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Chicken Soup
for the Soul

"Find the love you seek, by first finding the love within yourself.

Learn to rest in that place within you that is your true home."

-Sri Sri Ravi Shankar



Netters advance to SoDak 16

Groton Area's volleyball team showed now mercy Thursday night in beating Milbank in three straight sets. The Tigers never trailed in the match and the match was only tied twice. Milbank used five of its six time-outs to try and stop Groton's rally, but only to find a determined Tiger squad wanting to advance to the SoDak16. Eliza Wanner got her 1,000th dig to highlight the evening. Groton Area won the games, 25-10, 25-19 and 25-17.

Kaylin Kucker, Groton's setter, even came up with a season high three kills on the night with her sneak throw-overs instead of sets, catching Milbank off guard. Nicole Marzahn had 15 kills, three ace serves and a block while Eliza Wanner had 19 digs, 15 kills and one ace serve. Indigo Rogers finished with eight kills, Kucker had 33 assists and an ace serve, Payton Colestock had three ace serves, Kenzie McInerney had one kill, Tadyn Glover had 31 digs and three ace serves and Madeline Flihs had one kill and two blocks. McInerney, Marzahn and Stella Meier were attributed with a block as well.

Jacey Engebretson led the Bulldogs with 10 kills while Madi Thue had four, Tracy Pillatzki had three kills, an ace serve and one block, Elsie Rogers had three kills and Averie Engebretson and Amy Nelson each had one kill.

Groton Area earned 53 of its 75 points for 71 percent while Milbank earned 24 of its 46 points for 52 percent. Groton Area had one serving error while Milbank had three serving errors, all in the third set.

Groton Area will now play Pine Ridge at a site to be determined. That match will take place on Tuesday.

- Paul Kosel

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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View Bracket

11/8/19, 6:42 AM

Class A Volleyball SoDak 16

Print Bracket

The eight (8) winners of the SoDak 16 contests will be re-seeded for the State Tournament.

#1 Miller

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

Site:

Scores:

#16 Sioux Valley

STATE QUALIFIER

STATE QUALIFIER

#5 Winner

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

Site:

Scores:

#12 Hamlin

#2 Dakota Valley

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

Site:

Scores:

#15 Mobridge-Pollock

STATE QUALIFIER

STATE QUALIFIER

#6 RC Christian

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

Site:

Scores:

#11 Madison

Seed School

Seed Pts.

1	Miller	46.188
2	Dakota Valley	45.067
3	Hill City	44.867
4	McCook Central/Montrose	44.840
5	Winner	44.464
6	RC Christian	43.969
7	Pine Ridge	43.821
8	SF Christian	43.606

Seed School

Seed Pts.

9	Aberdeen Roncalli	43.594
10	Groton Area	43.533
11	Madison	43.107
12	Hamlin	41.692
13	Garretson	41.600
14	Elk Point-Jefferson	41.533
15	Mobridge-Pollock	40.500
16	Sioux Valley	39.156

#3 Hill City

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

Site:

Scores:

#14 Elk Point-Jefferson

STATE QUALIFIER

STATE QUALIFIER

#7 Pine Ridge

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

Site:

Scores:

#10 Groton Area

McCook

#4 Central/Montrose

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

STATE QUALIFIER

STATE QUALIFIER

#8 SF Christian

Scores:

Date: 11/12/2019

Time:

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Groton Post No. 39 American Legion



Annual



Turkey Party

Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019

Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Groton Legion Post Home, 10 N. Main.

Turkey, Ham and Bacon
to be given away

FREE ADMISSION

**DOOR
PRIZE!**

Lunch served
by Auxiliary



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Today



Mostly Sunny

High: 42 °F

Tonight



Partly Cloudy

Low: 26 °F

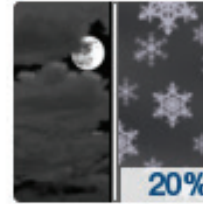
Saturday



Partly Sunny

High: 46 °F

Saturday
Night



Mostly Cloudy
then Slight
Chance Snow

Low: 21 °F

Sunday



Chance Snow

High: 26 °F

Today
38-58°F

Saturday
40-63°F

Turning Milder
Through Saturday

Aberdeen, SD
Updated: 11/8/2019 3:05 AM Central

Published on: 11/07/2019 at 10:06PM

The graphic features a collection of pumpkins and gourds in a rustic setting. A thermometer icon with an upward arrow is positioned on the left. The National Weather Service logo is in the bottom right corner.

Southerly breezes will usher in a milder airmass to the region through Saturday. Sunday, however, will be much colder!

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Today in Weather History

November 8, 1985: Heavy snow fell over much of southern South Dakota beginning on the morning of the 8th and continued through the evening of the 10th. Snowfall ranged from 5-10 inches over the area, with amounts up to a foot or more in the Black Hills. The most significant amount was 18 inches in the higher elevations of the Black Hills. Winds gusting to near 40 mph at times, combined with the snowfall, produced near-blizzard conditions during the afternoon of the 9th through the early morning hours on the 10th, in the southwest. Highway 79 from Maverick Junction to Rapid City was closed for thirteen hours. Many accidents were reported over the entire southern portion of the state. Some storm total snowfall amounts include; 16.0 inches near Presho; 11.5 inches in Kennebec; 9.0 inches in Murdo; and 4.0 inches in Timber Lake and near Onida.

1870: The U.S. Signal Corps Weather Service issued the first storm warning on this day. Professor Increase A. Lapham believed that warnings of deadly storms on the Great Lakes could be derived from telegraphed weather observations. A bill was introduced and signed into law to establish a national telegraphic weather service. The Signal Corps began taking observations of November 1, 1870. On this date, Lapham would issue the first storm warning, a cautionary forecast for the Great Lakes.

1879: A tornado struck Crawford County, Arkansas, killing several people.

1913: The Great Lakes Storm of November 7-13, 1913 was a blizzard with hurricane-force winds that devastated the Great Lakes Region, sinking as many as 19 ships and stranded 19 others. This storm would be the deadliest and most destructive natural disaster ever to hit the Great Lakes.

1994: The twelfth and final tropical cyclone of the Atlantic hurricane season formed on this day in the southwestern Caribbean. While Hurricane Gordon was only a Category 1, it still killed 1,149 individuals, including 1,122 in Haiti.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 28 °F at 3:52 PM

Low Temp: 6 °F at 6:56 AM

Wind: 12 mph at 12:50 PM

Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 77° in 1999

Record Low: -3° in 1936

Average High: 44°F

Average Low: 23°F

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.21

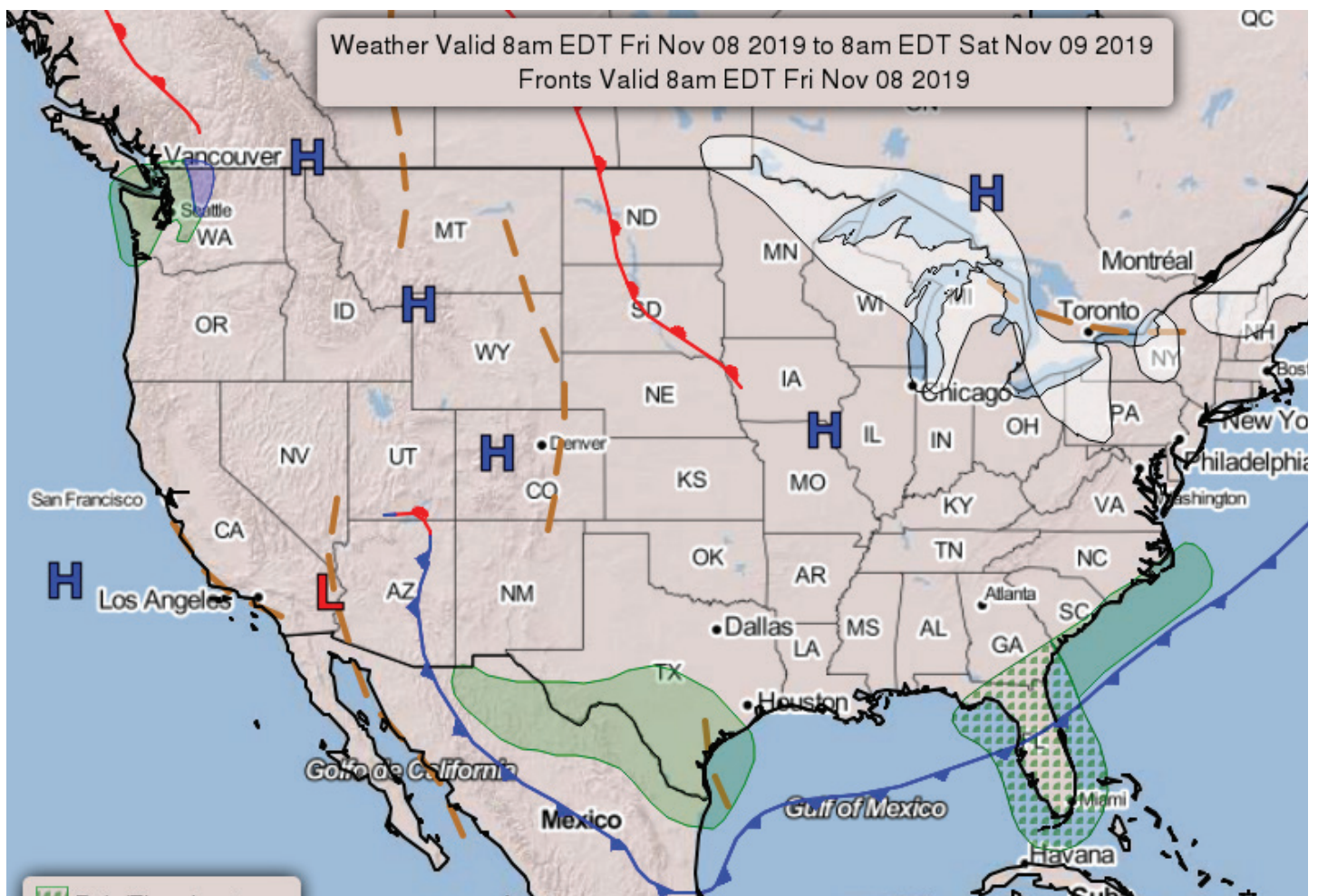
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.68

Precip Year to Date: 26.57

Sunset Tonight: 5:12 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:24 a.m.





FROM FAILURE TO FORTUNE

Harlan Sanders had just turned forty. No matter what he tried, he failed. Nothing he did succeeded. He was discouraged and disheartened.

Then, one day someone said to him, "Life begins at forty!"

He decided to open a gas station. Shortly afterward, he added a luncheonette. People said that his chicken was tasteless. Rather than giving up on his tasteless chicken, he worked on new and different seasonings. One day he finally combined the right seasonings in the right amounts for his now famous recipe and called it Harlan Sanders' Fried Chicken. It soon brought him fame and fortune and the governor of Kentucky made him a "Kentucky Colonel." It was the beginning of Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Through his faith in God he turned failure into fortune and tragedy into triumph and gave God the credit for his success. Life began at forty for the Colonel because he worked hard and trusted God. Hard work, trusting God and being faithful to the Lord is a winning combination. Follow the formula daily. It works.

Prayer: Father, help us to realize that failing does not make us a failure, but our lack of faith will. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Philippians 4:13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

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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

Thursday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Harrisburg def. Mitchell, 25-9, 25-23, 25-14

Huron def. Pierre, 23-25, 25-21, 25-12, 25-15

Rapid City Central def. Sturgis Brown, 25-6, 25-20, 25-8

Rapid City Stevens def. Spearfish, 25-8, 25-18, 25-14

Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Brandon Valley, 25-19, 25-16, 25-20

Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Yankton, 26-24, 25-19, 25-10

Sioux Falls Washington def. Brookings, 21-25, 25-13, 25-22, 22-25, 15-11

Watertown def. Aberdeen Central, 25-17, 26-24, 25-23

Region 1A

Finals

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Redfield, 25-13, 25-10, 25-16

Groton Area def. Milbank Area, 25-10, 25-19, 25-17

Region 2A

Finals

Hamlin def. Flandreau, 23-25, 25-17, 25-12, 25-17

Sioux Valley def. Florence/Henry, 25-7, 25-12, 25-19

Region 3A

Finals

Garretson def. Baltic, 25-17, 25-22, 20-25, 25-22

Sioux Falls Christian def. Tri-Valley, 25-14, 25-16, 25-14

Region 4A

Finals

Dakota Valley def. Lennox, 25-11, 25-14, 25-16

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Beresford, 17-25, 25-12, 25-15, 25-18

Region 5A

Finals

Madison def. Wagner, 25-21, 23-25, 25-19, 19-25, 15-8

McCook Central/Montrose def. Parker, 25-18, 25-20, 25-13

Region 6A

Finals

Miller def. Crow Creek, 25-15, 25-7, 25-7

Mobridge-Pollock def. Chamberlain, 22-25, 25-22, 26-24, 25-21

Region 7A

Finals

Pine Ridge def. Little Wound, 25-20, 25-18, 25-19

Winner def. Red Cloud, 25-3, 25-11, 25-10

Region 8A

Finals

Hill City def. Lead-Deadwood, 25-7, 25-16, 25-13

Rapid City Christian def. St. Thomas More, 25-8, 25-23, 17-25, 25-22

Region 1B

Finals

Northwestern def. Great Plains Lutheran, 25-6, 25-6, 25-6

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Warner def. Langford, 25-20, 13-25, 25-20, 25-21

Region 2B

Finals

Faulkton def. Potter County, 25-14, 25-18, 25-22

Ipswich def. Sully Buttes, 25-20, 25-23, 25-21

Region 3B

Finals

Castlewood def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 25-10, 25-17, 21-25, 25-22

Region 4B

Finals

Chester def. Colman-Egan, 25-17, 25-23, 29-27

Ethan def. Elkton-Lake Benton, 25-23, 25-18, 25-22

Region 5B

Finals

Bridgewater-Emery def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-19, 25-19, 25-22

Freeman def. Gayville-Volin, 25-23, 25-19, 25-13

Region 6B

Finals

Avon def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-15, 25-13, 27-25

Burke def. Kimball/White Lake, 25-15, 25-11, 25-19

Region 7B

Finals

Kadoka Area def. Philip, 25-15, 25-10, 25-16

White River def. New Underwood, 25-19, 18-25, 25-23, 25-22

Region 8B

Finals

Faith def. Harding County, 25-8, 25-21, 25-8

Lemmon def. Timber Lake, 25-7, 14-25, 19-25, 25-19, 15-7

Wilson carries S. Dakota St. over Peru State 86-58

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Douglas Wilson registered 13 points and eight rebounds as South Dakota State easily defeated Peru State 86-58 on Thursday night.

David Wingett and Matt Dentlinger had 12 points apiece for South Dakota State (2-0). Alex Arians had seven rebounds for the hosts.

Devon Colley had 21 points for the Bobcats. He also had seven turnovers but only two assists. Noah Vasa added three blocks.

South Dakota State takes on Cal State Bakersfield on the road on Saturday.

For more AP college basketball coverage: <https://apnews.com/Collegebasketball> and http://twitter.com/AP_Top25

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Honored WWII aerial gunner is a survivor

By KENT BUSH Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Morry Crow is an everyday hero.

Crow completed 30 missions as an aerial gunner in World War II. He flew missions in Norway and Germany and survived harrowing incidents during those missions. But while 10 of the 21 planes in his squadron

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didn't return, he and his crew were part of the "Lucky Bastards Club" as they were humorously anointed.

On three separate occasions, Crow was standing in the turret area behind the cockpit — with temperatures falling as low as 67 degrees below zero — when enemy fire damaged his plane. Once he was knocked out only to regain consciousness hanging by his own protective gear with shrapnel embedded in his thigh.

"It never even bled," Crow told the Rapid City Journal. "It must have been really hot when it went in."

That firefight lasted for hours. The pilots involved said the fighting between the Flying Fortresses and German Messerschmitts lasted longer than most naval battles, according to newspaper reports at the time.

Catching burning hot shrapnel in his thigh wasn't even the worst injury Crow has endured in his life. One freak injury almost kept him from serving the country.

The tale of the accident that claimed his toe isn't for the faint of heart. Crow worked in a shingle mill. He slipped on some slick shingles and his foot slid under a machine. When he pulled off his boot, he found his severed toe in his sock. There was no ambulance service so Crow had to drive himself 3.5 miles to the hospital and ended up on crutches for a month.

"It took me about a year to recover my strength and balance," Crow said. "But after that year, I was playing baseball again."

Crow couldn't enlist even though he tried. The doctors quickly disqualified him because he had lost that toe. But a few months later when he was drafted, the missing toe was no problem and he headed off to the Air Force.

Crow said his motivation to serve was simple. "Patriotism," he said.

When he was in training, he could have chosen a role on the ground crew but he selected the much riskier job of aerial gunner. When they started training, the airmen were told that many of them probably wouldn't make it back and several of them left for other positions, but not Crow.

"I knew I had to live with myself the rest of my life," Crow said.

He flew 30 missions with the 8th Air Force, 332nd Bomb Group. Those missions resulted in Crow receiving a Purple Heart, a Distinguished Flying Cross and a Presidential Commendation.

His home was in Washington state, but when he returned from the war, he was stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base. It was here in Rapid City that he met the love of his life, Lucille. They were married 60 years and eight months before she passed away in 2006. She worked in local banks for more than four decades. Crow ran a bulldozer, digging basements and completing other projects. They moved to Silver City in 1972 just before the flood ravaged the Rapid City area.

He still owns a cabin in Silver City.

Now 99, Crow said for years he couldn't believe how good he felt considering his advanced age. He worked out on a stationary bike every day. He said the past few weeks, he hasn't been able to keep that schedule and it bothers him that he can't get around as well as he could.

But Crow isn't afraid of a fight now any more than he was more than 75 years ago. He is still planning on being in the Veterans Day Parade Monday in Rapid City and he is looking forward to the Silver City Ice Cream Social and his 100th birthday next April.

Until then, he enjoys spending time with his friend Bill Casper and the company of the employees at the Good Samaritan Society's St. Martin's Village.

"I appreciate every minute Bill spends with me," he said of their weekly cribbage games. "And the employees and people who take care of me here are the best. There are none better."

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

Native American football enjoys a rebirth in South Dakota

By **STEPHEN GROVES** Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — When the Kul Wicasa Oyate of Lower Brule High School meet the Crow Creek Chieftains in the first All Nations Football Conference championship in South Dakota on Friday, only one team will fulfill its dream of claiming a league title.

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But for many players in this new Native American league, where students defy both athletic and socio-economic statistics and dream of playing in a championship game at "the Dome" at the University of South Dakota, simply getting onto the field has provided a personal victory.

Tribal schools in South Dakota formed their own 9-man league this year, a move that coaches and players say has rejuvenated the sport in Native American communities statewide. Some coaches saw their existing teams grow by two-thirds; two schools are fielding their first teams ever.

Supporters say the teams are giving students a reason to stay in school and out of trouble, and communities are coming together to rally around the teams. Reservations in South Dakota suffer from high rates of crime and drug use, and many schools struggle to keep students from dropping out.

"There's a lot of negative stuff that goes on on the rez," said Scott Obago, Lower Brule's 17-year-old quarterback. "Staying at practice, staying with friends keeps you away from all that stuff."

Football has historically been played widely by Native Americans, dating to the days of greats like Jim Thorpe. But in recent years, many smaller schools found themselves overmatched by schools with larger rosters and bigger players.

Leonard "Yamni" Jack, the athletic director at Lower Brule, said reservation schools often don't have the money to build weight rooms, fields, and equipment needed to compete with better-funded public schools. Participation in football also sometimes suffered on reservation schools, where basketball is king and some potential players didn't want to risk injury.

Last year, the Lower Brule staff came up with a plan to form their own league, open to schools with at least 50% Native American students and to both Native American and non-Native American athletes. Twelve schools joined, including two that had never had a football team.

Organizers say the first season was a success. Two schools from Nebraska are planning to join next year. "Football has been reinvigorated in the tribal communities," Lance Witte, Lower Brule's superintendent, said.

With fewer injuries than in previous years when they were part of statewide competition, coaches have seen a surge in interest. Lower Brule coach Zeke Prado said some of the students who tried out had never played football, and he relished the chance to teach them new skills and encourage them to keep their grades up, so they would be eligible to play.

The team's success this year has also been a source of pride and involvement from the community. The rivalry between tribal schools can be intense because many of the athletes have relatives and friends who go to schools that may be separated by just a few miles. Jack, the athletic director, said the pep rally before the championship game drew the most parents he's ever witnessed.

It's not just the winning teams that call the new league a success.

Takini High School in Howes formed a team for the first time this season and didn't win a game. But coach Donald Schroeder said he's expecting more students to come out next year — including a few girls.

"We could have something here really special," Schroeder said.

South Dakota's Real ID system meets federal requirements

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Kristi Noem says South Dakota is now more than 99% compliant with federal Real ID requirements ahead of next year's deadline.

Noem said Thursday that early work by South Dakota's driver licensing program to meet the deadline means that all eligible South Dakotans, with only a few exceptions, already have been issued a Real ID-compliant license or card.

She says the October 2020 deadline will have no effect on those with a Real ID license or card issued in South Dakota.

The federal Real ID Act sets minimum security standards for licenses. A Real ID-compliant driver's license will be needed to board domestic flights starting Oct. 1, 2020.

South Dakota began issuing Real ID-compliant licenses and identification cards on Dec. 31, 2009.

Not guilty plea for man transporting hemp

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The Colorado man who was arrested in South Dakota after his load of hemp tested positive for THC, the component in marijuana that produces a high, has pleaded not guilty to drug charges.

Robert Herzberg entered the plea in state court in Kadoka Wednesday to charges of intending to distribute marijuana, possessing more than 10 pounds of the drug and ingesting marijuana and cocaine.

The Rapid City Journal reports Herzberg told a state trooper he was delivering 300 pounds (136 kilograms) of hemp to a CBD-oil processing company in Minnesota when he was pulled over for speeding last July. Authorities say his hemp field tested positive for THC.

Federal guidelines say that while states and tribal nations can make it illegal to produce hemp, they can't block the transportation of legal hemp, which has 0.3 percent or less of THC.

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

Bison businessman sentenced for kidnapping, assault

BISON, S.D. (AP) — The owner of Bison Grain Company has been sentenced in Perkins County to spend 75 years behind bars on charges of kidnapping, sexual assault and aggravated assault.

Judge Eric Strawn sentenced Richard Seidel Tuesday. The victim, in seeking a protection order in November 2017, told the court Seidel had strangled and bound her, kidnapped and raped her and threatened her with a gun. Seidel was released on \$1 million bond after he was charged.

In July a jury found Seidel guilty of first-degree kidnapping, second-degree rape, committing a felony while armed and aggravated assault.

State's Attorney Shane Penfield thanked the victim for her courage and testimony. Seidel did not testify in his own defense.

Ivanka Trump: Whistleblower's motives more important than ID

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

RABAT, Morocco (AP) — Ivanka Trump on Friday echoed her father's view that the House impeachment investigation is an attempt to overturn the 2016 election. But, in an interview with The Associated Press, she parted ways with President Donald Trump by calling the identity of the impeachment whistleblower "not particularly relevant."

The Republican president and some of his allies lately have been pressing the news media to publicize the whistleblower's name. Trump has also tweeted for the individual to "come forward." But Ivanka Trump said the person's motives were more important, though she declined to speculate on what they may have been.

"The whistleblower shouldn't be a substantive part of the conversation," she told the AP, saying the person "did not have firsthand information."

Of the individual's identity, she added that, "to me, it's not particularly relevant aside from what the motivation behind all of this was."

In a wide-ranging, 25-minute interview, Ivanka Trump also addressed her family's criticism of Democrat Joe Biden and his son Hunter, whether she wants four more years in the White House and the possible future sale of her family's landmark Washington hotel.

She said she shares her father's oft-repeated view that the impeachment investigation is about "overturning the results of the 2016 election." House Democrats counter that the inquiry is about whether Trump abused his office by putting his political interests first.

"Basically since the election this has been the experience that our administration and our family has been having," she said of persistent criticism of the president. "Rather than wait, under a year, until the people can decide for themselves based on his record and based on his accomplishments, this new effort has, has commenced."

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"But to us, it's really been like this from the beginning," she said.

Asked about the central thrust of the inquiry, which is that her father tried to pressure a foreign government to investigate his political foes and used military aid as leverage, she batted away the question.

"The president put forth a transcript," she said, referring to a rough account of the president's July phone conversation with Ukraine's president. "So everything is in the transcript."

She said she hasn't been reading transcripts of the depositions current and former administration officials have given to House impeachment investigators.

Ivanka Trump also said she doesn't see impeachment as a low point for the president. She said her father is helping all Americans.

"I think when Americans are winning, we're feeling great, so I wouldn't consider it a low point," she said. "I think Americans are prospering like never before."

She noted that the whistleblower was not among administration officials who heard the president ask Ukraine's leader during a July 25 telephone conversation to investigate Biden, a former vice president who's a leading contender for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination to challenge Trump.

While her brothers Don Jr. and Eric have been vocal critics of the impeachment inquiry, Ivanka Trump has largely stayed out of the discussion. She recently tweeted a quote from Thomas Jefferson about the "enemies and spies" who surrounded him and added that "some things never change, dad."

In the interview, she again placed her father in august company when it comes to being the target of criticism, saying, "This has been the experience of most."

"Abraham Lincoln was famously, even within his own Cabinet, surrounded by people who were former political adversaries," she said.

She rejected any suggestion that her own family has been profiting off the presidency even as President Trump and his allies have criticized the involvement of Biden's son with a Ukrainian oil venture when Biden was vice president.

Hunter Biden served on the board of a Ukrainian gas company at the same time his father was leading the Obama administration's diplomatic dealings with Kyiv. Though the timing raised concerns among anti-corruption advocates, there has been no evidence of wrongdoing by either the former vice president or his son.

Still, Ivanka Trump said the Bidens had "created wealth as a derivative" of public service while her family had made its money in business before her father became president.

Good government groups, however, have criticized the president for unethically mixing official business with promotion of his own interests.

Trump is the first president in modern history who has not separated himself from his business holdings. He makes frequent trips to his for-profit golf clubs, collects dues at his members-only properties and hosts fundraisers and foreign delegations at hotels that bear his family's name.

A New York state judge this week ordered President Trump to pay \$2 million to an array of charities as a fine for misusing his own charitable foundation to further his political and business interests. The penalty came after Trump admitted to a series of abuses outlined in a lawsuit brought against him last year by the New York attorney general's office.

Ivanka Trump said she hasn't been involved in discussions about the possible sale of the president's landmark Washington hotel after nearly three years of ethics complaints and lawsuits accusing him of trying to profit off the presidency. She led the acquisition and development of the hotel she called "my baby" a few blocks from the White House.

But she said a possible future sale "should satisfy the critics."

She is wrapping up a three-day visit to Morocco, where she has been promoting a U.S. program to help empower women in developing countries, including by encouraging governments to change laws and practices that prohibit them from owning property.

She was warmly received in rural Morocco by women who had recently bought or inherited land, with one woman kissing her hands. Morocco recently updated its land rights laws, and Ivanka Trump on Thursday witnessed the signing of documents to implement the changes.

In the AP interview, Ivanka Trump said she had yet to decide on what role she will play in her father's

re-election campaign.

On the question of whether she also wants another four more at the White House, the mother of three said the answer would largely depend on the needs of her children.

Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

The words Trump had to hear: Investigations, Biden, Clinton

By LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK and ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — There were three words President Donald Trump wanted to hear from the Ukraine president: Investigations, Biden, Clinton.

That's according to the transcript, released Thursday, of an impeachment inquiry interview with career State Department official George Kent.

"Potus wanted nothing less than President Zelenskiy to go to the microphone and say investigations, Biden and Clinton," Kent testified. "Basically there needed to be three words in the message, and that was the shorthand."

Kent told investigators that that was his understanding of what Trump wanted Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to say to unlock U.S. military aid, as relayed to the official by others, including those in direct contact with the president.

Numerous current and former Trump officials have testified that the president was conditioning U.S. aid on Ukraine publicly investigating Democrats including his potential 2020 political foe Joe Biden and Biden's son.

Clinton, he explained, was "shorthand" for the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign. It was a reference to Trump's view, pushed by his personal attorney Rudy Giuliani but outside of mainstream U.S. intelligence, that Ukraine played a role interfering in the election.

Kent also raised concerns about Giuliani's "campaign of lies" against Ukraine Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch and the Trump administration's firing of the veteran diplomat.

House investigators are releasing key transcripts from days of closed-door interviews in the impeachment inquiry as they prepare for public sessions with witnesses next week. A whistleblower's complaint about Trump's July 25 telephone call with Zelenskiy was the spark that ignited the investigation.

Kent had testified for hours in October about the shifting U.S. policy toward Ukraine as administration officials and Giuliani were taking the lead, acting outside of regular foreign policy channels.

The career official began to understand that unless Ukraine took on the investigations Trump wanted, the administration would hold up nearly \$400 million in military aid to the young democracy that relies on U.S. support to counter Russian aggression.

Kent said he memorialized in writing the conversations he was having with other diplomats amid his concerns of "an effort to initiate politically motivated prosecutions that were injurious to the rule of law, both in Ukraine and U.S." The memorandum was submitted to the State Department.

He told investigators he was uncomfortable with what he was hearing about Giuliani pushing the investigations and Trump's special envoy to Ukraine, Kurt Volker, engaging Ukrainian officials on the subject.

"And I told Bill Taylor, that's wrong, and we shouldn't be doing that as a matter of U.S. policy," Kent said, referring to William Taylor, the top diplomat in Ukraine who has also testified in the inquiry.

Trump's ambassador to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, had dubbed himself, Volker and Energy Secretary Rick Perry the "three amigos" with a mandate to take the lead on Ukraine policy over the career diplomats, Kent testified.

At one point, Kent said, Volker's assistant, Catherine Croft, asked if anyone had sought investigations from Ukraine. Kent said he hoped the U.S. had not, because "that goes against everything that we are trying to promote in post-Soviet states for the last 28 years, which is the promotion of the rule of law."

In one particularly unsettling scene, Kent describes mounting unease over Trump's phone call with Zelenskiy.

Within days, he was receiving a readout from Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an Army officer assigned to

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the National Security Council who was among the officials listening to the call. Vindman has become a key witness in the House investigation.

Vindman was "uncomfortable" as he gave Kent the readout and unwilling to share much of what was discussed, even over the secure phone line between the NSC and State.

"It was different than any readout call that I had received," Kent said. "He felt_I could hear it in his voice and his hesitancy that he felt uncomfortable."

Vindman told him the tone of the Trump-Zelenskiy call was "cooler, reserved" and that Zelenskiy, a former comedian, had tried to turn on the charm.

He said that Vindman told him that "the conversation went into the direction of some of the most extreme narratives that have been discussed publicly."

The diplomats and national security officials weren't the only ones concerned about the military aid being shut off to the East European ally.

"Many senators, particularly from the Republican side," called and talked to the president, he said. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Sens. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma and Rob Portman of Ohio and were among them.

Trump has insisted it was a "perfect" call with Zelenskiy, and he tweeted Thursday that Americans should just "Read the Transcript."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi used that as an opportunity to tweet excerpts from the call, including the part where Trump asks Ukraine for "a favor."

Next week, Kent, Yovanovitch and Taylor are expected to appear in the public hearings.

First to testify, on Wednesday, will be Taylor, still the top diplomat in Ukraine, who relayed in his closed-door session his understanding that there was a blatant quid pro quo, with Trump holding up military aid to Ukraine, a U.S. ally facing threats from its giant neighbor Russia.

The diplomats are among those who have worked on Ukraine issues for years and have expressed deep concerns about the Trump administration's new approach, especially in the face of an aggressive Russian neighbor.

Kent testified that Trump initially did not want to sign a congratulatory letter to Zelenskiy on his election in May.

"He actually ripped up the letter that had been written for him," he recalled. By the end of the meeting, though Trump been convinced, and Sondland helped him draft a new version.

Kent said he did raise concerns with Biden's staff back in 2015 when he first learned the then-vice president's son Hunter was on the board of the Ukrainian energy firm Burisma. He considered that a potential conflict of interest.

But he said Biden's office told him the vice president's other son, Beau, was dying of cancer, and there was no bandwidth to deal with the situation.

Pressed by Republicans if that was the end of the discussion, Kent said it was. He noted the situation at the time -- Russia had recently annexed Crimea -- and said the staff at State was working nonstop. "We had a war with Russia," he said.

Associated Press writers Andrew Taylor, Matthew Lee and Matthew Daly contributed to this report.

Bloomberg opens door to a 2020 Democratic presidential bid

By JULIE PACE AP Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire former mayor of New York City, is opening the door to a 2020 Democratic presidential campaign, warning that the current field of candidates is ill equipped to defeat President Donald Trump.

Bloomberg, who initially ruled out a 2020 run, has not made a final decision on whether to jump into the race. If he were to launch a campaign, it could dramatically reshape the Democratic contest less than three months before primary voting begins.

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The 77-year-old has spent the past few weeks talking with prominent Democrats about the state of the 2020 field, expressing concerns about the steadiness of former Vice President Joe Biden's campaign and the rise of liberal Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, according to people with knowledge of those discussions. In recent days, he took steps to keep his options open, including moving to get on the primary ballot in Alabama ahead of the state's Friday filing deadline.

In a statement on Thursday, Bloomberg adviser Howard Wolfson said the former mayor believes Trump "represents an unprecedented threat to our nation" and must be defeated.

"But Mike is increasingly concerned that the current field of candidates is not well positioned to do that," Wolfson said.

Bloomberg's moves come as the Democratic race enters a crucial phase. Biden's front-runner status has been vigorously challenged by Warren and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who are flush with cash from small-dollar donors. But both are viewed by some Democrats as too liberal to win in a general election faceoff with Trump.

Despite a historically large field, some Democrats anxious about defeating Trump have been looking for other options. Former Attorney General Eric Holder and former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick have quietly had conversations with supporters urging them to consider a run, but neither appears likely to get in the race.

Bloomberg, a Republican-turned-independent who registered as a Democrat last year, has flirted with a presidential run before but ultimately backed down, including in 2016. He endorsed Hillary Clinton in that race and, in a speech at the Democratic Party convention, pummeled Trump as a con who has oversold his business successes.

Bloomberg plunged his efforts and his money into gun control advocacy and climate change initiatives. He again looked seriously at a presidential bid earlier this year, traveling to early voting states and conducting extensive polling, but decided not to run in part because of Biden's perceived strength.

Biden did not address Bloomberg's potential candidacy at a fundraiser Thursday night in Boston.

With immense personal wealth, Bloomberg could quickly build out a robust campaign operation across the country. Still, his advisers acknowledge that his late entry to the race could make competing in states like Iowa and New Hampshire, which have been blanketed by candidates for nearly a year, difficult. Instead, they previewed a strategy that would focus more heavily on the March 3 "Super Tuesday" contests, including in delegate-rich California.

Some Democrats were skeptical there would be a groundswell of interest in the former New York mayor. "There are smart and influential people in the Democratic Party who think a candidate like Bloomberg is needed," said Jennifer Palmieri, who advised Clinton's 2016 campaign. "But there is zero evidence that rank-and-file voters in the early states of Iowa and New Hampshire feel the same."

Still, others credited Bloomberg with taking on "some of America's biggest challenges" and finding success.

"While this is not an endorsement, Michael Bloomberg is a friend and I admire his track record as a successful business leader and Mayor who finds practical solutions to some of America's biggest challenges, from creating good jobs to addressing the opioid crisis and fighting for common-sense gun safety," said Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo, a Democrat.

Bloomberg reached out to several prominent Democrats on Thursday, including Raimondo. One Democrat Bloomberg hasn't spoken to as he's reconsidered his run is former President Barack Obama.

Bloomberg would pose an immediate ideological challenge to Biden, who is running as a moderate and hopes to appeal to independents and Republicans who have soured on Trump. But the billionaire media mogul with deep Wall Street ties could also energize supporters of Warren and Sanders, who have railed against income inequality and have vowed to ratchet up taxes on the wealthiest Americans.

"He's a literal billionaire entering the race to keep the progressives from winning," said Rebecca Katz, a New York-based liberal Democratic strategist. "He is the foil."

Warren on Thursday tweeted: "Welcome to the race, @MikeBloomberg!" and linked to her campaign website, saying he would find there "policy plans that will make a huge difference for working people and

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which are very popular.”

Bloomberg would face other challenges as well, particularly scrutiny of his three terms as mayor. He has defended the New York Police Department’s use of the controversial stop-and-frisk policy that has been criticized as targeting African Americans and Hispanics. Black voters in particular are one of the most powerful constituencies in Democratic politics.

Bloomberg will have to move quickly in the coming days and weeks to get on the ballot in many of the primary states, including Alabama. New Hampshire’s filing deadline is Nov. 15.

In Arkansas, another Super Tuesday state, a Democratic Party spokesman said a person representing a “mystery candidate” reached out Thursday afternoon asking about the requirements to join the ballot. Reed Brewer, communications director for the Arkansas Democrats, said he walked the individual through the process — which simply requires filing documentation with both the state party and secretary of state, as well as paying a \$2,500 fee — and was assured that the fee would be “no problem” for the mystery candidate.

There is no filing requirement for a candidate to run in the Iowa caucuses, which are a series of Democratic Party meetings, not state-run elections. It means a candidate can enter the race for the Feb. 3 leadoff contest at any time.

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in Washington; Alexandra Jaffe and Thomas Beaumont in Des Moines, Iowa; Michelle R. Smith in Providence, Rhode Island, and Nicholas Riccardi in Denver 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. WHAT TRUMP WANTED TO HEAR

Three words from the Ukraine president: investigations, Biden, Clinton. That’s according to the transcript of an impeachment inquiry interview with career State Department official George Kent.

2. HOW IVANKA TRUMP VIEWS IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

Much like her father, telling the AP in Morocco that the House Democratic probe is about “overturning the results of the 2016 election.” But she seems to part ways with the president on the relevance of the whistleblower’s identity.

3. FOR SYRIANS IN THE EAST, IT’S ABOUT MORE THAN OIL

As U.S. troops beef up their presence to protect oil fields in the eastern part of the country, residents hope their mission will also bring stability and prosperity to the region — and keep Damascus out.

4. TWITTER ACCOUNTS IN TURKEY PUSHED PROPAGANDA

As Turkish forces invaded northern Syria to launch an assault, social media accounts used old or inaccurate photos of soldiers to tell a different story.

5. BIG TECH FIGHTING MISINFORMATION AHEAD OF UK VOTE

Experts believe British voters remain vulnerable to the same type of misleading ads and phony claims that played a role in the vote to leave the European Union three years ago.

6. ‘I DO NOT FEEL SAFE HERE’

After holding funerals for and burying some of the nine American women and children slain in a cartel ambush, residents of the tiny Mexican town of La Mora remain fearful.

7. TRUMP TO CHASE BLACK VOTE

The president’s reelection campaign is launching a new “Black Voices for Trump” outreach initiative, an effort being met with skepticism, given his dismal approval rating with the demographic.

8. A SAD DAY IN PARADISE

The Northern California town mostly destroyed by a wildfire is marking the anniversary of the blaze with 85 seconds of silence to honor the victims who were killed.

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9. PLACIDO DOMINGO BOWS OUT OF PRE-OLYMPIC EVENTS

The Tokyo Olympics organizing committee says the opera legend has said he won't perform at pre-Olympics cultural events in Japan following sexual harassment allegations against him.

10. RAIDERS RALLY PAST CHARGERS

Josh Jacobs scores on an 18-yard run with 1:02 remaining and Oakland has a late winning touchdown drive for the second time in five weeks, beating Los Angeles 26-24.

Raiders rally to beat Chargers 26-24

By JOSH DUBOW AP Pro Football Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Derek Carr engineered another late winning drive. Karl Joseph delivered the sealing defensive play.

It may not have come easy, but the Oakland Raiders managed to pull out another dramatic victory that has put them squarely in the AFC playoff race.

Josh Jacobs scored on an 18-yard run with 1:02 remaining and the Raiders pulled out their second thriller in five days, beating the Los Angeles Chargers 26-24 on Thursday night.

"We just found a way to win. That says so much about our team," Carr said. "Some nights are just tougher than others. This was just one of those nights that was just tougher. You see our team with the resilience. No one cared, No one flinched.

It was a repeat performance from Sunday when Carr's late TD pass to Hunter Renfrow and Joseph's pass breakup in the end zone delivered a 31-24 win over Detroit. This time the late-game heroics came after Philip Rivers threw a 6-yard pass to Austin Ekeler that gave the Chargers (4-6) a 24-20 lead with 4:02 remaining.

Carr completed three passes to Jalen Richard and two to Hunter Renfrow to start the game-winning 75-yard drive before Jacobs finished it off with his seventh touchdown of his rookie season, running through a big hole created by center Rodney Hudson and guard Richie Incognito.

"As soon as I saw it, I was just thinking, 'Go!'" he said. "I knew this would either be a big run or a first down and luckily it was a big run."

Daniel Carlson missed the extra point, putting more pressure on the tired Raiders defense to stop Rivers. Trayvon Mullen was called for holding on a fourth-down pass to extend the drive, but Joseph then intercepted a fourth-down pass from Rivers to seal it.

"That says a lot about our team," coach Jon Gruden said. "We have a lot of resilient guys. We compete. You may beat us. But we'll be a hard out to get. We'll battle."

Rivers threw interceptions on his first two drives, falling into a 10-0 hole when Erik Harris took the second back 56 yards for a TD. But Rivers responded by throwing two TD passes, including the go-ahead score to Ekeler in his final start at the Coliseum. But he fell short at the end.

"You give a team 10 points at their place and then you have the ball with a chance to win at the end and you have eight snaps and go nowhere, it's going to be tough to win," Rivers said.

The Raiders blew a chance to open up the game in the third quarter, settling for a field goal after driving to the 4 on the opening drive and then missing a 53-yard field goal in the next drive after DeAndre Washington got stuffed for no gain on third-and-1.

The Chargers settled for a field goal after getting inside the 10 later in the quarter.

Melvin Gordon had 22 carries for 108 yards and a TD that put the Chargers up 14-10 in the second quarter.

The Raiders responded with their first sustained drive of the game and took a 17-14 lead at the half on Carr's 9-yard pass to rookie fullback Alec Ingold with 20 seconds remaining in the second quarter.

PICK IT

Harris intercepted Rivers' passes on the first two drives of the game. He returned the first one 59 yards to the 31, setting up a field goal by Daniel Carlson. Harris then took the second one back 56 yards for a TD, giving the Raiders a 10-0 lead. Harris became the first Raiders player since Phillip Buchanon in 2003 to have two interceptions, including a pick-6 in a single game.

ROOKIE BREAKTHROUGH

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Raiders rookie pass rushers Clelin Ferrell and Maxx Crosby had big performances. Ferrell had 2 ½ sacks after recording none since the season opener for the most by a Raiders rookie in 28 years and also had five pressures, according to NextGen stats.

"That was a signature game for him," Gruden said. "That was great for him to get some sacks and maybe some of the people who are counting sacks out there will acknowledge those."

Crosby had 10 pressures, including two on interceptions, and also added a half-sack.

INJURIES

Chargers: LT Russell Okung left in the first quarter with a groin injury and didn't return. ... DE Melvin Ingram went down with a shoulder injury in the closing seconds of the second quarter but returned for the second half.

Raiders: Joseph hurt his right knee on the interception and was on crutches after the game. ... DB Lamar Marcus Joyner also got hurt on the final drive.

UP NEXT

Chargers: Face Kansas City on Nov. 18 in Mexico City.

Raiders: Host Cincinnati on Nov. 17.

More AP NFL: <https://apnews.com/NFL> and https://twitter.com/AP_NFL

AP Interview: Huawei founder says US woes not hardest crisis

By **JOE McDONALD AP Business Writer**

SHENZHEN, China (AP) — For decades, Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei stayed out of sight as his company grew to become the biggest maker of network gear for phone carriers and surpassed Apple as the No. 2 smartphone brand.

Now, Ren is shedding that anonymity as Huawei Technologies Ltd. mobilizes against the latest threat to its success: U.S. sanctions and warnings that it is a security risk.

The billionaire entrepreneur embroiled in the Trump administration's fight with China over technology is a 75-year-old former army engineer who worked his way out of childhood poverty. He has survived competition that drove Western rivals out of the market, brushes with financial disaster and job stress so severe he contemplated suicide.

He sees American pressure as just the latest in a string of tests that have hardened him and his company. "For three decades, Huawei has been suffering and no joy," Ren said in an interview. "The pain of each episode is different."

The latest episode has a personal dimension: Ren's daughter, Huawei's chief financial officer, is under arrest in Canada on U.S. charges she helped to violate sanctions against Iran.

Ren and his company already have spent nearly a decade fighting U.S. accusations the company might facilitate Chinese spying. The Trump administration stepped up pressure this year by imposing curbs on sales of U.S. technology to Huawei and urging European and other allies to shun the company as they prepare to roll out next-generation telecom networks.

The escalating clash with Washington has transformed Ren from an admired but rarely seen businessman worth an estimated \$3 billion into one of China's most prominent figures.

He belongs to the generation of entrepreneurs who founded communist-era China's first private companies in the 1980s. They navigated a shifting, state-dominated landscape, overcoming shortages of money and technology to create industries that are now expanding abroad.

Despite his success, Ren talks like a struggling rookie, worrying aloud that employees might get too comfortable.

He writes letters urging employees to "prepare for the worst," said Nicole Peng of Canalis, an industry research firm.

"He is still quite important in dictating that urgency," Peng said. "He talks about survival all the time: Make sure to survive."

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Tian Tao, co-author of "The Huawei Story," says Huawei's corporate culture stems from Ren's upbringing in Guizhou, one of China's poorest regions.

Ren was raised by a schoolteacher who he said fed seven children on a monthly wage of 40 yuan (\$6). His father was criticized as a capitalist and at one point was confined in a cow barn.

When Ren was a teenager, the ruling party embarked on the Great Leap Forward, a disastrous campaign to become an industrial power overnight. At least 30 million people died in the 1959-61 famine that followed.

Ren's mother declared no one would die and divided each meal into nine portions, one for each family member, Tian said.

"All nine people survived," said Tian. "His mother's 'meal system' had a big impact on him."

Following that ethos, Huawei says it is owned by the Chinese citizens who make up half its workforce of 180,000. Ren says the company has no outside owners, government or private.

Huawei says Ren's ownership has declined to 1.14% as more shares were distributed to employees. The Hurun Report, which follows China's wealthy, says his net worth is still \$3 billion, up 25% from 2018.

Ren credits his success to his focus on detail, not his upbringing. He said if he hadn't gone to university, he could have been a champion pig breeder or run a noodle factory.

"Don't think that when I was a child, I had a grand ideal. When I was young, my ambition was to have more steamed buns, because we didn't have enough," Ren said.

"Poverty didn't give me the elements for success," he said. "This wasn't inevitable."

A DIFFICULT TIME

After studying engineering, Ren joined the army in the 1960s and was sent to the northeast to build a textile factory. He slept outdoors in weather as cold as -28 C (-18 F).

Ren says he got lucky in the mid-1970s when Chinese leaders wanted to revive technology development after the ultra-radical Cultural Revolution. He built a measuring tool based on a description by a technician who saw a similar device abroad.

"The country was looking for cases to show science and technology were useful, and my gizmo was exaggerated into a big invention," Ren said.

He founded Huawei in 1987 after his military post was eliminated, putting him on an entrepreneurial path he hadn't wanted. The company was selling imported telecom equipment when it confronted its first crisis: Its supplier was acquired by a competitor. Huawei went to work developing its own products.

Huawei has one of the world's biggest corporate research budgets and says this year's spending will rise 20% to \$17 billion.

That has helped to limit the impact of possibly losing access to U.S. components and technology. Company executives say they are removing U.S.-made parts from products but expect smartphone sales to suffer if the company loses access to Google's maps and other services.

Ren regretted going into telecoms after he saw how brutal the competition was, but he couldn't afford to start over after spending his family's savings to set up the company.

He says he has tried to ensure Huawei's long-term survival through a system of shared decision-making, where a three-member team takes turns in six-month stints as chairman.

Still, he earned a reputation as a forceful, even autocratic, decision-maker. That was highlighted by an internal battle in 2000 that nearly tore the company apart.

"Today's crisis is one-tenth or 1% of the pressure at that time," Ren said.

Others wanted Huawei to invest in the personal handy-phone service, or PHS, that was catching on as a low-cost alternative to mobile phones. Ren rejected it as a distraction from a bigger goal of developing third-generation mobile phone technology.

Ren received reports almost daily from managers urging him to support PHS as bills for 3G development piled up. Regulators had been expected to approve 3G as early as 2003. Huawei poured 6 billion yuan (\$750 million) into it before the first Chinese licenses were issued in 2009.

"Every time I saw a report, I suffered pain," Ren said. "Maybe my depression got worse then."

Tian, his biographer, said Huawei employees told him Ren, unable to sleep, would call and worry aloud

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about how to pay a 300 million yuan (\$50 million) monthly wage bill.

"When Ren Zhengfei talked with employees six or seven years ago, he revealed a secret: He had suicidal thoughts several times," said Tian, a Huawei adviser and co-director of the Ruihua Innovation Research Institute at Zhejiang University.

DRAGGED INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

Employees used to joke that Huawei was the biggest company no one ever heard of.

Ren didn't give his first press interview until 2013, a year after the company became a consumer brand by launching its first smartphone.

In 2016, he became a social media sensation when a photo circulated showing him waiting for a taxi at the Shanghai airport, unrecognized by other travelers. Online comments expressed admiration that he avoided private jets and other trappings of wealth.

At an age when most Chinese business leaders are long retired, Ren took on a new role as Huawei's public face following Meng's December 2018 arrest in Vancouver. Huawei launched a charm offensive aimed at defusing Western suspicions.

Since January, Ren has given interviews lasting up to two hours to reporters and TV crews who trek to Shenzhen, a former fishing village adjacent to Hong Kong that has grown into a city of 15 million people and a Chinese tech center. Huawei's neighbors include Foxconn, which assembles Apple's iPhones, and Tencent, operator of the popular WeChat social media service.

Ren is known for speaking so bluntly that co-workers say they used to limit his contact with customers. But in public he is even-tempered, even genial.

Despite his daughter's arrest, he expresses admiration for American society. He avoids criticizing Washington and says he doesn't want Beijing to retaliate for U.S. sanctions.

A ruling party member, Ren tried to defuse security concerns by promising in January he would defy official demands to reveal foreign customers' secrets.

Huawei is, along with Nokia Corp. and LM Ericsson, a leader in 5G. It is meant to support self-driving cars and other futuristic applications. But that increased reach makes 5G politically sensitive.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Ren is still CEO but has withdrawn from day-to-day management. He says he has no plans to retire because his only hobby is work. He promotes the company's management culture and talks over problems with employees who are invited into his office for tea.

Ren has put an unusually strong emphasis on making Huawei self-reliant and creating its own technology, said Peng. She said that sets it apart from companies such as Lenovo, the Chinese maker of computers and smartphones, that use more outside suppliers.

The company has released a smartphone operating system it says can replace Google's Android if necessary. It makes its own processor chips but still relies on U.S. suppliers for high-end products.

"They do things from scratch," said Peng. "I think this is the influence of the founder."

Ren dismisses suggestions Huawei might diminish Western security fears by selling shares to the public and joining a stock exchange.

"There are few examples of public companies that grew big and strong. Capital has to be greedy," he said. "It is because we are a private company that we have remained very committed to our long-term ideals."

He acknowledges his daughter's arrest is far from the first time his family has sacrificed for Huawei.

Ren said when Meng, who uses her mother's surname, and his other daughter and son were children, he was in the army and away from home 11 months a year. Once he started Huawei, he worked 16-hour days.

"I think my relationship with all of them was not very close, especially with my youngest daughter. As a father, I feel indebted to them," Ren said. "Of course, maybe after I retire, I will try my best to compensate."

Hong Kong student's death fuels more anger against police

By EILEEN NG Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — A Hong Kong university student who fell off a parking garage after police fired

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tear gas during clashes with anti-government protesters died Friday in a rare fatality after five months of unrest, fueling more outrage against authorities in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory.

The Hospital Authority said the 22-year-old died Friday morning, but didn't provide further details. The government expressed "great sorrow and regret" over Chow Tsz-Lok's death and police said they will propose a public inquest.

Some 1,000 masked protesters marched through the busy central district at lunchtime, chanting "Disband the police force," "Hong Kong people, revenge" and "A blood debt must be paid in blood." Some carried white flowers and placards that read "Hong Kong is a police state."

Protesters demanded justice for Chow and hurled abuse at several police officials on site, calling them "murderers."

"His death is a reminder to us that we cannot give up," one protester said on local television.

Although the cause of his fall has not been determined, it deepened anger against police, who have been accused of heavy-handed tactics including widespread use of tear gas and pepper spray since protests demanding democratic reforms started in June. It will also complicate efforts by the government to cool down tensions.

Chow had reportedly been in a coma with brain injury since he was found early Monday sprawled in a pool of blood on the second floor of the building. Police believed he plunged from an upper floor but it wasn't captured on security cameras.

Minutes earlier, television footage showed riot police firing tear gas at the building after objects were hurled down at the officers in the street when they chased off a mob. Police didn't rule out the possibility he was fleeing from tear gas but noted officers fired from a distance.

Police official Suzette Foo later Friday repeatedly denied claims that officers pushed the victim down and had delayed emergency services. She said police entered the building late Sunday for a dispersal operation before Chow arrived and a second time just after he was found unconscious.

New footage showed Chow wandering alone in the car park for more than half an hour on the second floor before he took the stairs to an upper floor, she said. Minutes later, he was found dead. She said his movement was normal. It wasn't clear either if Chow had taken part in the protests.

Foo told a news conference that the force will be impartial and will "spend every effort" to get to the bottom of his death. Police will recommend a public inquest so that the facts of the case can be laid out in the open, she added.

There have been only few fatalities during the unrest, some reportedly deaths by suicide and a man who fell to his death while hanging pro-democracy banners on a building. Last month, two teens were injured after police fired their guns in self-defense in separate incidents but both recovered.

Prominent activist Joshua Wong said Chow's death made protesters' demands for an investigation into police conduct even more crucial.

"Reforming the Hong Kong police force has become a big demand in the society. Obviously, the Hong Kong police force has to be accountable for Chow's death," he told reporters outside a court. Wong was charged in August with organizing an illegal rally.

The president of the University of Science and Technology, where Chow studies, dabbed away tears as he announced Chow's "tragic" death during a graduation ceremony, with the audience standing to observe a moment of silence.

The ceremony was cut short, and black-clad masked students turned the stage into a memorial for Chow. White flowers were laid below the stage as students announced plans to boycott class for a week and demanded the truth in Chow's death.

Calls have emerged online for other memorial events Friday to mourn Chow in multiple locations including at the suburban garage where he fell. Protesters have been urged to dress in all black and wear masks. More rallies can be expected over the weekend.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang declined to comment on Chow's death.

"What I want to say is that at present, the most urgent thing for Hong Kong is to stop violence and

restore order," he added.

The protests were sparked by a now-shelved extradition bill to mainland China that many sees as Beijing's creeping interference on legal and other rights guaranteed to Hong Kong when the former British colony returned under Chinese rule in 1997. The movement has since expanded to include other demands, including direct elections for the city's leaders.

The city's embattled leader Carrie Lam provoked more anger last month by invoking emergency powers to ban the wearing of facial coverings at rallies. More than 3,300 people have been arrested and Beijing has indicated it may tighten its grip to quell the unrest.

Associated Press video journalist Katie Tam contributed to this report.

House impeachment inquiry becomes teachable moment across US

By MARTHA WAGGONER Associated Press

BEAR CREEK, N.C. (AP) — The 10th graders in Aedrin Albright's civics class at a rural North Carolina high school had done their homework, and now it was time to decide: Should President Donald Trump be impeached?

The students dragged their chairs across the room, those who opposed removing Trump from office on one side, those in favor on the other. Undecided students were in the middle.

"Your job is to try to persuade your classmates in here to come to your side, to your understanding," Albright told the teenagers at Chatham Central High School.

The House impeachment inquiry into Trump's dealings with Ukraine has become a teachable moment in classrooms around the country as educators incorporate the events often hundreds of miles away in Washington into their lesson plans.

They are using the debate in Congress to teach students about the Constitution and presidential power, provide history lessons about earlier impeachment cases and hold mock votes that mirror the divisions in American politics.

In Albright's first class on impeachment in October, students read articles and then drew posters explaining the process without getting into the politics. That changed on Tuesday, when the students took sides, coincidentally as House Democrats were releasing transcripts of closed-door testimony in the impeachment probe.

Like many members of Congress who will decide the Republican president's fate, most of the students in Albright's class had already made up their minds and wouldn't be swayed.

The tally at the start of class Tuesday: 15 against impeachment, three for and 10 undecided. The six precincts in Bear Creek, where the school is located, voted almost 55 percent for Trump in the 2016 presidential election, while Chatham County went for Democrat Hillary Clinton. Both candidates were represented in campaign signs hanging in the classroom.

"The Democrats have just been slamming Trump and trying to find every little thing, ever since he got into office," student Bryce Hammer said. "Just to try and get a reason just to kick him out and impeach him."

Arguing for impeachment, Francisco Morales said, "He's accused of asking foreign help to interfere with elections. And then the day after (special counsel Robert Mueller testified before Congress), he asked foreign help to help him in the next election. So, for me, it kind of shows that he doesn't really care about how people think about what he does with foreign countries."

Emma Preston was undecided. "How many months does he have until the next election? Not that many," she said. "So, if we're just going to sit here and have this argument until the next election, it's a waste of time. There shouldn't be an impeachment process going on when there's about to be a reelection."

Albright said she has included impeachment in her lesson plans for all the 18 years that she's taught civics.

For teachers who don't regularly include impeachment in their curriculum, The Choices Program at Brown University and the Penn Graduate School of Education are among those organizations that provide online lesson plans.

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Teaching impeachment while Congress is investigating charges against the sitting president is a unique opportunity for teachers and students, said Sigal Ben-Porath, education professor at Penn.

"Make time for it, even if it's not on your lesson plan," she said.

Ground your students in constitutional and procedural facts and then "get the students speaking," she said. "The best way for people to learn from such events is to be active. They have to be talking, saying their views, discussing their views, arguing their views."

That includes understanding what is happening and why.

On the day in September when the House said it would begin a formal impeachment inquiry, teacher Mark Westpfhal at the Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented School in St. Paul, Minnesota, switched gears and put together a three-day "mini-unit" impeachment for his seventh grade American studies class.

He required his students to differentiate between what they believe and what they know. The school is located in "an extremely liberal region," he said, and most of his students support Trump's impeachment and removal from office. They were "quick to argue that he has done so many illegal things, but when I asked them to describe the things he has done and how those things violated the law, they slowed down a little," said Westpfhal, who frequently brings current events into his lesson plans. "We discussed how emotion and partisanship can dictate our views."

For teachers who want to steer clear of the controversy and politics of impeachment, "focusing on the history just feels really safe," said Emma Humphries, chief education officer at iCivics, a nonprofit that provides educational online games and lesson plans to promote civics education. "It's also critical for students understanding what impeachment is," she said.

Those discussions could include the impeachment cases against Andrew Johnson, Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton.

Still, she's a "huge advocate" for discussing controversial issues in class.

"If it gets out of hand, if the kids are getting disrespectful, you have to, need to, shut it down," she said. The next day, she said, the teacher can talk about what happened and set ground rules.

She stressed the importance of communication between the teacher and parents and administrators.

But what if students ask teachers about their political views? Do they disclose them?

"It's a pedagogical choice, not an absolute right or wrong," said Paula McAvoy, co-author of "The Political Classroom" and assistant professor of social studies education at NC State University. "Sometimes, sharing your view is helpful to students, and sometimes sharing your view kills the discussion."

Albright chooses not to share her views, although some enterprising students were able to find out that she's registered as a Republican. Westpfhal doesn't discuss his views, either, although his students have searched him on Google to discover his political past, including connections to Democratic and Republican politicians and city leaders.

"I don't think it's my job as a teacher to influence them politically," Albright said. "I think it's my job to teach them the two sides, or the three sides or the four sides. So, it's not my job to say, 'Yes, he should be impeached.'"

When students ask her what she thinks, she asks them what they think.

For the debate, Albright chose the philosophical chairs format, in which students choose and argue their sides, citing pro- and anti-impeachment articles that they read. They could switch sides during the discussion, and the undecideds were encouraged to choose one.

The debate began calmly and respectfully but then got animated. Albright shushed the anti-impeachment students and reminded them to be civil. The pro-impeachment student who was speaking hadn't yielded the floor.

Before the class ended, the anti-impeachment side had attracted three more students, while one student had joined her pro-impeachment classmates. Six students remained undecided.

Overall, the discussion went well, Albright said. She was especially pleased that students cited source material.

"I have hope," she said. "These kids give me hope, every day."

Follow Martha Waggoner on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/mjwaggonernc>

Iran 5.9 magnitude earthquake kills at least 5, injures 300

By **NASSER KARIMI Associated Press**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — A magnitude 5.9 earthquake struck northwestern Iran early Friday, killing at least five people and injuring over 300 others, officials said.

The temblor struck Tark county in Iran's Eastern Azerbaijan province at 2:17 a.m., Iran's seismological center said. The area is some 400 kilometers (250 miles) northwest of Iran's capital, Tehran.

Over 40 aftershocks rattled the rural region nestled in the Alborz Mountains, and residents rushed out of their homes in fear. The quake injured at least 312 people, state television reported, though only 13 needed to be hospitalized. It described many of the injuries happening when people fled in panic.

The head of Iran's emergency medical services, Pirhossein Koulivand, gave the casualty figures to state television. There were no immediate video or images broadcast from the area.

Rescuers have been dispatched to the region, officials said. State TV reported the earthquake destroyed 30 homes at its epicenter.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake's epicenter was at a depth of 10 kilometers (6.2 miles). Shallow earthquakes tend to cause more damage.

Iran is on major seismic faults and experiences one earthquake a day on average. In 2003, a magnitude 6.6 earthquake flattened the historic city of Bam, killing 26,000 people.

A magnitude 7 earthquake that struck western Iran in 2017 killed more than 600 people and injured more than 9,000.

Associated Press writers Amir Vahdat and Mehdi Fattahi in Tehran, Iran, and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed to this report.

Tech companies rush to fight misinformation ahead of UK vote

By **DAVID KLEPPER and DANICA KIRKA Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — Facebook is opening up a war room to quickly respond to election hoaxes. Twitter is banning political ads. Google plans to crack down on bogus videos on YouTube.

Social media platforms say they are mounting a vigorous campaign against misinformation in the lead up to next month's general election in the United Kingdom. But digital misinformation experts believe British voters remain vulnerable to the same type of misleading ads and phony claims that played a role in the vote to leave the European Union three years ago.

Government inaction on online misinformation and digital ad regulations have added to the pressure internet companies are under as they face growing criticism for amplifying false claims during the run up to the 2016 Brexit referendum and the 2016 election in the U.S.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson pushed for the snap Dec. 12 election, in which voters will choose their representatives in Parliament, hoping his Conservative Party will gain enough seats to break a stalemate over his plan to take Britain out of the EU.

And with campaigns barely under way, falsehoods are already spreading online.

A video posted this week on Twitter and Facebook by the Conservative Party contains a misleading edit of a television interview with a senior Labour Party figure. The video had been altered to show the official failing to answer a question about Brexit, when, in fact, he responded quickly.

The chairman of the Conservative Party called the doctored video lighthearted satire, but it's part of a serious problem confronting British voters, according to Will Moy, chief executive at Full Fact, an independent, London-based fact-checking organization.

"The biggest risk to people in the U.K. right now is being lied to by their own politicians," said Moy, whose organization works with Facebook and others as a third-party fact checker, as does The Associated Press.

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He said laws written decades ago to cover political advertising for print, radio and television can't be applied to the reach and speed of the internet.

Public debate surrounding the 2016 Brexit vote was driven in part by a number of false claims. They included promises that Britain could recoup 350 million pounds per week by leaving the EU — an unfounded claim that a survey later found was believed by nearly half of all Britons.

The threat has grown alongside the influence of social media and the proliferation of online political ads. The proportion of campaign spending on digital advertising has increased from 0.3% in 2011 to 42.8% in 2017, according to the U.K.'s Electoral Commission.

The 2016 U.S. presidential election and the Brexit referendum also highlighted concerns about online foreign interference, after allegations that Russia tried to use social media to divide Americans on hot-button topics like race and religion. A similar tactic may have been used ahead of the Brexit vote: A 2017 study by the University of California Berkeley and Swansea University in Wales found more than 150,000 Twitter accounts with ties to the Kremlin that dispersed messages both supportive and critical of Brexit. Russia has repeatedly denied meddling in the election.

Fallout from the U.S. election also showed that online advertisers can mine data collected from social media accounts to target ads to specific audiences. London-based political consultant Cambridge Analytica collected data from millions of Facebook accounts without the users' knowledge to profile voters and help U.S. President Donald Trump's election campaign.

Despite reports urging new regulations designed to combat misinformation or regulate the way digital ads are targeted at voters, officials in Britain have made no significant changes to laws governing online ads, social media and election disinformation.

That's left private, giant tech firms such as Facebook, Twitter and Google to decide how best to police such content through a patchwork of policies.

The U.K. election will be among the first since the start of Twitter's new policy prohibiting paid political advertisements, which takes effect Nov. 22. The move was hailed by some as an important step in reducing election misinformation, though critics said it was overly broad and questioned its significance, given Twitter's relatively modest number of political ads.

"We believe political message reach should be earned and not bought," Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey tweeted.

Twitter's ban stands in stark contrast to Facebook's policy of not fact checking ads from politicians and allowing demonstrably false ads to remain up.

This week a group of 10 U.K.-based technology researchers, transparency advocates and non-profit tech organizations called on Facebook and Google, which operates YouTube, to follow Twitter's lead.

Despite the criticism, Facebook's leaders insist they understand the stakes and take the threat of misinformation seriously.

"We have learned the lessons of 2016, when Russia used Facebook to spread division and misinformation in the U.S. presidential election," Richard Allan, Facebook's vice president of policy solutions, wrote in a piece published last month in The Telegraph.

With 42 million users in Britain, Facebook has the largest social media reach in the U.K. and has faced the most scrutiny for its role in spreading false information ahead of the Brexit vote. Facebook also owns Instagram and WhatsApp.

Last year, the company began requiring political ads in Britain to carry a disclaimer explaining who paid for it. Political ads are also archived in a public database that includes information such as the age of people targeted by the ad and how much money was spent on it.

Other changes include a ban on political ads that discourage voting, and the launch of an operations center to find and remove hoaxes and misinformation related to the U.K. election.

Following an 18-month investigation into online privacy and the use of social media to spread disinformation, an influential parliamentary committee in February urged the government to urgently approve new laws to address internet campaign techniques, insisting that democracy itself was under threat.

The Electoral Commission offered its own proposals, including banners on digital political ads clearly

identifying their sponsor and increased fines for campaigns that violate the rules.

None of the recommendations have been approved.

"There's been absolutely no response to the recommendations," said Susan Banducci, a political scientist at the University of Exeter who studies the impact that social media plays on elections. "We know there's a problem. You've got to wonder why governments are unwilling to take action."

Associated Press writer Amanda Seitz contributed to this report from Chicago. Klepper reported from Providence, Rhode Island.

Hot, crowded and secret room now part of impeachment lore

By LAURIE KELLMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's "excruciating." It smells like a "locker room." And what happens there is supposed to stay there.

When history is written about President Donald Trump's presidency, a key chapter in the House's drive to impeach him will be set in a spy-proof bunker tucked beneath a spiral staircase just to the east of the U.S. Capitol. There, three House committees have been hearing about Trump's pressure campaign on Ukraine, gathering testimony that could serve as the foundation for articles of impeachment.

The Sensitive Compartmentalized Information Facility — SCIF for short — seems poised to join Washington impeachment lore. But unlike, say, the former Holiday Inn of Watergate fame or the White House Rose Garden, the SCIF is an axis of political intrigue out of sight by design. Nowadays, more people surrender their cell phones and cram inside than the space was designed to hold, with little distraction from the proceedings or each other.

All that ambition, heat and high political stakes fuel the SCIF's air of mystery. Inside, those factors apparently infuse the air itself, which alternates between too cold and too hot.

"My staff tells me it's started to smell like a locker room in here," House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff (D., Calif.) said during an Oct. 11 deposition of former Ukraine ambassador Marie Yovanovitch.

That drew rare agreement from the House Oversight Committee's top Republican.

"It was hot today. The air wasn't on right," Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., said on Monday, grinning. "It had nothing to do with the rhetoric."

The SCIF that has become the center of impeachment is not one of a kind. The secure space is built to specific standards on material, size and how it's used, all aimed at allowing classified work to be conducted without the risk of spying.

There's one for senators, where they gathered to read private documents during last year's stormy confirmation hearings of Justice Brett Kavanaugh. The White House Situation Room is a SCIF. These spaces have built inside homes, like the ranch of former President George W. Bush in Texas and Trump's residences in New York and Florida.

Typically, they are windowless. Vents and other gaps include material, such as rubber, that interfere with the conduction of sound. And all who enter are required to sign in, surrender and lock up electronic devices and phones, even fitness bracelets. Then their disappearing act begins.

At least, that's how it's supposed to work. In an episode that amped up the SCIF's fame, about two dozen Republicans complaining about the secrecy stormed inside late last month, pausing only to hold a press conference at the bottom of the circular stairwell. For a few hours, they held up the Democrat-driven inquiry, which Chairman Adam Schiff said had to be kept secret to prevent witnesses from coordinating their stories. Several in the GOP appeared to be tweeting from inside the vault, a potential security breach. The House sergeant-at-arms, the parliamentarian and Capitol security officers were called.

At one point during the SCIF standoff, Republicans ordered a cart full of pizzas for the reporters staking out the site. The boxes were much photographed but sat untouched, because journalists can't accept gifts from lawmakers. Eventually the marauding Republicans left, holding another press conference on

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the way out. The proceedings resumed, but the chamber had to be "swept" for any surveillance or other compromised security.

The SCIF's moment in the spotlight seems nearly over, with Democrats wrapping up interviews and launching into public hearings next week.

But any elegy for the impeachment SCIF would be incomplete without noting that it sprouted its own peak Washington culture. The pizza cart, for example, became a key visual. The SCIF has its own hashtag and the staircase has attracted a variety of nicknames from reporters and staffers, including "The Pit of Despair." Someone proposed dressing up as the SCIF for Halloween, perhaps as a box-within-a-box that emits no sound.

For lawmakers, the entry to the SCIF is its own journey, starting in a tunnel in the basement of Capitol. That passageway takes them to the atrium over the stairwell, where they descend two levels and click open a set of doors emblazoned with not one, but two, red signs that read, 'RESTRICTED.'

They then enter the space over a cranberry-colored carpet and walk past a stand of flags for the intelligence agencies. Lawmakers lock up their electronics, take a key with them and enter a secure room set up like a conference room or committee room.

"It feels like a casino, because you have these fluorescent lights and you never know what time it is," said Mieke Eoyang, who served as a subcommittee staff director on the on the House Intelligence Committee and is now vice president for Third Way's national security program.

It's been crowded during the impeachment proceedings because the rooms were generally built for one committee at a time and their staff. The impeachment inquiry includes three committees, their staff, witnesses and their entourages, some of whom can be seen coming and going on camera via a set of frequently photographed elevator doors.

One recent day, freshman Republican Tim Burchett of Tennessee ambled toward the double doors with the gait of someone who'd rather spend his time elsewhere. A member of the House Foreign Affairs panel, he's entitled to attend the sessions. But he grimaced and described them as "excruciating," both because majority Democrats are setting the rules in a way he deems unfair and because of their length. He said he's seen as many as 30 people in one room, some standing.

"I suspect when my grandkids are reading about it in history books they'll ... ask me what it was like," Burchett said in a phone interview. "Maybe I'll remember it much more fondly."

Associated Press researcher Rhonda Shafner contributed to this report.

People puzzled by peculiar texts, and no one can say why

By TALI ARBEL AP Technology Writer

If you woke up Thursday to a weird text that seemed totally out of place, you aren't alone. A mysterious wave of missives swept America's phones overnight, delivering largely unintelligible messages from friends, family and the occasional ex.

Friends who hadn't talked to each other in months were jolted into chatting. Others briefly panicked.

The best explanation seems to be that old texts sent in the spring suddenly went through. Two people said they figured out the original messages were never received. It's not clear why this months-long delay happened. Phone companies blamed others and offered no further explanations.

Stephanie Bovee, a 28-year-old from Portland, woke up at 5 a.m. to a text from her sister that said just "omg." She immediately thought something had happened to her newborn nephew at the hospital.

She started calling everyone. Her sister and her sister's husband didn't answer. She woke up her mom, freaking her out. It was three hours before she learned that everything was fine and the text was an odd anomaly.

"Now it's funny," she said. "But out of context, it was not cool."

Bovee figured out that people were getting some of her old texts that failed to go through when her sister and a co-worker both got texts that she had sent in February. The text her sister received wished

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her a happy Valentine's Day.

Mobile carriers offered unhelpful explanations for the weird-text phenomenon, which appeared to be widespread, at least according to social media.

A Sprint spokeswoman said it resulted from a "maintenance update" for messaging platforms at multiple U.S. carriers and would not explain further. T-Mobile called it a "third party vendor issue." Verizon and AT&T did not answer questions.

Marissa Figueroa, a 25-year-old from California, got an unwanted message from an ex she had stopped talking to — and then he got one from her as well. Neither actually sent them last night, both said. Figueroa couldn't figure it out, even worrying that her ex was messing with her, until she saw reports of this happening to others.

"It didn't feel great," she said. "It just was not good for me and my mental health to be in contact with him."

A friend who'd just re-entered his life got a mystifying message from Joseph Gomez at 5:32 a.m. Thursday. In that text, Gomez seemed to assume she was on her way over to his house so they could order a Lyft.

It took a half hour of back-and-forth texting and help from a screenshot to clear up the situation. Can their relationship recover? Gomez, 22, said it was "confusion, then awkward, and then funny." No mixed messages there.

Uncertainty over US-China trade keeps markets in check

By The Associated Press undefined

LONDON (AP) — Uncertainty about a possible U.S.-Chinese agreement to roll back tariffs in their trade war kept global markets in check Friday.

Though the two sides have agreed to reduce some punitive tariffs on each other's goods, the full extent of the rollback wasn't clear. A Chinese spokesman announced the development Thursday as talks on ending the trade war progressed, and it triggered a rally in U.S. stock markets.

The two biggest global economies have raised tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's goods. That has disrupted supply chains, threatening to chill worldwide economic growth.

"Sometimes we can get so caught up in the trade headlines that we don't stop to question why everything doesn't quite add up and align with past behavior," said Craig Erlam, senior market analyst at OANDA.

In Europe, Germany's DAX was down 0.2% at 13,262 while France's CAC 40 fell 0.2% to 5,881. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares was 0.3% lower at 7,385.

Wall Street was poised for a steady open after a series of records, with Dow futures and the broader S&P 500 futures both down 0.1%.

Earlier in Asia, the Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.4% to 2,964.18 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng tumbled 0.7% to 27,651.14. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 though bucked the trend and closed 0.3% higher at 23,391.87.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude fell 85 cents to \$56.30 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange while Brent crude, used to price international oils, declined 91 cents to \$61.38 per barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The euro was down 0.2% at \$1.103 while the dollar firmed 0.1% to 109.37 yen.

Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Friday, Nov. 8, the 312th day of 2019. There are 53 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 8, 2000, a statewide recount began in Florida, which emerged as critical in deciding the winner of the 2000 presidential election. Earlier that day, Vice President Al Gore had telephoned Texas Gov. George W. Bush to concede, but called back about an hour later to retract his concession.

On this date:

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On Nov. 8, 1861, during the Civil War, the USS San Jacinto intercepted a British mail steamer, the Trent, and detained a pair of Confederate diplomats who were enroute to Europe to seek support for the Southern cause. (Although the Trent Affair strained relations between the United States and Britain, the matter was quietly resolved with the release of the diplomats the following January.)

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln won re-election as he defeated Democratic challenger George B. McClellan.

In 1923, Adolf Hitler launched his first attempt at seizing power in Germany with a failed coup in Munich that came to be known as the "Beer-Hall Putsch."

In 1950, during the Korean War, the first jet-plane battle took place as U.S. Air Force Lt. Russell J. Brown shot down a North Korean MiG-15.

In 1960, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy defeated Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the presidency.

In 1972, the premium cable TV network HBO (Home Box Office) made its debut with a showing of the movie "Sometimes a Great Notion."

In 1974, a federal judge in Cleveland dismissed charges against eight Ohio National Guardsmen accused of violating the civil rights of students who were killed or wounded in the 1970 Kent State shootings.

In 1987, 11 people were killed when an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded as crowds gathered in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, for a ceremony honoring Britain's war dead.

In 1994, midterm elections resulted in Republicans winning a majority in the Senate while at the same time gaining control of the House for the first time in 40 years.

In 2002, the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved Resolution 1441, aimed at forcing Saddam Hussein to disarm or face "serious consequences." President George W. Bush said the new resolution presented the Iraqi regime "with a final test."

In 2004, after a decade, the U.S. dollar was eliminated from circulation in Cuba.

In 2016, Republican Donald Trump was elected America's 45th president, defeating Democrat Hillary Clinton in an astonishing victory for a celebrity businessman and political novice. Republicans kept their majorities in the Senate and House.

Ten years ago: The embattled president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, pledged there would be no place for corrupt officials in his new administration, as demanded by the U.S and its international partners.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama introduced his choice for U.S. attorney general, Brooklyn federal prosecutor Loretta Lynch, to succeed Eric Holder. Two Americans held by North Korea, Matthew Miller of Bakersfield, California, and Kenneth Bae of Lynnwood, Washington, were released into the custody of James Clapper, the director of U.S. national intelligence.

One year ago: Tens of thousands of people fled a fast-moving wildfire in Northern California that would become the state's deadliest ever, killing 86 people; authorities said the community of Paradise had been nearly destroyed by the flames. In a Supreme Court ceremony attended by President Donald Trump and new acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, the court welcomed new Justice Brett Kavanaugh, who had joined the high court the previous month. The Christie's auction house said a wheelchair used by physicist Stephen Hawking had sold at auction for nearly \$400,000, with proceeds going to two charities.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Norman Lloyd is 105. Actor Alain Delon is 84. Singer-actress Bonnie Bramlett is 75. Singer Bonnie Raitt is 70. TV personality Mary Hart is 69. Former Playboy Enterprises chairman and chief executive Christie Hefner is 67. Actress Alfre Woodard is 67. Singer-songwriter Rickie Lee Jones is 65. Nobel Prize-winning author Kazuo Ishiguro is 65. Rock musician Pearl Thompson (The Cure) is 62. Singer-actor Leif Garrett is 58. Chef and TV personality Gordon Ramsay is 53. Actress Courtney Thorne-Smith is 52. Actress Parker Posey is 51. Rock musician Jimmy Chaney is 50. Actress Roxana Zal is 50. Singer Diana King is 49. Actor Gonzalo Menendez is 48. Rock musician Scott Devendorf (The National) is 47. Actress Gretchen Mol is 46. ABC News anchor David Muir is 46. Actor Matthew Rhys is 45. Actress Tara Reid is 44. Country singer Bucky Covington is 42. Actress Dania Ramirez is 40. Actress Azura Skye is 38. Actor Chris Rankin is 36. TV personality Jack Osbourne is 34. Actress Jessica Lowndes is 31. R&B singer SZA is 30. New York Yankees outfielder and designated hitter Giancarlo Stanton is 30. Singer-actor Riker Lynch is 28.

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Country singer Lauren Alaina is 25. Actor Van Crosby (TV: "Splitting Up Together") is 17.

Thought for Today: "Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling." — Margaret Lee Runbeck, American author (1905-1956).

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