

# Groton Daily Independent

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Chicken Soup  
for the Soul

"KNOW THAT YOU CAN, BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN, AND KNOW WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART THAT YOU WILL. YOU WILL SUCCEED IN SPITE OF ANY OBSTACLES THAT MAY TRY TO HINDER YOU."

-STEPHANIE LAHART



## Tullis, Barse represent Groton Area at SD Jr. Honor Choir

By Cody Swanson

Cadance Tullis (left) and Carter Barse were chosen as members of the auditioned SD Junior Honor Choir which was held last weekend, Jan. 17-18, in Rapid City. Cadance and Carter rehearsed with prestigious directors, Michelle Bendett and Tefsa Wondemagegnehu.

## **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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## South Dakota Mesonet Works to Improve Snow and Soil Moisture Data Availability for Flood Risk Assessment

BROOKINGS, S.D. - A newly updated weather station near Brookings, S.D. is the first of over 500 stations across the five states of Nebraska, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota to be upgraded or installed to conduct enhanced soil moisture and snow monitoring as part of a cooperative effort with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers led By U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds. The station gives the South Dakota Mesonet at South Dakota State University, a network of automated weather stations that provide high-definition weather coverage, the ability to provide crucial data about Upper Missouri River Basin plains snowpack and soil moisture to those who may be facing a flood risk.

"Stations like this will address the need for soil moisture monitoring and will provide snow modelers and river forecasters with what they need to make improved products to inform about better reservoir management," says Nathan Edwards, South Dakota Mesonet Director.

Frozen and saturated soil and significant snowpack on the Upper Missouri River Basin plains were major contributors to flooding in 2011 and 2019. As a way to help citizens prepare for future flooding challenges, Sen. Rounds worked to get the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 passed to require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to work with the South Dakota Mesonet and other existing networks to monitor soil moisture and snowpack in the Upper Missouri River Basin Plains.

"We've helped spearhead this effort since the beginning in 2012, starting with a review of what data was missing and needed. While mountain snowpack is well-monitored, the lack of plains data related to soil moisture and snowpack contributed to the inability to get an accurate runoff forecast," Edwards says.

The South Dakota Mesonet is making the updated station's data available via National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) ingest system to their river forecasters and snow modelers.

According to Edwards, the Mesonet station's precipitation, snow, wind, temperature, humidity, solar radiation and snow depth data will improve their snow modeling capabilities. Soil monitoring capabilities will include soil moisture and soil temperatures at five different depths and will improve river forecasts.

The South Dakota Mesonet has been involved in the monitoring effort since 2012, providing instrumentation recommendations, an instrumentation test bed during the winter of 2019, and ongoing consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The South Dakota Mesonet anticipates an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to deliver this type of data at this station and others in the years to come.



**The South Dakota Mesonet weather station on the SDSU campus in Brookings, S.D., is the first of 500 stations upgraded to conduct enhanced soil moisture and snow monitoring to provide crucial data about snowpack levels and flood risk.**

## **Double Up Bucks Program Launches in Grocery Stores across South Dakota and North Dakota**

BROOKINGS, S.D. - The launch of the Double Up Dakota Bucks in grocery stores is the first of its kind in both North and South Dakota.

Double Up Dakota Bucks is a grant-funded pilot program that benefits farmers, low-income families and retailers. Double Up Dakota Bucks doubles the value of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) dollars spent on fresh produce.

"Based on the success of Double Up Dakota Bucks in farmers markets this summer, we expect that our partnership with local grocers will only boost sales of fresh fruit and vegetables in these communities," shared Jennifer Folliard, SDSU Extension Family and Community Health Field Specialist. "This program is already starting to work. When we talk to customers in these grocery stores about Double Up, many turn around and go back for more produce."

For every one dollar spent on fresh fruits and vegetables, one dollar is matched, up to ten dollars per customer, per visit. Offering a dollar-for-dollar match will help offset the cost of purchasing healthy foods.

Participating retailers include:

One Stop Market, Belcourt, ND

White Buffalo Foods Fort Yates, ND

Lakota Thrifty Mart, Dupree, SD

Cahoy's General Store, Lake Andes, SD

"We started the Double Up Dakota Bucks program in November, and it has been going over very well," said Daniel Cahoy, Cahoy's General Store Owner. "Customers are excited about receiving free produce and it is a great way to encourage healthy eating habits. We are seeing many people take advantage of this great opportunity."

This pilot project is being funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program and local community organizations. Double Up Dakota Bucks is supported by SDSU Extension, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Fair Food Network.

"I am excited to extend Double Up Dakota Bucks to the people of Cheyenne River, it is important that everyone is able to eat and enjoy fruits and vegetables, especially our children who are growing each day," said Nathania Knight, SDSU Extension Associate.

## **South Dakota Masons announce "Save A Child" Training Program For Educators February 25th -27th, 2020 in Rapid City**

Sioux Falls (Jan. 21, 2020): The Masons of South Dakota announced today that they will be hosting free of charge a "Save A Child" training program, or Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program, for Educators on Feb. 25-27 in Rapid City at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel, 2111 North Lacrosse Street.

This training is an intensive, highly experiential training that serves a team of five to eight educators. The team is trained on how to identify, intervene with and create appropriate action plans for students who may be at risk for issues such as substance abuse, depression, suicide and violence.

"This program was created by former educators to identify and effectively support at risk children," said Harold Ireland, head of the Masons in South Dakota. "It is an intensive three-day workshop provided to South Dakota educators at no cost, by the Masonic Lodges across South Dakota."

Masonry, a benevolent, educational and charitable organization, is the world's oldest and largest fraternity of men dedicated to helping each other and contributes to the betterment of society.

Masonic Lodges across South Dakota support various local youth and community projects and humanitarian efforts through South Dakota Masonic Charities.



## Groton Boys win by one, Girls lose by one versus Ipswich

It was rock and roll city Tuesday night in the Groton Area as the battle of the Tigers resulted in two one-point games. The games were carried live on GDILIVE.COM with a record 700+ viewers. The game sponsors were the Groton Dairy Queen, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc, Allied Climate Professionals with Kevin Nehls, Blocker Construction, Tyson DeHoet Trucking, the John Sieh Agency and Jark Real Estate.

The Groton Area girls started out strong and with a 10-point rally in the first half, Groton Area took an 18-8 lead. Groton Area led after the first quarter, 11-6, and at half time, 22-15. Ipswich rallied in the third quarter to tie the game twice, but Groton Area held the lead at the end of the third quarter, 31-30. Ipswich took the lead with 5:08 left Groton Area reclaimed the and it went back and forth in the final minute. Groton Area had the lead, 40-39, with 30 seconds left after Alyssa Thaler hit a field goal. Ipswich would get the ball and make the shot with 20 seconds left and hung on to win, 41-40.

Free throws were a critical part of the game as Groton Area was two out of 10 for 20 percent off of Ipswich's 13 team fouls while Ipswich was eight of 12 for 67 percent off of Groton Area's 13 team fouls. Groton Area had one of its better field goal shooting games, making 16 of 45 for 36 percent. Ipswich finished with 14 of 46 for 30 percent. Groton Area had more turnovers, 10-8.

Ipswich's Halle Heinz would score her 1000th career point with 1:27 left in the second quarter and she led Ipswich with 19 points, making one three-pointer and was five of seven from the line.

Gracie Traphagen would lead Groton Area with 19 points as well, making five three-pointers while Alyssa Thaler finished with 10 points, Kaycie Hawkins had six, Allyssa Locke had four and Madeline Flihs and Brooke Gengerke each had two points.

The rest of the scoring for Ipswich had Katie Bierman with six, Hailey Bierman five, Tessa Kilber, Chesney Olivier and Bailey Pitz with three a piece and Lindsey Grabowska added two points.

Ipswich won the junior varsity game, 30-19. Allyssa Locke led Groton Area with six points followed by Trista Keith with five, Shallyn Foertsch had four and Madeline Flihs and Marlee Tollifson each had two points. Katie Bierman led Ipswich with eight points.

Then the boys hit the floor and that proved to be just as exciting. Ipswich controlled the tip and scored first, but Cade Guthmiller hit a three-pointer and the Tigers were off and running. Groton Area held a six-point lead 13-7, and led at the end of the first quarter, 15-13. Groton Area opened up a seven-point lead at 22-15, but Ipswich would score seven unanswered points to tie the game at 22 and then again at 24. Groton Area led by as much as eight points, 34-26, but a three-pointer by Ty Kadlec at the buzzer made it a 34-29 game at half time.

Ipswich's zone defense took away the inside game and the Tigers struggled with it. Ipswich tied the game at 36 and went on to out-score Groton Area in the third quarter, 13-5, to take a 42-39 lead into the fourth quarter. Cold shooting by Groton Area resulted in only two made field goals out of 10 for 20 percent



**Kaden Kurtz gets ready to pass the ball to a teammate.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Gracie Traphagen is double teamed under the basket but pushes her way inside.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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in the third quarter.

Groton Area would tie the game at 42 early in the fourth quarter, but could not shake Ipswich. In fact, the visiting Tigers opened up their biggest lead of five points a 52-47. Groton Area would take the lead with 24 seconds left, 54-53. Ipswich made one of two free throws with 17 seconds left to tie the game. Jonathan Doeden was fouled with four seconds left and made one of two free throws for the 55-54 win.

Groton Area made 17 of 44 field goals for 38 percent and Ipswich was 18 of 40 for 45 percent. Groton Area made 17 of 25 free throws for 68 percent off of Ipswich's 20 team fouls. Ipswich was 12 of 22 from the line for 54 percent off of Groton Area's 17 team fouls. Groton Area had 12 turnovers and Ipswich had 15.

Brodyn DeHoet led Groton Area with 24 points, making 10 of 14 free throws. Cade Guthmiller made three three-pointers and finished with 11 points Kaden Kurtz had 10 points while Jonathan Doeden had eight and Jayden Zak and Austin Jones each had one point.

Ipswich won the junior varsity game, 27-24. Wyatt Hearn led Groton Area with seven points followed by Tristan Traphagen with five, Lucas Simon and Tate Larson each had three and Jayden Zac, Isaac Smith and Chandler Larson each had two points.

- Paul Kosel



**Groton head coach Matt Locke looks on as Kaycie Hawkins passes the ball to Allyssa Locke.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

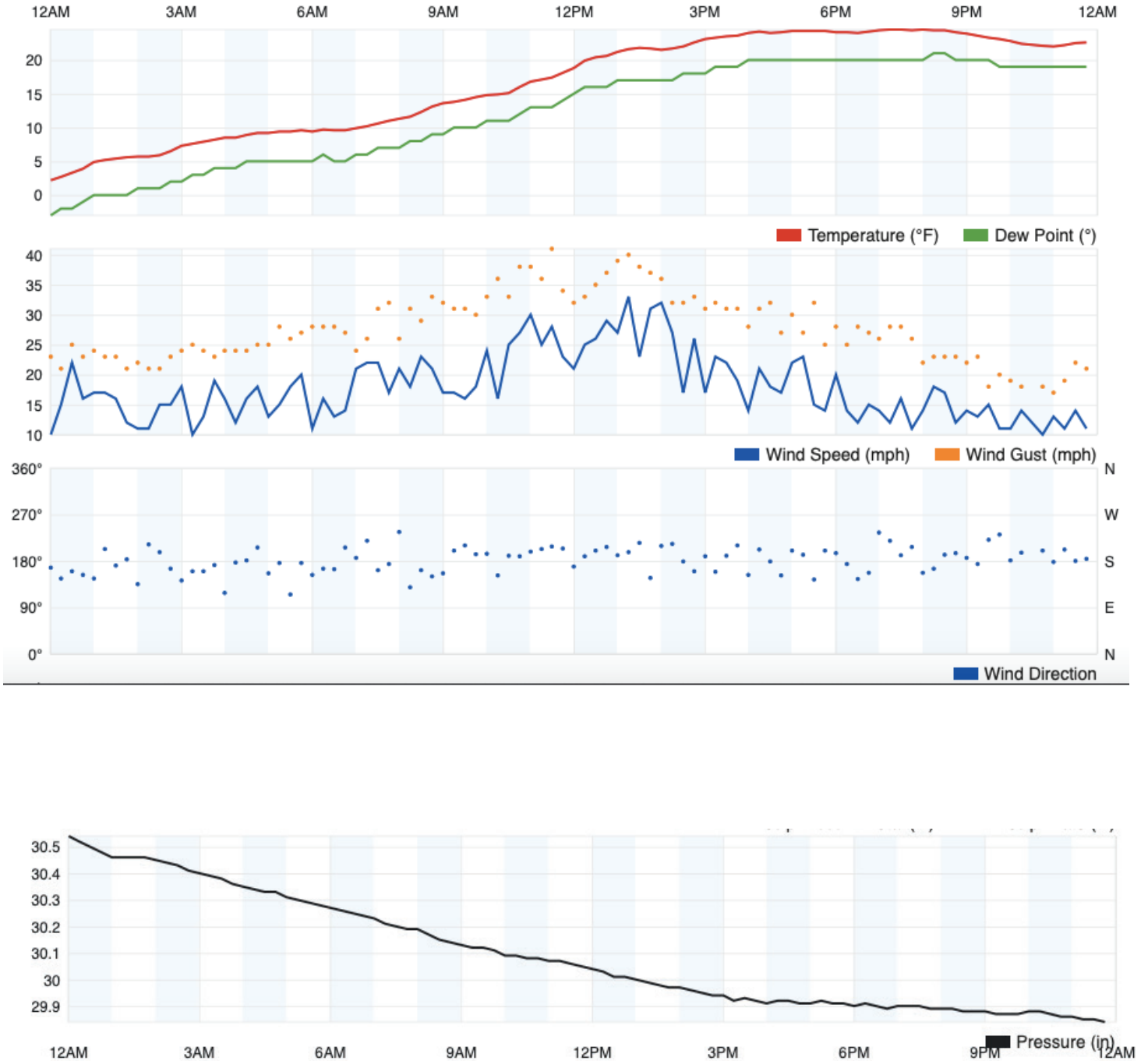


**Brodyn DeHoet puts up this shot under the basket.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



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## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, January 23, 2020

3:00pm: Junior High Boys Basketball Game at Aberdeen Roncalli

5:00pm: Wrestling Quad at Clark.

6:30pm: Boys Basketball at Roncalli

### Friday, January 24, 2020

Speech Fiesta Debate at Watertown High School

### Saturday, January 25, 2020

Speech Fiesta Debate at Watertown High School

Robotics at GHS Gymnasium

10:00am: Boys Junior High Jamboree at GHS (rescheduled from 1-18-20)

10:00am: Wrestling Tournament at Arlington

### Sunday, January 26, 2020

Carnival of Silver Skates at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

2:00pm- 6:00pm: Open Gym at GHS Arena

2:00-4:00 PM Grades JK-8 (Students must be accompanied by an adult) 4:00-6:00 PM Grades 6-12

### Monday, January 27, 2020

Boys Basketball at Northwestern (combined junior high game at 4 p.m., Junior Varsity game at 6:30 p.m. followed by the varsity game)

6:00pm: Junior High Wrestling Tournament at Redfield

### Tuesday, January 28, 2020

6:30pm: Girls' Basketball at Clark/Willow Lake (at Clark School)

### Thursday, January 30, 2020

4:00pm: Northeast Conference Wrestling at Britton-Hecla School

### Friday, January 31, 2020

Lewis and Clark Debate at Yankton High School

Boys Basketball hosts Clark/Willow Lake. (Combined Junior High Game at 5:15 p.m., followed by Junior Varsity game at 6:30 p.m. and then the varsity game.)



## 82nd Annual Carnival of Silver Skates

Sunday, January 26th—2:00 and 6:30  
Groton Ice Rink—West Side of Groton

Dreams...both the kind you have when you're asleep  
AND when you're awake... This show will entertain  
through music, costumes and skating talent.  
Join us for a *great show* performed by our *local  
youth* that will inspire you to *DREAM!*

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

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

\*\*Check us out on Facebook  
at "Silver Skates"

WE HOPE TO  
SEE YOU THERE!





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Today



Mostly Cloudy

High: 31 °F

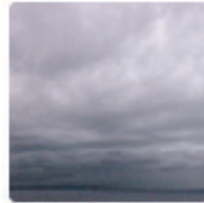
Tonight



Slight Chance  
Snow

Low: 17 °F

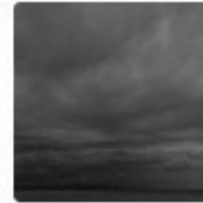
Thursday



Cloudy

High: 23 °F

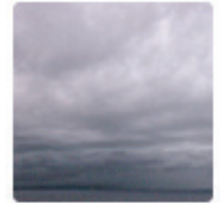
Thursday  
Night



Cloudy

Low: 16 °F

Friday



Cloudy

High: 24 °F

## Light Precipitation Tonight & Thu



Today

- Partly sunny, chance snow/rain west late afternoon
- Highs 28-44°F



Tonight

- Cloudy, chance light snow/rain mainly west & south
- Lows 15-25°F



Thursday

- Mostly Cloudy with chance of light snow mainly east
- Highs 20-36°F



Aberdeen, SD  
Weather Forecast Office

A system moving out of the Rockies could bring some light snow and rain to parts of western South Dakota later today, and to the rest of the state tonight and Thursday. The highest chances for measurable precipitation are over western and southern portions of the state. Temperatures will average out right around normal or slightly above for the next couple days.

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## Today in Weather History

January 22, 1973: Chinook winds during the early morning hours caused the temperature at Spearfish, South Dakota to rise from 4 below zero to 45 above in just two minutes, the most dramatic temperature rise in the world. An hour and a half later the mercury plunged from 54 above to 4 below zero in 27 minutes. Click [HERE](#) for more information from the National Weather Service office in Rapid City.

January 22, 1982: A winter storm lasting three days from the 22nd to the 24th virtually paralyzed South Dakota with snowfall of 6 to 20 inches. Subzero temperatures statewide coupled with strong winds of 30 to 50 mph brought wind chills of 50 to 70 below zero. One woman died of exposure near her home in Aurora County. Snow drifted as high as 15 feet. Blowing snow caused a reduction in visibility to near zero for most of the duration of the storm. Hundreds of motorists were stranded. Numerous traffic accidents occurred due to near zero visibilities. Some power outages occurred. Major highways, interstates, and airports were closed. Numerous businesses and schools were closed for several days.

January 22, 2010: A powerful mid-season winter storm moved northeast out of the four corners region of the United States and into the Northern Plains. Ahead of this system, warm and moist air streamed northward creating widespread fog and freezing fog conditions during the days leading up to the event. Heavy riming frost began to accumulate on power lines and tower guide wires, placing a heavy strain on them by the time the freezing rain arrived in the late morning and afternoon hours on Friday, January 22nd. Along with the freezing rain, southeast winds gusting to 30 mph also created a strain on sagging power lines. Scattered power outages were reported as early as Tuesday, January 19th due to the frost covered lines, but the majority of the power lines and power pole damage occurred during the evening of the 22nd and the morning of the 23rd. The freezing rain that arrived during the afternoon and evening of the 22nd was the proverbial "straw that broke the camel's back." By the time the rain, freezing rain, and snow ended Saturday morning, January 23rd, nearly every power cooperative across central and northeast South Dakota suffered extensive power pole and power line damage. Also, several radio and television towers were downed by the icing and strong winds. The heavy icing and strong winds downed over 5000 power poles along with 21,000 miles of power lines across South Dakota leaving thousands of households without power. Several homes sustained substantial damage caused by broken water pipes. Power was still not restored for many customers until several weeks after the event. Power line crews from Minnesota, Kansas, and Oklahoma were called upon to help restore power. Several counties, along with the state emergency operations center, opened emergency shelters for people to stay. Forty-one National Guard members were on active duty across the state helping to restore power. Many flights were delayed or canceled at several airports. The ice and the wind also helped topple a canopy at a truck stop at the intersection of Highway 20 and 212. On January 23rd, a radio and television transmission tower northwest of South Shore was downed along with a tower north of Reliance and a radio tower southwest of Marvin. The hardest hit area with this storm was the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Sioux reservations in central and north central South Dakota. With no electricity, residents were dependent on donations of food, bottled water, blankets, heat and light sources, toiletries, and cots. The rural water system serving the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe was shut down resulting in the state EOC shipping water to the reservation. The Governor asked for a presidential disaster declaration for most of the counties and three reservations. The request was for both public and individual assistance for total damages estimated over 20 million dollars for the state.

1904: An unusual estimated F4 tornado leveled the northern part of Moundville, Alabama just after midnight, killing 37 people. The tornado reportedly had a phosphorescent glow. An engineer on a northbound Great Southern train saw the destruction right after it occurred, and backed his train 12 miles in reverse to the town of Akron, where he sent a telegram for help.

1937: Low of 9 degrees above zero in Las Vegas froze many pipes. Schools had trouble keeping warm, and coal was in short supply in the city. January 1937 was the coldest month on record for Las Vegas with an average temperature of 31.2 degrees, which is 17.5 degrees below normal.



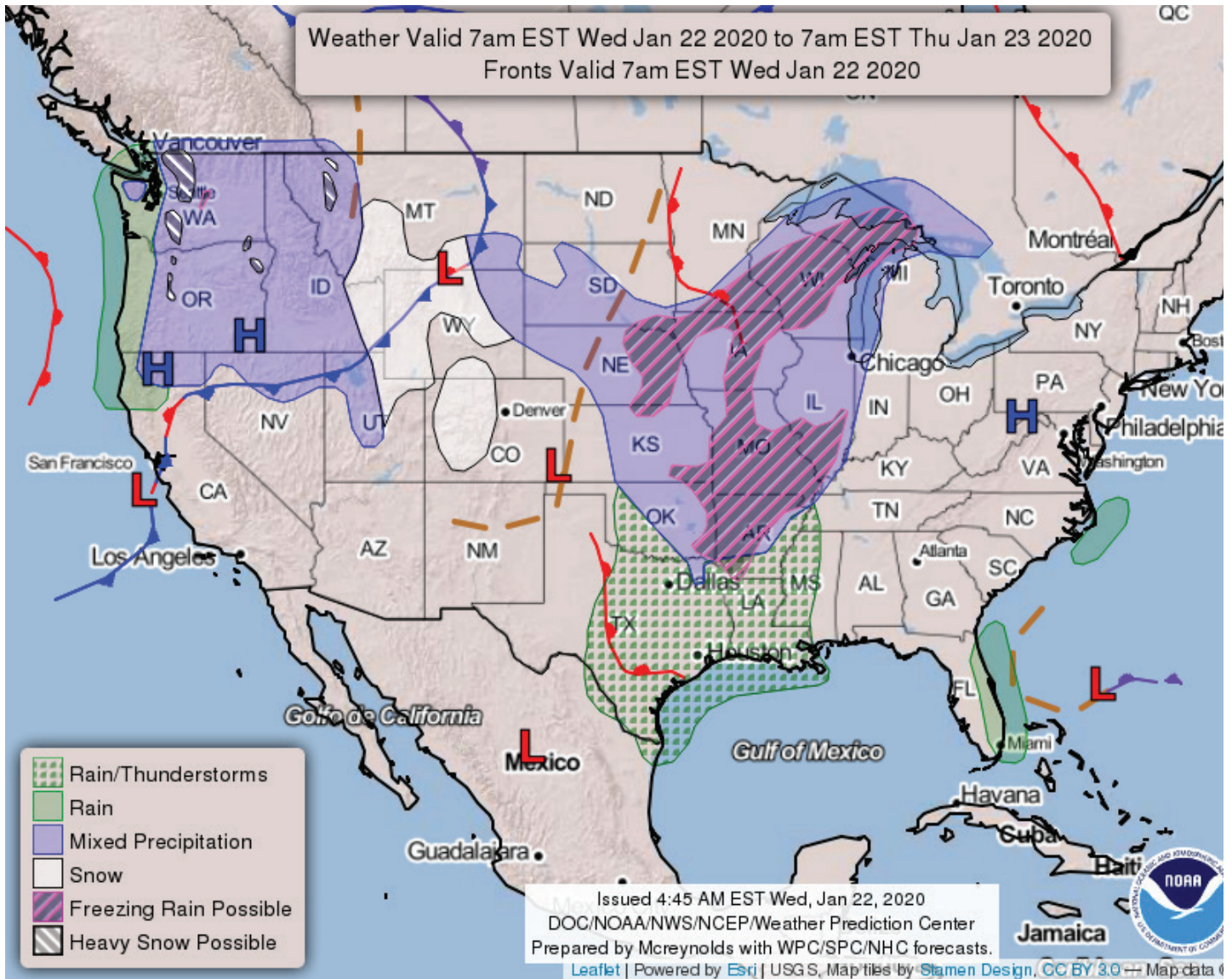
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 25 °F at 7:10 PM**  
**Low Temp: 2 °F at 12:00 AM**  
**Wind: 41 mph at 11:18 AM**  
**Snow**

**Record High: 58° in 1942**  
**Record Low: -30° in 1936, 1937**  
**Average High: 23°F**  
**Average Low: 1°F**  
**Average Precip in Jan.: 0.34**  
**Precip to date in Jan.: 0.35**  
**Average Precip to date: 0.34**  
**Precip Year to Date: 0.35**  
**Sunset Tonight: 5:26 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:04 a.m.**





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## THE PAIN PASSES

Pierre Renoir, the famous French painter, was severely afflicted with arthritis. Over the years, his hands became twisted, and whenever he painted the pain was intense. However, he would not quit.

One day a friend who was watching him paint asked, "How can you paint with the pain that causes you so much torture?"

Thoughtfully he answered, "The pain passes, but the beauty remains."

Job was a godly man who was wealthy and influential. For most of his life, he was prosperous and free from any serious problems. One day his life fell apart. Within a short time, he lost nearly everything he had, suffered greatly, was severely criticized and condemned by his friends. But, he never lost his faith in God.

Though he never learned the reason for his losses and suffering, he never questioned God's judgment. He believed that an all-powerful, all-loving God was acting in his best interests. In the midst of his trials, he said, "When He has tried me I shall come out as gold." That's trust!

Prayer: Lord, may we believe that what You bring into our lives will ultimately work for our best. Give us faith when we are troubled and trust when we doubt Your love. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Job 23:10-12 But he knows where I am going. And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold. For I have stayed on God's paths; I have followed his ways and not turned aside. I have not departed from his commands, but have treasured his words more than daily food.

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## 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)
- 04/26/2020 Father/Daughter dance.
- 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
- 06/19/2020 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)  
Groton Hosting State B American Legion Baseball Tournament
- 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
- 07/31-08/04/2020 State American Legion Baseball Tournament in Groton
- 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

### Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 56, Watertown 44  
Aberdeen Christian 76, Faulkton 46  
Bowman County, N.D. 63, Harding County 60  
Centerville 75, Freeman 38  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 94, McLaughlin 41  
Corsica/Stickney 74, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 46  
Crow Creek 82, Miller 41  
DeSmet 55, Hamlin 34  
Ethan 65, Menno 37  
Groton Area 55, Ipswich 54  
Hanson 63, Howard 55  
Herreid/Selby Area 78, Potter County 71  
Jones County 61, Colome 34  
Kimball/White Lake 69, Avon 32  
Langford 41, Britton-Hecla 37  
Lennox 77, Chamberlain 60  
Leola/Frederick 55, Ellendale, N.D. 50  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 71, Redfield 48  
North Central Co-Op 45, Wakpala 39  
O'Neill, Neb. 63, Wagner 54  
Rapid City Stevens 65, Douglas 46  
Red Cloud 71, Rapid City Christian 51  
Scotland 49, Irene-Wakonda 41  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 74, Harrisburg 38  
Sioux Valley 75, Chester 24  
Spearfish 95, Hill City 44  
St. Thomas More 73, Lead-Deadwood 29  
Sully Buttes 51, Timber Lake 47, OT  
Tea Area 81, Garretson 36  
Tri-State 65, Hankinson, N.D. 53  
Vermillion 73, Elk Point-Jefferson 26  
Warner 47, Northwestern 38  
Waverly-South Shore 47, Great Plains Lutheran 35  
Winner 80, Parkston 66  
Yankton 83, Brookings 40  
281 Conference Tournament=  
Consolation Semifinal=  
Hitchcock-Tulare 38, Sunshine Bible Academy 36  
Wessington Springs 57, James Valley Christian 51  
Semifinal=  
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 64, Highmore-Harrold 31  
Wolsey-Wessington 64, Iroquois 38  
Panhandle Conference Tournament=



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Crawford, Neb. 41, Edgemont 38

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Aberdeen Central 56, Watertown 27

Bridgewater-Emery 64, Kimball/White Lake 59, OT

Burke 51, Platte-Geddes 30

Chamberlain 54, Gregory 42

Corsica/Stickney 51, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 23

Crow Creek 45, Miller 42

Dupree 100, Takini 27

Ellendale, N.D. 38, Leola/Frederick 24

Ethan 43, Menno 42

Faulkton 55, Aberdeen Christian 36

Hamlin 45, DeSmet 37

Harrisburg 58, Brandon Valley 42

Howard 48, Hanson 45

Ipswich 41, Groton Area 40

Irene-Wakonda 71, Scotland 36

Langford 46, Britton-Hecla 18

Lyman 64, White River 52

McCook Central/Montrose 66, Baltic 19

Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 57, Redfield 53

Parkston 64, Canistota 25

Pierre 68, Douglas 55

Pine Ridge 64, St. Francis Indian 54

Red Cloud 64, Rapid City Christian 36

Sioux Falls Christian 52, Clark/Willow Lake 35

Sioux Falls Lincoln 64, Mitchell 42

Sioux Falls Washington 57, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 50

Spearfish 45, Hill City 40

St. Thomas More 60, Lead-Deadwood 27

Sully Buttes 61, Timber Lake 56

Tea Area 73, Garretson 58

Vermillion 35, Elk Point-Jefferson 33

Wagner 48, O'Neill, Neb. 47

Wakpala 59, North Central Co-Op 57

Waverly-South Shore 39, Great Plains Lutheran 22

West Central 54, Dell Rapids 19

Yankton 43, Brookings 27

281 Conference Tournament=

Consolation Semifinal=

James Valley Christian 47, Sunshine Bible Academy 18

Wessington Springs 43, Iroquois 28

Semifinal=

Highmore-Harrold 55, Wolsey-Wessington 48

Hitchcock-Tulare 60, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 56

DVC Tournament=

First Round=

Arlington 52, Lake Preston 26

Colman-Egan 41, Elkton-Lake Benton 21

Dell Rapids St. Mary 47, Estelline/Hendricks 38

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Deubrook 68, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 14

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

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Tuesday:

Mega Millions

16-18-29-31-37, Mega Ball: 8, Megaplier: 3

(sixteen, eighteen, twenty-nine, thirty-one, thirty-seven; Mega Ball: eight; Megaplier: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$116 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$343 million

## South Dakota man guilty of killing, dismembering girlfriend

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota jury convicted a man Tuesday of killing his girlfriend and dumping her dismembered body in a river in Michigan's Upper Peninsula last year.

Jurors in Pierre found 45-year-old Stephen R. Falkenberg guilty of first-degree manslaughter and second-degree murder in the March 1 death of 46-year-old Tamara LaFramboise.

Falkenberg is scheduled to be sentenced March 2. He faces life and prison and up to \$100,000 in fines.

Prosecutors said Falkenberg killed LaFramboise in Yankton, South Dakota, where they both lived, then drove to Menominee County, Michigan, where he grew up. Authorities said he discarded LaFramboise's body in the Little River, where two boys found it March 16.

LaFramboise's nude torso was found in the Little River in Michigan's Menominee Township, near Falkenberg's family farm weeks later. Her head and hands had been removed and are still missing.

Prosecutors said in court documents that Falkenberg told his sister he argued with LaFramboise, pushed her and she hit her head and died.

The victim's mother, who reported LaFramboise missing March 5, told investigators her daughter had a turbulent, "on-again, off-again" relationship with Falkenberg.

## SD House committee to weigh transgender treatment for minors

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota House committee will hear arguments Wednesday on a controversial bill that would prosecute doctors who treat minors to help them change their gender.

The bill would make it a felony for South Dakota doctors to perform surgeries or administer puberty-blocking drugs to minors for the purpose of changing their gender. The bill is similar to legislation promoted by Republican lawmakers in several states including Florida, Texas, Georgia and Kentucky.

LGBT activists say the bill targets transgender youth and may lead to an increase in suicides. Democrats oppose the bill.

Rep. Fred Deutsch, R-Watertown, introduced the bill in the Republican-dominated Legislature and called it a "pause button" for youth who are considering changing their gender. He said he developed the bill with input from lawyers and advocates of groups who oppose gender-change treatment for minors.

The bill has been co-sponsored by more than 40 legislators. It would have to be passed by both the House and Senate and signed by Gov. Kristi Noem to become law.

## South Dakota board approves Keystone XL water permits

By **STEPHEN GROVES** Associated Press

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Water Management Board on Tuesday approved five water permit applications for Keystone XL pipeline construction.

The hearing was so contentious that it stretched into a dozen days over the course of four months as American Indian tribes and environmental groups argued against their approval. After holding a brief period for public comment in Fort Pierre Tuesday, the board met in a closed executive session before voting to approve the permits, with added requirements for real-time monitoring and weekly check-ins with the state.

Opponents can appeal the board's decision. They didn't immediately respond to messages from The Associated Press seeking comment.

TC Energy, the Canadian company building the pipeline, applied for permits to tap the Cheyenne, White and Bad rivers in South Dakota during construction. The water will be used for drilling to install pipe, build pump stations and control dust during construction. Two ranchers also applied for water permits to supply backup water to worker camps.

The board allowed three minutes for each person who wanted to comment before the executive session.

Two Native American youths — Tatanka Itancan, age 17, and his sister Zora Lone Eagle, age 13 — with painted handprints on their faces used their three minutes to silently stare at the board in protest. They said they had been refused permission to cross-examine experts during the hearing because they are minors and not represented by an attorney.

Itancan said they live within a couple miles of where the pipeline would cross the Cheyenne River.

Before the vote, Anthony Helland, a member of an environmental group called Dakota Rural Action, said oil pipelines and other fossil fuel industries have been "met with open arms by governmental bodies." He argued that the board should base their decision on whether the water use would serve the best interest of South Dakotans.

TC Energy spokeswoman Sara Rabern said in an emailed statement: "We are pleased that the SD Water Management Board has approved our applications and we look forward to working with the State of South Dakota as we move forward with this project."

Rabern said there are no other permits needed in South Dakota for TC Energy to begin construction.

An expert overseeing the pipeline's construction said building should begin this summer. When completed, Keystone XL would carry up to 830,000 barrels of crude oil a day in a 1,184-mile line from Alberta, Canada, to Nebraska. In Nebraska, it would connect with other lines that go to Gulf Coast Refineries.

## Police could be helped by virtual counselors in crisis calls

By **STEPHEN GROVES** Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A shortage of mental health professionals in South Dakota, especially in rural areas, could be addressed by having trained counselors remotely assist police officers using readily available technology, lawmakers said Tuesday.

Lawmakers are considering a package of eight bills this year aimed at addressing shortfalls in mental health care in South Dakota that, according to the Centers for Disease Control, has the seventh highest suicide rate in the nation.

In one possible solution, a police officer responding to someone suffering a mental health crisis could use a tablet to make a video call with someone trained in de-escalating mental crises.

"This is like a mental health ambulance coming virtually into the home," Sen. Deb Soholt, a Sioux Falls Republican, said at a House committee meeting.

Senate Majority Leader Kris Langer, a Dell Rapids Republican, said the lack of mental health care is especially acute in rural areas and among people who work in agriculture. The state also has a shortage of mental health professionals.

Langer said the push to increase mental health care in rural areas has broad support.

One of the bills that cleared the House Health and Human Services committee on Tuesday would make



it possible for virtual mental health care providers to write prescriptions on their first video call. The other bills are either awaiting a committee hearing or have not yet been introduced.

The bills will need to clear both houses of the Legislature and be signed by Gov. Kristi Noem to become law.

Noem supports the initiative, according to her spokeswoman Kristin Wileman.

"With shortages in the behavioral health workforce, maximizing technology is critical to meeting the needs of South Dakotans in rural and remote areas," Wileman said in a statement.

A police officer responding to a call for someone in a crisis currently has limited options. They can leave the person at home if they don't think they are at risk of harming themselves or others, or they can take them into the office for a meeting with a counselor, then drive them back home.

That all takes time, Brookings County Sheriff Deputy Bart Sweebe said.

Under a pilot program started three weeks ago, Sweebe's deputies now have help. They respond to mental health calls armed with tablets that connect them to a counselor from Avera's Behavioral Health Center in Sioux Falls.

"Sometimes, if you can get that person help quicker and get them talking to someone quicker, you see better results," Sweebe said.

Sweebe said counseling via video keeps people in their homes where they are often more comfortable. It also allows the counselor to de-escalate the situation and determine the next steps.

The video counselor could also help determine if the person should be taken to a mental health facility.

Lawmakers would like the Brookings County pilot program to be made available statewide.

Soholt said it could take years to expand the program and figure out how to fund it. The latest legislation includes provisions for the program to be covered by insurance, but it would take philanthropic, state, and municipal funding — plus the expansion of broadband to rural areas — to get a statewide system in place, she said.

## Corps trims water flowing into lower Missouri River

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The amount of water being released into the Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam will be reduced slightly to protect drinking water supplies even though the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is still working to eliminate water from last year.

The Corps said Tuesday it is trimming the amount of water flowing out of Gavins Point to 27,000 cubic feet (764.55 cubic meters) per second from the previous 30,000 cubic feet (849.50 cubic meters) per second.

The new lower releases will allow the level of Lewis and Clark Lake to stabilize and ensure communities will be able to continue drawing drinking water from the lake, Corps spokeswoman Eileen Williamson said.

The releases from the other dams on the Missouri River will not change. The Corps said the reservoirs above Fort Peck and Garrison dams in North Dakota still hold more water than officials want them to have at the start of the spring.

Overall, the reservoirs along the Missouri River now have 16.3 million acre feet of space available for flood control even though Fort Peck and Garrison remain high.

The Corps is working to clear out as much space as possible in the reservoirs ahead of what is expected to be another wet year.

## Iowa wants expert review of Dakota Access Pipeline expansion

**JAMES MacPHERSON Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Iowa regulators want owners of the Dakota Access Pipeline to provide expert analysis to back up the company's claim that doubling the line's capacity won't increase the likelihood of a spill, a requirement their counterparts in North Dakota haven't imposed.

Texas-based Energy Transfer wants to double the capacity of the pipeline to as much as 1.1 million barrels daily to meet growing demand for oil shipments from North Dakota, and is seeking permission for

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additional pump stations in the Dakotas, Iowa and Illinois to do it. Commissioners in a South Dakota county last year approved a conditional use permit for a pumping station needed for the expansion. Permits in the other states are pending.

The Iowa Utilities Board last week ordered the company to "provide expert explanation of whether the increased flow will increase the amount of oil that will be released if a spill occurs."

The nonpartisan panel, whose three members all were appointed by a Republican governor, also wants information on pipeline pressure levels currently and if the expansion occurs. The company also must provide "expert explanation" on the effect any additives to the oil would have on the longevity of the pipeline.

The \$3.8 billion pipeline has been moving oil from the Dakotas through Iowa to Illinois for more than two years. It was subject to prolonged protests and hundreds of arrests during its construction in North Dakota in late 2016 and early 2017 because it crosses beneath the Missouri River, just north of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. The tribe draws its water from the river and fears pollution. Energy Transfer insists the pipeline and its expansion are safe.

Tribal members are asking the North Dakota Public Service Commission to deny the expansion of the pipeline, saying it would "increase both the likelihood and severity of spill incidents." The company said in court filings that its \$40 million pump station built on a 23-acre site would produce only "minimal adverse effects on the environment and the citizens of North Dakota."

The North Dakota PSC in November held a hearing on the proposed expansion that was overseen by an administrative law judge. The 17-hour-long hearing was held in Linton, a town of 1,000 along the pipeline's path and near where a pump station would be placed to increase the line's capacity from 600,000 barrels per day to as much as 1.1 million barrels. A barrel is 42 gallons.

The three-member, all-GOP elected North Dakota panel has scheduled a "work session" on Thursday in Bismarck to discuss issues raised at the hearing two months ago. PSC spokeswoman Stacy Eberl said no action on the permit request would be taken at the work session, which could extend to at least one more meeting.

Standing Rock attorney Timothy Purdon applauded the action by Iowa regulators requiring expert analysis to back up Energy Transfer's claims.

"You can't properly evaluate the safety of the pipeline without this information — and the tribe has asked for this stuff but it's not part of the record in North Dakota," Purdon said.

## Prisoners raising money for Native American crime victims

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Prisoners at the South Dakota State Penitentiary are trying to raise money and awareness about Native American women who are crime victims.

The non-profit organization, 'Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women' says Native American women are more than twice as likely to experience violence than any other demographic.

The inmates made 200 pairs of earrings and made \$5,000 which they donated to Urban Indian and Health of Sioux Falls and Rapid City.

Connie Hopkins, vice-president of prisoner support, tells KELO-TV the money will be used in a variety of ways to bring awareness to what some say is an epidemic when it comes to Native American women.

"It's going to help them get more media out there or pay for fliers or to help people travel to go look for these women," Hopkins said.

The U.S. Department of Justice found that American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average.

## Years after SARS, a more confident China faces a new virus

By YANAN WANG Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — As a viral outbreak spread from the central Chinese city of Wuhan this week, the ruling Communist Party's central political and legal affairs commission issued a stern warning: "Whoever deliberately delays and conceals reports will forever be nailed to history's pillar of shame."

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The proclamation Tuesday signaled both China's growing confidence and its greater awareness of censorship's pitfalls.

The threat headlined an online essay that referred directly to SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, an epidemic that not only devastated parts of China but also exposed government deception.

Nearly two decades later, a more assertive China appears determined not to repeat its past mistakes.

"Party committees, governments and relevant departments at all levels must put people's lives and health first," Chinese President Xi Jinping said Monday. "It is necessary to release epidemic information in a timely manner and deepen international cooperation."

Under Xi, widely considered the country's most authoritarian leader in decades, China has adopted a more proactive public relations strategy, showing an ever greater determination to control the narrative by putting out large quantities of its own information — as opposed to trying to make an explosive issue disappear.

The outbreak, which has sickened more than 440 people and killed at least nine, is a major test of Xi's leadership as he seeks to grapple with challenges such as China's slowing economy, its trade war with the U.S., anti-government protests in Hong Kong and Taiwan's defiance, said Joseph Cheng, a political scholar in Hong Kong.

"This could help him save face," Cheng said. "He knows the consequences to his leadership — to his reputation — if he fails on this front."

Xi's comments Monday were his first public ones on the outbreak, and they seemed aimed at reassuring the Chinese public that there wasn't another SARS-level cover-up in the making.

For months in 2002 and 2003, even after SARS had spread around the world, China sought to conceal the number of actual cases by parking patients in hotels and obscure hospital wings, and even driving them around in ambulances to avoid detection by World Health Organization experts.

China in that era was just beginning to embrace the internet, and smartphones were years away. Beijing had yet to stage the 2008 Summer Olympics, and the country was just at the start of an economic boom that has since made its economy the second largest in the world.

At the time, people who revealed information about SARS that the government hadn't publicized could be accused of leaking state secrets. Media outlets were muzzled, leaving the public in the dark. It was only after a retired high-ranking physician spoke out that the true measure of authorities' concealment became known.

In many ways, China is a different country now: more prosperous and equipped with far more advanced resources and infrastructure. Though the Communist Party remains largely opaque and intolerant of any dissent, social media has made it much harder to contain news of accidents, outbreaks or other non-political events.

David Heymann, a doctor who headed WHO's global response to SARS in 2003, said Chinese authorities have become much more transparent since that outbreak and it appears the government began reporting cases of the new virus as soon as they were identified.

"I think it's working pretty well compared to what happened initially in SARS," Heymann said.

With the discovery late last year of the new type of coronavirus, the same family of viruses that encompasses SARS, state agencies sprang into action with frequent public statements, TV appearances by government experts and colorful graphics urging citizens to wash their hands and wear masks.

"I'm not very panicked," said Zhang Wei, a 27-year-old office clerk in Wuhan who went to a pharmacy to buy masks Wednesday afternoon.

"I think the government is quite organized and has attached great importance (to the virus)," Zhang said. "As long as we do as we're told in terms of protecting ourselves, there shouldn't be a big problem."

Following initial reports of people becoming ill with an unrecognized type of pneumonia, authorities in Wuhan swiftly announced they were investigating a seafood market frequented by many in the first wave of patients. Chinese scientists rapidly identified the virus as a novel coronavirus, an action that WHO called a "notable achievement."

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"Once the Chinese leadership is on the alert and would like to engage in a national campaign to stop it, then the party apparatus is mobilized highly effectively," Cheng said.

At a Wednesday news briefing, a reporter asked a National Health Commission official whether the government was hiding any information. The official, Xu Shuqiang, responded that they have been releasing up-to-date numbers from the start, and will continue to do so "until there is no more need for it."

That hasn't stopped Chinese observers from expressing some skepticism about the official data. When the state numbers last week were still below 100 despite cases popping up overseas, users on the Twitter-like Weibo platform quipped that China was dealing with a "patriotic" virus that only infected people after they left the country. The virus should "join the Communist Party," they suggested.

Public awareness and interest have risen sharply since the number of reported cases soared Monday. In Wuhan, Beijing and Shanghai, many wore masks on the subway and in public areas. People shared articles on Weibo and WeChat that outlined measures for protecting oneself from the virus, and joked that Wuhan residents should remove themselves from online group chats, lest they infect fellow members.

Users commenting on a set of informational posters designed by the People's Daily, the party's official newspaper, cheered the country on in its fight against the outbreak.

"Let's go Wuhan, let's go people across the nation," read one refrain. "Everyone work together to win this battle!"

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Associated Press videojournalists Emily Wang and Dake Kang in Wuhan, China, and medical writer Maria Cheng in London contributed to this report.

## Cases of new viral respiratory illness rise sharply in China

By KEN MORITSUGU Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese health authorities urged people in the city of Wuhan to avoid crowds and public gatherings, after warning that a new viral illness that has infected more than 400 people and killed at least nine could spread further.

The appeal came as World Health Organization experts were meeting to determine whether the outbreak should be declared a global emergency.

The number of new cases has risen sharply in China, the center of the outbreak. There were 440 confirmed cases as of midnight Tuesday in 13 jurisdictions, said Li Bin, deputy director of the National Health Commission. Nine people have died, all in Hubei province, since the outbreak emerged in its provincial capital of Wuhan late last month.

"There has already been human-to-human transmission and infection of medical workers," Li said at a news conference with health experts. "Evidence has shown that the disease has been transmitted through the respiratory tract and there is the possibility of viral mutation."

The illness comes from a newly identified type of coronavirus, a family of viruses that can cause the common cold as well as more serious illnesses such as the SARS outbreak that spread from China to more than a dozen countries in 2002-2003 and killed about 800 people. Some experts have drawn parallels between the new coronavirus and Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome, another coronavirus that does not spread very easily among humans and is thought to be carried by camels.

But WHO's Asia office tweeted this week that "there may now be sustained human-to-human transmission," which raises the possibility that the epidemic is spreading more easily and may no longer require an animal source to spark infections, as officials initially reported.

Authorities in Thailand on Wednesday confirmed four cases, a Thai national and three Chinese visitors. Japan, South Korea, the United States and Taiwan have all reported one case each. All of the illnesses were of people from Wuhan or who recently traveled there.

"The situation is under control here," Thai Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul told reporters, saying there are no reports of the infection spreading to others. "We checked all of them: taxi drivers, people who wheeled the wheelchairs for the patients, doctors and nurses who worked around them."



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Macao, a former Portuguese colony that is a semi-autonomous Chinese city, reported one case Wednesday.

Some experts said they believe the threshold for the outbreak to be declared an international emergency had been reached.

Dr. Peter Horby, a professor of emerging infectious diseases at Oxford University, said there were three criteria for such a determination: the outbreak must be an extraordinary event, there must be a risk of international spread and a globally coordinated response is required.

"In my opinion, those three criteria have been met," he said.

In response to the U.S. case, President Donald Trump said: "We do have a plan, and we think it's going to be handled very well. We've already handled it very well. ... we're in very good shape, and I think China's in very good shape also."

In Wuhan, pharmacies limited sales of face masks to one package per customer as people lined up to buy them. Residents said they were not overly concerned as long as they took preventive measures.

"As an adult, I am not too worried about the disease," Yang Bin, the father of a 7-year-old, said after buying a mask. "I think we are more worried about our kids. ... It would be unacceptable to the parents if they got sick."

Medical workers in protective suits could be seen carrying supplies and stretchers into Wuhan Medical Treatment Center, where some of the patients are being treated.

Travel agencies that organize trips to North Korea said the country has banned foreign tourists because of the outbreak. Most tourists to North Korea are either Chinese or travel to the country through neighboring China. North Korea also closed its borders in 2003 during the SARS scare.

Other countries have stepped up screening measures for travelers from China, especially those arriving from Wuhan. Worries have been heightened by the Lunar New Year holiday rush, when millions of Chinese travel at home and abroad.

Officials said it was too early to compare the new virus with SARS or MERS, or Middle East respiratory syndrome, in terms of how lethal it might be. They attributed the spike in new cases to improvements in detection and monitoring.

"We are still in the process of learning more about this disease," Gao Fu, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and head of the Chinese Center for Disease Control, said at the news conference.

Gao said officials are working on the assumption that the outbreak resulted from human exposure to wild animals being sold illegally at a food market in Wuhan and that the virus is mutating. Mutations can make it spread faster or make people sicker.

Jiao Yahui, a health commission official, said the disease "will continue to develop. It has developed different features compared with the early stage, and the prevention and precautionary measures need to change accordingly."

One veteran of the SARS outbreak said that while there are some similarities in the new virus — namely its origins in China and the link to animals — the current outbreak appears much milder.

Dr. David Heymann, who headed WHO's global response to SARS in 2003, said the new virus appears dangerous for older people with other health conditions, but doesn't seem nearly as infectious as SARS.

"It looks like it doesn't transmit through the air very easily and probably transmits through close contact," he said. "That was not the case with SARS."

Health officials confirmed earlier this week that the disease can be spread between humans after finding two infected people in Guangdong province in southern China who had not been to Wuhan.

Fifteen medical workers also tested positive for the virus, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission has said. Fourteen of them — one doctor and 13 nurses — were infected by a patient who had been hospitalized for neurosurgery but also had the coronavirus.

"This is a very profound lesson, which is that there must not be any cracks in our prevention and control," Wuhan Mayor Zhou Xianwang said about the infections of the medical workers in an interview with state broadcaster CCTV.

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Experts worry in particular when health workers are sickened in outbreaks by new viruses, because it can suggest the disease is becoming more transmissible and because spread in hospitals can often amplify the epidemic.

The Lunar New Year is a time when many Chinese return to their hometowns to visit family. Li, the health commission official, said measures were being taken to monitor and detect infected people from Wuhan, and that people should avoid going to the city, and people from the city should stay put for now.

Associated Press journalists Dake Kang and Emily Wang in Wuhan, China; Tassanee Vejpongsa in Bangkok, Thailand; Hyung-jin Kim in Seoul, South Korea; Maria Cheng in London; Yanan Wang in Beijing and Alice Fung in Hong Kong contributed to this report.

## Trump lauds US economy at Davos forum, slams impeachment

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP) — President Donald Trump is leaving the World Economic Forum in Switzerland with bullish talk on the American economy and lashing out at his Senate impeachment trial back in Washington.

Trump called a surprise news conference Wednesday to mark a "tremendous two days" at the glitzy summit of world leaders and financiers in Davos, which has served as a respite from the trial underway in Washington.

"It's such a hoax," Trump said of the impeachment case against him. "I think it's so bad for our country."

Trump gave his legal team high marks after more than 12 hours of arguments on procedural motions in which Republicans blocked Democratic efforts to immediately call witnesses and subpoena documents. But Trump said he wanted to see his aides, including former national security adviser John Bolton and acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, testify in the Senate.

"Personally, I'd rather go the long route," he said, referring to calling witnesses in the Senate trial, before suggesting that there were "national security" concerns to allowing their testimony.

A resolution passed early Wednesday by a party line vote allows the Senate to consider calling witnesses only after both sides in the impeachment trial present their cases.

"I thought our team did a very good job," Trump said, saying he watched some of the proceedings. He praised White House Counsel Pat Cipollone's "emotion" on the Senate floor, adding, "I was very proud of the job he did."

Trump repeated his attacks on Democratic House managers serving as prosecutors in the trial, saying that he'd like to "sit right in the front row and stare at their corrupt faces" on the Senate floor during the trial but that his attorneys might have a problem with it.

Democrats say Trump abused his power in his dealings with Ukraine and obstructed Congress in its investigation. Trump denies doing anything wrong.

Trump opened his news conference with triumphant talk on the American economy and said he is pushing for "very dramatic" changes to the World Trade Organization. He called on Roberto Azevedo, the director general of the international organization, who said "has to be updated."

Azevedo acknowledged that "the system has not been functioning properly in many areas."

"We are committed to effect those changes, and this is something we are serious about," he added.

Trump had announced the unexpected availability during a meeting with Iraqi President Barham Salih.

Trump arrived in Davos on Tuesday. He addressed the forum and over two days has held meetings with leaders from the European Union, Iraq and Pakistan, among others.

The Republican president said in most of his meetings that trade was on the agenda.

## Russia-Poland feud over history clouds Auschwitz anniversary

By VANESSA GERA and ARON HELLER Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Over the next several days, world leaders will gather twice to mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the most notorious of Nazi Germany's death camps.

That there will be two competing ceremonies — one in Jerusalem on Thursday and the other at the Auschwitz site in southern Poland on Monday — underlines how politically charged World War II remains as nationalist governments in Russia and Poland seek to use their own interpretation of the past for contemporary political gain.

Leaders at both sites, joined by elderly survivors, will pay tribute to the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust. Yet the commemorations risk being overshadowed by a bitter dispute between Poland — where Nazi German occupiers operated Auschwitz and other infamous camps — and Russia, the successor state to the Soviet Union.

"I am afraid this will not help the commemoration of the Holocaust," said Dariusz Stola, a Polish historian and former director of the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

Such commemorations, he said, should ideally be a moment "for the present to serve the past."

"Now the past is serving the aims of current politics," he told The Associated Press.

Soviet forces liberated Auschwitz on Jan. 27, 1945. But the country had also signed a nonaggression accord with the Nazis shortly before the war began in 1939, known as the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact. It contained a secret protocol in which the totalitarian powers agreed to carve up Eastern Europe.

Two years later, Germany turned on Kremlin leader Josef Stalin and invaded the Soviet Union, bringing the Soviets into the war on the side of the Allies. Millions of Red Army soldiers lost their lives in the eventual defeat of Adolf Hitler's Germany.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has sought to shift wartime blame to Poland over anger that historical memory in the West has begun to focus more on the Soviet role in triggering the war and less on its role in defeating Germany.

The Russian historical moves have outraged the Polish government, which believes Putin's main motive is to weaken Polish influence in the European Union. Warsaw is one of the strongest supporters of maintaining sanctions on Moscow for its annexation of Crimea and has also been fighting a planned Russian gas pipeline. Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki has accused Putin of lying deliberately to deflect from his own failures, including a ban on Russian athletes over doping.

At the same time, Poland has come under criticism for allegedly minimizing the role its own people played in helping Nazi occupiers kill Jews.

Putin and other Russian officials have been claiming that Poland — which was invaded in 1939 by German and Soviet forces — actually bears blame for starting the war. Western historians see those allegations as a cynical ploy to minimize Soviet responsibility as Moscow today seeks to glorify what is known in Russia as the Great Patriotic War and more generally a Stalinist era that included mass killings of opponents at home and suffering imposed on Eastern Europe during decades of communist rule.

In recent days, Poland's government has been defending the nation's record, recalling how its wartime government-in-exile sought to save Jews by warning the world, and listing cultural and economic damage that Poland suffered after Soviet troops took control of its territory at the end of World War II.

In drawing dozens of world leaders to the World Holocaust Forum in Jerusalem, Israel had hoped to present a united front in commemorating the genocide of European Jewry and warning against the perils of modern-day anti-Semitism.

Instead, Polish President Andrzej Duda is boycotting the event at the Yad Vashem memorial because, unlike Putin, he was not invited to speak and wouldn't be able to defend his nation's historical record. Duda will preside at the Auschwitz ceremony, which Putin will not attend.

Israel has said it didn't offer Duda a speaking role because his country was not among World War II's liberating nations. It said the German president was also being allowed to speak to take responsibility for the perpetrators.

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The deeper explanation appears to be rooted in Israel's sensitive relationship with Russia.

The Jerusalem event is being orchestrated by Moshe Kantor, the president of the European Jewish Congress and a billionaire oligarch who is close to Putin.

In addition, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu needs Putin on his side due to Russia's involvement in the war in neighboring Syria, where Israel is deeply concerned about the presence of Iranian forces.

He also is hoping the Russian leader will free a young Israeli woman imprisoned on drug charges in Russia — a development that would give Netanyahu a welcome boost before national elections in March. During Putin's visit, Netanyahu will dedicate a monument honoring the the nearly 900-day Nazi siege of Leningrad. The city, now known as St. Petersburg, is Putin's hometown.

Israeli-Polish relations are still reeling over the Polish government's controversial Holocaust speech law in 2018 that sought to criminalize blaming the Polish nation for the Holocaust. It was part of its wider efforts to portray Poles primarily as rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust while seeking to play down the fact that there were also Poles who abetted the Germans in hunting down and killing Jews.

Jan Grabowski, a Polish-Canadian historian at the University of Ottawa, argued recently that Putin was engaging in a "cynical falsification of history," but added that Polish authorities, "discredited by years of twisting the history of the Holocaust, have lost any credibility and moral legitimacy to enter into a dispute in this field."

The insertion of politics into such a solemn event clearly has been unsettling for historians and Holocaust survivors. But Yad Vashem historian Robert Rozett said he hoped the image of more than 45 world leaders coming together to remember the Holocaust would help it "rise above" what he described as unfortunate background noise.

"Using history for all kinds of things is very much a part of our world today and we as historians rail against it," he told the AP. "But if if we were waiting for all the stars to line up and for everyone to be on the same page, we would never have an event like this."

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Heller reported from Jerusalem.

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See all of AP's coverage of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz at <https://apnews.com/Auschwitz>

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. **SENATE APPROVES RULES FOR IMPEACHMENT TRIAL** Opening arguments will now be spread over three days, but Republicans reject Democratic demands for more witnesses to expose President Trump's "trifecta" of offenses.

2. **CASES OF NEW CORONAVIRUS RISE SHARPLY IN CHINA** People in the Chinese city of Wuhan are urged to avoid crowds and public gatherings after health officials warn that a deadly viral illness could spread further.

3. **WHERE DEMOCRATS SEE AN OPENING** White House hopefuls are campaigning in the more than two dozen industrial Iowa counties that went from supporting Barack Obama to Donald Trump in 2016.

4. **RUSSIA-POLAND FEUD OVER HISTORY CLOUDS AUSCHWITZ ANNIVERSARY** Competing ceremonies in Israel and Poland marking the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the most notorious Nazi Germany death camp underline how politically charged World War II remains.

5. **LEBANESE FOCUS FURY ON BANKS** A severe financial crisis and unprecedented capital controls unite rich and poor in anger against a banking system they accuse of holding their deposits hostage.

6. **A #METOO MOMENT: WEINSTEIN TRIAL SET TO OPEN** The former film titan's rape trial is a landmark moment in a global reckoning that has empowered women while shining a light on power dynamics in the workplace.



7. THE LATEST STATE TO BAN CONVERSION THERAPY The discredited practice for LGBTQ children is now banned in Utah, making it the 19th state and one of the most conservative to prohibit it.

8. HOPES FOR DIGITAL TAX BREAKTHROUGH AT DAVOS Officials at the World Economic Forum are hopeful a deal on how to tax big tech companies like Amazon and Facebook can be reached between France and the U.S

9. OUSTED GRAMMYS CEO FIRES BACK Deborah Dugan alleges that the Recording Academy removed her after she complained about sexual harassment and pay disparities.

10. WHAT LIKELY WON'T HAPPEN NEXT YEAR Derek Jeter's election to the Hall of Fame marks the seventh straight year with at least one first-ballot honoree, a streak that will probably end in 2021.

## S. Korean military decides to discharge transgender soldier

By HYUNG-JIN KIM Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's first known transgender soldier pleaded to be allowed to continue serving after the military decided Wednesday to discharge her for undergoing gender reassignment surgery.

It was the first time in South Korea that an active-duty member has been referred to a military panel to determine whether to end his or her service due to a sex reassignment operation. South Korea prohibits transgender people from joining the military but has no specific laws on what to do with those who have sex reassignment operations during their time in service.

The army said in a statement that it concluded the soldier's operation can be considered a reason for discharge.

It said the decision went through due process and was based on a related military law on personnel changes. Army officials cited a provision of the law allowing the military to discharge personnel with physical or mental disabilities if those problems weren't a result of combat or in the line of duty.

After the ruling, the staff sergeant, who identified herself as a tank driver named Byun Hui-su, held a news conference at which she asked military leaders to reconsider their decision and let her serve as a female soldier.

She said becoming a soldier was her childhood dream and that she now wants to serve at the tense border with rival North Korea.

"Regardless of my sexual identity, I'd like to show everyone that I can become one of the great soldiers who protect this country," Byun said, holding back tears. "Please give me that chance."

Byun said she had sex reassignment surgery in Thailand in November after suffering depression over her sexual identity for an extended period. She said in early 2019 she had the top score in an official assessment of tank driving skills among her battalion staff sergeants.

Speaking at the same news conference, rights activist Lim Tae-hoon said he will fight alongside Byun and others to transform what he called "our savage military."

Lim, the leader of the Seoul-based Center for Military Human Rights, took issue with the army's legal justification for discharging Byun. "I can't resist feeling wretched at the military's vulgar mindset as they determined that the lack of a male genital is a physical disability," he said.

South Korea's state-run human rights watchdog recommended Tuesday that the army postpone its decision. The National Human Rights Commission said in a statement that referring the soldier to the military panel would be an act of discrimination over sexual identity and affect the soldier's basic human rights.

Public views on gender issues in South Korea have gradually changed in recent years. Several gay-themed movies and TV dramas have become hits and some transgender entertainers have risen to stardom. However, a strong bias against sexual minorities still runs deep in South Korean society.

Activists say transgender people are likely to face harassment, abuse and insults, and many suffer from depression.

## Senate approves impeachment trial rules, rejecting witnesses

By LISA MASCARO and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Senate plunged into President Donald Trump's impeachment trial with Republicans abruptly abandoning plans to cram opening arguments into two days but solidly rejecting Democratic demands for more witnesses to expose what they deem Trump's "trifecta" of offenses.

The daylong session started Tuesday with the setback for Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell and the president's legal team, but it ended near 2 a.m. Wednesday with Republicans easily approving the rest of the trial rules largely on their terms. The result is Trump's historic trial, unfolding amid a watchful public in an election year.

"We have a great case," Trump said as he began his second day at a global economic forum in Davos, Switzerland. He said he thought his legal team was doing a "very good job."

The trial is now on a fast-track with almost no signs of Republican resistance to the actions that led to his impeachment.

"It's about time we bring this power trip in for a landing," said White House counsel Pat Cipollone, the president's lead lawyer, lashing out at the House Democrats prosecuting the case.

"It's a farce," he said about the impeachment proceeding, "and it should end."

Chief Justice John Roberts gaveled open the session, with House prosecutors on one side, Trump's team on the other, in the well of the Senate, as senators sat silently at their desks, under oath to do "impartial justice." No cellphones or other electronics were allowed.

As the day stretched deep into the night, lawyerly arguments gave way to more pointedly political ones. Tempers flared and senators paced the chamber. Democrats pursued what may be their only chance to force senators to vote on hearing new testimony.

After one particularly bitter post-midnight exchange, Roberts intervened, taking the rare step of admonishing both the Democratic House managers prosecuting the case and the White House counsel to "remember where they are."

"I think it is appropriate at this point for me to admonish both the House managers and the president's counsel in equal terms to remember that they are addressing the world's greatest deliberative body," the usually reserved Roberts said. He told them that description of the Senate stemmed from a 1905 trial when a senator objected to the word "pettifogging," because members should "avoid speaking in a manner and using language that is not conducive to civil discourse."

Over and over, Republicans turned back Democratic amendments to subpoena documents from the White House, State Department, Defense Department and budget office. By the same 53-47 party-line, they turned away witnesses with front-row seats to Trump's actions including acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and John Bolton, the former national security adviser critical of the Ukraine policy.

Only on one amendment, to allow more time to file motions, did a single Republican, Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, join Democrats. But it, too, was rejected, 52-48.

"It's not our job to make it easy for you," Rep. Adam Schiff, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee leading the prosecution, told the Senate. "Our job is to make it hard to deprive the American people of a fair trial."

As the visitors' gallery filled earlier with guests, actress-and-activist Alyssa Milano among them, and Trump's most ardent House allies lining the back rows, the day that began as a debate over rules quickly took on the cadence of a trial proceeding over whether the president's actions toward Ukraine warranted removal from office.

Cipollone led the prosecution, scoffing that the House charges against Trump were "ridiculous," insisting the president "has done absolutely nothing wrong."

The White House legal team did not dispute Trump's actions, when he called Ukraine and asked for a "favor," which was to investigate Democrat Joe Biden as the U.S. was withholding military aid the ally desperately needed as it faced off with hostile Russia on its border. But the lawyers insisted the president did nothing wrong. "Absolutely no case," Cipollone said.

Schiff, the California Democrat, said America's Founders added the remedy of impeachment in the

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Constitution with "precisely this type of conduct in mind — conduct that abuses the power of office for a personal benefit, that undermines our national security, and that invites foreign interference in the democratic process of an election."

Said Schiff: "It is the trifecta of constitutional misconduct justifying impeachment."

The other lead lawyer on Trump's team, Jay Sekulow, retorted, "I'll give you a trifecta," outlining complaints over the House Democrats' impeachment inquiry process.

The impeachment trial is testing whether Trump's actions toward Ukraine warrant removal as voters are forming their own verdict on his White House.

All four senators who are presidential candidates were off the campaign trail, seated as jurors. "My focus is going to be on impeachment," Sen. Bernie Sanders, the Vermont independent, told reporters.

McConnell stunned senators and delayed the start of proceedings with his decision to back off some of his proposed rules. He made the adjustment after encountering resistance from Republicans during a closed-door lunch meeting. Senators worried about the political optics of "dark of night" sessions that could come from cramming the 24 hours of opening arguments from each side into just two days.

Collins and Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, who often buck party leadership, along with a substantial number of other Republicans, wanted to make the changes, according to people familiar with the situation.

It was only when the clerk started reading the dry language of the resolution that the hand-written changes to extend debate to three days became apparent. It also allowed the House impeachment record to be included in the Senate.

The turnaround was a swift lesson as White House wishes run into the reality of the Senate. The White House wanted a session kept to a shorter period to both expedite the trial and shift more of the proceedings into late night, according to a person familiar with the matter but unauthorized to discuss it in public.

"READ THE TRANSCRIPTS!" the president tweeted from overseas, at a global leaders conference in Davos, Switzerland.

That's the transcript of his phone call in which he asked new Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for "a favor." The Democrats cite that transcript as solid evidence against Trump, though he repeatedly describes it as "perfect."

The House impeached Trump last month on a charge of abuse of power for pushing Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Biden and his son Hunter Biden as the White House was withholding military aid from Ukraine. Trump also was impeached on a second charge, of obstruction of Congress, in the House probe.

Trump's legal team, absent its TV-showcase attorneys, Alan Dershowitz and Kenneth Starr who were not in the chamber, argued that in seeking new evidence the House was bringing a half-baked case.

But Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California, one of the House managers and the first woman to argue for the prosecution in a presidential impeachment trial, said the House wasn't asking the Senate to do the job for them. "The House is asking the Senate to do its job, to have a trial," she said. "Have you ever heard of a trial without evidence?"

The White House had instructed officials not to testify in the House inquiry, and refused to turn over witnesses or documents, citing what it says is precedence in defiance of congressional subpoenas.

The ambassadors and national security officials who did appear before the House delivered often striking testimony, highlights that were displayed on television screens during the Senate proceeding.

Democrat Schiff displayed video of Trump himself suggesting there should be more witnesses testifying.

One by one, the House managers made the case, drawing on their own life experiences.

Rep. Val Demings, D-Fla., a former police chief, said she never saw anyone take "such extreme steps to hide evidence." Rep. Jason Crow, a former Army Ranger who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, seemed to capture senators' attention when he told them near he knew the hour was late, but it was morning in Ukraine where soldiers were waking up to fight Russia, depending on U.S. aid.

It was when Rep. Jerrold Nadler, the House Judiciary Committee chairman also leading the prosecution, said the White House lawyers "lie" that Cipollone and Sekulow retorted that Nadler should be embarrassed and apologize, leading to Roberts' admonition.

No president has ever been removed from office. With its 53-47 Republican majority, the Senate is not expected to mount the two-thirds vote needed for conviction.

Associated Press writers Mary Clare Jalonick, Eric Tucker, Alan Fram, Laurie Kellman, Andrew Taylor, Matthew Daly and Padmananda Rama in Washington, Jamey Keaten in Davos, Switzerland and David Pitt in Des Moines, Iowa, contributed to this report.

## Roberts admonishes House prosecution, White House defense

By JESSICA GRESKO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chief Justice John Roberts drew little attention to himself in the beginning 12 hours of his first impeachment trial. But it was just before 1 a.m., as tempers on the floor had started to wear thin, that he reminded senators, House impeachment managers and President Donald Trump's defense team who was in charge.

"I think it is appropriate at this point for me to admonish both the House managers and the president's counsel in equal terms to remember that they are addressing the world's greatest deliberative body," Roberts said, after a particularly tense exchange between House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler and the president's lawyers.

Roberts asked them to "avoid speaking in a manner and using language that is not conducive to civil discourse."

He did not say what prompted his comments, but they came after Nadler told senators that voting to deny certain witnesses in the trial, as many GOP senators had, was a "treacherous vote" and a vote against the United States. Trump's defense team then said Nadler should be embarrassed and should apologize to the president and the American people.

Roberts' new role presiding over the trial is one of two jobs he is juggling as the impeachment session gets underway. On Tuesday morning, he donned his black robe and oversaw two arguments at the Supreme Court before heading across the street to the U.S. Capitol where he is presiding over the trial in the Senate chamber. His busy schedule meant he didn't have time to join his fellow justices for a group lunch, a high court custom following arguments.

And he was scheduled to be back again in the Court on Wednesday morning — just hours after the first day of the trial adjourned at 2 a.m.

Just before the day ended, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell thanked Roberts for his service.

"I want to say on behalf of all of us, thank you for your patience," McConnell told him, as senators clapped.

Over the past 14 years, Roberts has gotten comfortable in the role of chief justice of the United States, but presiding over Trump's trial is a new, public role for Roberts, who is used to proceedings that aren't televised as they are in the Senate.

It is only the third presidential impeachment trial in U.S. history, coming just weeks before the first primaries of the 2020 election season and as voters are assessing Trump's first term and weighing the candidates who want to challenge him in the fall.

House Democrats impeached the president last month on two charges: abuse of power by withholding U.S. military aid to Ukraine as he pressed the country to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden, and obstruction of Congress by refusing to comply with their investigation.

Trump's legal team has argued that the Republican president did "absolutely nothing wrong" and urged the Senate to swiftly reject the "flawed" case against him.

Roberts' added responsibilities shouldn't affect the work of the court. That's because the justices generally finish their joint business in the mornings, giving Roberts time to preside over oral arguments and lead the justices' regularly scheduled private conferences before beginning his Senate duties in the afternoon.

Supreme Court spokeswoman Kathy Arberg said in written responses to questions from reporters that it's expected to be "business as usual" at the court during the trial.

And if there's a good time in Roberts' schedule to take on added responsibility, this is it, since it's a



relatively quiet time at the court. After one more oral argument scheduled for Wednesday, the court is taking its standard break from oral arguments until late February.

It's not until later in the spring that it gets to be crunch time for opinion writing for the justices, who finish their work in June before adjourning for the summer. The court did acknowledge it scheduled only one argument Wednesday instead of the more standard two in anticipation of a possible impeachment trial. That made Roberts' day at the court shorter.

Trump's trial could be over by the time oral arguments resume at the Supreme Court on Feb. 24 — but maybe not. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is pushing for a quick conclusion, though there could be delays. If the trial stretches into five weeks, Roberts would be expected to be with his fellow justices in the morning and lawmakers in the afternoon.

In the unlikely scenario Roberts had to leave an oral argument, the most senior associate justice, Justice Clarence Thomas, would handle duties like calling the cases and telling lawyers to begin their arguments. But the chief justice would still participate in voting on those cases.

At the Capitol, the chief justice is using the ceremonial President's Room as an office. It's the same space used by Chief Justice William Rehnquist in 1999 during former President Bill Clinton's impeachment trial. One of Roberts' four law clerks, Megan Braun, will join him every day when he travels to the Senate, Arberg said.

Roberts' colleagues will have to plan one celebration around his new schedule. The chief justice's 65th birthday is Monday, and the justices generally make time to celebrate birthdays at the court. They get together to sing "Happy Birthday" and have a toast.

No word if the senators will do the same.

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Associated Press writers Mary Clare Jalonick and Mark Sherman contributed to this report.

## **After tweaks, Trump trial format will be similar to Clinton**

**By MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — After some last-minute tweaks on Tuesday, the proposed rules for President Donald Trump's impeachment trial now largely mirror the ones used for the trial of President Bill Clinton.

Though there are some minor differences, the basic structure of Trump's trial will be similar to Clinton's in 1999. The Senate will hear arguments from lawyers on both sides before debating whether to seek witness testimony and documents. Ultimately they will reach a final vote on the two charges against Trump.

Still, there could be some major differences with Clinton's trial.

Clinton's Republican prosecutors already had evidence that was compiled by then-Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr. House Democrats who are charging Trump with abuse of power and obstruction of Congress over his dealings in Ukraine have had to compile their own evidence and are trying to prod witnesses who refused to testify. If there are witnesses in Trump's trial, their testimony will be new, unlike the witnesses deposited in Clinton's trial.

A look at the rules for Trump's trial vs. the rules for Clinton's trial:

### **FROM BIPARTISAN TO PARTISAN**

The Senate adopted the rules for Clinton's trial 100-0 after the two leaders at the time, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., came to an agreement. There was no such agreement in Trump's trial and few negotiations between the two parties, as partisanship has hardened in the intervening years.

Democrats have almost uniformly opposed Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's resolution for the trial, saying there should be an agreement at the beginning to call in witnesses. They argue that is necessary because many of the people they want to testify defied House subpoenas.

But as in Clinton's trial, McConnell's rules push off that question, dictating that the Senate won't consider whether to call witnesses until after the House impeachment managers and the president's lawyers make their opening arguments.

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## DOCUMENTS AND EVIDENCE

The original version of McConnell's rules released on Monday said that the House couldn't submit its evidence until the question of witnesses was resolved. But after moderates like Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, voiced concerns, McConnell changed the resolution on Tuesday to ensure the evidence will be admitted after opening arguments. In Clinton's proceedings, the evidence was automatically admitted at the beginning of the trial.

## NUMBER OF HOURS, NUMBER OF DAYS

The other tweak made by McConnell on Tuesday covers the timing of the trial, which had been one of the Democrats' biggest complaints. The House prosecutors and White House defense now have 24 hours over three days to present their case – up from the original resolution, which allowed 24 hours of arguments over only two days. Democrats complained that that would push the trial into "the dead of night," and McConnell expanded the timeline after the GOP moderates voiced similar concerns.

The rules for Clinton's trial give the two sides 24 hours each for arguments but don't specify how many days. They each took three.

## SENATORS' QUESTIONS

The rules for senators' questions are identical for the two trials: "Upon the conclusion of the president's presentation, senators may question the parties for a period of time not to exceed 16 hours."

Per underlying Senate rules, upon which both resolutions were based, the senators have to submit those questions in writing.

## WITNESS TESTIMONY

After the senators' question period, Trump's trial will follow Clinton's format with debate over witnesses. In the Trump trial, the House prosecutors and White House defense will have four hours of debate over the question of whether to subpoena witnesses or documents. The Clinton resolution is similar, but it gave the two sides six hours of debate. Both sets of rules also require witnesses to be deposed before they testify publicly.

In Clinton's trial, the Senate eventually decided to depose three witnesses and allow video excerpts to be played on the Senate floor. But the public had already heard from all three of those witnesses, as they had been interviewed by Starr's team.

It's unclear what will happen with witnesses in Trump's trial. Some Republican senators — including Collins, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Mitt Romney of Utah — pushed McConnell to include a vote on witnesses and have signaled they will vote to hear at least some testimony.

And at least one high-profile witness, former National Security Adviser John Bolton, has said he would be open to testify in the Senate. Bolton, who was present for many of the episodes detailed by the House as Trump pressured Ukraine to investigate Democrats, refused to testify in the House.

## MOTION TO DISMISS

The Clinton rules resolution provided that there would be a vote on a motion to dismiss the charges, an apparent concession by Lott to Democrats.

McConnell's resolution does not mention a motion to dismiss, but does not rule it out. Trump has tweeted that he would like such a motion, but Senate Republicans have indicated that they don't have the votes to pass it and that they would prefer for the president to be acquitted, as he is expected to be. Still, any senator could offer a motion to dismiss the two articles.

## FINAL VOTE

The two resolutions end with almost identical language: "At the conclusion of the deliberations by the Senate, the Senate shall vote on each article of impeachment."

## Facing humiliating controls, Lebanese focus fury on banks

By A.J. NADDAFF Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Before picking up cash from a downtown bank in Lebanon's capital, Mey Al Sayegh mentally braces herself for what would have been a routine trip before the country's crippling cash crunch.

For starters, it will be at least an hour's wait in line before her turn comes. And if she's lucky, she'll be able to withdraw \$300 — the weekly limit on dollar withdrawals imposed by banks to preserve liquidity — without having to bargain with the teller.

"I tell my family 'I'm going to the bank, but I don't know when I'll return,'" said the communications manager. "It's very unpleasant. You see people's expression — worried, confused, they're scared that they're going to lose their deposits."

For years, many Lebanese have lived beyond their means, supporting their out-sized spending with loans and generous remittances from diaspora relatives scattered across the globe, including family members working in oil-rich Arab Gulf countries.

A severe financial crisis and unprecedented capital controls have put an end to this, uniting both rich and poor in anger against corrupt politicians who have brought the country to the brink of economic collapse, and a banking system they accuse of holding their deposits hostage.

In recent days, some protesters have taken out their ire on the banks, destroying ATMs, smashing bank windows and clashing with tellers behind the counter.

Dozens of protesters have held sit-ins at banks against the fiscal policies, forcing tellers on more than one occasion to give them more than the weekly limit. Demonstrators routinely gather in front of the country's Central Bank, jeering and hurling expletives at its governor, Riad Salameh, who was once ranked among the world's top central bank governors.

"You go to a bank, get a ticket, and there are at least 50-60 people in front of you," said Mahmoud Sayida, a tour guide whose money is trapped with one of the country's largest lenders. "It's as though you are lining up for bread in the war days."

The crisis in Lebanon, one of the most heavily indebted nations in the world, is rooted in decades of state corruption and bad management, and the tiny Mediterranean country's economy had been in steady decline for years. The local currency, pegged to the dollar for more than two decades, has lost more than 50% of its value in recent weeks on the black market.

Fearing a crisis, depositors in the past year had been quietly withdrawing their money, changing it from the local currency to dollars, or funneling it to bank accounts abroad.

At the onset of nationwide protests that broke out in mid-October, banks closed their doors for 12 working days. When they reopened, they faced an unprecedented rush to withdraw dollars, resulting in the limits on withdrawals and foreign transfers.

But there was no legal basis for such actions, leaving it up to the banks to implement their own controls on a case-by-case basis. Meanwhile, ATM machines have mostly stopped dispensing dollars and daily limits on credit card use have been implemented. Many restaurants and shops, strapped for cash, are refusing card payments.

People say they are being subjected to humiliation by the banks and their managers who ultimately have the power to decide who gets how much.

People with children studying abroad need to offer proof before they are allowed to transfer their tuition money. Patients are required to produce paperwork proving they need money for surgery before they can withdraw cash from their accounts. To get credit card limits temporarily increased, customers are asked by some banks to produce a plane ticket and documentation proving a stay abroad longer than two weeks.

The measures are forcing families to limit expenditures and prioritize daily necessities. Simple activities, such as going to a cafe or a restaurant, are now considered luxuries, even for those with money or jobs.

Sullen moods have overcome depositors and lenders alike, whose employees say they are afraid to show up at work because of fights breaking out inside banks and people cursing them every day.

Among those protesting recently was 23-year-old student Mariam Ayyad whose family — like many other

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Lebanese — relies on remittances to finance expenses.

"My dad lives in Saudi (Arabia) and used to send dollars to pay for my tuition here. But Western Union was giving us the price from the Central Bank at a terrible rate, so now I had to withdraw from spring classes because I can't afford it," said Ayyad, who was demonstrating for the second time since the start of the nationwide protests. "My rent is in dollars and I can't pay it."

Mohammed, who runs a toy shop, normally sends money to his son in Paris to pay his university tuition through the Online Money Transfer, or OMT — an agent of Western Union in Lebanon. But the last time he tried, three weeks ago, he was rejected and told to bring proof of his son's enrollment at the university.

"Now, you have to make a demand and prove that you have a son who is studying there," he said, asking to be identified only by his first name so he could speak freely.

Customers requesting dollars must wait in long bank lines.

At 11 a.m. on a recent day, the line at a private bank in Beirut's Salim Salam district was at customer 189. Some customers reported having to bargain with employees at the desk after being told they could not receive their allotted \$300, or only part of it.

Al Sayegh, the communications manager, receives her salary in dollars from a bank. She said her branch initially told her they did not have enough money.

"I argued with them until they accepted," she said. "I told them this is my right and I don't have time to return since I am taking care of my dad, I work and I can't wait another two hours in the queue."

Some have resorted to creative solutions to circumvent the controls, including sending debit cards by courier to friends and relatives abroad to withdraw dollars and bring them home. Travelers coming from abroad carry large amounts of cash with them.

Maha Halabi doesn't work, but counts on the salary of her husband, who is a landscape engineer based in Saudi Arabia.

"He stopped sending money because I can't withdraw here, so now he brings the cash with him every other week when he visits," she said.

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Associated Press writer Zeina Karam in Beirut contributed to this report.

## **A #MeToo moment: Harvey Weinstein trial set to open**

**By MICHAEL R. SISAK and TOM HAYS Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — Harvey Weinstein spawned the #MeToo movement. Now, the former film titan is starring in the biggest trial of its era — a landmark moment in a global reckoning that has empowered women while shining a light on power dynamics in workplaces from Hollywood Boulevard to Main Street.

Opening statements and the first witness testimony are expected Wednesday in Weinstein's New York City rape trial, where the possibility of life in prison looms for the once-celebrated "Pulp Fiction" producer now vilified as a predator by scores of women.

Weinstein's accusers include some well-known actresses who plan to testify or attend the trial and others who are looking to the New York case for a form of justice because their allegations haven't resulted in criminal charges.

"This trial is so important because the enormity of Harvey Weinstein's international power and fame offers an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the rampant abuse of power that permeates our culture on a global level," actress Jessica Barth said Tuesday.

"Not only the outcome of this trial, but the trial as a whole, is precedent setting," said Barth, a star of the "Ted" films who says Weinstein once invited her to his hotel suite and demanded a naked massage.

Weinstein's trial could take more than a month, Judge James Burke said. Judging from an arduous two-week jury selection that netted a panel of seven men and five women, it could be a hotbed of protests and intense media coverage.

Extra court officers have been lining the front of the Manhattan courthouse where Weinstein, 67, has



been ambling in and out with a walker that his lawyers say was necessitated by a summer car crash and subsequent back surgery.

In a failed last-minute push to get the trial moved, Weinstein's lawyers said a flash mob's chanting "the rapist is you!" at street level could be heard in the courtroom, 15 floors above.

Adding to the drama, actor Cuba Gooding Jr. is due at the same courthouse Wednesday for a hearing in a case in which several women have accused him of groping. He's denied all allegations of wrongdoing.

Though dozens of women have accused Weinstein of sexually harassing or assaulting them over the years, his New York trial involves just a pair of allegations: that he raped a woman in a Manhattan hotel room in 2013 and sexually assaulted a different woman in 2006.

Backed by expected testimony from four other accusers, prosecutors will attempt to portray Weinstein as a monster who used his power to ingratiate himself with women, sometimes promising a film role or other career advancement, before sexually assaulting or raping them.

One of them, actress Annabella Sciorra will testify that Weinstein forced himself inside her Manhattan apartment and raped her in 1993 or 1994 after she starred in a film for his movie studio.

While Sciorra's allegations are outside the statute of limitations for criminal charges, the judge has said her testimony can be used to prove predatory sexual assault charges, which carries a maximum life sentence and requires prosecutors to show a pattern of misconduct.

Weinstein's lawyers say any encounters were consensual. They plan to go on the offensive, pointing to "dozens and dozens and dozens of loving emails to Mr. Weinstein" they say show he and some of his accusers were in consenting relationships. Defense lawyer Damon Cheronis said some of the women "also bragged about being in a sexual relationship with him."

Once trailed by whispers in Hollywood circles, Weinstein was met with an explosion of allegations from dozens of women after The New York Times and The New Yorker published separate exposes about his behavior in October 2017.

After opening statements, prosecutors are expected to call a former member of the board of directors at Weinstein's old movie studio to testify about how the company handled allegations against him.

One issue that has remained unresolved in the trial is the defense's objection to a juror who wrote an upcoming novel about young women that includes, according to the book's publicity materials, descriptions of their relationships with predatory older men. If she is removed and replaced as a juror, that'll leave just two remaining alternates for the trial.

Once the New York trial is over, Weinstein faces additional rape and sexual assault charges in Los Angeles. Those charges were filed this month as jury selection in his New York trial was getting underway.

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Jennifer Peltz in New York and Maryclaire Dale in Philadelphia contributed to this report.

## Democrats swarm industrial Iowa to prove they can beat Trump

By ALEXANDRA JAFFE AND THOMAS BEAUMONT Associated Press

MOUNT PLEASANT, Iowa (AP) — Since their surprise loss to President Donald Trump in 2016, Democrats have struggled with how to regain territory that long supported the party before suddenly flipping to Republicans. Their answer could lie with voters like Martie Boyd.

The 71-year-old retired insurance worker is a lifelong Republican who supported Donald Trump in 2016, but says she won't do it again. Even better for Democrats, she lives in Danville, a tiny town in Des Moines County, one of 31 Iowa counties that backed Barack Obama in 2012 before switching to Trump.

"I wish I hadn't wasted my vote," Boyd said Tuesday after watching Pete Buttigieg speak at Iowa Wesleyan University. "Not this time. I'm definitely caucusing for a Democrat and voting for one in the fall."

As Buttigieg campaigned throughout this swath of southeast Iowa, voters like Boyd were at the front of his mind. He and his fellow Democratic candidates are hoping to lure them not just to win the upcoming Iowa caucuses but to prove to voters in the states that follow that they have the unique ability to win in places that shifted from the Democrat Obama to the Republican Trump.

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"I'm not only meeting fellow Democrats who have been working hard for that day here, but independents who can't wait for that day and an awful lot of what I like to call future former Republicans who are more than welcome to join us," Buttigieg said at Iowa Wesleyan.

Iowa is home to more counties that pivoted from Obama to Trump than any other state. And over the past month alone, White House hopefuls have made more than a dozen stops in these counties to prove they're serious about defeating Trump.

"The No. 1 issue on caucus-goers' minds is who is the best candidate to take on Trump, and campaigning in these counties that switched from Obama to Trump is a good way to show that you're that candidate," said Jeff Link, who advised Obama's successful 2008 Iowa campaign.

The vast majority of these counties are in eastern Iowa and follow a pattern concentrated throughout the upper Midwest, including southeast Minnesota, southwest Wisconsin and northwest Illinois. These regions cover either once-thriving industrial river counties or those whose economies fed and depended on them.

In Iowa, they hug the Mississippi River beginning north of Dubuque County and wind southward to include once-robust industrial river hubs where the big equipment manufacturing that fueled the economy has dwindled with the population. The ensuing anxiety has been a major driver of the partisan shift, according to Norm Sterzenbach, a veteran Iowa strategist who is advising Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar's campaign in the state.

"There's a changing of demographics in some of these counties, there's a decline in population, there's a loss in the manufacturing sector, the growing income disparity between blue-collar workers and CEOs and executives — so a number of those things led to voters feeling frustrated and wanting change," he said.

But part of the problem, Sterzenbach said, was that the party took many of these ancestral Democratic areas for granted. "As Democrats, we haven't done a great job at communicating our message to these voters in a way that shows that we understand what they're going through," he said.

That's what Buttigieg was aiming to do with his latest Iowa campaign swing, which focused entirely on the state's 2nd Congressional District. Ten of Iowa's 31 pivot counties are clustered in the district, and the opportunity for candidates campaigning in the region is twofold: The 2nd District accounts for a little under one-sixth of the overall delegates awarded on caucus night.

Dave Loeb sack, a Democratic state representative who has endorsed Buttigieg and introduced him across Iowa this week, noted the possible general election advantage of campaigning across the 2nd District, where he says Democrats have a 20,000-voter registration advantage. He argued that by visiting these struggling cities during the caucus campaign, which offers disproportionate attention than a general election campaign, some Trump-voting Democrats can be brought back into the fold.

"This is a part of the state, just like parts of Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania, where a number of Democrats, far too many, became disaffected and voted for Trump," Loeb sack said. "And I think there's some chance to get some of them back."

Beyond Buttigieg, rivals Klobuchar, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders have also swung through these counties in recent weeks, making the similar case that they're the most electable candidate in a general election.

Klobuchar spent part of the weekend in Clinton County, which went from supporting Obama by nearly 23 percentage points to backing Trump by 5 points. She touted the county as a place where Democrats can "make up ground," and emphasized the need for Democrats to stay "focused on an optimistic economic agenda for this country."

In a pitch to potential swing voters, Klobuchar also downplayed policy differences between the two parties. "When you look at this election, for some people who may not agree with everything we've said, it's a patriotism check for them, it's a decency check, it's a values check," she said.

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Catch up on the 2020 election campaign with AP experts on our weekly politics podcast, "Ground Game."

## Science Says: What to know about the viral outbreak in China

By The Associated Press

Health authorities are closely watching an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a new virus that originated in China. Governments are stepping up surveillance of airline passengers from central China and taking other steps to try to control the outbreak.

Here's what you should know about the illness:

### WHAT IS THE NEW VIRUS?

Scientists have identified it as a new coronavirus. The name comes from the Latin word for crowns or halos, which coronaviruses resemble under a microscope. The coronavirus family has many types that affect people. Some cause the common cold while others originating in bats, camels and other animals have evolved into more severe illnesses such as SARS — severe acute respiratory syndrome — or MERS — Middle East respiratory syndrome.

### WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

The first cases appeared last month in Wuhan, a city in central China's Hubei province. Many of the first people infected had visited or worked at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan, which has since been closed for an investigation. Chinese health officials say they believe the illness first spread from animals to people. They now say it can spread between people.

### HOW WIDESPREAD IS IT?

China has identified 440 cases and nine deaths, most of the illnesses and all of the deaths in Hubei province. Cases have also been confirmed in Thailand, South Korea, Japan, the U.S. and Taiwan. The outbreak coincides with China's busiest travel season as people visit their families or go abroad for the Lunar New Year holiday. That travel rush is expected to spread the disease more widely.

### WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Common symptoms include a runny nose, headache, cough and fever. Shortness of breath, chills and body aches are associated with more dangerous kinds of coronavirus, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In serious cases, the virus can cause pneumonia.

### HOW IS IT TREATED?

There is a test to identify the virus, but no vaccine to prevent an infection. Patients with the virus have been isolated in hospitals or homes to prevent spreading it. The symptoms are treated with pain and fever medication, and people are advised to drink plenty of liquids and rest while they recover.

### HOW IS IT SPREADING?

Many coronaviruses can spread through coughing or sneezing, or by touching an infected person. Scientists believe the new virus can spread from person to person in close contact through the respiratory tract.

### COULD IT BE AS BAD AS SARS?

So far, the virus appears less dangerous and infectious than SARS, which also started in China in 2002-03 and killed about 800 people. However, viruses can mutate into more dangerous and contagious forms, and it's too early to say what will happen with this one.

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The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

## Erasing Evo: Bolivian bid to remove his image draws backlash

By PAOLA FLORES Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — A man with a sledgehammer pounded at the bust of his country's former leader adorning a huge sports stadium that his government had built and named after the then long-reigning president. Ministers from the current government applauded as the head came down.

It was a scene reminiscent of some nations after the fall of the Soviet Union, but it was taking place in the Bolivian city of Cochabamba and the object of the battering was former President Evo Morales.

Morales fled Bolivia in November after losing the support of the military and police amid widespread

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protests over a disputed election. His supporters called it a coup. Opponents say he was forced from power after manipulating the constitution to run for a fourth term in office then seeking to win that vote with electoral fraud.

Across Bolivia, the government of interim President Jeanine Áñez is taking down statues, painting over murals, renaming soccer fields and stadiums, and trying to erase the legacy of Morales, who governed this Andean country for more than 14 years as its first indigenous president.

Áñez accuses Morales and his party of creating a "personality cult" around him, even building a museum dedicated to the then leader's life and presidency.

But while the toppling of the statues of former leaders has often been greeted by broad social consensus in other countries, it is facing backlash in Bolivia, where Morales still has supporters, especially among the indigenous. They say his removal is a bid to wrest power from Bolivia's indigenous majority and return it to the traditional elite.

"I do not agree with the name change because in the end the name does not harm anyone," said Robin Higuera, expressing her opposition to removing "Evo Morales" from the name of the sports venue where she coaches young soccer players in La Paz's neighboring city of El Alto.

María Teresa Zegada, a sociologist and political analyst, said this is the first time such a dismantling of a former leader's image has occurred in Bolivia, because "we had never had anything so structured" before. No president in Bolivia's history governed for as long as Morales did.

"The images of Morales weren't accidental. They were focused on sustaining the strongman regime promoted by his ruling party," Zegada said of the omnipresence of his image in Bolivia. "History has shown us at the world level that this happens with authoritarian governments, be they populism from the left or right. They end badly."

In Cochabamba, the bust at the entrance to the "Evo Morales" sports venue was destroyed last week. The venue's name will be changed to "Quillacollo," after its location.

Sports Minister Milton Navarro was among those who helped topple the statue of Morales. Several people stepped on the fallen bust with their feet as it lay the ground.

"We want to go against the idolatry of Morales," said Navarro. "He was corrupt, a dictator. Sports fields cannot bear the name of someone like that."

Following a decree signed Monday by Bolivia's current president, the stadium is just one of many venues that will stop bearing the name of the former president. Navarro said they will no longer be used for political events or speeches.

Áñez argues that Morales used sports as a way to campaign continuously.

In 2007, Morales launched a program known as "Bolivia Changes, Evo Comes Through," which was initially financed by donations from then-Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez and later maintained with Bolivian state resources.

Morales, a soccer player and a fan, used the money to build soccer fields, sports centers, schools and hospitals. He even created youth soccer programs bearing his name. In his 2018 presidential report, Morales said that 1,763 sports field had been built in 10 years under the program.

Morales would often personally inaugurate the fields by playing soccer against local officials. In 2008, he played with Argentine star Diego Maradona at the Hernando Siles stadium in La Paz.

Upon hearing what was happening at the Cochabamba stadium, Morales tweeted from his self-exile in Argentina: "When they destroy the bust with my image, they will be trying to make the popular indigenous movement disappear."

Bertha Quispe's poor neighborhood in El Alto has a soccer field with synthetic turf that was built under Morales. She doesn't like the government moving to erase his image.

"It doesn't make any sense," she said. "That's not its role."

Morales resigned the presidency when the police and army withdrew support after several weeks of demonstrations that erupted over allegations of fraud in the Oct. 20 election that Morales claimed to have won. The Organization of American States said its audit found serious irregularities in the vote count. An interim government took over and annulled the October election, scheduling new national elections for May.



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With the same fire that his successor now tries to erase his name, Morales did everything to put his image and name into the most unexpected corners of Bolivian homes. Some salt packages still bear his image as well as products that mothers receive free in state handouts.

Navarro, the sports minister, said this is why Bolivia's interim president extended her campaign beyond sports stadiums. Morales' image has also been ordered removed from computers given to teachers and from youth soccer jerseys. Its use by high government officials for public works is also prohibited.

"The followers of Evo Morales have to worship him, tie the laces of his shoes, find him diversion in his free time, write songs and hymns for his rejoicing," said Añez. "I am certain that with this decree we are go to stop this personality cult."

## Washington man is 1st in US to catch new virus from China

By CARLA K. JOHNSON and MIKE STOBBE Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The U.S. on Tuesday reported its first case of a new and potentially deadly virus circulating in China, saying a Washington state resident who returned last week from the outbreak's epicenter was hospitalized near Seattle.

The man, identified as a Snohomish County resident is in his 30s, was in good condition and wasn't considered a threat to medical staff or the public, health officials said.

U.S. officials stressed that they believe the virus' overall risk to the American public remained low.

"This is not a moment of high anxiety," Gov. Jay Inslee said.

The newly discovered virus has infected about 440 people, all of whom had been in China, and killed nine. The virus can cause coughing, fever, breathing difficulty and pneumonia. The U.S. joins a growing list of places outside mainland China reporting cases, following Thailand, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

Airports around the world have stepped up monitoring, checking passengers from China for signs of illness in hopes of containing the virus during the busy Lunar New Year travel season.

Late last week, U.S. health officials began screening passengers from Wuhan in central China, where the outbreak began. The screening had been underway at three U.S. airports — New York City's Kennedy airport and the Los Angeles and San Francisco airports. On Tuesday, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced it would add Chicago's O'Hare airport and Atlanta's airport to the mix later this week.

What's more, officials also will begin forcing all passengers from Wuhan to go to one of those five airports if they wish to enter the U.S.

The hospitalized U.S. resident had no symptoms when he arrived at the Seattle-Tacoma airport last Wednesday, but he started feeling ill on Thursday and went to a doctor on Sunday with a fever and a cough, officials said. Lab testing on Monday confirmed he had the virus.

"The gentleman right now is very healthy," Dr. Nancy Messonnier of the CDC said Tuesday.

The hospital, Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, said in a statement that it expected the man would remain in isolation and under monitoring there at least until Thursday.

CDC officials said they sent a team to Washington to try to track down people who might have come in contact with the man. The hospital also said it was contacting "the small number of staff and patients" who may have been with the man at a clinic.

The man is originally from central China, lives alone in the U.S. and made the trip solo, officials said. There were relatively few people who came in contact with him since he got back, health officials said.

Last month, doctors in Wuhan began seeing the new virus in people who got sick after spending time at a wholesale seafood market.

Officials have said the virus probably spread from animals to people, but this week Chinese officials said they've concluded it also can spread from person to person.

Health authorities this month identified the germ behind the outbreak as a new type of coronavirus. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some of which cause the common cold; others found in bats, camels and other animals have evolved into more severe illnesses.

SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, belongs to the coronavirus family, but Chinese state media say the illness in Wuhan is different from coronaviruses that have been identified in the past. Earlier laboratory tests ruled out SARS and MERS — Middle East respiratory syndrome — as well as influenza, bird flu, adenovirus and other common lung-infecting germs.

The new virus so far does not appear to be as deadly as SARS and MERS, but viruses can sometimes mutate to become more dangerous.

University of Washington coronavirus researcher David Veessler said the public “should not be panicking right now.”

The response has been “very efficient,” Veessler said. “In a couple of weeks, China was able to identify the virus, isolate it, sequence it and share that information.”

Veessler added: “We don’t have enough data to judge how severe the disease is.”

The CDC’s Messonnier said health officials expected to see more cases in the U.S. and around the world in the coming days.

Stobbe reported from New York.

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## Mexico begins flying, busing migrants back to Honduras

By **MARÍA VERZA** and **SONIA PÉREZ D.** Associated Press

CIUDAD HIDALGO, Mexico (AP) — Hundreds of Central American migrants who entered southern Mexico in recent days have either been pushed back into Guatemala by Mexican troops, shipped to detention centers or returned to Honduras, officials said Tuesday. An unknown number slipped past Mexican authorities and continued north.

The latest migrant caravan provided a public platform for Mexico to show the U.S. government and migrants thinking of making the trip that it has refined its strategy and produced its desired result: This caravan will not advance past its southern border.

What remained unclear was the treatment of the migrants who already find themselves on their way back to the countries they fled last week.

“Mexico doesn’t have the capacity to process so many people in such a simple way in a couple of days,” said Guadalupe Correa Cabrera, a professor at George Mason University studying how the caravans form.

The caravan of thousands had set out from Honduras in hopes Mexico would grant them passage, posing a fresh test of U.S. President Donald Trump’s effort to reduce the flow of migrants arriving at the U.S. border by pressuring other governments to stop them.

Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard said 2,400 migrants entered Mexico legally over the weekend. About 1,000 of them requested Mexico’s help in returning to their countries. The rest were being held in immigration centers while they start legal processes that would allow them to seek refuge in Mexico or obtain temporary work permits that would confine them to southern Mexico.

On Tuesday afternoon, Jesus, a young father from Honduras who offered only his first name, rested in a shelter in Tecun Uman, Guatemala, with his wife and their baby, unsure of what to do next.

“No country’s policy sustains us,” he said in response to hearing Ebrard’s comments about the situation. “If we don’t work, we don’t eat. (He) doesn’t feed us, doesn’t care for our children.”

Honduran officials said more than 600 of its citizens were expected to arrive in that country Tuesday by plane and bus and more would follow in the coming days.

Of an additional 1,000 who tried to enter Mexico illegally Monday by wading across the Suchiate river, most were either forced back or detained later by immigration agents, according to Mexican officials.

Most of the hundreds stranded in the no-man’s land on the Mexican side of the river Monday night returned to Guatemala in search of water, food and a place to sleep. Late Tuesday, the first buses carrying

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Hondurans left Tecun Uman with approximately 150 migrants heading back to their home country.

Mexican authorities distributed no water or food to those who entered illegally, in what appeared to be an attempt by the government to wear out the migrants.

Alejandro Rendón, an official from Mexico's social welfare department, said his colleagues were giving water to those who turned themselves in or were caught by immigration agents, but were not doing the same along the river because it was not safe for workers to do so.

"It isn't prudent to come here because we can't put the safety of the colleagues at risk," he said.

Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Tuesday that the government is trying to protect the migrants from harm by preventing them from traveling illegally through the country. He said they need to respect Mexican laws.

"If we don't take care of them, if we don't know who they are, if we don't have a register, they pass and get to the north, and the criminal gangs grab them and assault them, because that's how it was before," he said. "They disappeared them."

Mexican Interior Minister Olga Sánchez Cordero commended the National Guard for its restraint, saying: "In no way has there been an act that we could call repression and not even annoyance."

But Honduras' ambassador to Mexico said there had been instances of excessive force on the part of the National Guard. "We made a complaint before the Mexican government," Alden Rivera said in an interview with HCH Noticias without offering details. He also conceded migrants had thrown rocks at Mexican authorities.

An Associated Press photograph of a Mexican National Guardsman holding a migrant in a headlock was sent via Twitter by acting U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Ken Cuccinelli with the message: "We appreciate Mexico doing more than they did last year to interdict caravans attempting to move illegally north to our southern border."

"They absolutely must be satisfied with (Mexico's) actions because in reality it's their (the United States') plan," said Correa Cabrera, the George Mason professor. "They're congratulating themselves, because in reality it wasn't López Obrador's plan."

She said it is an complicated issue for Mexico, but the National Guard had no business being placed at the border to handle immigration because they weren't trained for it. The government "is sending a group that doesn't know how to and can't protect human rights because they're trained to do other kinds of things," she said.

Mexico announced last June that it was deploying the newly formed National Guard to assist in immigration enforcement to avoid tariffs that Trump threatened on Mexican imports.

Darlin René Romero and his wife were among the few who spent the night pinned between the river and Mexican authorities.

Rumors had circulated through the night that "anything could happen, that being there was very dangerous," Romero said. But the couple from Copan, Honduras, spread a blanket on the ground and passed the night 20 yards from a line of National Guard troops forming a wall with their riot shields.

They remained confident that Mexico would allow them to pass through and were trying to make it to the northern Mexican city of Monterrey, where his sister lives.

They said a return home to impoverished and gang-plagued Honduras, where most of the migrants are from, was unthinkable.

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Associated Press writer Maria Verza reported this story in Ciudad Hidalgo, Mexico, and AP writer Sonia Pérez D. reported from Tecun Uman, Guatemala. AP writer Marlon González in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, AP videojournalist Diego Salgado in Tecun Uman and AP writer Christopher Sherman in Mexico City contributed to this report.

## Grammys CEO says she was ousted after reporting harassment

By ANDREW DALTON AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The ousted Grammys CEO fired back at the Recording Academy on Tuesday, alleging that she was removed after complaining about sexual harassment and pay disparities and for calling out conflicts of interest in the nomination process for music's most prestigious awards.

Lawyers for Deborah Dugan, who was placed on administrative leave last week after six months in the job, filed the discrimination complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission just five days before the Grammy Awards. She alleged she was sexually harassed by the academy's general counsel, Joel Katz, who late Tuesday denied her account.

Dugan detailed the harassment and other issues in an email to an academy human resources executive on Dec. 22, according to the complaint.

The complaint also stated that Dugan was paid less than former academy CEO Neil Portnow, who left the post last year, and that she was also subject to retaliation for refusing to hire Portnow as a consultant for nearly half his former salary.

Portnow had been criticized for saying women need to "step up" when asked backstage at the 2018 show why only two female acts won awards during the live telecast. Portnow called his comments a "poor choice of words" and later said he chose not to seek an extension on his contract.

A filing with the Internal Revenue Service shows that Portnow was paid \$1.74 million in 2016. Dugan said she was pressured to hire him as a consultant for \$750,000 annually. Dugan's Grammys compensation was not revealed in Tuesday's filing. She earned nearly \$537,000 in 2016 in her previous job as CEO of Bono's (RED) charity organization.

Last week, the academy said Dugan was put on leave following an allegation of misconduct by a senior leader at the organization.

On Tuesday, the academy said the issue was a complaint by a female employee that Dugan had been "abusive" and created a "toxic and intolerable" work environment. Dugan's attorneys called that accusation false, saying there was no mistreatment and identifying the employee as the executive assistant she inherited from Portnow.

In her Dec. 22 email, Dugan called the academy "a boys' club."

While trying to resolve a lawsuit against the academy, Dugan said one of the claimants characterized the organization's leadership as "a boys' club" that "put their financial interest above the mission."

"At the time, I didn't want to believe it," said Dugan. "But now after 5 months of being exposed to the behavior and circumstances outlined here, I have come to suspect she is right."

The academy said in a statement that it "immediately launched independent investigations to review both Ms. Dugan's potential misconduct and her subsequent allegations. Both of these investigations remain ongoing."

Dugan, according to the statement, was placed on administrative leave after offering to step down and demanding \$22 million from the Academy, which is a not-for-profit organization.

"Our loyalty will always be to the 21,000 members of the Recording Academy. We regret that music's biggest night is being stolen from them by Ms. Dugan's actions, and we are working to resolve the matter as quickly as possible."

An email from Katz said the attorney was out sick. Katz's firm said it had not yet seen the complaint and could not comment on its allegations.

In the complaint, Dugan alleged that in May 2019, when she had accepted the CEO position but had not begun her work, she had dinner with Katz, the academy's general counsel, alone at his request in Laguna Niguel, California, on the eve of a meeting of the academy board.

There, Katz acted "extremely inappropriately," according to the complaint, calling Dugan "baby" and making "an obvious and unwelcome attempt to 'woo' Ms. Dugan into a romantic relationship."

Dugan, the complaint said, made it clear she wasn't interested and was in a relationship, but he still attempted to kiss her at the end of the night. She "quickly turned away, repulsed." Katz continued the



harassment in subsequent interactions, the complaint alleged.

Katz "categorically and emphatically denies her version of that evening," his attorney, Howard Weitzman, said in a statement. The statement said the dinner occurred 2 1/2 months before Dugan started as CEO.

"Mr. Katz believed they had a productive and professional meeting in a restaurant where a number of members of the board of trustees of the academy, and others, were dining," Weitzman's statement read.

Dugan also contends Katz and his firm were paid inappropriately by the academy, and that his role representing both the academy and artists who are up for Grammys was a conflict of interest.

Katz's firm said the harassment allegations against the attorney were not known until Tuesday, but that the firm would cooperate with all investigations into the matter.

Tuesday's academy statement alleged Dugan raised her concerns only after being accused of misconduct. Dugan's attorneys denied that, saying in a statement that she had spoken on those issues throughout her tenure.

The complaint was also critical of the Grammys voting process, specifically its use of nomination committees to select the final list of nominees, which can range from five to eight depending on the category.

"Rather than promoting a transparent nomination process, the Board has decided to shroud the process in secrecy and ultimately controls, in large part, who is nominated for Grammy Awards," the complaint read.

For the top four awards, committees select the final nominees from the top 20 contenders, based off ballots from its voting members. But the complaint said the committee members sometimes include artists who did not make it in the top 20 because of their personal or business relationships with those artists.

"This year, 30 artists that were not selected by the membership were added to the possible nomination list," the complaint read.

The complaint also claimed that one of the song-of-the-year nominees — who placed 18th in the top 20 — sat on the committee deciding the song-of-the-year nominees and is represented by a member of the academy board.

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Follow AP Entertainment Writer Andrew Dalton on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/andyjamesdalton>.

## **Jeter 1 vote shy of unanimous, Walker also elected to Hall**

**By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Known for two decades as No. 2, Derek Jeter is now linked to the number 1 — as in, who was the lone Hall of Fame voter who didn't put a check mark next to his name?

Jeter came within one vote of being a unanimous pick, falling just shy of the standard set when longtime New York Yankees teammate Mariano Rivera became the first unanimous selection last year. Larry Walker also earned baseball's highest honor Tuesday in his last chance on the ballot.

For now, the identity and motivation of the non-conformist remains a mystery.

"Well, I look at all the votes that I got," Jeter said. "Trying to get that many people to agree on something is pretty difficult to do. So that's not something that's on mind."

Longtime shortstop and captain of the Yankees, Jeter appeared on 396 of 397 ballots cast by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. His 99.7% moved above Ken Griffey Jr. (99.3%) for the second-highest share.

Jeter was listed on all 219 ballots made public by Ryan Thibodaux's vote tracker before the announcement. The BBWAA will release additional ballots on Feb. 4 of writers who chose a public listing.

"Everyone told me it was a foregone conclusion. I didn't buy it. So it was not a relaxing day. There was a lot of anxiety," Jeter said. "I was nervous, sitting around waiting for a phone call is something that is completely out of your control."

Walker got 304 votes, six above the 75% needed and up from 54.6% last year. He was making his 10th and final appearance on the BBWAA ballot and tweeted earlier in the day "I believe I'm going to come up a little short today" after checking the vote tracker and projecting he would finish at 73.3%.

As the announcement time approached, Walker had just about given up.

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"I had it when they're going to call, a roundabout time, and that time had come and gone," he said. "And there was two minutes after that when the call actually came."

When Walker's phone rang, he uttered a profanity and then: "Oh my God!" He answered, and BBWAA secretary-treasurer Jack O'Connell was on the line.

"You didn't come up short this year. You passed the 75% threshold, and welcome to the Hall of Fame," Walker remembered O'Connell telling him.

Pitcher Curt Schilling was third with 278 votes (70%) in his eighth ballot appearance, an increase from 60.9% but still 20 votes shy. The steroids-tainted pair of Roger Clemens (61%) and Barry Bonds (60.7%) both showed slight increases in their eighth tries. Clemens rose from 59.5% last year and Bonds from 59.1%.

Jeter and Walker will be inducted on July 26 at the Hall in Cooperstown along with catcher Ted Simmons and former players' association head Marvin Miller, who were voted in last month by the Hall's Modern Era Committee.

Ballot holdovers could benefit next year, when the most prominent first-time eligibles are Torii Hunter and Mark Buehrle. The 2022 ballot will include David Ortiz and Alex Rodriguez, who served a season-long suspension in 2014 for violations of the drug program and baseball's collective bargaining agreement.

Slick-fielding shortstop Omar Vizquel could be a riser after getting 52.6% in his third year on the ballot. The 11-time Gold Glove winner with 2,877 hits has seven more years to earn 75%. Other potential movers include third baseman Scott Rolen (35.5%), reliever Billy Wagner (31.7%) and slugger Gary Sheffield (30.5%).

The 397 total votes cast were the fewest since 1985.

A five-time World Series champion, Jeter became a face of baseball as he starred in the nation's largest media market from 1995-2014. He was the AL Rookie of the Year in 1996 as the Yankees won the World Series for the first time since 1978, then led New York to three straight titles from 1998-2000, the only team to accomplish the feat since the 1972-74 Oakland Athletics. The rebuilt Yankees added their 27th title in 2009.

Still, Jeter's resume lacked a coda.

"I had a great relationship and still do with Reggie Jackson," Jeter said. "And Reggie used to constantly remind me when he when he came to the park, he'd always tell me, 'You're not a Hall of Famer yet.'"

Jeter defined himself by moments more than numbers: his unexpected backhand flip from foul territory to throw out Oakland's Jeremy Giambi in the 2001 AL Division Series; his Mr. November home run in the 10th inning that won Game 4 of the 2001 World Series; his face-first leap into the stands after catching a 12th-inning popup by Boston's Trot Nixon in 2004; his home run into the left-field bleachers for his 3,000th hit as part of a career-best 5-for-5 game in 2011; his ninth-inning walkoff single in his final home game in 2014; his last at-bat single three days later that lifted his career average to .310.

Drafted sixth overall in 1992 after he was spotted by Yankees scout Dick Groch as a high school junior a year earlier, Jeter was bypassed by Houston (Phil Nevin), Cleveland (Paul Shuey), Montreal (B.J. Wallace), Baltimore (Jeffrey Hammonds) and Cincinnati (Chad Mottola). He debuted for the Yankees on May 29, 1995, and was installed at shortstop the following spring training by new manager Joe Torre.

Jeter became a 14-time All-Star and five-time Gold Glove winner despite defensive metrics that were maligned. He was appointed captain by owner George Steinbrenner in June 2003, filling a position that had been open since Don Mattingly's retirement after the 1995 season. He finished with 3,465 hits, 260 homers, 358 stolen bases and 1,311 RBIs, earning \$266 million from the Yankees.

He was the ninth player elected to the Hall after playing exclusively for the Yankees, joining Lou Gehrig (1939), Bill Dickey (1954), Joe DiMaggio (1955), Earle Combs (1970), Whitey Ford and Mickey Mantle (1974), Phil Rizzuto (1994) and Rivera. Jeter's No. 2 jersey was retired by New York.

Jeter used some of his savings to join the group purchasing the Miami Marlins in September 2017, becoming CEO. Jettisoning veterans and going with low-priced youth in a way the Yankees never did, Jeter endured a pair of last-place finishes and the lowest home attendance in the major leagues.

Walker hit .313 with 383 homers, 1,311 RBIs and 230 stolen bases for Montreal (1989-94), Colorado

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(1995-2004) and St. Louis (2004-05), a five-time All-Star and seven-time Gold Glove winner. He was the 1997 NL MVP and led the major leagues in batting average in 1998, 1999 and 2001.

Evaluating his offensive performance gave some voters difficulty because he spent 9 1/2 seasons in the thin air of Denver's Coors Field. Walker batted .381 with an 1.172 OPS and 154 home runs in 597 games at Coors and .282 with 229 homers and an .873 OPS in 1,391 games elsewhere, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

He received just 20.3% in his first ballot appearance in 2011 and dropped as low as 10.2% in 2014. He rose to 21.9% in 2017 before jumping to 34.1% in 2018.

Walker became the second Canadian-born player elected to the Hall after Ferguson Jenkins in 1991.

"You grew up in Canada, you're born into hockey and that's what's in your blood and veins. And just so baseball was something I had to learn along the ways," Walker said.

Walker played hockey until he was 16, then switched spots. He thought about what would have happened had he remained on ice.

"I would probably be missing a few more teeth," he said.

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

## At 90, Alaska Native woman is 1st counted in US Census

By MARK THIESSEN Associated Press

TOKSOOK BAY, Alaska (AP) — Lizzie Chimiugak has lived for 90 years in the windswept western wilds of Alaska, born to a nomadic family who lived in mud homes and followed where the good hunting and fishing led.

Her home now is an outpost on the Bering Sea, Toksook Bay, and on Tuesday she became the first person counted in the U.S. Census, taken every 10 years to apportion representation in Congress and federal money.

"Elders that were before me, if they didn't die too early, I wouldn't have been the first person counted," Lizzie Chimiugak said, speaking Yup'ik language of Yugtun, with family members serving as interpreters. "Right now, they're considering me as an elder, and they're asking me questions I'm trying my best to give answers to, or to talk about what it means to be an elder."

The decennial U.S. census has started in rural Alaska, out of tradition and necessity, ever since the U.S. purchased the territory from Russia in 1867. The ground is still frozen, which allows easier access before the spring melt makes many areas inaccessible to travel and residents scatter to subsistence hunting and fishing grounds. The mail service is spotty in rural Alaska and the internet connectivity unreliable, which makes door-to-door surveying important.

The rest of the nation, including more urban areas of Alaska, begin the census in mid-March.

On Tuesday, Steven Dillingham, director of the census bureau, conducted the first interview after riding on the back of a snowmobile from the airport to Chimiugak's home.

"The 2020 Census has begun," he told reporters after conducting the first interview with Chimiugak, a process that lasted about five minutes. "Toksook Bay isn't the easiest place to get to, and the temperature is cold. And while people are in the village, we want to make sure everyone is counted."

Dillingham was hours late getting to Toksook Bay because weather delayed his flight from the hub community of Bethel, about 115 miles (185 kilometers) away. Conditions didn't improve, and he spent only about an hour in the community before being rushed back to the airport.

After the count, a celebration took place at Nelson Island School and included the Nelson Island High School Dancers, an Alaska Native drum and dance group. Later, the community took over the commons area of the high school with a potluck of Alaska Native foods, including seal, moose and goose soups, herring roe served with seal oil and baked salmon.

Robert Pitka, tribal administrator for Nunakauyak Traditional Council, hopes the takeaway message for the rest of the nation is of Yup'ik pride.

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"We are Yup'ik people and that the world will see that we are very strong in our culture and our traditions and that our Yup'ik language is very strong," he said.

For Chimiugak, she has concerns about climate change and what it might do to future generations of subsistence hunters and fishers in the community, and what it will do to the fish and animals. She talked about it with others at the celebration.

"She's sad about the future," he eldest son Paul said.

Chimiugak was born just after the start of the Great Depression in the middle of nowhere in western Alaska, her daughter Katie Schwartz of Springfield, Missouri, said. Lizzie was one of 10 siblings born to her parents, who lived a nomadic lifestyle and traveled with two or three other families that would migrate together, her son said.

Lizzie and her 101-year-old sister from Nightmute, Alaska, survive.

In 1947 Lizzie married George Chimiugak, and they eventually settled in Toksook Bay after the town was founded in 1964 by residents of nearby Nightmute. There are five surviving children.

He worked maintenance at the airport. She did janitorial work at the old medical clinic and babysat.

Like other wives, she cleaned fish, tanned hides and even rendered seal oil after her husband came home from fishing or hunting. Her husband died about 30 years ago.

She is also a woman of strong Catholic faith, and told her son that she saved his life by praying over him after he contracted polio.

For her own hobbies, she weaved baskets from grass and remains a member of the Alaska Native dance group that performed Tuesday. She dances in her wheelchair.

She taught children manners and responsibility and continued the oral tradition of telling them stories with a storyknife.

Chimiugak used a knife in the mud to illustrate her stories to schoolchildren. She drew figures for people or homes. At the end of the story, she'd use the knife to wipe away the pictures and start the next story with a clean slate of mud.

"She's a great teacher, you know, giving us reminders of how we're supposed to be, taking care of subsistence and taking care of our family and respecting our parents," her granddaughter Alice Tulik said. "That's how she would give us advice."

AP photographer Gregory Bull contributed to this report.

## In reversal, Clinton says she'd back Sanders if he's nominee

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an abrupt about-face, Hillary Clinton said Tuesday night that she would endorse her 2016 rival Bernie Sanders if he wins the Democratic nomination to face President Donald Trump in November.

The former secretary of state had earlier refused to say whether she would endorse Sanders in an interview with The Hollywood Reporter published Tuesday, instead telling the outlet: "I'm not going to go there yet." She had also offered a broad condemnation of the progressive candidate's style of politics.

"I thought everyone wanted my authentic, unvarnished views!" Clinton tweeted Tuesday night. "But, to be serious, the number one priority for our country and world is retiring Trump, and, as I always have, I will do whatever I can to support our nominee."

Her initial comments ripped open the scars of the brutal 2016 primary battle between Sanders and Clinton just as Democrats are poised to begin voting on their next nominee. Sanders' loyalists believed the Democratic establishment had rigged the primary in favor of Clinton, who won the nomination but ended up losing the general election to Trump.

For her part, Clinton wrote in her memoir "What Happened" after her 2016 defeat that she felt some of Sanders' criticism of her had helped propel Trump to victory, and she begrudged Sanders for not backing her campaign quickly enough after she sewed up the nomination. In The Hollywood Reporter interview,



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she accused Sanders of fostering a toxic culture in his campaign.

"We're still in a very vigorous primary season. I will say, however, that it's not only him, it's the culture around him. It's his leadership team," Clinton had said. Then, referring to a cadre of aggressive, online Sanders backers, she continued: "It's his prominent supporters. It's his online Bernie Bros and their relentless attacks on lots of his competitors, particularly the women."

She added in the interview: "I really hope people are paying attention to that because it should be worrisome that he has permitted this culture — not only permitted, (he) seems to really be very much supporting it."

Sanders, like other senators who are running for president, was in Washington on Tuesday to participate in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial. He refused to comment on Clinton's critical comments, saying only in a statement, " Together, we are going to go forward and defeat the most dangerous president in American history."

Even before Clinton's evening tweet, her aides had sought to minimize any fallout from her comments. Nick Merrill, Clinton's spokesman, tweeted that "we all need to work our heart out for the nominee, whoever that is, and @HillaryClinton, as usual, won't be any exception."

Still, the lingering tension between Clinton and Sanders is evident. In the interview, Clinton was asked about comments she makes in an upcoming documentary in which she says Sanders has been in Congress for years but "nobody likes him, nobody wants to work with him, he got nothing done."

Asked if that assessment still holds, she said "yes."

Clinton's accusations that Sanders fostered a culture of sexism in politics are especially sensitive now given that Sanders' top progressive rival in the 2020 race, Warren, has accused him of privately telling her a woman couldn't win the White House.

Sanders has denied that, but Warren refused to shake his outstretched hand after a debate last week in Iowa and both candidates accused the other of calling them "a liar." Warren has steadfastly declined to comment further, but the 78-year-old Sanders said Sunday that while sexism was a problem for candidates, so were other factors, like advanced age -- touching off another round of controversy.

Clinton said, "I don't think we want to go down that road again where you campaign by insult and attack and maybe you try to get some distance from it, but you either don't know what your campaign and supporters are doing or you're just giving them a wink."

"I think that that's a pattern that people should take into account when they make their decisions," she said.

His feud with Warren has overshadowed a series of clashes between Sanders and another 2020 rival, Biden, for an op-ed penned by one of the senator's supporters suggesting that the former vice president was corrupt.

"It is absolutely not my view that Joe is corrupt in any way. And I'm sorry that that op-ed appeared," Sanders told CBS.

The op-ed, published in "The Guardian" newspaper by Fordham University law professor Zephyr Teachout, claims Biden "has perfected the art of taking big contributions, then representing his corporate donors at the cost of middle- and working-class Americans."

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Catch up on the 2020 election campaign with AP experts on our weekly politics podcast, " Ground Game. "

## Brazilian prosecutors accuse Glenn Greenwald in hacking case

By MAURICIO SAVARESE Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Prosecutors accused U.S. journalist Glenn Greenwald on Tuesday of involvement in hacking the phones of Brazilian officials involved in a corruption investigation, though Brazil's high court had blocked investigations of the journalist or his Brazil-based news outlet in relation to the case.

A federal judge would have to approve a formal charge based on allegations by prosecutor Wellington Divino Marques de Oliveira that Greenwald helped a group of six people hack into phones of hundreds

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local authorities.

De Oliveira accuses Greenwald of criminal association and illegal interception of communications. He charges the six alleged hackers with criminal organization, money laundering, cybercrimes and illegal interception of communications.

Brazil's federal police looked at the same evidence and did not find any wrongdoing by Greenwald. A ruling by Supreme Court Justice Gilmar Mendes later barred investigations of Greenwald and his The Intercept Brasil in relation to the alleged hacking.

Prosecutors decided to recommend charges against the journalist anyway.

Greenwald's The Intercept Brasil published excerpts from conversations involving current Justice Minister Sérgio Moro, saying they showed the then-judge was improperly coordinating with prosecutors at the time he was a judge overseeing a vast corruption investigation.

That probe led to the imprisonment of numerous business executives and politicians on corruption charges, including former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. He was released from jail in November because he has appeals pending.

While many Brazilians hail Moro as a hero, others believe he unfairly targeted da Silva and other top leftist figures. Moro is now a key member of far-right President Jair Bolsonaro's Cabinet.

Greenwald's lawyers called the prosecutors' allegations "bizarre" and said the accusations challenge the top court ruling protecting the journalist and freedom of the press in Brazil.

"Their objective is to disparage journalistic work," the lawyers said in a statement.

Greenwald posted a video saying the accusation is "an attack to freedom of the press, to Brazil's Supreme Court (rulings), to the conclusions of the federal police and to Brazilian democracy."

"We will defend a free press. We will not be intimidated by the abuse of the state apparatus or by the Bolsonaro administration," he said.

Prosecutors said in a statement that an unreleased audio links Greenwald to the group of hackers as they broke the law, terming it "auxiliary participation in the crime" and saying he was "seeking to subvert the idea of protection of a journalistic source into immunity to guide criminals."

Brazil's top court last year said that "the constitutional secrecy" around journalistic sources prevented the Brazilian state from using "coercive measures" against Greenwald. Because of that, a judge would have to authorize any attempt by prosecutors to formally investigate the journalist or bring charges.

Judge Ricardo Leite will analyse the unusual accusation against Greenwald and the group of six alleged hackers. There is no deadline for a decision.

The Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalists said in a statement that "the charges against Greenwald are based on a distorted interpretation of conversations of the journalist with his source, and has as its sole purpose embarrassing the professional, which is very serious."

Literary and free expression group PEN America said in a statement that the move against Greenwald raises serious concerns that he may be the target of politically motivated retaliation.

"It is impossible to separate these charges against Glenn from his work as an investigative reporter," said PEN America's senior director of free expression programs Summer Lopez. "While we don't know all the contours of this story, we do know two things. First, Glenn's reporting has deeply embarrassed the Brazilian government. Second, Brazil's president has repeatedly and consistently attacked the press in general and Glenn in particular."

Greenwald, an attorney-turned-journalist who lives in Brazil, has frequently come under criticism by Bolsonaro.

Moro has not acknowledge the veracity of the reports by The Intercept Brasil, saying they come from "criminal invasion" of the phones of several prosecutors. Many others involved in the leaked messages or mentioned in them have confirmed their content.

Lawmaker Eduardo Bolsonaro, a son of the president, celebrated the accusation on social media. "Glenn Greenwald always said he loved Brazil and wanted to know the country's depths. Maybe he will even know jail," the legislator said.

## Office of Venezuela's Guaidó raided during his trip abroad

By SCOTT SMITH Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Intelligence police raided the office of Juan Guaidó on Tuesday, while the U.S.-backed opposition leader was travelling in Europe seeking to bolster support for his campaign to oust Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro.

Masked officers from feared SEBIN intelligence police unit blocked the building's entrances and lined the street with their vehicles, barring entry by lawmakers aligned with Guaidó.

The United States and about 60 other nations recognize Guaidó, who heads the opposition-dominated National Assembly, as Venezuela's legitimate president. They contend Maduro's 2018 re-election was invalid and marred by fraud. Guaidó, however, has no control over government institution or the military.

Legislator Manuela Bolívar confirmed the raid on his office, saying she was allowed to go to the door of the third-floor space, where officers were still inside working inside.

Lawmakers called it an illegal search.

"We don't know what they're stolen or what they've brought with them," legislator Ángel Torres said. "They usually enter without a judge's order and set up a show saying they found this or that or any artifact they might have planted."

In November, unidentified armed men with their faces covered raided the headquarters of Guaidó's political party, taking cellphones, computer and ID cards from staffers the night before a large street protest against Maduro.

Tuesday's police action came just hours after opposition lawmakers called off an attempt to hold a National Assembly session in the congress building across town, saying they wanted to avoid clashes with security forces and armed government supporters blocking entry.

Juan Pablo Guanipa, first vice president of the National Assembly, said from the headquarters of a political party that streets leading to their legislative building had been "militarized" by armed groups, so they were not going to attempt an entry until next week.

Instead, the lawmakers held a makeshift meeting on a public square in an opposition-friendly part of Caracas away from downtown. They sat on chairs set up before a stage amid trees and backed by their flag-colored streamer and emblem.

It was the third consecutive week that groups of armed civilians known as "colectivos" and security forces blocked access for members of the National Assembly, which is the last major national institution under opposition control and the center of the struggle over who governs the crisis-wracked nation.

Last week, a caravan of SUVs carrying lawmakers toward the building was struck with rocks and poles by civilians and gunfire was heard. On Jan. 5, Guaidó attempted to jump a fence to get in only to be rebuffed by riot police.

Guanipa called on supporters to march with lawmakers to retake the National Assembly chambers next week, setting up a potential clash with the backers of Maduro.

"We are going to show them that we are fighting for the freedom of Venezuela," Guanipa said. "We'll demonstrate, as we always have, that we're absolutely ready to do whatever is required to achieve democracy in Venezuela."

During their remote session, lawmakers condemned officials for the disappearance of Ismael León, a deputy in the National Assembly who they said was swept up by security forces shortly after leaving the party headquarters headed to the legislative building.

"His family, colleagues and fellow party members have absolutely no idea where he is," opposition lawmaker Adriana Pichardo said. Officials have not commented on León's whereabouts.

After the meeting, lawmakers accused officials of trying to confiscate two trucks returning the chairs they had used.

Maduro backers this month attempted to undermine Guaidó's standing by swearing in another deputy as leader of the congress despite lacking a majority. Maduro maintains that breakaway group is now the legitimate legislature.

Local news media on Tuesday showed that group meeting in the congressional chambers, led by lawmaker Luis Parra, who claims the body's presidency.

Guaidó is on an international tour to build support, breaking a year-old travel ban ordered by the Maduro-loyal Supreme Court.

Guaidó met Monday in Colombia with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and was in London on Tuesday to meet British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab and Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Guaidó was also scheduled speak at the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Maduro's government was shoring up its own international backing, as Foreign Affairs Minister Jorge Arreaza met with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in Tehran.

Associated Press writers Fabiola Sánchez and Jorge Rueda contributed to this report.

## US agency examining Tesla unintended acceleration complaint

By TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — The U.S. government's auto safety agency is looking into allegations that all three of Tesla's electric vehicle models can suddenly accelerate on their own.

Brian Sparks of Berkeley, California, petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration asking for an investigation. An agency document shows 127 owner complaints to the government that include 110 crashes and 52 injuries.

The agency said it will look into allegations that cover about 500,000 Tesla vehicles including Model 3, Model S and Model X vehicles from the 2013 through 2019 model years. The agency's investigations office will evaluate the petition and decide if it should open a formal probe.

"I am concerned that these complaints reflect a systemic defect that has not been investigated by NHTSA," Sparks wrote to James Owens, the acting NHTSA administrator. "I am also concerned that these potential defects represent risk to the safety of Tesla drivers, their passengers, and the public."

Messages were left Friday seeking comment from Tesla.

NHTSA is already investigating three December crashes involving Tesla vehicles in which three people were killed. The agency's special crash investigations unit sent teams to Gardena, California, and near Terre Haute, Indiana, to probe two fatal crashes. Another crash in Connecticut also is under investigation.

Frank Borris, a former head of safety defect investigations for NHTSA, said the number of complaints cited in the petition is unusual and warrants further investigation.

"The sheer number of complaints would certainly catch my eye," said Borris, who now runs an auto safety consulting business.

Tesla owners communicate with other owners on Internet forums and social media, and that could influence the number of complaints, he said.

He said the timing of the petition is good, because the agency needs to do a "deeper dive" into Tesla safety.

Some of the unintended acceleration complaints, which have yet to be verified by NHTSA, allege that the cars' electronics malfunctioned.

In his 69-page petition, Sparks analyzed the complaints to NHTSA and determined that many of the crashes happened while drivers were parking the Teslas. He compared Tesla's unintended acceleration complaint rate to other vehicles and found Tesla's to be much higher.

Many of the reports, Sparks wrote, show that Tesla has refused to share data with vehicle owners after an unintended acceleration incident. "It is clear that Tesla has the data and is aware of the problem," Sparks wrote.

In one complaint, an owner in San Clemente, California, told NHTSA that in November of 2018, a Model X SUV accelerated on its own to full power during a U-Turn on a city street. The driver had a foot on the brake, but the SUV accelerated in a fraction of a second, according to the complaint. The driver alleged that something in Tesla's system "triggered the sudden spontaneously full acceleration, resulting in this



collision.”

The SUV hit a parked vehicle, the air bags inflated and the owner had a large abdominal bruise and several small chest bruises, according to the complaint. People who file complaints with NHTSA are not identified in the agency’s database.

The driver asked NHTSA to find out whether the Tesla complaints had common elements, including parking or making turns at low speeds.

In another crash, in May of 2013, the owner of a Model S sedan in Thousand Oaks, California, complained that while pulling into a parking spot, the car suddenly accelerated on its own.

The Model S went over a parking block and a curb and struck a cement light post. The air bags inflated, but no one was hurt, the complaint said.

Three weeks after the crash, the owner got a letter from Tesla saying that the accelerator was depressed to 48% just before the crash and 98% at the time of impact. The owner still believes the car accelerated by itself, the complaint stated.

Anyone can petition NHTSA to investigate an auto safety problem, and the agency said in a statement Friday that it encourages people to report concerns.

In the other Tesla crashes that NHTSA is investigating, authorities are trying to determine whether the cars were operating on Autopilot, a system designed to keep a car in its lane and a safe distance from other vehicles. Autopilot also can change lanes on its own.

Separately, the National Transportation Safety Board will hold a hearing Feb. 25 on a fatal crash in Mountain View, California, involving a Tesla that was operating on the company’s Autopilot driver assist system.

Tesla has said repeatedly that its Autopilot system is designed only to assist drivers, who must still pay attention and be ready to intervene at all times. The company contends that Teslas with Autopilot are safer than vehicles without it, but cautions that the system does not prevent all crashes.

NHTSA’s crash program has inspected 23 crashes involving vehicles that the agency believed were operating on some form of partially automated advanced driver assist system. Fourteen of these cases involved Tesla models. The team investigates more than 100 crashes per year.

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This story has been corrected to fix the spelling of former NHTSA official Frank Borris’ last name.

## **Planned Parenthood endorses challenger to Sen. Susan Collins**

**By DAVID SHARP Associated Press**

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Planned Parenthood on Tuesday endorsed a Democratic challenger to Republican Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, saying Collins “turned her back” on women and citing her vote to confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court as well as other judicial nominees who oppose abortion.

Sara Gideon, speaker of the Maine House of Representatives, welcomed the endorsement from the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. “There’s never been a more important time to stand up for reproductive rights,” she said, in the face of “systematic attacks on reproductive rights across the country.

Collins, who was honored by Planned Parenthood as recently as 2017 as “an outspoken champion for women’s health,” is facing perhaps the toughest reelection fight of her career. Critics have vowed they won’t forget her key vote for Kavanaugh, whose nomination survived an accusation that he sexually assaulted someone in high school.

“From her decisive vote to confirm Kavanaugh to her refusal to stop Republican attacks on our health and rights, it’s clear that she has turned her back on those she should be championing,” said Alexis McGill Johnson, acting president and CEO of Planned Parenthood . She said Collins “has abandoned not only the people of Maine, but women across the country.”

The Collins campaign said Planned Parenthood has changed and become more partisan, noting that no Republicans have won its endorsement.

“Senator Collins has not changed, but leadership at Planned Parenthood certainly has,” Collins campaign spokesman Kevin Kelley said. “It’s sad that the group is now run by far left activists who would rather

focus on partisan politics than bipartisan policies that provide health care to women.”

The endorsement was one of several announced Tuesday, the day before the anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling that made abortion legal. The Planned Parenthood Action Fund also is backing Democrat Jaime Harrison, who’s seeking to unseat GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, and Democrat Barbara Bollier, who’s running for an open Senate seat in Kansas.

Collins has supported funding for Planned Parenthood, and she received its endorsement once before, in her 2002 reelection campaign. She was honored by the group in 2017 with its Barry Goldwater Award to a public official who has acted as a leader within the Republican Party to support Planned Parenthood.

“Senator Collins has been an outspoken champion for women’s health. Thanks to Senator Collins’ steadfast commitment to her constituents, tens of thousands of women in Maine and millions of women across the country still have access to essential health care,” Cecile Richards, then-president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, said at the time, about a year before the Kavanaugh vote.

Her relationship with the organization has gone downhill since then.

The 67-year-old Collins said Kavanaugh, who denied the sexual assault allegation, vowed to respect precedent including the Roe v. Wade ruling. But Planned Parenthood contends 26 proposals to limit abortions have been adopted in 17 states since then.

Gideon, meanwhile, supports Medicaid expansion and expanded health care for women and has vowed to continue “the fight to protect and expand reproductive rights.”

“As a former Planned Parenthood patient, she knows what it means to be able to get the care you need from a trusted provider and how hurtful it is to see your provider attacked by extremist politicians,” Nicole Clegg, of Planned Parenthood Maine Action Fund, said in a statement.

Money is already pouring into the Senate race. Collins is considered among the most vulnerable Republican senators in the nation, a new position for her in a state where rising polarization and partisanship is clashing with a culture of independence.

Gideon is backed by the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. But she faces activist Betsy Sweet, attorney Bre Kidman, former Google executive Ross LaJeunesse and travel agent Michael Bunker in the Democratic primary.

Sweet said she supports Planned Parenthood “wholeheartedly,” but feels the organization has “overlooked my work fighting for women’s reproductive rights for almost four decades to side with the Washington establishment.”

Kidman also expressed disappointment Tuesday, saying that when her team reached out, she was told that Planned Parenthood Action Fund “intended to remain neutral in the primary.”

“As one of the first greeters at the Planned Parenthood health center in Portland, I physically protected patients’ rights to access reproductive healthcare in sun, rain, sleet, and snow — often bodily shielding people from encounters with protestors,” she said in a statement.

A spokesperson for the Planned Parenthood Action Fund said the Kidman campaign has not been in touch with the organization regarding her candidacy.

Both Collins and Gideon already have raised millions of dollars for the race. Tracking firm Advertising Analytics projects that the candidates and outside groups will spend \$55 million on ads by Election Day.

This story has been corrected to show Kidman said she “protected,” not “protested.”

## Ex-CIA contractor defends brutal post-9/11 interrogations

By BEN FOX Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Md. (AP) — An architect of the brutal CIA interrogation and detention program developed after the Sept. 11 attacks defended the agency and its practices on Tuesday as those techniques become the focus of an effort to dismiss key evidence against five men charged in the terrorist plot.

James Mitchell spent the first day of what is expected to be at least a week of questioning by defense teams at the U.S. base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, providing details about the CIA’s interrogation program

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as well as what he said was the "context" necessary to understand it.

The CIA was the "tip of the spear" in the months after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and was urgently trying to gather vital intelligence using techniques that had been authorized by the U.S. government, the retired Air Force psychologist told the court.

"We were trying to save American lives," Mitchell said.

Mitchell is facing questions now because lawyers for the five men accused of planning and providing logistical support for the Sept. 11 attacks are seeking to prevent the government from using statements the defendants gave to the FBI as evidence against them in a war crimes trial scheduled to start next January at the U.S. base in Cuba.

The testimony in Guantanamo is an important milestone in the Sept. 11 war crimes proceedings, which have been bogged down in the pretrial phase since the May 2012 arraignment.

The five defendants, who include the self-proclaimed mastermind of the Sept. 11 hijacking plot, were subjected to waterboarding and other methods now widely regarded as torture. Mitchell, who helped develop the program with another private contractor and others, insisted the CIA feared "another catastrophic attack," possibly involving nuclear weapons, and was trying to stop it.

"My sole focus was stopping the next attack," he said.

Mitchell agreed to come to Guantanamo to testify without a subpoena to give his version of events, which he also detailed in a book, called "Enhanced Interrogation," that he co-wrote with a CIA spokesman.

"I'm happy to talk about my role in the program and what the program did," he told the court.

At times, however, he appeared to bristle at the questioning. When defense lawyer James Connell thanked him for coming to court, he replied, "I did it for the victims and families not for you."

Mitchell and another psychologist, Bruce Jessen, were contracted by the CIA to develop the interrogation program, which also included intense sleep deprivation, confinement in a small box, prolonged shackling in "stress positions," and being doused with cold water.

Defense lawyers for the five men charged in the attacks have called the contractors, who observed and took part in interrogations at clandestine CIA facilities, as witnesses in an effort to disqualify statements the defendants made to the FBI after they were transferred to Guantanamo in September 2006.

It was the first time that the defendants and one of the main architects of their brutal treatment had faced each other in court.

Mitchell and Jessen gave depositions in a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of three former prisoners, including one who died in custody. The case was settled for undisclosed terms in August 2017 and the two former contractors did not testify in court.

"This testimony marks a critical moment for reckoning with the torture committed in the American people's name," said ACLU staff attorney Dror Ladin, "Mitchell and Jessen, along with collaborators in the U.S. government, are responsible for shameful cruelty that the CIA is still trying to cover up."

Mitchell was expected to be followed on the stand by Jessen. Their testimony will likely take up much of a pretrial hearing scheduled to last two weeks.

The defendants include Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, an al-Qaida operative who has portrayed himself as the mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. All five face the death penalty if convicted of charges that include terrorism and nearly 3,000 counts of murder for their alleged roles planning and providing logistical support to the hijacking plot.

Under a 2006 law that set up the military commission, any statements must be voluntary to be admitted into evidence and the government is not seeking to use at the trial anything the men said while in CIA custody.

But the prisoners also gave what prosecutors have called "clean" statements to the FBI after they arrived at Guantanamo.

Lawyers for the five defendants argue that everything the men have said in custody was tainted by the torture they were subjected to while in CIA confinement.

James Connell, a lawyer for defendant Ammar al-Baluchi, said he believes the FBI helped guide some

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of the questioning of the men and that others in the government were also involved in developing the program starting with the capture of a prisoner known as Abu Zubaydah in 2002.

"Dr. Mitchell plays an important role but ultimately a small one," in developing and carrying out the interrogations, said Connell, whose client is a nephew of Mohammad.

A Senate investigation in 2014 found that the interrogation program designed by Mitchell and Jessen was used on 39 detainees and produced no useful intelligence. They were paid \$81 million for their work, according to the Senate report.

Mitchell and Jessen previously worked at the Air Force survival school at Fairchild Air Force Base outside Spokane, Washington, where they trained pilots to avoid capture and resist interrogation and torture. The CIA hired them to reverse-engineer that training to break terrorism suspects.

They defended their work when the lawsuit was settled, arguing that neither contractor condoned or conducted any mistreatment of prisoners and that the overall program was authorized by the government.

Jessen said in a statement then that he and Mitchell "served our country at a time when freedom and safety hung in the balance."

The proceedings at Guantanamo were being transmitted to several government installations in the U.S., including Fort Meade, Maryland, where they were viewed by The Associated Press.

## 2020 hopefuls stuck in Washington deploy surrogates for help

By ALEXANDRA JAFFE Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Steve Sovern had low expectations for a recent event he hosted to support Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign. Iowans are legendary for expecting to meet White House hopefuls in person — multiple times — and the candidate wasn't going to be there, represented instead by California Rep. Katie Porter.

"Surrogates are usually not much of a draw," Sovern said.

But 45 people crammed into Sovern's Cedar Rapids condo, and Porter, an Iowa native, made such a strong case for Warren that several undecided voters left the event saying they planned to caucus for the Democratic senator from Massachusetts.

Porter is one of dozens of surrogates who have deployed across the early voting states in recent weeks to expand the footprint of White House hopefuls before the Iowa caucuses usher in the Democratic contest in less than two weeks. They'll become even more important this week as four senators running for president will be stuck in Washington to serve as jurors for President Donald Trump's impeachment trial.

Progressive star Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a Democratic congresswoman from New York, will appear in Iowa this weekend on behalf of Sen. Bernie Sanders. "Queer Eye" host Jonathan Van Ness will also be in Iowa stumping for Warren in addition to Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney and Rep. Joe Kennedy III, who will be in New Hampshire.

And roughly 25 supporters of Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, for instance, held a news conference on Tuesday in Concord to promote her candidacy.

Facing the unprecedented situation of being sidelined from campaigning in the critical final stretch before voting, these proxies can help fill in the gap.

"Surrogates generally stump for the candidate when they can't be in two places at once, or go out on their own to drum up grassroots energy," said Jennifer Rosenbaum, who was deputy national surrogate director for Barack Obama's 2012 campaign.

But the stand-ins fill other needs as well.

For some candidates, surrogates help keep their hands clean of controversy by acting as an attack dog. Former Housing Secretary Julián Castro quickly endorsed Warren after he withdrew from the race. He called out her rivals by name during a recent campaign swing through Iowa, saying neither Sanders nor Joe Biden are as widely acceptable to Democrats. Warren herself rarely mentions her opponents on the stump unless she's prompted by a voter or reporter.

As Biden fended off attacks this month from Sanders about his 2002 vote authorizing the Iraq War, John



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Kerry was on hand in Iowa. Kerry served two purposes, vouching for Biden's foreign policy knowledge as a former secretary of state and appealing to Iowans as someone who won the 2004 Democratic caucuses.

Surrogates also offer reassurance to voters that the candidate understands and will pay attention to local issues. While every candidate has picked up a handful of endorsements from local Iowa elected officials and state lawmakers, Biden has some of the biggest Iowa names on his team: former Gov. Tom Vilsack and his wife, Christie; Attorney General Tom Miller; and Rep. Abby Finkenauer. All have appeared on the trail with him in recent weeks.

Pete Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, picked up the endorsement of retiring Rep. Dave Loebsack, who will introduce him across Iowa this week.

"An Iowa endorsement gives you some credibility there," said Howard Dean, the former Vermont governor who came in third in the 2004 Iowa caucuses.

Surrogates can also offer personal testimony of a candidate's best qualities and why he or she is qualified to be president.

Jill Biden, Joe Biden's wife, is a constant fixture on the trail, with the campaign deploying her in recent weeks across Iowa to woo undecided voters. During an earlier visit to the state, she told the crowd about a woman who made sandwiches for her and her husband near their home in Delaware contributing to the campaign.

Jane O'Meara Sanders will campaign on behalf of her husband next weekend in Nevada while he is likely stuck in Washington.

Klobuchar's daughter was dispatched over the weekend to campaign for her mom in New Hampshire, and Klobuchar joked on the stump in Iowa that she hoped her daughter was wearing a coat in the cold. Warren has sent her husband, Bruce Mann, to stump for her in Iowa as well.

Both are likely to make appearances on behalf of the respective campaigns as the impeachment trial plays out.

Surrogates can also bring a dash of star power to the campaign trail to keep voters engaged. Sanders has some of the biggest names in music and movies on his team, and recently actor Danny Glover campaigned for him in South Carolina while the senator was in Iowa.

Andrew Yang, meanwhile, brought actor, comedian and rapper Donald Glover onto his team as a creative consultant, after the two hosted a pop-up shop in Los Angeles featuring merchandise Glover designed as a fundraiser for the campaign. Comedian and actor Dave Chappelle is also backing Yang and plans to hold two shows this month to benefit his campaign.

Judy Sheindlin, the reality television star known as Judge Judy, recently hit the trail with Michael Bloomberg.

Celebrities don't have to appear in person to boost their candidate. A video that soccer champion Megan Rapinoe tweeted of her phone call with Warren received 1.8 million views. A conversation Sanders had with rapper Cardi B in a Detroit nail salon racked up 2.3 million views on Twitter.

High-wattage backers don't always help. Actress Susan Sarandon has been a high-profile surrogate for Sanders since his 2016 campaign and has drawn headlines for her outspoken critiques of the Democratic Party and occasional off-color comments. During an event for Sanders in New Hampshire earlier this month, she sparked controversy when she said that "without unions ... we'd be right back to slavery, probably, with no ability to negotiate, with no standards of safety."

And campaigns sometimes have to make sure that the surrogate isn't a bigger draw than the candidate. Actress and singer Mandy Moore recently introduced Buttigieg at a rally at Iowa State University, telling the crowd that he's "such an original" that she doesn't "think Hollywood even knows what to do with him."

Dana Cady, a 19-year-old sophomore at Principia College in Illinois who flew out to Iowa to see Buttigieg speak with a group of her classmates, said they all had to look up Moore when they saw she was appearing with the candidate. Cady knew Moore from "Tangled," the Disney movie where the actress voices the protagonist — but she was more dazzled by the politician than the celebrity.

"I personally really like Pete. I did not need Mandy Moore to win me over," she said.

Catch up on the 2020 election campaign with AP experts on our weekly politics podcast, "Ground Game."

## Documents: Extremist group wanted rally to start civil war

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — A hidden camera captured members of a white supremacist group expressing hope that violence at a gun rights rally in Virginia this week could start a civil war, federal prosecutors said in a court filing Tuesday.

Former Canadian Armed Forces reservist Patrik Jordan Mathews also videotaped himself advocating for killing people, poisoning water supplies and derailing trains, a prosecutor wrote in urging a judge in Maryland to keep Mathews and two other members of The Base detained in federal custody.

But the 27-year-old Canadian national didn't know investigators were watching and listening when he and two other group members talked about attending the Richmond rally in the days leading up to Monday's event, which attracted tens of thousands of people and ended peacefully.

Last month, a closed-circuit television camera and microphone installed by investigators in a Delaware home captured Mathews talking about the Virginia rally as a "boundless" opportunity.

"And the thing is you've got tons of guys who ... should be radicalized enough to know that all you gotta do is start making things go wrong and if Virginia can spiral out to (expletive) full blown civil war," he said.

Mathews and fellow group member Brian Mark Lemley Jr., 33, of Elkton, Maryland, discussed the planning of violence at the Richmond rally, according to prosecutors. Lemley talked about using a thermal imaging scope affixed to his rifle to ambush unsuspecting civilians and police officers, prosecutors said.

"I need to claim my first victim," Lemley said on Dec. 23, according to Tuesday's detention memo.

"We could essentially like be literally hunting people," Mathews said, according to prosecutors. "You could provide overwatch while I get close to do what needs to be done to certain things."

Lemley talked about ambushing a police officer to steal the officer's weapons and tactical gear, saying, "If there's like a PoPo cruiser parked on the street and he doesn't have backup, I can execute him at a whim and just take his stuff," according to prosecutors.

FBI agents arrested Mathews, Lemley and William Garfield Bilbrough IV, 19, of Denton, Maryland last Thursday as part of a broader investigation of The Base. Authorities in Georgia and Wisconsin also arrested four other men linked to the group.

Detention hearings for Mathews and Bilbrough are scheduled for Wednesday at the federal courthouse in Greenbelt, Maryland. Their attorneys didn't immediately respond to the memo filed Tuesday by Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas Windom.

Mathews and Lemley are charged with transporting a firearm and ammunition with intent to commit a felony. Bilbrough is charged with "transporting and harboring aliens."

Bilbrough's attorney, Robert Bonsib, said last Thursday that he was "underwhelmed" by a prosecutor's arguments for keeping his client detained. Bilbrough was the only one of the three men not facing a firearms-related charge.

"I think this 19-year-old man should be released," Bonsib told reporters.

Lawyers for Mathews and Lemley declined to comment after last Thursday's hearings.

Mathews, who was a combat engineer in the Canadian Army Reserve, illegally crossed the U.S. border near Minnesota in August after reporting by the Winnipeg Free Press led to his identification as a member of The Base.

Investigators believe Bilbrough and Lemley, who was a "cavalry scout" in the U.S. Army, drove from Maryland to Michigan to pick up Mathews and bring him to the Mid-Atlantic region, authorities said.

On Jan. 5, Mathews and Lemley returned to the Delaware home from a gun range in Maryland and began packing rations and other material that investigators believe they planned to use during and after the Virginia rally, court documents said.

They packed containers with food and supplies before Mathews remarked about needing to bring a gas mask, investigators said. Lemley also said he thought they'd have food to last between three and five

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months and that it "might be enough til the war is over," according to the filing.

Lemley had also discussed loading the truck "for the war," the documents said. Authorities said Lemley had also bought a 4-foot (1-meter) metal antenna to attach to his truck to get a better radio signal to communicate after any Virginia confrontations.

A day before their arrests, Lemley told Mathews that "there cannot be no trust among a group of murderers," the detention memo says.

"I cannot trust you to keep my murdering secrets. Not under threat of 30 years in jail and torture. Why should I trust you?" Lemley asked.

"You realize that they're just going to call us terrorists," Mathews said minutes later.

As federal agents moved in to arrest Lemley and Matthews on Thursday, the men smashed cellphones and dropped the pieces in a toilet, a prosecutor said.

Bilbrough was arrested in Maryland. Prosecutors say Bilbrough has repeatedly expressed an interest in traveling to Ukraine to fight alongside "nationalists" for several months.

U.S. and Canadian authorities had been searching for Mathews after his truck was found in September near the border between the two countries. The Canadian military's intelligence unit was investigating Mathews for "possible racist extremist activities" for several months, according to the Canadian Department of National Defence.

The Anti-Defamation League said members of The Base and other white supremacist groups have frequently posted online messages advocating for "accelerationism," a fringe philosophy in which far-right extremists "have assigned to their desire to hasten the collapse of society as we know it."

Last Friday, Georgia authorities announced that they arrested three members of The Base on charges they conspired to kill members of a militant anti-fascist group. The arrests came after an undercover FBI agent infiltrated the group and participated in shooting drills in the mountains of northern Georgia, according to a police affidavit.

Separately last Friday, the Justice Department charged a Wisconsin man who they say was also a member of The Base. That man is accused of spray-painting swastikas, the group's symbol and anti-Semitic words on a synagogue in Racine, Wisconsin, in September.

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Associated Press reporter Mike Balsamo in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.

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This story has been corrected to reflect that Patrik Jordan Mathews is a former Canadian Armed Forces reservist.

## Weinstein defense points to 'loving emails' as openings near

By **TOM HAYS** and **JENNIFER PELTZ** Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Harvey Weinstein's lawyers want to use intimate emails from his accusers to try to convince jurors in his rape trial that any contact was consensual, the defense said Tuesday as an appeals court rejected an 11th-hour request to move the trial out of town.

Opening statements are set for Wednesday in one of the most prominent cases of the #MeToo era, involving a once-celebrated movie producer now vilified as a predator by scores of women, including some well-known actresses who plan to testify or attend the trial.

In a three-paragraph ruling Tuesday, a panel of state appeals judges declined to move the trial or delay it for further deliberation. The same court turned down a similar request three months ago from Weinstein's lawyers, who say it's impossible for him to get a fair trial in media-saturated New York City.

Meanwhile, Weinstein's attorneys foreshadowed their strategy to defend him against charges that he raped a woman in a New York City hotel room in 2013 and forcibly performed a sex act on another woman at his apartment in 2006. If convicted, the 67-year-old could get life in prison.

The defense has "dozens and dozens and dozens of loving emails to Mr. Weinstein" it wants to use to discredit witnesses, attorney Damon Cheronis told the Manhattan judge overseeing the trial.

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Some of the women who claim they were victimized by the disgraced Hollywood mogul "also bragged about being in a sexual relationship with him," Cheronis said.

Judge James Burke barred the defense from using the actual emails in a presentation planned for opening statements but permitted referring to the messages' "substance and content."

While the New York charges involve two women, scores of others also have accused the former studio boss behind such Oscar winners as "Pulp Fiction" and "Shakespeare in Love" of using his influence as a license to lure women to him and then sexually assault or harass them. The allegations became a jumping-off point for the #MeToo reckoning with sexual misconduct from the corridors of power to everyday offices, campuses and other settings.

Weinstein has denied wrongdoing.

His lawyers claimed fervent media coverage, loud protests and even the spectacle that surrounded super-model Gigi Hadid's brief appearance in the jury pool created a "carnival-like atmosphere" around the trial.

The negative publicity "is magnified tenfold by its dissemination in a city obsessed by news, politics and entertainment, the trifecta that is the Weinstein story," defense attorney Arthur Aidala wrote in court papers last week. He asked that the trial be moved to largely suburban Suffolk County or to Albany, the state capital.

Manhattan prosecutors said the defense claims didn't add up.

"The inhabitants of those jurisdictions have access to the same news sources and social media" as Manhattanites do, Assistant District Attorney Harriett Galvin wrote in a filing. She called the request to move the trial "a transparent attempt to delay the proceedings."

Galvin noted that the chosen jurors indicated they could be fair and impartial.

A jury of seven men and five women was picked last week to decide Weinstein's fate in a selection process marked by discord, including defense objections over the inclusion of a woman who wrote an upcoming novel involving young women dealing with predatory older men.

The trial is expected to last at least six weeks. Later, Weinstein is to answer rape and sexual assault charges in Los Angeles. Those charges were filed this month as jury selection in his New York trial was getting underway.

## Netanyahu tries to rally global opposition to ICC case

By JOSEF FEDERMAN

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is calling on the world to take "concrete actions" against the International Criminal Court ahead of a possible war-crimes case against Israel.

The ICC's chief prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, said last month that there was a "reasonable basis" to open a war crimes probe into Israeli military actions in the Gaza Strip as well as Israeli settlement construction in the West Bank. She has asked the court to determine whether she has territorial jurisdiction before proceeding with the case.

Israel, which is not a member of the ICC, has said the court has no jurisdiction and accused Bensouda of being driven by anti-Semitism.

In an interview with the Christian network TBN to be aired later Tuesday, Netanyahu praised President Donald Trump for criticizing the ICC and called on others to follow suit.

"I think that everybody should rise up against this," he said, according to excerpts released by his office. "I urge all your viewers to do the same and to ask for concrete actions, sanctions against the international court, its officials, its prosecutors, everyone."

"They're basically in a full frontal attack on the democracies, both on the democracies' right to defend themselves, and on Israel's right, the Jewish people's right, to live in their ancestral homeland, the Land of Israel," he said.

There was no immediate reaction from Bensouda. But in a recent interview, she told the Israeli news site Times of Israel that accusing her of anti-Semitism was "particularly regrettable" and "without merit."

The court said in statement that it and its officials "will continue to do their work in accordance with the



mandate bestowed upon them" in accordance with the principle of the rule of law.

The TBN interview came ahead of a gathering in Jerusalem on Thursday where dozens of world leaders are to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazis' Auschwitz death camp and to speak out against anti-Semitism.

Netanyahu is expected to use the gathering to try to rally international opposition to the ICC case against Israel.

In the Hague, ICC judges on Tuesday delayed the case when they asked Bensouda to resubmit her jurisdiction request because her original request was too long. The judges have 120 days to rule after they receive the new request.

At the United Nations, Palestinian U.N. Ambassador Riyad Mansour accused Israel Tuesday of trampling on the U.N. Charter, U.N. resolutions "and any and all relevant provisions of international law."

"Like common war criminals, even the specter of an ICC investigation hasn't deterred Israeli government officials and military commanders, who continue to blatantly challenged the Security Council and international community as a whole," he told the U.N. Security Council.

Mansour stressed that there is "an urgent, shared responsibility and obligation for the Security Council, General Assembly, ICC and all states" to uphold the rule of law.

Associated Press writers Mike Corder from The Hague and Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed reporting.

## Prince Harry reunites with Meghan and Archie in Canada

By **ROB GILLIES** Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Prince Harry has reunited with his wife Meghan in Canada as he steps back from royal duties.

Video from Sky News shows Harry landing at Victoria's airport on Vancouver Island late Monday. The prince, Meghan and their 8-month-old son Archie were reportedly staying at a mansion on the island off Canada's Pacific coast. The video shows Harry stepping off a small passenger plane and getting into a SUV on the tarmac.

Buckingham Palace said Tuesday it would not comment on private matters.

The palace announced Saturday that the prince and his wife will give up public funding and try to become financially independent. The couple, who were named the Duke and Duchess of Sussex on their wedding day, are expected to spend most of their time in Canada while maintaining a home in England near Windsor Castle in an attempt to build a more peaceful life.

A photographer spotted a smiling Meghan on a hike with Archie and her two dogs, trailed by her security detail, on Vancouver Island on Monday. Lawyers for Meghan and Harry have issued a legal warning to U.K. media over the use of paparazzi photos. The BBC and Sky News reported that the photographs were taken by photographers hiding in the bushes and spying on her.

The couple spent the holiday season on the island, but it's unclear where in Canada they will settle. Meghan worked for seven years in Toronto, where she filmed the TV series "Suits."

It is also unclear who would pay for their personal security and what the immigration and tax status would be for the couple. Harry's grandmother, the queen, is technically head of state in Canada, a Commonwealth nation.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has spoken warmly about Harry and Meghan, but has said there are questions to be addressed.

"Discussions are continuing and I have no update at this time," Trudeau said Tuesday.

The country's leading newspaper, The Globe and Mail, wrote in an editorial last week that senior royals were welcome to visit Canada but should not stay because a royal living in Canada does not accord with the longstanding nature of the relationship between Canada and Britain, and Canada and the Crown.

The paper said it would break an "unspoken constitutional taboo." But The Globe and Mail published

another editorial on Monday that said while a senior member of the Royal Family setting up shop in Canada "doesn't accord with what Canada has become," Harry is no longer a royal so the problem is solved. Harry remains a prince but will not be a working royal.

Associated Press writer Jill Lawless in London contributed to this report.

## **Rocker Ozzy Osbourne announces Parkinson's diagnosis**

**The Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — Rocker Ozzy Osbourne says that he's been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, a nervous system disorder that affects movement.

The 71-year-old Grammy winner and former vocalist for the metal band Black Sabbath said during an interview on "Good Morning America" that aired Tuesday that the diagnosis came after a fall last year.

Osbourne had to cancel tour dates last year due to health troubles. Osbourne said he really wants to get well and get back to performing because he misses his fans.

His wife, Sharon Osbourne, told GMA that the diagnosis "was not a death sentence by any stretch of the imagination," but he had good days and bad days.

Osbourne and his family, including his children and wife, were the stars of their own reality show called "The Osbournes."

## **US agency examining Tesla unintended acceleration complaint**

**By TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer**

DETROIT (AP) — The U.S. government's auto safety agency is looking into allegations that all three of Tesla's electric vehicle models can suddenly accelerate on their own.

Brian Sparks of Berkeley, California, petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration asking for an investigation. An agency document shows 127 owner complaints to the government that include 110 crashes and 52 injuries.

The agency said it will look into allegations that cover about 500,000 Tesla vehicles including Model 3, Model S and Model X vehicles from the 2013 through 2019 model years. The agency's investigations office will evaluate the petition and decide if it should open a formal probe.

"I am concerned that these complaints reflect a systemic defect that has not been investigated by NHTSA," Sparks wrote to James Owens, the acting NHTSA administrator. "I am also concerned that these potential defects represent risk to the safety of Tesla drivers, their passengers, and the public."

Messages were left Friday seeking comment from Tesla.

NHTSA is already investigating three December crashes involving Tesla vehicles in which three people were killed. The agency's special crash investigations unit sent teams to Gardena, California, and near Terre Haute, Indiana, to probe two fatal crashes. Another crash in Connecticut also is under investigation.

Frank Borris, a former head of safety defect investigations for NHTSA, said the number of complaints cited in the petition is unusual and warrants further investigation.

"The sheer number of complaints would certainly catch my eye," said Borris, who now runs an auto safety consulting business.

Tesla owners communicate with other owners on Internet forums and social media, and that could influence the number of complaints, he said.

He said the timing of the petition is good, because the agency needs to do a "deeper dive" into Tesla safety.

Some of the unintended acceleration complaints, which have yet to be verified by NHTSA, allege that the cars' electronics malfunctioned.

In his 69-page petition, Sparks analyzed the complaints to NHTSA and determined that many of the crashes happened while drivers were parking the Teslas. He compared Tesla's unintended acceleration complaint rate to other vehicles and found Tesla's to be much higher.

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Many of the reports, Sparks wrote, show that Tesla has refused to share data with vehicle owners after an unintended acceleration incident. "It is clear that Tesla has the data and is aware of the problem," Sparks wrote.

In one complaint, an owner in San Clemente, California, told NHTSA that in November of 2018, a Model X SUV accelerated on its own to full power during a U-Turn on a city street. The driver had a foot on the brake, but the SUV accelerated in a fraction of a second, according to the complaint. The driver alleged that something in Tesla's system "triggered the sudden spontaneously full acceleration, resulting in this collision."

The SUV hit a parked vehicle, the air bags inflated and the owner had a large abdominal bruise and several small chest bruises, according to the complaint. People who file complaints with NHTSA are not identified in the agency's database.

The driver asked NHTSA to find out whether the Tesla complaints had common elements, including parking or making turns at low speeds.

In another crash, in May of 2013, the owner of a Model S sedan in Thousand Oaks, California, complained that while pulling into a parking spot, the car suddenly accelerated on its own.

The Model S went over a parking block and a curb and struck a cement light post. The air bags inflated, but no one was hurt, the complaint said.

Three weeks after the crash, the owner got a letter from Tesla saying that the accelerator was depressed to 48% just before the crash and 98% at the time of impact. The owner still believes the car accelerated by itself, the complaint stated.

Anyone can petition NHTSA to investigate an auto safety problem, and the agency said in a statement Friday that it encourages people to report concerns.

In the other Tesla crashes that NHTSA is investigating, authorities are trying to determine whether the cars were operating on Autopilot, a system designed to keep a car in its lane and a safe distance from other vehicles. Autopilot also can change lanes on its own.

Separately, the National Transportation Safety Board will hold a hearing Feb. 25 on a fatal crash in Mountain View, California, involving a Tesla that was operating on the company's Autopilot driver assist system.

Tesla has said repeatedly that its Autopilot system is designed only to assist drivers, who must still pay attention and be ready to intervene at all times. The company contends that Teslas with Autopilot are safer than vehicles without it, but cautions that the system does not prevent all crashes.

NHTSA's crash program has inspected 23 crashes involving vehicles that the agency believed were operating on some form of partially automated advanced driver assist system. Fourteen of these cases involved Tesla models. The team investigates more than 100 crashes per year.

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This story has been corrected to fix the spelling of former NHTSA official Frank Borris' last name.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 22, the 22nd day of 2020. There are 344 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 22, 1998, Theodore Kaczynski (kah-ZIHN'-skee) pleaded guilty in Sacramento, California, to being the Unabomber responsible for three deaths and 29 injuries in return for a sentence of life in prison without parole.

On this date:

In 1498, during his third voyage to the Western Hemisphere, Christopher Columbus arrived at the present-day Caribbean island of St. Vincent.

In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 81 after a reign of 63 years; she was succeeded by her eldest son, Edward VII.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces began landing at Anzio, Italy.

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In 1953, the Arthur Miller drama "The Crucible," set during the Salem witch trials, opened on Broadway. In 1970, the first regularly scheduled commercial flight of the Boeing 747 began in New York and ended in London some 6 1/2 hours later.

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its Roe v. Wade decision, legalized abortions using a trimester approach. Former President Lyndon B. Johnson died at his Texas ranch at age 64.

In 1987, Pennsylvania treasurer R. Budd Dwyer, convicted of defrauding the state, proclaimed his innocence at a news conference before pulling out a gun, placing the barrel in his mouth and shooting himself to death in front of horrified onlookers.

In 1994, actor Telly Savalas died in Universal City, California, a day after turning 72.

In 1995, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy died at the Kennedy compound at Hyannis Port, Mass., at age 104.

In 1997, the Senate confirmed Madeleine Albright as the nation's first female secretary of state.

In 2007, a double car bombing of a predominantly Shiite commercial area in Baghdad killed 88 people. Iran announced it had barred 38 nuclear inspectors on a United Nations list from entering the country in apparent retaliation for U.N. sanctions imposed the previous month.

In 2009, President Barack Obama signed an executive order to close the Guantanamo Bay prison camp within a year. (The facility remained in operation as lawmakers blocked efforts to transfer terror suspects to the United States; President Donald Trump later issued an order to keep the jail open and allow the Pentagon to bring new prisoners there.)

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama tried to revive his battered agenda and rally Democrats with a renewed emphasis on jobs during a town hall meeting in Elyria (el-LEER'-ee-uh), Ohio. The "Hope for Haiti Now" telethon raised more than \$66 million. Conan O'Brien ended his brief tenure of only seven months on "The Tonight Show" after accepting a \$45 million buyout from NBC to leave the show he'd long dreamed of hosting. Actress Jean Simmons, 80, died in Santa Monica, California. Actor James Mitchell, 89, died in Los Angeles.

Five years ago: With thousands of abortion protesters swarming Washington in their annual March for Life, the House voted 242-179 to permanently forbid federal funds for most abortion coverage, even though the legislation had no realistic chance of passage. Yemen's U.S.-backed president, Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, quit under pressure from rebels holding him captive in his home. Former U.S. Senator and Kentucky Governor Wendell Ford, 90, died in Owensboro.

One year ago: The Supreme Court said the Trump administration could go ahead with its plan to restrict military service by transgender men and women as court challenges continued. Los Angeles teachers overwhelmingly approved a new contract, ending a six-day strike over funding and staffing in the nation's second-largest school district. "Roma" and "The Favourite" each picked up 10 nominations for the 91st Academy Awards; Netflix and Marvel each scored their first best-picture nomination, for "Roma" (Netflix) and "Black Panther" (Marvel.) Former New York Yankees reliever Mariano Rivera became baseball's first unanimous Hall of Fame selection, as he was elected along with Edgar Martinez, Mike Mussina and the late Roy Halladay.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Piper Laurie is 88. Celebrity chef Graham Kerr (TV: "The Galloping Gourmet") is 86. Author Joseph Wambaugh is 83. Singer Steve Perry is 71. Country singer-musician Teddy Gentry (Alabama) is 68. Movie director Jim Jarmusch is 67. Actor John Wesley Shipp is 65. Hockey Hall of Famer Mike Bossy is 63. Actress Linda Blair is 61. Actress Diane Lane is 55. Actor and rap DJ Jazzy Jeff is 55. Country singer Regina Nicks (Regina Regina) is 55. Celebrity chef Guy Fieri is 52. Actress Olivia d'Abo is 51. Actress Katie Finneran is 49. Actor Gabriel Macht is 48. Actor Balthazar Getty is 45. Actor Christopher Kennedy Masterson is 40. Jazz singer Lizz Wright is 40. Pop singer Willa Ford is 39. Actress Beverley (cq) Mitchell is 39. Rock singer-musician Ben Moody is 39. Actor Kevin Sheridan is 38. Actress-singer Phoebe Strole is 37. Rapper Logic is 30. Tennis player Alize Cornet (uh-LEEZ' kohr-NAY') is 30. Actress Sami Gayle is 24.

Thought for Today: "I know there's a proverb which that says 'To err is human,' but a human error is nothing to what a computer can do if it tries." — Dame Agatha Christie, English mystery writer (1890-1976).

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