougher and fight" against the quickly moving House impeachment inquiry as Democrats blocked a GOP bid to censure Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff, a leader of the impeachment inquiry.

Trump, defending his conduct at a rollicking Cabinet meeting, insisted his phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy that sparked the impeachment inquiry was entirely unproblematic. And he accused Democrats of proceeding with impeachment only to bolster their chances in 2020.

Trump also called out Republicans for not sticking together, pointing a finger at Utah Sen. Mitt Romney, who has emerged as his most notable GOP critic.

While eviscerating Democrats' policies, Trump said he respects members of the party for sticking together. "They don't have Mitt Romney in their midst," he said. "They don't have people like that. They stick together. You never see them break off."

Hours after Trump spoke, Democrats blocked a bid by House Republicans to censure Schiff, chairman



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of the House Intelligence Committee and a leader of the impeachment inquiry.

Rep. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., sponsored the resolution, which criticizes the way Schiff is conducting the investigation. Biggs and other Republicans say Schiff misled voters when he "manufactured a false retelling" of a conversation between Trump and Zelenskyy at a committee hearing last month. Schiff has said his words were meant as a parody.

"Chairman Schiff deliberately misled the American people during a high-profile hearing last month, and he has persistently used his perch on a vital committee to spread falsehoods about President Trump," Biggs said.

Republicans also complained that Schiff's office met with a whistleblower in the case and said the inquiry is being conducted in secret and they've been unable to see transcripts of closed-door interviews. The interviews include discussions of some classified material, and Schiff has said depositions must be conducted in private. Witnesses are being separated to prevent them from coordinating testimony or concealing the truth, he said.

Democrats say that Schiff has acted in a fair and bipartisan manner and that redacted transcripts of the depositions will be released.

The House voted 218-185 Monday along party lines to postpone a vote on the GOP resolution. Justin Amash, a Republican-turned-independent from Michigan, voted with the Democrats.

Schiff, D-Calif., tweeted after the vote that House Republicans "lacked the courage to confront the most dangerous and unethical president in American history" and instead "consoled themselves by attacking those who did" confront Trump.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called Schiff a great patriot. "What the Republicans fear most is the truth," Pelosi said in a statement. "The president betrayed the oath of office, our national security and the integrity of our elections, and the GOP has not even tried to deny the facts. Instead, Republicans stage confusion, undermine the Constitution and attack the person of whom the president is most afraid."

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said Schiff has fallen short in his duty and "demonstrated a pattern of lying to the American people on matters of intelligence."

The vote blocking the Republican censure attempt "only further illustrates the Democrats' ignorance to Chairman Schiff's reckless behavior and underscores their blind determination to damage this country," McCarthy said.

Trump, meanwhile, said some GOP lawmakers "are great fighters. But they have to get tougher and fight because the Democrats are trying to hurt the Republican Party for the (2020) election."

## Trump blasts critics who pushed him to cancel G-7 at Doral

By JILL COLVIN and BERNARD CONDON Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump lashed out Monday at critics who prompted him to move next year's Group of Seven summit from his golf club in Florida, saying "Democrats went crazy" with criticisms that he would have violated the "phony emoluments clause" of the Constitution.

"I was willing to do this for free," Trump said during a Cabinet meeting on Monday, comparing it to his decision not to take his \$400,000 presidential salary. But now, he said, "It will cost a fortune for the country."

At one point, he lamented, "You people with this phony emoluments clause."

He brushed aside the criticism that, even without accepting payments, hosting the summit at his Trump National Doral near Miami would have been one big promotion for his brand. "You don't think I get enough promotion? I get more promotion than any human being that's ever lived," he said.

Trump reversed course Saturday on hosting the G-7 at Doral after Republicans joined Democrats in raising alarm about self-dealing and violating the emoluments clause that bans presidents from receiving gifts or payments from foreign governments. His acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, said that the president had realized that "it looks lousy" to steer business to his own property.

In a moment of introspection, Trump said Monday that the Doral had taken a hit — "It went from doing great to doing fine" — because of his divisive rhetoric about immigration and other issues. The resort is



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the biggest revenue generator of his 17 golf properties, but the PGA and other organizations have pulled events that used to be held there and his company has told local authorities that they should cut its tax bill because it is underperforming.

Mulvaney said last week that Doral was “far and away” the best venue because of its location near the Miami airport and separate buildings to host each country’s delegation.

Mulvaney listed eight states visited in the screening process, including Tennessee, North Carolina, Hawaii, California, Michigan and Utah. But spokespeople for governors and tourism officials in nearly all those states told The Associated Press they weren’t aware of any visits, with some saying they didn’t even know their states were in the running. Only Hawaii said it was aware that the White House had conducted a “general search.”

White House officials declined to name the properties they had considered or provide details on how they vetted them. But the AP reached out to several major hotels and resorts in those states. Of those that would comment, only one confirmed it had received a visit from a White House team, the Grand Hotel in Mackinac Island, Michigan. It declined to say whether it was back in the running now that the Doral has pulled out.

Trump had earlier tweeted that a possible alternate location was the presidential retreat at Camp David, Maryland, the site of the G-7 summit in 2012. That was surprising given that Mulvaney earlier described Camp David as way too small and remote and a “miserable place” for a G-7.

Asked at the Cabinet meeting where the summit will be held now, Trump said that the search team would look at other locations, but regardless, “I don’t think it will be as exciting.”

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Condon reported from New York. AP writers Jonathan Mattise in Nashville, Tennessee; Lindsay Whitehurst in Salt Lake City; Adam Beam in Sacramento, California; Emery P. Dalesio in Raleigh, North Carolina; Jennifer Kelleher in Honolulu; and David Eggert in Lansing, Michigan, contributed to this story.

## **‘America is running away’: Syrian withdrawal turns chaotic**

**By SARAH EL DEEB and LEE KEATH Associated Press**

BEIRUT (AP) — The crowd hurled potatoes that thudded on the sides of the hulking U.S. armored vehicles. “What happened to Americans?” one man shouted in English up at the sole U.S. soldier visible on the back of a vehicle. The soldier stared silently straight ahead, away from the show of fury.

It was yet another indignity in a U.S. withdrawal that has been carried out over the past two weeks with more haste and violence than expected — and which may now be partially reversed.

The turmoil was only in part because President Donald Trump’s Oct. 13 order to leave was so abrupt. It also seemed there had been little U.S. preparation for how to deal with a subsequent invasion by Turkey, though Ankara had been threatening it for months. And when it did strike, Turkey hit more widely across northeastern Syria than anticipated and was startlingly aggressive, seemingly trying to shove U.S. soldiers out of its way. Turkish artillery fire and Turkish-backed fighters came dangerously close to three American positions, U.S. and Kurdish officials said.

On Monday, a U.S. convoy was passing down an avenue in the Kurdish-dominated city of Qamishli, apparently on the way out of Syria, when it caught the brunt of residents’ anger and frustration at the American military that was once their closest ally and was now abandoning them.

“Like rats, America is running away,” one man shouted in Arabic at the vehicles, shown in a video put out by the Kurdish news agency.

One armored vehicle, its American flag flying on the back, reversed down the street and popped onto the sidewalk, apparently searching for a way around the angry men stomping toward it, jabbing their fingers in the air and shouting insults.

Now, the whole rationale Trump put forward for the retreat — to get American troops out of the Mideast and “endless wars” — is in doubt.

Rather than leaving the region, the withdrawing troops will deploy in neighboring Iraq to fight the Is-

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Islamic State group, which many warn could get new life from the Syria turmoil. Some U.S. forces are still in eastern Syria, helping Kurdish fighters protect oil fields. Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Monday he was discussing keeping them there.

Trump surprised even his own military on the ground when he agreed to remove U.S. soldiers working with Kurdish-led forces near the border in an Oct. 6 phone call with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Three days later, Turkey launched its offensive with heavy bombardment along the frontier.

For the American troops, it had not been clear how far the Turkish offensive would go, but they were promised they were out of harm's way. The assault was expected to target a block of territory in the center of the border where the U.S. and Turkey had been trying to work out a compromise "safe zone" arrangement.

Senior Pentagon officials said repeatedly that there was frequent communication with the Turks to avoid accidents on the ground and in the air. But one U.S. official with knowledge of the ground said Turkey's actions were unilateral and potentially "dangerous to coalition forces and civilians." The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief reporters.

It quickly became clear Turkey was more aggressive than expected. Two days into the offensive, just after 9 p.m. Turkish artillery fired near a well-identified U.S. observation point on a hill outside of the town of Kobani, 70 kilometers (44 miles) west of that zone.

The Turkish military said it was responding to Kurdish fire coming from a position about a kilometer (0.6 miles) away from the post. It said it took precautions before firing to prevent harm to the Americans and ceased fire upon "receiving information" from the U.S. military.

But the U.S. official cast doubt on that, saying the American post would have seen Kurdish fire and gone on alert.

Kobani was a scene of the first major battle to drive out IS in 2014, making it a symbol of U.S.-Kurdish cooperation against the militants. Capturing Kobani would have made it possible for Turkey to link up its territories it holds to the west with newly captured areas to the east.

The Pentagon confirmed the incident and said it warned Turkey to avoid actions that could cause defensive reaction. No troops were injured but the Americans left the outpost.

"They (the Turks) created the effect they wanted. We moved out of there tonight," the official told the AP in a text message at the time.

Two days later, Trump ordered all troops out of Syria. Esper told CBS Face the Nation, "In the last 24 hours we learned that they (the Turks) likely intend to expand their attack further south than originally planned and to the west."

At the same time, the Kurds announced they had worked out a deal with Russia for the Syrian government's military to deploy in border areas to protect them against the Turkish offensive.

For a brief moment the U.S. troops seemed to stall. They waited in the flashpoint town of Manbij and strategic Kobani until Syrian forces backed by Russia arrived. It was a clear move to put brakes on the Turkish expansion.

Then, Turkish-backed Syrian militias got too close. They deployed on a major highway, erecting checkpoints and intercepting vehicles, including one carrying a Kurdish politician, whom the fighters killed in a widely circulated video.

Moving fast in armored vehicles provided by Turkey, the fighters advanced toward Ein Issa, a town near the highway that was the administrative center for the Kurdish forces and where the U.S. had a significant presence. The U.S. official said their approach meant American troops there couldn't move freely or keep lines of communication with their Kurdish partners.

"The situation on the ground is deteriorating rapidly," the official said. An hour later, the official confirmed the U.S. troops pulled out of one U.S. base.

Then came another dramatic brush with the Turkish forces.

Some U.S. troops had begun leaving Lafarge, a deserted cement factory that housed a large coalition and Kurdish fighters base, about 50 kilometers (35 miles) south of Kobani, according to an official from the

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Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces official and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitor.

Word got around, prompting Turkish-backed fighters to advance toward the site. The American official told the AP that the fighters "came very close" to the base and "put U.S. forces on the ground directly at risk."

The Americans sent aircraft flying overhead in a "show of force" and contacted the Turkish military to protest, the U.S. official said. The U.S. troops then left Lafarge. The Syrian Kurdish fighters clashed with the approaching Turkish-backed fighters but were vulnerable because of its desert location so they retreated, the SDF official said. He spoke on condition of anonymity in order to discuss details of the conflict.

The next day, an American warplane hit a section of Lafarge believed to include an ammunition depot to destroy supplies and prevent them from falling into others' hands. The coalition explained the strike as a routine measure.

But the SDF official was livid. "The Americans had fled before the confrontation," he said.

El Deeb reported from Beirut. Associated Press writers Lefteris Pitarakis in Akcakale, Turkey; Lolita Baldor in Kabul; and Eric Tucker, Matthew Lee and Robert Burns in Washington contributed to this report.

## US may now keep some troops in Syria to guard oilfields

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR** Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The U.S. may leave some forces in Syria to secure oilfields and make sure they don't fall into the hands of a resurgent Islamic State, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Monday, even though President Donald Trump has insisted he is pulling troops out of the country and getting out of "endless wars."

The Pentagon chief said the plan was still in the discussion phase and had not yet been presented to Trump, who has repeatedly said the Islamic State has been defeated.

Esper emphasized that the proposal to leave a small number of troops in eastern Syria was intended to give the president "maneuver room" and wasn't final.

"There has been a discussion about possibly doing it," Esper told a press conference in Afghanistan before heading to Saudi Arabia. "There has been no decision with regard to numbers or anything like that."

Still, the fact that such a plan was under consideration was another sign the administration was still trying to sort out its overall strategy amid fierce criticism from the president's Republican allies of his abrupt decision to pull U.S. forces back — essentially clearing the way for Turkey's military incursion into the border region to push back the American-allied Kurdish forces.

A White House official said GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham raised the issue of keeping U.S. forces in eastern Syria to protect the oilfields and that Trump supported the idea. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal discussions.

Trump said Monday at the White House that he still wants to get all U.S. troops out of Syria, but "we need to secure the oil" in one part of the country while Israel and Jordan asked him to keep some forces in another part.

"Other than that, there's no reason for it, in our opinion," he said.

Esper said the main goal of leaving some troops around the oilfields would be to make sure the Islamic State doesn't gain control of the revenue they generate.

The defense secretary said American troops around Kobani are withdrawing and that the U.S. is maintaining combat air patrol over U.S. forces in Syria as the withdrawal goes on. He said the U.S. is using overhead surveillance to try to monitor the recently negotiated cease-fire "as best we can."

While Trump has insisted he's bringing home Americans from "endless wars" in the Mideast, Esper said all U.S. troops leaving Syria will go to western Iraq and the American military will continue operations against the Islamic State group.

Esper told reporters over the weekend that the fight in Syria against IS, once spearheaded by American allied Syrian Kurds who have been cast aside by Trump, will be undertaken by U.S. forces, possibly from neighboring Iraq.

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But he said in a tweet Monday that the U.S. would only “temporarily reposition” troops from Syria “in the region” until they could return home.

Esper did not rule out the idea that U.S. forces would conduct counterterrorism missions from Iraq into Syria. But he told reporters traveling with him that those details will be worked out over time.

Trump nonetheless tweeted: “USA soldiers are not in combat or ceasefire zones. We have secured the Oil. Bringing soldiers home!”

The Republican president declared this past week that Washington had no stake in defending the Kurdish fighters who died by the thousands as America’s partners fighting in Syria against IS extremists. Turkey conducted a weeklong offensive into northeastern Syria against the Kurdish fighters before a military pause.

“We never agreed to protect the Kurds for the rest of their lives,” Trump said during a Cabinet meeting Monday.

Trump’s acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, asked about the fact that the troops were not coming home as the president claimed they would, said, “Well, they will eventually.” He told “Fox News Sunday” that “the quickest way to get them out of danger was to get them into Iraq.”

Trump ordered the bulk of the approximately 1,000 U.S. troops in Syria to withdraw after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan made it clear in a phone call that his forces were about to invade Syria to push back Kurdish forces that Turkey considers terrorists.

The pullout largely abandons America’s Kurdish allies who have fought IS alongside U.S. troops for several years. Between 200 and 300 U.S. troops will remain at the southern Syrian outpost of Al-Tanf.

The U.S. has more than 5,000 American forces in Iraq, under an agreement between the two countries. The U.S. pulled its troops out of Iraq in 2011 when combat operations there ended, but they went back in after IS began to take over large swaths of the country in 2014. The number of American forces in Iraq has remained small due to political sensitivities in the country, after years of what some Iraqis consider U.S. occupation during the war that began in 2003.

Esper said he will talk with other allies at a NATO meeting in the coming week to discuss the way ahead for the counter-IS mission.

Asked if U.S. special operations forces will conduct unilateral military operations into Syria to go after IS, Esper said that is an option that will be discussed with allies over time.

On Sunday, U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi led a group of American lawmakers on a visit to Jordan to discuss “the deepening crisis” in Syria.

Jordan’s state news agency said that King Abdullah II, in a meeting with the Americans, stressed the importance of safeguarding Syria’s territorial integrity and guarantees for the “safe and voluntary” return of refugees.

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Associated Press writer Zeke Miller contributed from Washington.

## **\$260 million deal averts 1st federal trial on opioid crisis**

**By JULIE CARR SMYTH and GEOFF MULVIHILL Associated Press**

CLEVELAND (AP) — The nation’s three biggest drug distributors and a major drugmaker agreed to an 11th-hour, \$260 million settlement Monday over the terrible toll taken by opioids in two Ohio counties, averting the first federal trial over the crisis.

The trial, involving Cleveland’s Cuyahoga County and Akron’s Summit County, was seen as a critical test case that could have gauged the strength of the opposing sides’ arguments and prodded the industry and its foes toward a nationwide resolution of nearly all lawsuits over opioids, the scourge blamed for 400,000 U.S. deaths in the past two decades.

The agreement was struck in the middle of the night, just hours before a jury that was selected last week was scheduled to hear opening arguments in federal court in Cleveland.

Drug distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson will pay a combined \$215 million, said Hunter Shkolnik, a lawyer for Cuyahoga County. Israeli-based drugmaker Teva will contribute \$20



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million in cash and \$25 million worth of generic Suboxone, a drug used to treat opioid addiction.

"People can't lose sight of the fact that the counties got a very good deal for themselves, but we also set an important national benchmark for the others," Shkolnik said.

The deal contains no admission of wrongdoing by the defendants.

Across the U.S., the pharmaceutical industry still faces more than 2,600 other lawsuits over the deadly disaster. Participants in those cases said the Ohio deal buys them time to try to work out a nationwide settlement of all claims.

It could also turn up the pressure to work out such a deal, because every partial settlement reached reduces the amount of money the companies have available to pay other plaintiffs.

The barrage of lawsuits was brought against drug manufacturers, suppliers and sellers by state and local governments, Native American tribes, hospitals and others. For nearly two years, a federal judge in Ohio has been pushing the parties toward one big settlement.

The only defendant left in the trial that had been scheduled for Monday is the drugstore chain Walgreens. The new plan is for Walgreens and other pharmacies to go to trial within six months.

The settlement enables both sides to avoid the risks and uncertainties involved in a trial: The counties immediately lock in money they can use to deal with the crisis, and the drug companies avoid a possible finding of wrongdoing and a huge jury verdict.

"There's no amount of money that's going to change the devastation and destruction that they've done to families not only all across our county but all across the country," said Travis Bornstein, who was preparing to testify in the Cleveland trial. But he said the settlement should help provide services for people who are struggling.

Bornstein said his son, Tyler, became hooked on opioids as a teenager after receiving a prescription following surgery on his arm. He died of a heroin overdose five years later, in 2014.

Better funding for treatment programs might have helped his son, who was on a waiting list when he died, Bornstein said.

Ohio in 2017 had the second-highest death rate from drug overdoses in the U.S., behind only West Virginia.

In a statement, the three major distributors said the settlement money should be used on such things as treatment, rehab and mental health services.

The settlement also means that the evidence prepared for the trial won't be fully aired.

Lawyers for the counties were preparing to show the jury a 1900 first edition of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," featuring the poppy fields that put Dorothy to sleep, and a 3,000-year-old Sumerian poppy jug to show that the world has long known the dangers of opioids.

Those suing the industry have accused it of aggressively marketing opioids while downplaying the risks of addiction and turning a blind eye toward suspiciously large shipments of the drugs. The industry has denied wrongdoing.

Industry CEOs and attorneys general from four states met Friday in Cleveland, where the offer on the table was a deal worth potentially \$48 billion in cash and addiction-treatment drugs to settle cases nationally.

Those attorney generals reiterated Monday that they have worked out a "framework" for a settlement. They said they hope other states and local governments sign on.

But the reception wasn't promising. Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost called the idea "a pile of lumber," not a framework. And Paul Hanly, one of the lead lawyers for the local governments, said the companies should be forced to pay more.

OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma, often cast as the biggest villain in the crisis, reached a tentative settlement last month that could be worth up to \$12 billion. But half the states and hundreds of local governments oppose it. It remains to be seen whether the settlement will receive the approvals it needs.

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Mulvihill reported from Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

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This story has been corrected to say that the tentative deal would settle only claims brought by the Ohio counties of Cuyahoga and Summit, not other lawsuits.



## Asian stocks climb, lifted by upbeat talk on China-US trade

By ELAINE KURTENBACH AP Business Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — Shares are gaining in Asia after upbeat comments from President Donald Trump and other U.S. officials on the status of trade negotiations with China.

The Kospi in South Korea led gains, jumping 1.3% to 2,090.88, thanks to gains in technology companies overnight on Wall Street. Australia's S&P ASX 200 added 0.3% to 6,674.30. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong picked up 0.2% to 26,765.87, while the Shanghai Composite index slipped 0.1% to 2,936.99. India's Sensex edged 0.1% higher to 39,320.90.

Shares rose in Taiwan, Bangkok and most of Southeast Asia.

Trump told reporters Monday that he was hoping to sign a trade deal with China next month at a summit in Chile, "or whenever that might be."

On again, off again talks on resolving a dispute over trade and China's technology policies have dragged on for over a year, with both sides imposing billions of dollars' worth of tariffs on each other's goods. The most recent round, earlier this month in Washington, helped forestall a new round of tariff hikes on imports from China that would have escalated tensions.

Lower level talks were expected this week, and China's top envoy in charge of the negotiations, Vice Premier Liu He, said over the weekend that substantial progress had been made.

Economic adviser Larry Kudlow, said, "I really like what they're saying on the other side." If current talks go well, he said, Trump might put off imposing more tariffs planned for December.

"I can't guarantee it, it's completely up to the president," Kudlow told Fox Business.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross was more cautious, saying that the timing was less important than the contents of any deal.

"It doesn't have to be in November," Ross told Fox. "The key thing is to get everything right that we do sign."

Analysts were likewise skeptical.

In a commentary, Mizuho Bank said "we think the current wave of trade optimism may be short-lived."

It noted that negotiations were said to be going well before they collapsed in May. And talk of a partial deal suggests many issues will remain unresolved.

"Whilst scrapping of the upcoming December tariff is welcomed, this may be only marginally positive since a substantial degree of damage is already done from the existing tariffs," it said.

Still, the bullish comments on trade lifted spirits overnight on Wall Street, where benchmarks extended the gains of the past two weeks.

The S&P 500 closed above 3,000 points for the first time in a month and is now within 0.7% of its all-time high set on July 26. It gained 0.7% to 3,006.72. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.2% to 26,827.64. It was weighed down by a 3.8% drop in Boeing shares, which followed a 6.8% slide on Friday.

Congress is ramping up scrutiny of Boeing as its CEO, Dennis Muilenburg, is scheduled to testify to the House's transportation committee on Oct. 30. Investors are concerned about the latest revelations surrounding the safety of its 737 Max airplanes, which have been grounded after two deadly accidents.

The Nasdaq climbed 0.9% to 8,162.99, while the Russell 2000 index of smaller stocks picked up 1%, to 1,550.14.

As they wait for trade talk developments, investors are watching corporate earnings reports. Monday was a relatively quiet start to a week full of results from major companies.

Analysts came into this latest earnings season expecting profits to decline overall for companies in the S&P 500. But with about 15% of companies in the index reporting so far, results have been surprisingly positive.

"We remain cautious for the quarter but believe that companies will continue to chin the low bar they have set and ultimately, we will end the quarter flat or up low single digits," said Katie Nixon, chief investment officer for Northern Trust Wealth Management, in a note to investors.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 1.80% from 1.75% late Friday. Higher yields allow banks to

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charge more lucrative interest on mortgages and other loans. Higher yields are also a sign that investors are more confident.

Energy futures were flat.

Benchmark crude oil fell 1 cent to \$53.30 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It lost 36 cents to settle at \$53.31 a barrel on Monday.

Brent crude oil, the international standard, was flat at \$58.96 a barrel.

The dollar rose to 108.64 Japanese yen from 108.60 yen on Monday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1153 from \$1.1149.

AP Business writers Alex Veiga and Damian J. Troise contributed.

## Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 22, the 295th day of 2019. There are 70 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 22, 1962, in a nationally broadcast address, President John F. Kennedy revealed the presence of Soviet-built missile bases under construction in Cuba and announced a quarantine of all offensive military equipment being shipped to the Communist island nation.

On this date:

In 1797, French balloonist Andre-Jacques Garnerin (gahr-nayr-AN') made the first parachute descent, landing safely from a height of about 3,000 feet over Paris.

In 1811, composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt was born in the Hungarian town of Raiding (RY'-ding) in present-day Austria.

In 1934, bank robber Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd was shot to death by federal agents and local police at a farm near East Liverpool, Ohio.

In 1979, the U.S. government allowed the deposed Shah of Iran to travel to New York for medical treatment — a decision that precipitated the Iran hostage crisis.

In 1981, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization was decertified by the federal government for its strike the previous August.

In 1986, President Reagan signed into law sweeping tax-overhaul legislation.

In 1991, the European Community and the European Free Trade Association concluded a landmark accord to create a free trade zone of 19 nations by 1993.

In 1995, the largest gathering of world leaders in history marked the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

In 1998, the government advised parents to remove the batteries from their kids' "Power Wheels" cars and trucks, made by Fisher-Price, because of faulty wiring that could cause them to erupt into flame.

In 2001, a second Washington, D.C., postal worker, Joseph P. Curseen, died of inhalation anthrax.

In 2002, bus driver Conrad Johnson was shot to death in Aspen Hill, Md., in the final attack carried out by the "Beltway Snipers."

In 2004, in a wrenching videotaped statement, aid worker Margaret Hassan, kidnapped in Baghdad, begged the British government to help save her by withdrawing its troops from Iraq, saying these "might be my last hours." (Hassan was apparently killed by her captors a month later.)

Ten years ago: Mortars fired by Islamic militants slammed into Somalia's airport as President Sheik Sharif Sheik Ahmed boarded a plane, sparking battles that killed at least 24 people; the president was unhurt. Gunmen kidnapped Gauthier Lefevre, a French staff member working for the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Sudan's western Darfur region. (Lefevre was released in March 2010.) Comedian Soupy Sales died in New York at age 83.

Five years ago: A gunman shot and killed a soldier standing guard at a war memorial in Ottawa, then

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stormed the Canadian Parliament before he was shot and killed by the usually ceremonial sergeant-at-arms.

One year ago: President Donald Trump declared that the U.S. would start cutting aid to three Central American countries he accused of failing to stop thousands of migrants heading for the U.S. border. A bomb was found in a mailbox at the suburban New York home of liberal billionaire philanthropist George Soros; federal agents safely detonated the device after being summoned by a security officer.

Today's Birthdays: Black Panthers co-founder Bobby Seale is 83. Actor Christopher Lloyd is 81. Actor Derek Jacobi is 81. Actor Tony Roberts is 80. Movie director Jan (yahn) de Bont is 76. Actress Catherine Deneuve is 76. Rock singer/musician Eddie Brigati is 74. Rock musician Leslie West (Mountain) is 74. Former Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour is 72. Actor Jeff Goldblum is 67. Rock musician Greg Hawkes is 67. Movie director Bill Condon is 64. Actor Luis Guzman is 63. Actor-writer-producer Todd Graff is 60. Rock musician Cris Kirkwood is 59. Actor-comedian Bob Odenkirk is 57. Olympic gold medal figure skater Brian Boitano is 56. Christian singer TobyMac is 55. Singer-songwriter John Wesley Harding (Wesley Stace) is 54. Actress Valeria Golino is 53. Comedian Carlos Mencia is 52. Country singer Shelby Lynne is 51. Reggae rapper Shaggy is 51. Movie director Spike Jonze is 50. Rapper Tracey Lee is 49. Actress Saffron Burrows is 47. Actress Carmen Ejogo is 46. Former MLB player Ichiro Suzuki (EE'-cheer-oh soo-ZOO'-kee) is 46. Actor Jesse Tyler Ferguson is 44. Christian rock singer-musician Jon Foreman (Switchfoot) is 43. Actor Michael Fishman is 38. Talk show host Michael Essany is 37. New York Mets infielder Robinson Cano is 37. Rock musician Rickard (correct) Goransson (Carolina Liar) is 36. Rock musician Zac Hanson (Hanson) is 34. Actor Corey Hawkins is 31. Actor Jonathan Lipnicki is 29. Actress Sofia Vassilieva (vas-ihl-lee-A'-vuh) is 27. Actor Elias Harger is 12.

Thought for Today: "A person often meets his destiny on the road he took to avoid it." — Jean de La Fontaine, French poet (1621-1695).

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