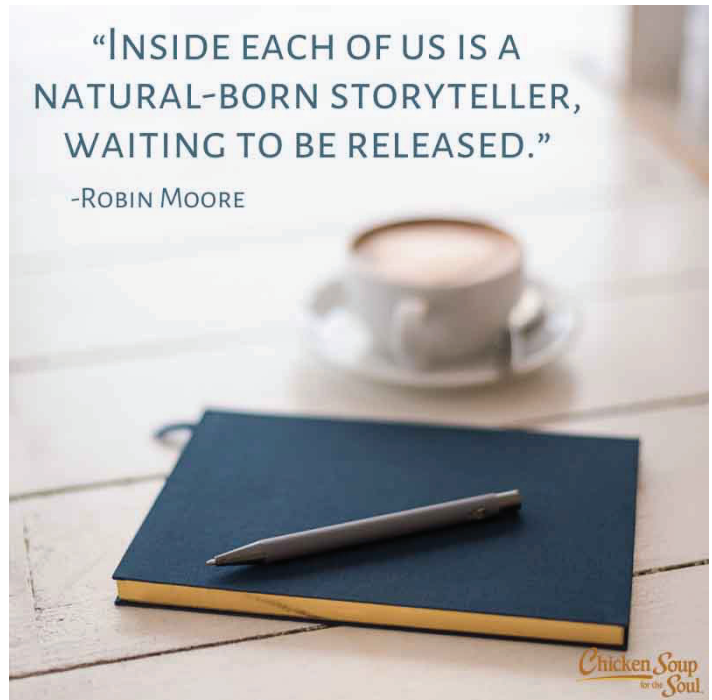


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“INSIDE EACH OF US IS A  
NATURAL-BORN STORYTELLER,  
WAITING TO BE RELEASED.”

-ROBIN MOORE

## Sisseton Make-up Game

The date has been set for the make-up boys game with Sisseton. It has been set for Friday, Feb. 28th. Times have yet to be determined. The games will be played at Sisseton.

It's Boys' Basketball Action on GDILIVE.COM



**Sioux Falls  
Christian  
Chargers VS  
Groton Area Tigers**



6:30 p.m.: Saturday, Feb. 01, 2020 at Groton

Sponsored by the  
Aberdeen Chrysler Center

## Saturday, Feb. 8

Chamberlain will be coming to Groton for a boys' basketball game. The C game will begin at 1:30 with the junior varsity around 2:45 p.m. and the varsity around 4:15 p.m. This is a make-up game for the game lost from the Pentagon.

**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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## An iceberg freezes winning streak at nine

Cold shooting and being outrebounded provided to be too big of a hill to overcome Friday night as Clark/Willow Lake handed the boys their first loss of the season, 54-43.

The lead changed hands 11 times and the game was tied twice in the first half as the Cyclone held a 30-27 lead at half time. In the first half, the Tigers made 10 of 24 shots for 42 percent and the Cyclones were 12 of 16 in shooting for 75 percent.

Then came the second half. In the third quarter, Groton Area made one of 12 field goals for eight percent and the Cyclones were five of 11 for 45 percent. Clark/Willow Lake took a 41-34 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Tigers closed to within seven, 48-41. Tyler O'Neill made eight of eight free throws that helped the Cyclones to pull away for the win.

Groton Area made 15 of 49 shots for 31 percent. The Tigers were 12 of 23 in two-pointers for 52 percent and four of 27 in three-pointers for 15 percent. The Cyclones were 20 of 40 for 50 percent. Clark/Willow Lake outrebounded the Tigers, 33-24.

Brodyn DeHoet had his fifth straight game of double-doubles with 16 points and 10 rebounds. He also had one assist and three steals and was six of eight from the line. Jonathan Doeden had 14 points, four rebounds, two assists and two steals. Kaden Kurtz had 10 points, two rebounds and two assists. Jayden Zak made a three-pointer, had two rebounds, one assist and one steal. Autsin Jones had one rebound, Cade Guthmiller had five rebounds, two assists, one steal and one block. Isaac Smith had two assists.

Tyler O'Neill led the Cyclones with 17 points which included his eight fourth quarter free throws. Stone Bruke had a double-double night for the Cyclones with 16 points and 17 rebounds. Brady Jordan had 10 points while Renner Uecker had seven and Trey Huber four.

Groton Area was nine of 15 from the line for 60 percent off of Clark/Willow Lake's 11 team fouls while the Cyclones were 10 of 16 for 63 percent off of Groton Area's 18 team fouls. Groton Area only had three turnovers while the Cyclones had 11.

Groton Area is now 9-1 on the season and will play Sioux Falls Christian at 6:30 p.m. today at Madison. Clark/Willow Lake is 6-4 and they will play Dakota Valley at 2 p.m. today in Madison.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 33-29. The Tigers led at the quarterstops at 9-7, 19-15 and 27-21. Isaac Smith led the Tigers with nine points followed by Chandler Larson with six, Jayden Zak, Tate Larson and Tristan Traphagen each had four points, Lane Tietz had three, Wyatt Hearnen two and Lucas Simon added one point. Kaplan Felberg led the Cyclones with nine points.

The varsity game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Allied Climate Professionals, Blocker Construction, Groton Dairy Queen, Jark Real Estate, John Sieh Agency, Milbrandt Enterprises and Tyson DeHoet Trucking. The junior varsity game was also broadcast live on GDLIVE.COM, sponsored by the Groton Vet Clinic.

- Paul Kosel

## Liz Marty May Wastes No Time In Securing Key Endorsements in Primary run against Dusty Johnson for US Congress



Just days ahead of Liz Marty May's formal announcement, 18 former/current South Dakota State Legislators formally endorsed her candidacy for US Congress against Dusty Johnson.

"Republican leaders across South Dakota are ready for strong conservative leadership in Washington! We are ready for a representative who has a proven track record on our cherished conservative issues, is trustworthy, reliable, and understands the way of South Dakota life," states Senator Phil Jenson of Rapid City.

"South Dakotans are strong in our faith, strong in our country, and strong in our principles. We need a representative who reflects that. Liz May isn't just tough, she's ranch tough. It's time to send a real, every-day South Dakotan to Washington," says former State Senator and Representative Betty Olson of Harding County.

May will officially announce her run for US Congress on Saturday, February 1, at 12:00 PM at the Black Hills Stock Show & Rodeo located at Central State Fair Grounds (800 San Francisco St, Rapid City, SD) outside of the Soule Building (South Entrance).

"We Have To Push back now! We have to fight. We have to ensure that there are "no safe spaces" for the left to work to dissolve this nation!" exclaimed May.

Liz Marty May is a staunch conservative with a love of community and country. She is a proud 4th generation South Dakotan, a successful small business owner and a trusted rancher from Kyle, South Dakota. As a respected leader and relentless fighter, she has a track record of making hard decisions, and has solved real problems for South Dakotans. Liz Marty May Sticks to Her Guns.

## Noem defends critical comments about news media

By Dana Hess

For the S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE — Gov. Kristi Noem started her remarks before a gathering of newspaper editors and publishers with praise for the work that they do. Soon she was defending remarks she has made about the news media.

Noem talked Thursday to a group of editors and publishers in Pierre for Newspaper Day at the Legislature, sponsored by the South Dakota Newspaper Association.

Noem thanked more than 30 people who work at newspapers for the way they help improve their communities.

"You're really the heart of every single community," Noem said. "It really is important work."

Noem has, at times, found fault with that work. She was asked to respond to a quote from one of her campaign letters that said, "You know as well as I do that we can't trust the media to tell the truth." She was asked Thursday if any of the media organizations represented in the room couldn't be trusted to tell the truth.

"There's always instances that we could specifically point to where you feel like it wasn't a fair article or coverage," Noem said. "I could give you specifics today, but I don't know if that's beneficial to the conversation."

Noem said her family was aware of the scrutiny they would face when she became governor.

"You get to be attacked and looked at and examined," Noem said.

The governor said her criticism wasn't leveled at newspapers in the state.

"Everyone in this room knows, their heart of hearts, that this doesn't apply to all of them," Noem said, noting unfair coverage at a national level. "There are times where there has been biased and unfair reporting."

One area where South Dakota and the governor have come in for criticism is the "Meth. We're on it" advertising campaign.

"It was a provocative campaign and we knew that it would be," Noem said, adding that she did not anticipate the level of discussion that it would spark.

Noem said the next part of the campaign will be a call to action that provides South Dakotans with the tools they need to help people in their lives who are addicted to methamphetamines.

"Overwhelmingly, that's what people are looking for," Noem said.

The state's initial investment of \$5 million in ConnectSD has resulted in \$25 million in internet infrastructure, Noem said, connecting 6,500 homes and 150 businesses to the internet.

Through the program, Noem said the state became aware of internet providers who weren't doing all they could to connect more customers.

"It kind of pointed out to us where providers in this industry weren't necessarily investing in infrastructure," Noem said.

—30—

## Democratic leaders: Marijuana initiatives have a chance

By Dana Hess

For the S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE — Members of the Democratic Party leadership in the Legislature predicted success for two ballot measures that legalize marijuana use in South Dakota.

They made their remarks to more than 30 editors and publishers who were in Pierre Thursday for Newspaper Day at the Legislature, sponsored by the South Dakota Newspaper Association.

"I think those two ballot initiatives probably have a chance," said Senate Minority Leader Troy Heinert, Mission, of initiatives to legalize the use of recreational marijuana and medical marijuana.

How the Legislature handles the possible passage of those initiatives concerns Heinert, who doesn't want

lawmakers to overturn the will of the people the way they did after the passage of Initiated Measure 22 in 2016. IM 22 revised the state's campaign finance and lobbying laws.

"Where we come in and strike that down," Heinert said. "That would be a big mistake on our part."

Assistant House Minority Leader Steven McCleery, Sisseton, said his biggest concern is infrastructure, especially at the county level. With the state's rivers full and plenty snow on the ground in some areas, he predicts flooding in the spring.

"I don't think most people have any idea of what that's going to look like," McCleery said.

The state needs to find another revenue source that can be funneled to counties so they can deal with fixing roads and bridges, McCleery said. While he wouldn't disclose the content of the bill, McCleery said that he has a bill coming that would offer another revenue source.

"We're going to have that discussion," McCleery said. "We're going to talk about revenue."

The Senate will also be talking about outlawing gender altering surgery and medications for minors as HB1057 passed through the House on Wednesday.

"It's bad public policy to pass laws for the sole purpose of trying to create a lawsuit," said Assistant Senate Minority Leader Craig Kennedy, Yankton. "We have more important things, in my opinion, that we should be focusing our time and effort on."

House Minority Leader Jamie Smith of Sioux Falls said all legislators are working to find extra funding for what's known as the Big Three: education, Medicaid providers and state employee salaries. In her December budget address, Gov. Kristi Noem said there would be no funding available for increases in those areas.

"That zero was not an option on any of our minds," Smith said.

—30—

## Republican Senate leaders won't take position on gender bill

By Dana Hess

### For the S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE — The Republican leaders of the Senate wouldn't say Thursday morning where they stand on HB1057, a bill that outlaws gender altering surgeries and medicines for children under the age of 16.

Their remarks were made during a news conference with more than 30 editors and publishers in Pierre for Newspaper Day, an event sponsored by the South Dakota Newspaper Association.

Senate Majority Leader Kris Langer, Dell Rapids, said the bill hasn't been discussed in her caucus because it just made it through the House on Wednesday.

Assistant Majority Leader Jim Bolin, Canton, wouldn't say if he supported the bill, but he did say, "I did not sign on to this bill for a wide variety of reasons."

Bills like HB1057 show how open the process is in South Dakota, according to Bolin. In other states, a controversial bill might get stymied by the Speaker of the House or other leaders.

"South Dakota has one of the most open processes," Bolin said. "Every bill gets a hearing."

Republican leaders said the mood in the Capitol is good, with both parties working together. The frustrations that arise, according to Langer, have to do with money rather than the other party.

Flooding and a dip in the farm economy have made it tougher to find the needed funds in the Legislature.

"It's not surprising, then, that we take a hit on our budget," Langer said.

Both parties are trying to find money in the budget for raises for education, Medicaid providers and state employee salaries, according to House Majority Leader Lee Qualm, Platte. In her budget address last December, Gov. Kristi Noem said there would be no money available for increases in those areas.

Lawmakers are hopeful that revenues will come in higher than expected and allow them to offer some increases, Qualm said.

"There is a will to do something," Qualm said.

Qualm said he couldn't predict the fate of a bill that would put South Dakota permanently on Daylight Savings Time.

"The idea is everybody is tired of going back and forth," Qualm said of the twice yearly time change.

—30—

## Extremely Wet Conditions Across the Region Sets the Stage for a Significant Spring Flood Season

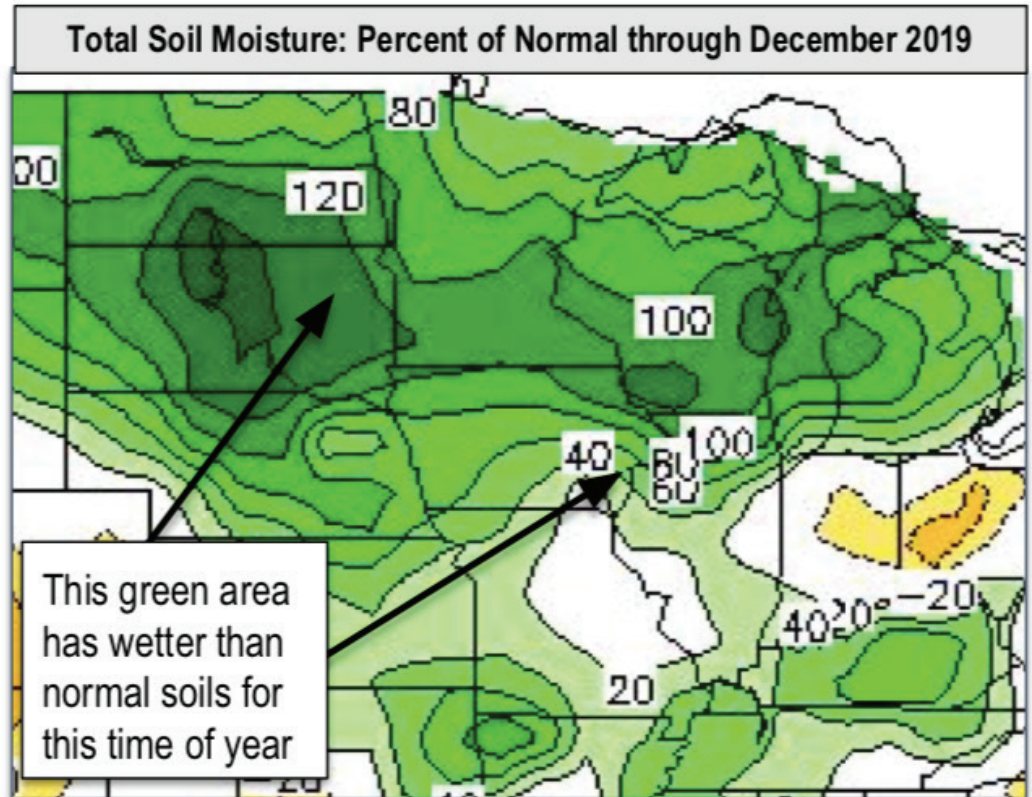
### Setting the Stage:

#### Precipitation and Soil Moisture

Well above normal rain and snowfall throughout 2019 has led to record flooding, record high river levels, and abnormally wet ground for the winter season across the region.

Through the end of December 2019, the Upper Mississippi River Basin and Red River Basin have had their wettest year in 125 years of modern record keeping.

Across the region, Michigan, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Wisconsin and Illinois all recorded their top 5 wettest years (January 2019 – December 2019).



**ABOVE: Wet soils (green) across most of the Upper Mississippi River Basin and Red River of the North can accept very little or no more water. Source: NOAA/NCEP/CPC**

### Setting the Stage:

#### Snowpack

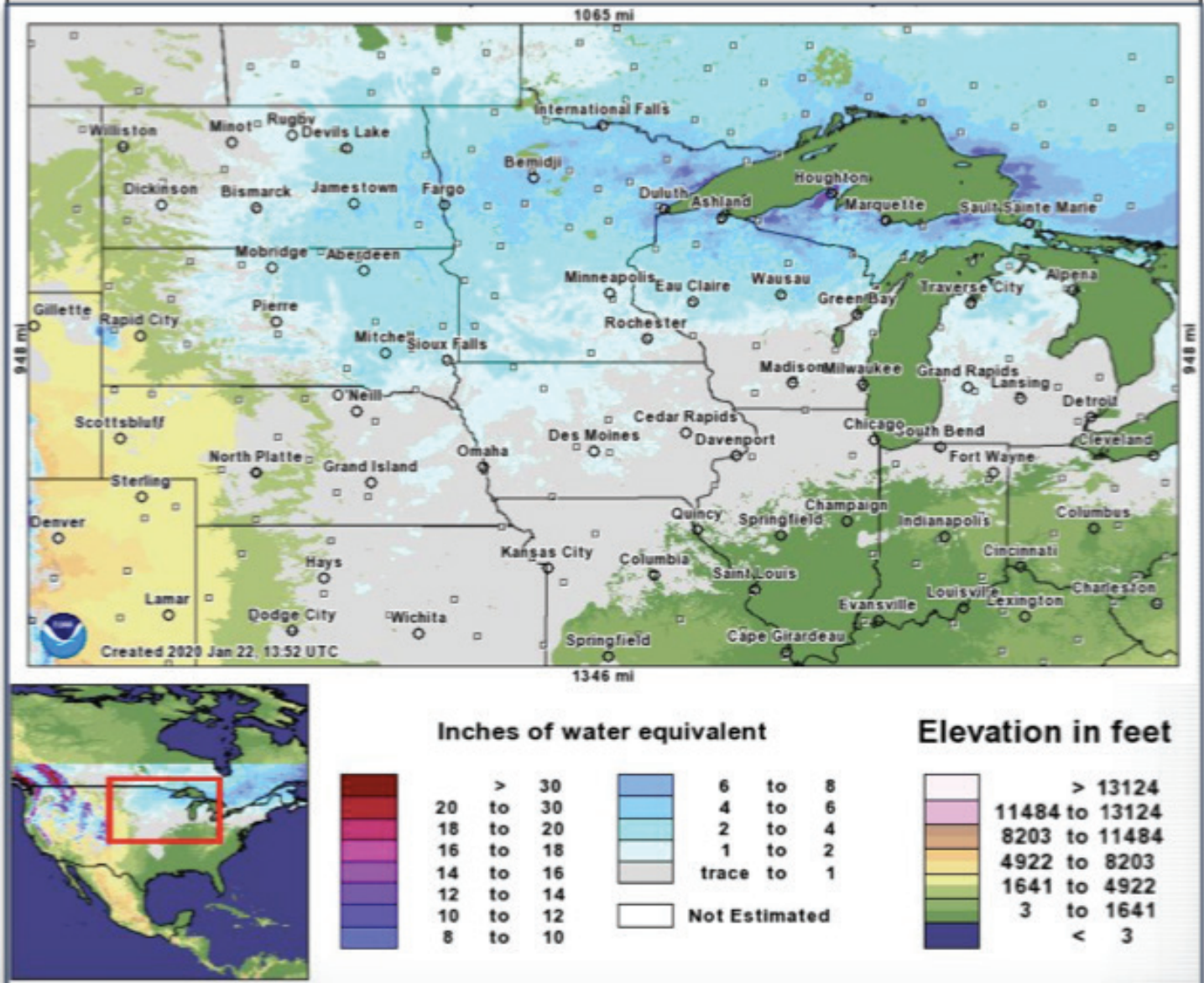
The seasonal snowpack continues to build across the Upper Mississippi River and Red River Basins. As of January 22, there is between 10-25 inches of snow depth across portions of North and South Dakota and into northern Minnesota and northern Wisconsin. Isolated snow depth of 30 inches or higher have also been observed in northern Minnesota.

This snow is holding anywhere from 2-8 inches of water within it - waiting to be released. The highest amounts can be found from eastern North Dakota to the arrowhead of Minnesota and Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

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## Snow Water Equivalent as of 1/22/20



ABOVE: Snow Water Equivalent Map as of January 22, 2020.  
Source OWP/NOHRSC

## Precipitation Outlook and Potential Impacts this Spring

### Late Winter/Spring 2020:

#### Outlook

We could be heading into the spring with wetter than normal soils and a healthy snowpack. Recent observations shows that several rivers and streams are running higher than normal.

The latest 2020 Winter Outlook suggests that odds favor a normal to wetter than normal February through April across much of the Upper Mississippi River and Red River basins, with higher odds farther north. We are also expecting cooler than normal temperatures as you head farther north, which could hold onto the snowpack longer into the spring. This increases the risk for a sudden and high-impact thaw in the spring.

#### What are the ingredients of a significant spring flood season?

A repeat of 2019 is not a guarantee. There is still a lot of time and factors that would need to come together before we will know just how bad, or how uneventful it will be.

#### Factors that would improve the flood situation:

- A period of dry, warm weather allowing soil to drain and evaporate existing moisture
- Little to no additional snowfall with no extreme cold snaps
- Gradual transition out of winter into spring with mild daytime temperatures and night time low temperatures below freezing - this will allow snow to ripen and melt off a little bit at a time

#### Factors that would lead to spring flooding:

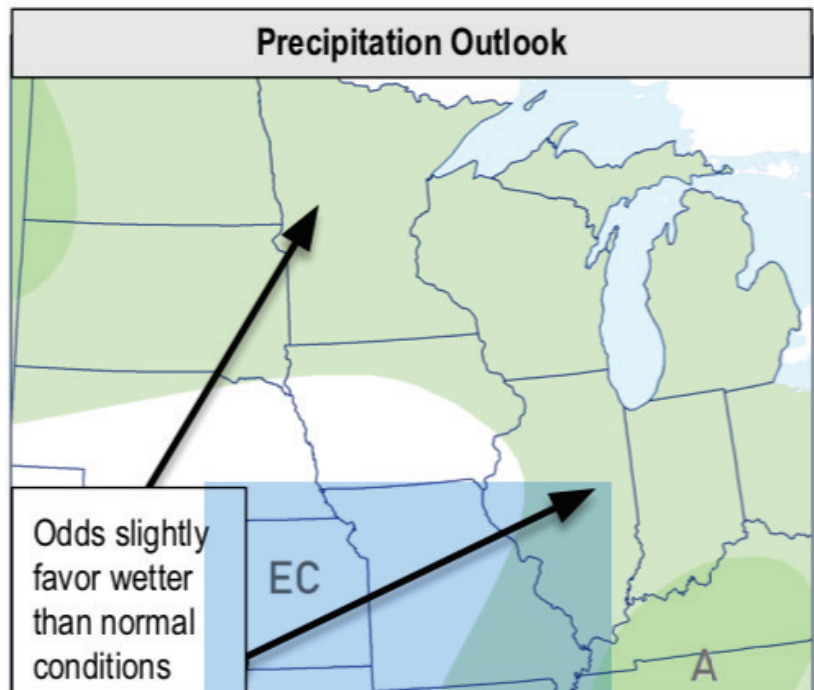
- Above normal snowpack across the basin
- A long-lived, widespread cold snap on bare ground that freezes the soil deep below the surface and builds a thick layer of river ice
- Sudden transition from winter to spring that melts the snowpack rapidly and increases the chance for ice jams on the rivers

A significant rain event on top of snow pack that releases the water in the snow rapidly

#### Potential Impacts

Unusually high streamflow, water levels, and abnormally wet soil suggest the following potential impacts for the upcoming spring season:

- Widespread ice jams, including on some rivers that are not usually affected by ice jams
- Widespread major flooding again this spring
- Delay or prevention of crop planting
- Long-term soil damage
- Travel impacts due to road, dam, levee, and bridge damage



**ABOVE:** The outlook indicates odds favor higher than normal precipitation from February through April across areas that already have wet soil and high river levels.

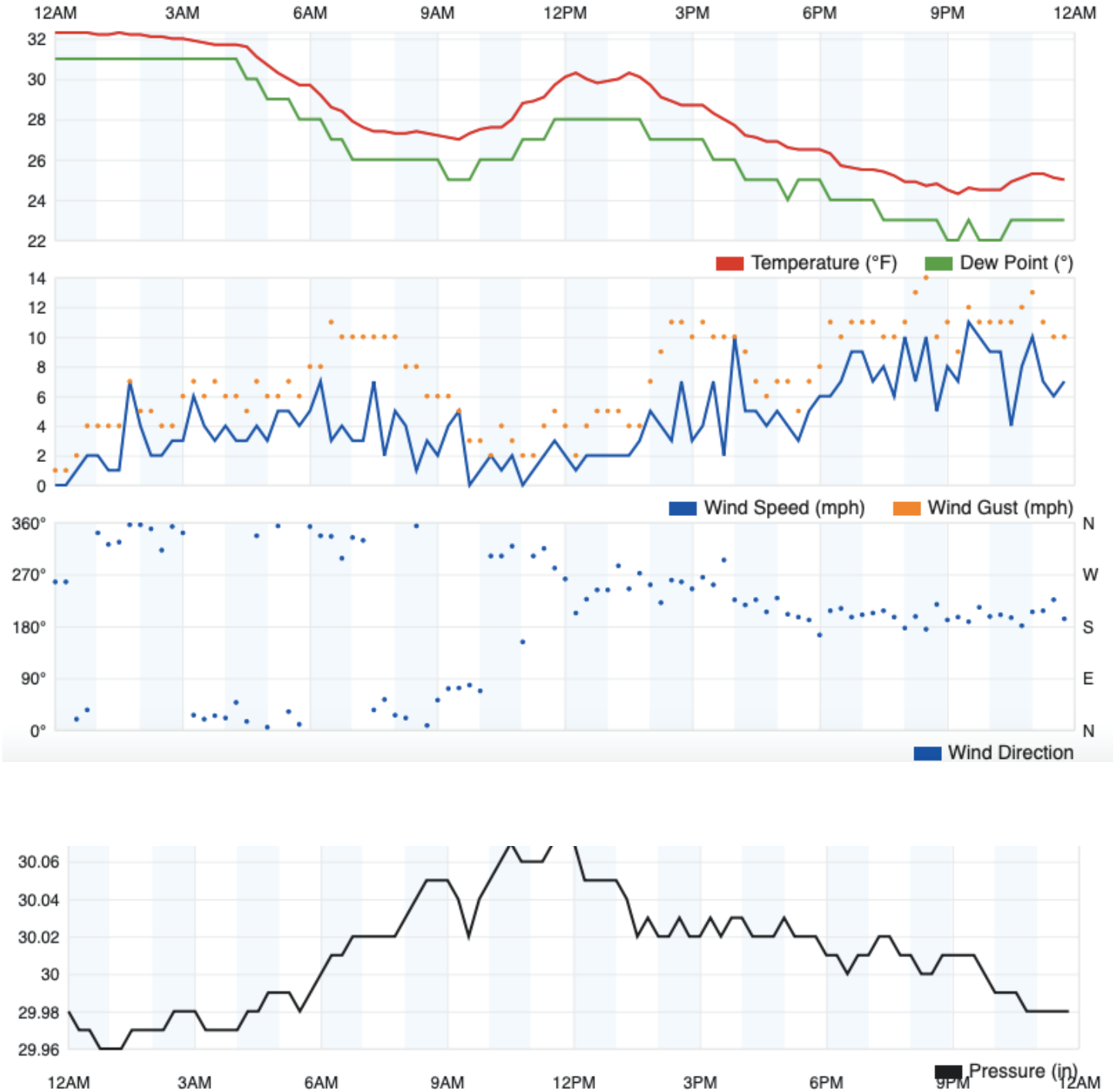
(Get the latest outlook: [www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov))



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## Yesterday's Groton's Weather Graphs



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## Upcoming Events

### **Saturday, February 1, 2020**

Boys Varsity Basketball Classic - DAK12 vs. NEC at Madison (Groton Area vs. SF Christian at 6:30 p.m.)  
Lewis and Clark Debate at Yankton  
10:00am: Groton Wrestling Tournament

### **Monday, February 3, 2020**

6:00 p.m.: Combined 7th/8th grade boys basketball hosts Redfield  
6:00 p.m.: Junior High Wrestling at Ipswich  
6:30 p.m.: Girls' basketball at Northwestern - JV followed by varsity game

### **Tuesday, February 4, 2020**

5 p.m.: Boys 7th and 8th grade games at GHS Gym vs. Langford  
Doubleheader basketball game hosts Langford Area. Girls JV at 4 p.m., Boys JV at 5 p.m., Girls' Varsity at 6:15 p.m. followed by the Boys Varsity.

### **Wednesday, February 5, 2020**

10:15 a.m.: MathCounts at Northern State University

### **Thursday, February 6, 2020**

6:30 p.m.: Girls Basketball at Tiospa Zina (JV followed by varsity)

### **Friday, February 7, 2020**

Boys' Basketball hosts Tiospa Zina. 7th grade game at 3 p.m., 8th grade game at 4 p.m., junior varsity game at 6:30 p.m. followed by varsity game

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Today

Tonight

Sunday

Sunday Night

Monday



Slight Chance  
Wintry Mix  
then Mostly  
Sunny

High: 43 °F



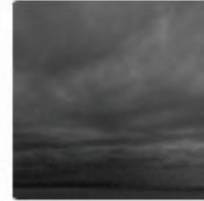
Partly Cloudy

Low: 34 °F



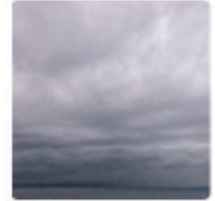
Increasing  
Clouds

High: 39 °F



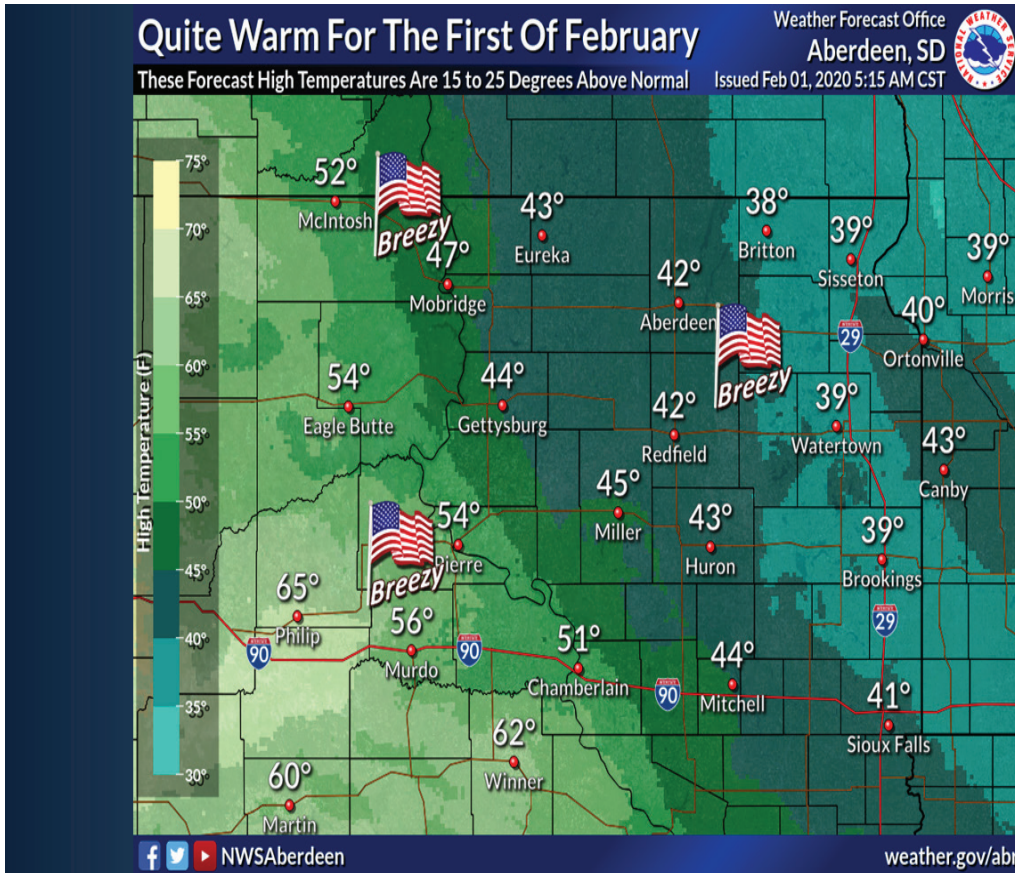
Cloudy

Low: 21 °F



Cloudy

High: 24 °F



The first day of February 2020 should be a rather warm one as west northwest breezes develop. High temperatures today, despite the expansive snowfield, should reach into the upper 30s to mid 50s for most of us.

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## Today in Weather History

February 1, 1969: Across central and eastern South Dakota, February 1969 contained a variety of winter weather causing many difficulties. Glazing due to dense fog and drizzle periodically formed on utility lines causing numerous broken power lines. Periodically, strong winds caused widespread blowing and drifting snow resulting in many closed roads. Snowplows would open the streets and often drifting snow would close the roads again. Frequent uses of pusher type snowplows piled banks of snow 20 to 30 feet along the streets, and it became impractical to open roads with this type of snowplow. Several rotary snowplows were flown in from military airbases outside of the state to open some of the roads in the eastern part of the state. Numerous school closings occurred during the month due to snow blocked roads.

February 1, 1989: Four to eight inches of snow fell across western and northern South Dakota. Winds of 25 mph and subzero temperature produced wind chills in the 50 to 80 below zero range. Several schools were closed across the area due to the dangerous wind chills. The storm continued into the 2nd.

1916: Seattle, Washington was buried under 21.5 inches of snow, their most significant 24-hour snowfall. A total of 32.5 inches of wet snow accumulated over three days. The Seattle cathedral dome collapsed under the snow's weight.

1947: On this date through the 9th, a great blizzard occurred in Saskatchewan, Canada. All highways into Regina were blocked. Railway officials declared the worst conditions in Canadian rail history. One train was buried in a snowdrift over a half mile long and 36.7 feet deep.

1955: Seen first as a "well defined cone-shaped funnel" over the Mississippi River, this F3 tornado cut a path from Commerce Landing to Clark in northeastern Mississippi. This tornado killed 20 and injured at least 141 individuals. Most of the deaths were in a plantation school. The following is from Thomas Grazulis, "Significant Tornadoes 1680-1991" book: "Despite the fact that a funnel was seen, that heavy objects were thrown long distances, and that the tornado was in a forecast box, the event was not officially called a tornado. A survey team state that since all debris was thrown in one direction, the event should not be listed as a tornado."

1893 - Thunder and lightning accompanied sleet and snow at Saint Louis MO during the evening hours, even though the temperature was just 13 degrees above zero. (The Weather Channel)

1951 - The greatest ice storm of record in the U.S. produced glaze up to four inches thick from Texas to Pennsylvania causing twenty-five deaths, 500 serious injuries, and 100 million dollars damage. Tennessee was hardest hit by the storm. Communications and utilities were interrupted for a week to ten days. (David Ludlum)

1951 - The temperature at Taylor Park Dam plunged to 60 degrees below zero, a record for the state of Colorado. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1985 - Snow, sleet and ice glazed southern Tennessee and northern sections of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The winter storm produced up to eleven inches of sleet and ice in Lauderdale County AL, one of the worst storms of record for the state. All streets in Florence AL were closed for the first time of record. (1st-2nd) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A storm in the Pacific Northwest produced wind gusts to 100 mph at Cape Blanco OR, and up to six inches of rain in the northern coastal mountain ranges. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thirty cities in the eastern U.S. reported new record high temperatures for the date, including Richmond VA with a reading of 73 degrees. Thunderstorms in southern Louisiana deluged Basile with 12.34 inches of rain. Arctic cold gripped the north central U.S. Wolf Point MT reported a low of 32 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - While arctic cold continued to invade the central U.S., fifty-four cities in the south central and eastern U.S. reported new record high temperatures for the date. Russell KS, the hot spot in the nation with a high of 84 degrees the previous day, reported a morning low of 12 above. Tioga ND reported a wind chill reading of 90 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary)

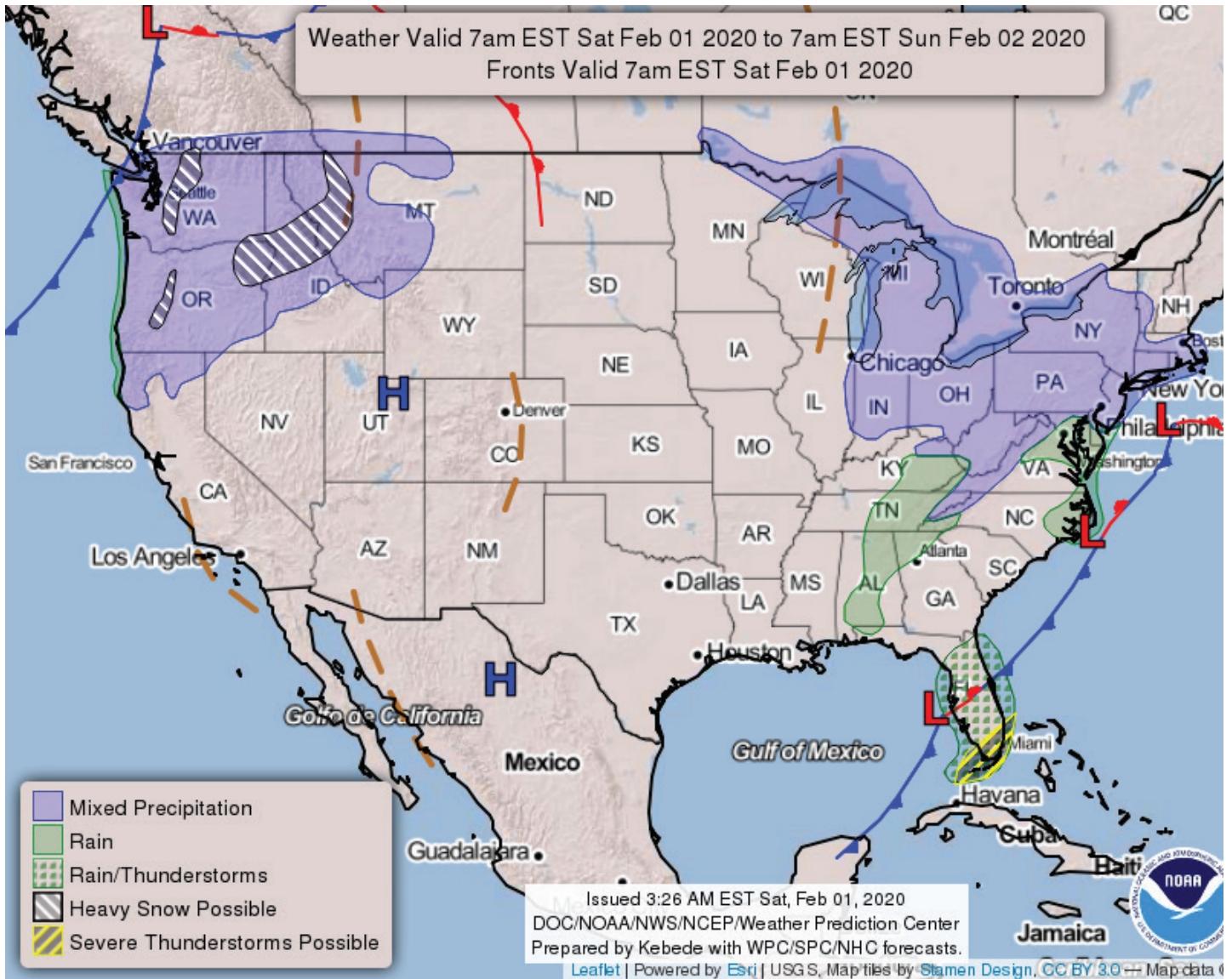
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 32 °F at 12:05 AM**  
**Low Temp: 24 °F at 9:09 PM**  
**Wind: 14 mph at 8:26 PM**  
**Precip:**

**Record High: 58° in 1931**  
**Record Low: -42° in 1893**  
**Average High: 24°F**  
**Average Low: 3°F**  
**Average Precip in Jan.: 0.47**  
**Precip to date in Jan.: 0.35**  
**Average Precip to date: 0.47**  
**Precip Year to Date: 0.35**  
**Sunset Tonight: 5:40 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:54 a.m.**



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## WHERE DOES YOUR LIGHT COME FROM?

Little Sara came home from school and proudly said to her mother, "I learned a new song today!"

"Sing it to me," came the request.

"God bless America, land that I love: Stand beside her, and guide her, through the night with the light from a bulb," sang Sara.

There is a great difference between "light from a bulb" and "light from above." As we look at our nation today, we find that most "light" has come from education, information, training, and knowledge that enables individuals to earn a living. However, the "light" that comes from wisdom – the ability to judge what is true or right or something with lasting value or worth – appears to be in short supply. God's wisdom seems to be disappearing!!

James reminds us that if we want to have the ability to make wise decisions in troubling situations we can always pray and ask God for guidance and wisdom.

We do not have to stumble in the darkness hoping to find good answers while looking for a "bulb" to light our path. We can ask God for His directions and He will gladly tell us what to do.

God's wisdom always leads us to the right decision and guarantees us good results. But, we must have God-centered goals that come from knowing, accepting, trusting, and living His Word if we expect His wisdom. It must be within us before it can come out of us or guide us.

Prayer: Lord, fill our minds with Your wisdom as we look to You for guidance to live lives worthy of You. Help us to seek Your wisdom from Your Word to light our way. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: James 1:5 If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

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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)

## News from the Associated Press

### NW Iowa dairy diversifies to survive long downturn

By **DONNELLE ELLER** The Des Moines Register

LARCHWOOD, Iowa (AP) — Doug Stensland says his family's dairy faced a decision in 2015, when what would become a farm-ending crisis for many operations was just beginning: Do we get bigger, or do something different?

Stensland didn't foresee the prolonged downturn in the dairy industry coming, "but we knew the small farm, the family farm, was probably going to have an uphill battle" financially, he said.

So instead of milking more cows, the family decided to build a creamery.

They started bottling milk and making ice cream, cheese and butter. They opened the farm to visitors. And they took their products to groceries and established their own retail stores.

Diversifying their operation — and adding value to their milk — has helped the farm buck a wave of dairy closings.

Iowa, the U.S.' 12th-largest milk producer, lost 97 dairies last year, or about 7% of the state's operations, according to the Iowa Department of Agriculture. Neighboring Wisconsin, the nation's second-largest milk producer in 2019, lost nearly 800 dairies last year, or about 10% of its operations.

For the Stenslands, the cow-to-consumer plan is working.

"If we wouldn't have done this," Doug Stensland told The Des Moines Register, "we probably wouldn't be in the dairy business anymore."

The family's products are sold in 200 grocery stores, coffee shops, restaurants and other locations in Iowa, South Dakota and Minnesota. And the dairy is tripling its refrigerator and freezer space to accommodate growth.

The family sells their products in four locations in nearby Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and from a store on their Iowa farm. They're hoping to expand into more stores in Iowa this year.

Wrapping up the day's cheese-making recently, Justin Stensland said using their milk to make ice cream and other products gives the family more power over the prices they get.

"It's hard to take when somebody else tells you, 'This is the price of your milk,'" he said. "It takes a lot to make this all work ... but we wanted more control."

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue raised the ire of farmers last fall when he told Wisconsin dairy producers that he was unsure if small operations could survive.

Many small dairies have been forced out of business, said Larry Tranel, an Iowa State University Extension dairy specialist, but dairies of all sizes have struggled with losses over the past couple of years.

It's the most devastating downturn that Tranel said he's seen in three decades of working with dairy farmers.

Low prices, large supplies and lost export markets, combined with high production costs, are driving other types of operations, such as livestock and grain farmers, out of business, too. But the farm downturn has hit dairies especially hard. Nationally, about 2,700 dairies folded in 2018, a drop of 6.8% from 2017, U.S. Department of Agriculture data show.

No recent downturn has been longer, said Tranel, who estimates he spends about half his time helping farmers struggling with stress.

"People are losing their way of life," said Tranel, who compares the mental stress to the 1980s farm crisis, one of the worst recessions Iowa has experienced. "They have a hard time understanding what's going on."

And although prices are beginning to rebound with production projected to drop, Tranel said the recovery will likely take a few years as farmers work to dig out of debt and regain lost ground.

Stensland said he didn't expect to be milking cows in his 60s.

In fact, he closed the dairy when his father decided to retire from farming in 1989. His children were small, and he and his wife wanted to spend more time with them.



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"I thought I was doing my kids a favor," letting them off the hook of daily chores, said Stensland, who grew corn, soybeans and alfalfa as well as working off the farm after closing the dairy.

But twin sons Justin and Jason had other ideas. They asked to restart the dairy in 2004, when they were high school juniors.

Stensland thought they'd "get it out of their blood" before going to college. Instead, they continued working on the farm, expanding the herd to about 200 cows.

Nearly nine years ago, they decided to add a robotic milker and automated systems for feeding the cows and scraping away their manure, mostly eliminating outside labor needs. That freed up the brothers to consider expanding the business.

Justin Stensland said neither he nor Jason was excited about adding more cows. But they liked the idea of selling their milk, ice cream and other products directly to consumers.

Before taking the leap, Doug Stensland said, his sons asked the entire family to join the business: him and his wife, Mona; daughter, Leah Moller; son Kyle; daughters-in-law Chelsea and Paige; and his brother, Mark.

They all agreed.

"We all went to the end of the cliff and jumped off — and we're still falling," Stensland joked.

Direct-to-consumer marketing is as old as farmers markets. But the U.S. Department of Agriculture says the concept is on the rise as consumers seek fresh, local and organic foods — and farmers look for a more sustainable business model.

In Iowa, state Agriculture Secretary Mike Naig said on-farm dairy processors like the Stenslands' have increased.

Iowa has 21 dairies with on-site creameries, Naig's office said, and three more are adding them.

"More dairies are trying to control their destiny," said Naig, who visited the Stensland farm this month. "We see some people being successful in a very trying time for dairies."

The Stenslands' farm is about 20 miles from Sioux Falls, with a metro area of 265,000 people. Although not all dairies are near a large city, more are well-positioned to make their own products, Tranel said.

He warned, though, that the move requires significant capital investment — and a lot of skills and labor to raise the crops, care for animals and make and market the products, as well as manage distribution.

Doug Stensland said he and his wife are betting the farm that the family enterprise will be a success.

"We're all-in on this working," Stensland said, adding that the rest of the family is financially committed to the new business model, too.

Stensland Family Farms now employs about 20 full- and part-time workers, in addition to the family. With growth this year, Justin Stensland said he expects the farm will use all of the milk it produces to make ice cream and other products and will need to look to nearby dairy partners to add to its supplies.

Doug Stensland said his family has mostly learned by trial and error — from making new products to jockeying for retail shelf space to running retail shops and fine-tuning the lineup to consumer preferences.

For example, Justin Stensland said he and his mother worked for a year on recipes before adding the creamery to make ice cream. Getting the vanilla flavor — the foundation for about 60 different ice creams — just right was the biggest challenge, he said.

"There have been mistakes," said Doug Stensland, such as launching too many products and taking them to too many locations. They've become more selective about the stores where their products are sold, and they no longer make butter because they use all of their cream for ice cream.

"You have to learn stuff in the school of hard knocks," Stensland said. "None of it has been easy. But we're all committed to making it work."

And it helps, Stensland said, to work closely with family and build a business that his grandchildren may want to join someday.

"I wouldn't want to do it any differently," he said. "It's probably the most challenging thing I've ever done, but that's good. We don't have any regrets and never will."

## 'Our government gave us a job to do': WWII vet looks back

By KENT BUSH Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D (AP) — Allen Gibbs doesn't consider himself a hero. The 98-year-old veteran has been called a hero many times in his life, but he will tell you he doesn't deserve the title compared to others he served with in World War II.

The people who call him a hero know Gibbs served his country well. They've seen him on an Honor Flight. They know the sacrifices he and his generation made to preserve the country.

"Everyone called us heroes and it made us really uncomfortable," Gibbs said. "We were just the right age at the right time and our government gave us a job to do."

The job he did included serving in the 31st Infantry Division — known as the "Dixie Division" — in the South Pacific, the Rapid City Journal reported. Gibbs' service began when he was 21, in 1942. He listened to news reports working nights in Vermillion, South Dakota. He went to enlist, but the draft board got to him first. Gibbs was trained as an infantry radio operator. There were some benefits to having technical training, but he was also forced to pack and carry a 49-pound radio everywhere his division went. Gibbs had a backpack molded to fit him that was designed to make the load easier to haul around, but he was still forced to carry fewer food rations with him than normal because the extra weight was more trouble than it was worth.

"It was like strapping a microwave oven to your back and carrying it around," Gibbs said.

He hadn't been on land on Goodenough Island near New Guinea when his division first came under attack. Fortunately, that first attack brought more cackling than casualties.

Most of his fellow soldiers were suffering with yellow skin when his division landed on the island. He soon discovered that, because the Japanese had the market cornered on quinine, the United States was using Atabrine to ward off effects of malaria. They had given the soldiers a quadruple dose to start the treatment and that turned their skin yellow. It also added a great deal of discomfort.

In his memoir, Gibbs says most of the soldiers were outside their tents "heaving up the Atabrine and everything else not securely anchored to their intestines." That's when the soldiers were sure they were coming under attack by the Japanese. "We decided it must be a banzai attack," Gibbs recalled. The troops had heard a lot about the all-out attacking style of their Japanese enemies.

"It was the damndest noise you have ever heard," Gibbs said of the commotion that first night. But it turns out it wasn't the enemy after all. "We thought it was a banzai attack but parrots had moved in on us. They were objecting to us being there. There were hundreds of them."

Gibbs said he will never forget the squawking racket those parrots made that first day on land in combat.

Gibbs was never injured in combat. But he wasn't necessarily one of the lucky ones. He came down with both dengue fever and hepatitis while he was overseas and he even had to have his appendix removed in less than ideal conditions.

"The surgery was on a stretcher sitting on C-ration boxes with one light bulb," Gibbs said. "The doctors had just worked on a patrol that had been shot up really bad from eight thirty until midnight and they brought me in and asked what was wrong with me. When they said 'appendicitis' the doctor said, 'Damn civilian disease.'"

The recovery from his surgery was supposed to take six weeks, but Gibbs knew that he risked being reassigned if he didn't get back to his division so after only four weeks, he caught a ride on a flat boat.

"I couldn't get a plane across. I don't know why I did that. We didn't have any way of defending ourselves," Gibbs said. Their signal man was drunk so since Gibbs knew how to work the lights, they gave him a ride across so he wouldn't be transferred to another outfit.

Gibbs said he didn't have advice for today's military men and women because he doesn't know what they go through each day. He has a lot of respect for today's military members.

"Today's army is better educated, better trained and better equipped," he said. "One advantage we had was always knowing who our enemy was. They don't always know that today."

He said World War II was different than other missions in our country's history because the country

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was unified.

"Everyone was at war," Gibbs said. "Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Ladies went to work. People rationed. Everyone was in support of what we were doing."

Gibbs joked that he only received one medal during his service.

"I got the good conduct medal, and I'm not so sure I deserved that," he chuckled. He also received campaign ribbons and several other honors.

In his memoir, Gibbs mused about his success as a soldier.

"Sometimes I wonder if I really made a difference," Gibbs wrote. "If the criteria is putting a bullet into an enemy, then I didn't. If, as generally conceded, communication contributed to the overall success of an operation, then perhaps I did."

Since he left the service, Gibbs has enjoyed 73 years married to his wife Kathie. They live together in St. Martin's Village at the Good Samaritan Society in Rapid City.

"I probably wouldn't still be here if it weren't for her," he said. "Though not part of my war time years, she is what has made life worthwhile, ever since."

'SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Mega Millions

28-31-33-57-62, Mega Ball: 19, Megaplier: 2

(twenty-eight, thirty-one, thirty-three, fifty-seven, sixty-two; Mega Ball: nineteen; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$155 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$40 million

## Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

BOYS BASKETBALL=

Brandon Valley 52, Aberdeen Central 33

Burke 52, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 43

Canton 79, Freeman 43

Corsica/Stickney 60, Menno 35

Dell Rapids St. Mary 52, Lake Preston 30

Edgemont 38, Hay Springs, Neb. 36, OT

Florence/Henry 58, Great Plains Lutheran 43

Hanson 64, Bridgewater-Emery 46

Howard 56, Ethan 51

Kadoka Area 59, Bison 15

Langford 52, Northwestern 45

Lyman 84, New Underwood 46

Milbank 54, Ortonville, Minn. 38

Mitchell 65, Brookings 49

Pine Ridge 72, White River 58

Platte-Geddes 60, Colome 19

Potter County 65, Sunshine Bible Academy 59

Red Cloud 81, Lead-Deadwood 51

Redfield 65, Britton-Hecla 43

Scottsbluff, Neb. 64, Rapid City Central 61

Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 71, North Central Co-Op 40

Todd County 70, McLaughlin 56

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Warner 64, Waubay/Summit 60  
Watertown 35, Harrisburg 34  
Winner 65, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 51  
Dakota Oyate Challenge=  
Consolation=  
Crazy Horse 46, Takini 35  
Lower Brule 72, Tiospaye Topa 46  
Semifinal=  
Marty Indian 73, Omaha Nation, Neb. 71  
Tiospa Zina Tribal 83, Flandreau Indian 35  
GIRLS BASKETBALL=  
Aberdeen Central 61, Brandon Valley 47  
Aberdeen Roncalli 64, Webster 29  
Bowman County, N.D. 50, Lemmon 30  
Burke 52, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 33  
Colman-Egan 47, Estelline/Hendricks 40  
Corsica/Stickney 66, Menno 36  
DeSmet 49, Elkton-Lake Benton 21  
Dell Rapids St. Mary 69, Lake Preston 45  
Deubrook 56, Arlington 39  
Edgemont 56, Hay Springs, Neb. 23  
Faith 66, Newell 47  
Freeman 53, Canton 44  
Hanson 59, Bridgewater-Emery 55  
Harrisburg 52, Watertown 40  
Herreid/Selby Area 54, Ipswich 47  
Kadoka Area 55, Bison 46  
Langford 63, Northwestern 33  
Milbank 52, Ortonville, Minn. 44  
Mitchell 55, Brookings 32  
New Underwood 53, Lyman 42  
North Central Co-Op 57, Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 40  
Parkston 41, Avon 29  
Platte-Geddes 50, Colome 45, OT  
Potter County 59, Sunshine Bible Academy 47  
Rapid City Christian 48, Custer 43  
Red Cloud 68, Lead-Deadwood 38  
Redfield 57, Britton-Hecla 10  
Scottsbluff, Neb. 47, Rapid City Central 36  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 51, Sioux Falls Lincoln 31  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 54, Pierre 50  
Tea Area 72, Madison 46  
Todd County 68, McLaughlin 46  
Viborg-Hurley 56, Elk Point-Jefferson 44  
Wall 59, Timber Lake 53  
Waubay/Summit 63, Warner 36  
Winner 51, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 42  
Big East Conference Tournament=  
Consolation=

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Baltic 43, Chester 41  
Sioux Valley 50, Parker 48  
Semifinal=  
Flandreau 60, Garretson 48  
McCook Central/Montrose 53, Beresford 31  
Dakota Oyate Challenge=  
Consolation=  
Crazy Horse 42, Tiospaye Topa 23  
Omaha Nation, Neb. 75, Takini 14  
Semifinal=  
Lower Brule 48, Flandreau 41  
Marty Indian 42, Tiospa Zina Tribal 31

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

## Noem proposes streamlined permitting for feedlots

By The Associated Press undefined

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem is pushing a streamlined permitting process for feedlots, other agriculture projects and energy development.

The Republican governor announced a bill Friday that would establish statewide protocols for county zoning permits. Speaking at the Black Hills Stock Show in Rapid City, she said it would bring "consistency and predictability" to how counties grant permits. Feedlots have sparked controversy in communities across the state as the number has grown in recent years.

Feedlots, or concentrated animal feeding operations, can hold thousands of animals in a small area.

Opponents complain about environmental and odor problems, while supporters argue they bring financial opportunities to rural communities. Noem has supported feedlot operations in the past.

The bill also applies to permits for wind farms, infrastructure and other agriculture projects.

The proposal would clarify that counties can establish a "special permitted use" process that would allow them to grant zoning permits based on a checklist of requirements without holding public meetings.

It would also make it more difficult for people to appeal permits once they're granted. Noem said her proposal would give people two weeks to appeal the approval of a feedlot and require counties to make a decision on appeals within 60 days.

The governor said it will prevent "frivolous lawsuits and people who want to jam up the process" from delaying the project indefinitely. It would also only allow people who are "legitimately aggrieved" to file an appeal, require a two-thirds vote from county boards to reverse a permit decision, and make people who sue counties over the decision liable for attorney's fees and damages.

The predictability of permitting will encourage investors, Noem said. She cast the proposal as a part of her wider efforts to encourage business in the state.

Several agriculture groups supported the bill, including the South Dakota Farm Bureau and the South Dakota Cattlemen's Association.

"While the appeal process is important and legal, it is often used as a delay tactic to stop projects," said Craig Anderson, president of the South Dakota Pork Producers Council.

But not all farmers are excited.

Frank James, the director of Dakota Rural Action, which is a conservation group made of farmers and ranchers, said he's concerned the bill would stop people's ability to "participate in the democratic process."

Candice Lockner, a rancher from Ree Heights, argued the bill erodes local control and would allow out-of-state industrial agriculture operations into communities. She said that feedlots create a "toxic" environment.

"I think if our leaders truly understood the consequences of industrial agriculture to our rural communities, they would have to rethink their current priorities," Lockner said.

Noem said the bill will soon be filed in the Legislature.

## Regulators revisit environmental review for Line 3 pipeline

By STEVE KARNOWSKI Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Minnesota regulators opened a hearing Friday on an updated environmental review for Enbridge Energy's plan to replace its aging Line 3 crude oil pipeline across the state, but most testimony focused on broader questions of whether the project even be built.

Environmental and tribal activists urged the Public Utilities Commission to reconsider its earlier approvals and kill the project, saying climate change has reached a crisis stage. But the project's supporters, including union construction workers, testified it's time to let Enbridge complete the \$2.6 billion project.

Dr. Laalitha Surapaneni, a physician at the University of Minnesota, was first in line for the hearing. She said in an interview that she had waited outside in the cold since 3:30 a.m. with no guarantee that she'd get to talk because she considers climate change to be a health emergency. When she got drawn at random to testify, she asserted that the updated review is "inadequate" because it doesn't properly address human health risks from a spill or the threat of climate change to human health.

"You have the power to protect the health of Minnesotans — not just today but the health of generations to come," Surapaneni told the commissioners.

Line 3, which was built in the 1960s, starts in Alberta and clips a corner of North Dakota before crossing northern Minnesota en route to Enbridge's terminal in Superior, Wisconsin. Enbridge says the old line needs replacing because it's increasingly prone to corrosion and cracking and can run at only about half its original capacity.

The Minnesota Court of Appeals sent the previous final version of the project's environmental review back to the commission after finding that the massive document failed to adequately deal with the potential risks of an oil spill in the Lake Superior watershed. The state Department of Commerce then conducted additional modeling and concluded in the update that there was little chance of a spill reaching the lake.

So the central questions on the commission's agenda were whether the update is adequate to pass muster with the courts, and if so, whether to reissue the certificate of need and route permit that Calgary, Alberta-based Enbridge needs to proceed with building the Minnesota segment. The new Canadian and Wisconsin segments are already operating.

Enbridge said in a filing ahead of the hearing that the update meets the court's concerns and that the record continues to show that the project is needed.

Friday's session — the 68th public hearing on the project by Enbridge's count — was meant for comments from the general public, including several lawmakers.

Democratic Rep. Frank Hornstein, of Minneapolis, was one of the relatively few testifiers to address the adequacy of the updated environmental review. He said there are still significant shortcomings with how it addresses the need for a rapid spill response.

But Democratic Sen. David Tomassoni, of Chisholm, who has applied to fill an open seat on the PUC, urged commissioners to approve the update and reaffirm the certificate of need and route permit.

"The old pipeline needs replacing," Tomassoni said. "Replacing old infrastructure protects our water and natural resources. The construction alone will provide hundreds of good paying jobs with the latest and most modern technology. It just makes good sense to do so."

The commission will hear Monday, and Tuesday if more time is needed, from official parties to the case, which include Enbridge, its allies, and environmental and tribal groups opposed to the project. Their testimony is expected to focus more closely on the updated environmental review. If the commissioners sign off, Enbridge will still need to secure some state and federal permits.

## Senator: Illegal drug ingestion should be misdemeanor

PIERRE, S. D. (AP) — A South Dakota senator want to reduce ingesting illegal drugs from a felony to a

misdemeanor.

Democratic Sen. Craig Kennedy has filed a bill to change ingestion to a misdemeanor for the first two offenses. But, it would remain a felony for a third conviction with 10 years.

Kennedy says putting people in prison where drug treatment is limited, if available at all, isn't a good way to deal with those with a chemical dependency.

"You break up families, you end up with children in Social Services' custody and care and the felony on someone's record is a scar they'll carry forever," he said. "It affects their ability to get employment. It affects their ability to get housing."

The Argus Leader says the bill also creates an incentive for prosecutors to divert people from the criminal justice system into treatment. He said he modeled his legislation on the state's juvenile diversion program.

## Former White Sox minor leaguer charged with raping a child

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former Chicago White Sox minor leaguer who went on to coach a South Dakota youth team after his playing career ended has been charged with sexually assaulting a child and possession child pornography.

Juan Thomas Jr., a first-baseman and right fielder who rose as high as Triple-A, was charged Wednesday in Lincoln County, South Dakota, with one count of raping a child younger than 13 and 10 counts of child porn possession. Thomas, 48, pleaded not guilty to the charges, the Argus Leader reported.

It's unclear how Thomas is connected to the child, said Lincoln County State's Attorney Thomas Wollman, who asked for the public's help in identifying any other possible victims.

"We are looking for individuals who know Mr. Thomas and may be able to assist in identifying potential witnesses or victims," Wollman said.

The White Sox drafted Thomas in the 10th round of 1991 amateur draft, and he went on to be a four-time minor league All-Star, hitting 303 career home runs in 14 seasons of pro baseball. He rose as high as Triple-A, playing for the Seattle Mariners' top affiliate, the Tacoma Rainiers, during the 2001 and 2002 seasons.

In 2004 and 2005, he played for the Sioux Falls Canaries, a team in the North Division of the American Association of Independent Professional Baseball, which is not affiliated with Major League Baseball.

He later became involved in coaching youth baseball in Sioux Falls, serving as an instructor for a suburban baseball program.

Thomas' attorney, David Stuart, didn't immediately reply to a call from The Associated Press seeking comment.

## WHO says prepare for local outbreaks; China slams US control

By JOE McDONALD and SAM McNEIL Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China's death toll from a new virus rose to 259 on Saturday and a World Health Organization official said other governments need to prepare for "domestic outbreak control" if the disease spreads in their countries.

Beijing criticized Washington's order barring entry to most foreigners who visited China in the past two weeks.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced similar measures on Saturday, following Japan and Singapore.

Meanwhile, South Korea and India flew hundreds of their citizens out of Wuhan, the city at the center of an area where some 50 million people are prevented from leaving in a sweeping anti-virus effort. The evacuees went into a two-week quarantine. Indonesia also sent a plane.

The number of confirmed cases in China rose to 11,791, surpassing the number in the 2002-03 outbreak of SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. The virus's rapid spread in two months prompted the World Health Organization on Thursday to declare it a global emergency.

That declaration "flipped the switch" from a cautious attitude earlier to recommending governments

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prepare for the possibility the virus might spread, said the WHO representative in Beijing, Gauden Galea. Most cases reported so far have been people who visited China or their family members.

The agency acted out of concern for poorer countries that might not be equipped to respond, said Galea. Such a declaration calls for a coordinated international response and can bring more money and resources.

WHO said it was especially concerned that some cases abroad involved human-to-human transmission. "Countries need to get ready for possible importation in order to identify cases as early as possible and in order to be ready for a domestic outbreak control, if that happens," Galea told The Associated Press.

On Friday, the United States declared a public health emergency and President Donald Trump signed an order barring entry to foreign nationals, other than immediate family of American citizens and permanent residents, who visited China within the last 14 days, which scientists say is the virus's longest incubation period.

China criticized the U.S. controls, which it said contradicted the WHO's appeal to avoid travel bans, and "unfriendly comments" that Beijing was failing to cooperate.

"Just as the WHO recommended against travel restrictions, the U.S. rushed to go in the opposite way. Certainly not a gesture of goodwill," said foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying.

WHO Secretary-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in Geneva that despite the emergency declaration, there is "no reason for measures that unnecessarily interfere with international travel and trade."

Meanwhile, the ruling Communist Party postponed the end of the Lunar New Year holiday in Hubei province, where Wuhan is located, for an unspecified "appropriate extent" and appealed to the public there to stay home.

Another locked-down city in Hubei, Huanggang, on Saturday banned almost all of its residents from leaving their homes in the most stringent controls imposed yet. The government said only one person from each household would be allowed out to shop for food once every two days.

"Others are not allowed to go out except for medical treatment, to do epidemic prevention and control work or to work in supermarkets and pharmacies," it said in an announcement.

China's increasingly drastic anti-disease controls started with the Jan. 23 suspension of plane, bus and train links to Wuhan, an industrial center of 11 million people. The lockdown has spread to surrounding cities.

The holiday, China's busiest annual travel season, ends Sunday in the rest of the country following a three-day extension to postpone the return to factories and offices by hundreds of millions of workers. The official Xinhua News Agency said people in Hubei who work outside the province also were given an extended holiday.

The party decision "highlighted the importance of prevention and control of the epidemic among travelers," Xinhua said.

Americans returning from China will be allowed into the country, but will face screening and are required to undertake 14 days of self-screening. Those returning from Hubei province will be subject to a 14-day quarantine.

Beginning Sunday, the United States will direct flights from China to seven major airports where passengers can be screened.

Also Friday, Delta Air Lines and American Airlines suspended all flights between the United States and China. Other carriers including British Airways, Finnair and Hong Kong's Cathay Pacific also have canceled or cut back service to mainland China. Vietnam suspended all flights to China.

The U.S. order followed a travel advisory for Americans to consider leaving China. Japan and Germany also advised against non-essential travel to China and Britain did as well, except for Hong Kong and Macao.

A plane carrying Indians from Wuhan landed Saturday in New Delhi. The government said they would be quarantined in a nearby city, Manesar. Sri Lanka also pulled out 33 more of its citizens and promised to bring out the remaining 204 students.

A special flight brought 312 Bangladeshis back from Wuhan, including eight who were hospitalized with high temperatures. The government says about 5,000 Bangladeshis study in China.



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A Turkish military transport carrying 42 people left Wuhan for Ankara on Saturday. They reportedly showed no signs of infection.

The Kremlin said starting Saturday, Russian air force planes will be used to evacuate Russians from areas of China most seriously affected by the virus.

Germany's defense minister said a plane taking 102 citizens back to Germany was refused permission to land and refuel in Moscow due to what the Russians said was lack of capacity and had to divert to Helsinki.

An EU evacuation flight from Wuhan was scheduled for Saturday.

South Korea's second evacuation flight landed in Seoul with 330 people from Wuhan. They were to be screened for fever before being taken to two quarantine centers.

South Korea also reported its 12th virus case, which appeared to be a human-to-human transmission.

At least 24 countries have reported cases since China informed WHO about the new virus in late December.

The death rate in China is falling but the number of confirmed cases will keep growing because there are thousands of specimens from suspected cases yet to be tested, WHO's Galea said.

"The case fatality ratio is settling out at a much lower level than we were reporting three, now four, weeks ago," he said.

Both the new virus and SARS are from the coronavirus family, which also includes those that cause the common cold. Experts say there is evidence the new virus is spreading among people in China.

Although scientists expect to see limited transmission of the virus between people with family or other close contact, they are concerned about cases of infection spreading to people who might have less exposure.

In Japan, a tour guide and bus driver became infected after escorting two tour groups from Wuhan. The country reported four new cases, including a woman in her 20s who worked on the same tour bus, and another person who was asymptomatic, for a total of 20.

In Germany, five employees of a German auto parts supplier became ill after a Chinese colleague visited, including two who had no direct contact with the woman. She showed no symptoms until her flight back to China. On Friday, Germany confirmed a sixth case, a child of one of the people already infected.

Vietnam confirmed one more case for a total of six, and Australia counted its ninth infection.

Spain reported its first detected case, a German man who had close contact with an infected person in Germany and then traveled to the Canary Islands with some friends. Four friends who were hospitalized with him have not shown symptoms.

In the United States, health officials issued a two-week quarantine order for the 195 Americans evacuated this week from Wuhan.

It was the first time a federal quarantine has been ordered since the 1960s, when one was enacted over concern about smallpox, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

None of the Americans being housed at a Southern California military base has shown signs of illness, but infected people don't show symptoms immediately and may be able to pass on the virus before they appear sick.

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Associated Press writers Aniruddha Ghosal in New Delhi, Tong-hyung Kim in Seoul, South Korea, Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo, Hau Dinh in Hanoi, Vietnam, Niniek Karmini in Jakarta, Indonesia, and Bharatha Mal-lawarachi in Colombo, Sri Lanka, contributed to this report.

## **AP FACT CHECK: Trump on Democrats, impeachment and cows**

**By HOPE YEN and CALVIN WOODWARD Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Contrary to a statement by President Donald Trump, Democrats are not aiming to kill cows, Iowa farmers or you.

Trump's fictional take on murderous Democrats, which he played for laughs at an Iowa rally, came during a week dominated by the Senate impeachment trial and the multitude of distortions it produced. A look at recent rhetoric about impeachment, his newly signed trade deal and more:

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## COWS

TRUMP, assailing the "Green New Deal, which would crush our farms, destroy our wonderful cows. I love cows. They want to kill our cows. You know why, right? You know why? Don't say it. They want to kill our cows. That means you are next." — Iowa rally Thursday.

THE FACTS: No one is coming after cows or people because of the Green New Deal, a plan put forward by some liberal Democrats. It calls for huge spending to retool the economy to break its dependence on fossil fuels.

The plan proposes working "collaboratively with farmers" to remove greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture "as much as is technologically feasible" and does not try to force farms off of livestock. Trump is ignoring the plan itself and focusing on an information sheet released, then retracted, by one of the sponsors. It made a joke about banning cows and airplanes.

Trump has further predicted that his trade deals will bring so much business to farmers that they will need more land and tractors. If so, that would presumably increase the slaughter of "wonderful" cows.

## IVANKA TRUMP

TRUMP, on his daughter, Ivanka: "And now created over 15 million jobs for the people of our country. ... It was going to be 500,000. 'Daddy, I think we can do 500,000.' Within about a week, she broke that and now she's up to 15 million jobs. It's fantastic." — White House meeting Friday.

THE FACTS: It's not remotely true. Less than half that many jobs have been added to the entire workforce during Trump's presidency and his daughter is not responsible for them.

The president is referring to a White House initiative led by Ivanka Trump that has garnered nonbinding commitments from companies to provide 14 million or so training opportunities in the years ahead. Training for a job is not working at a job for money.

There's no telling how many workers were already going to be trained, absent the initiative. In many cases, the pledge simply confers a presidential seal of approval on what some companies are doing anyway. By having companies sign the pledge, the administration is relying on the private sector to take on more of the financial burden of training workers.

## AUTOS

TRUMP: "We're going to get a lot more car companies moving in. We have a lot more companies moving in. ... Jobs are coming back, and they're coming back fast, and they're coming right here to Michigan. They are coming rapidly. You see what's going on." — remarks in Michigan on Thursday.

THE FACTS: Automobile manufacturing jobs have not come back fast to Michigan under Trump. They have declined slightly since he took office, according to the Labor Department.

Between Trump's inauguration in January 2017 and the end of last year, auto manufacturing jobs in Michigan declined by 100, to 42,200. Auto-parts jobs grew by 1,300, or just under 1%, to 133,200. No boom has been experienced.

As for his prediction that many more such jobs are coming, that's difficult to tell.

The three big automakers have altogether announced plans to add over 10,000 jobs in Michigan in coming years. But they've also cut or plan to cut thousands of other jobs in the state.

## ECONOMY and TRADE

TRUMP: "The USMCA is the largest, fairest, most balanced and modern trade agreement ever achieved." — signing ceremony Wednesday for the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement.

THE FACTS: It's not the largest trade deal ever made. It covers the same three countries as before. In contrast, the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations concluded in 1994 created the World Trade Organization and was signed by 123 countries. The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston found the following year that the WTO's initial membership accounted for more than 90 percent of global economic output.

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TRUMP: The USMCA “will make our blue-collar boom — which is beyond anybody’s expectation — even bigger, stronger, and more extraordinary.” — signing ceremony Wednesday.

THE FACTS: There isn’t a boom for blue-collar workers, and few economists expect the trade pact to add much.

Such workers haven’t done substantially better than everyone else, and some of their gains under Trump have faded in the past year as his trade war hurt manufacturing. The mining and logging industry, for example, which includes oil and gas workers, lost 21,000 jobs last year. Manufacturers have added just 9,000 jobs in the past six months, while the economy as a whole gained more than 1.1 million jobs during that period.

The U.S. economy is still heavily oriented toward services. While factory jobs have grown, other jobs have grown faster, so manufacturing has slightly shrunk as a proportion of the work force since Trump took office.

The independent U.S. International Trade Commission estimated last year that the trade pact would create 49,700 jobs in manufacturing and mining over six years, a fraction of 1% of the existing 13.5 million U.S. jobs in factories and mines.

TRUMP: “More Americans are working today than have ever worked in the history of our country. We’re up to almost 160 million people working. We’ve never even come close to a number like that.” — signing ceremony Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Yes, but that’s driven by population growth. A more relevant measure is the proportion of Americans with jobs, and that is still below record highs.

According to Labor Department data, 61% of people in the United States 16 years and older were working in December. That’s below the all-time high of 64.7% in April 2000.

## IMPEACHMENT

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER CHUCK SCHUMER: “If the president is acquitted with no witnesses, no documents, the acquittal will have no value because Americans will know that this trial was not a real trial.” — statement Friday.

HOUSE SPEAKER NANCY PELOSI: “You cannot be acquitted if you don’t have a trial. You don’t have a trial if you don’t have witnesses and documentation.” — tweet Thursday.

THE FACTS: Trump can indeed be acquitted by the Senate based on the proceedings as they unfolded. And acquittal would have great value, contrary to Schumer’s assertion, because it would keep Trump in office for the rest of his term.

Just as the Constitution gives the House the sole power to impeach, it gives the Senate full responsibility to conduct the trial as it sees fit and to convict or acquit the accused official.

The rules and practices of a normal trial do not apply. The decision whether to call witnesses and how else to proceed is left to elected representatives by constitutional design. A majority of those representatives in the House voted to impeach Trump and a majority of them in the Senate voted to call no witnesses in the trial and move toward a verdict.

Republicans who accused Democrats of an unfair process in the House and Democrats who accused Republicans of unfairness in the Senate are entitled to their political arguments but those points do not undermine the legitimacy of the process in either chamber.

TRUMP: “The Democrat controlled House never even asked John Bolton to testify. It is up to them, not up to the Senate!” — tweet Monday.

THE FACTS: That’s false in its entirety. House Democrats did ask Bolton to testify, and he declined. He did not show up for his deposition. Trump is also incorrect in suggesting impeachment witnesses are the sole province of the House.

House Democrats decided not to pursue a subpoena compelling Bolton to testify in the House proceed-

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ings because he threatened to sue, which could have meant an extended court fight. Afterward, however, Bolton signaled his willingness to testify at the Senate trial if he were subpoenaed.

The Senate is empowered to summon witnesses if it chooses, contrary to Trump's suggestion that "it is up to" the House only. But Republicans gathered enough votes to stop witnesses from being called in the Senate trial.

Bolton's behind-the-scenes account is in the manuscript of his coming book. It intensified calls from Democrats to make him a witness because it contradicted key assertions by Trump and his defense team's argument that there was no evidence the president conditioned aid to Ukraine on an investigation of his political rivals.

**TRUMP LAWYER JAY SEKULOW**, referring to Trump's July 25 phone call with Ukraine's leader: "Asking a foreign leader to get to the bottom of issues of corruption is not a violation of an oath." — trial Monday.

**THE FACTS:** Trump made no such request in the phone call. And beyond the phone call, there's scant if any evidence that Trump cared about Ukraine's history of systemic corruption unless it might involve Hunter Biden, son of former Vice President Joe Biden, a Trump political rival. Hunter Biden was on the board of a Ukrainian energy company when his father was vice president.

In the call, according to the rough transcript released by the White House, Trump repeatedly pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to investigate the Bidens and a groundless conspiracy theory that Ukrainians tried to help Democrats win the 2016 election. Trump didn't mention Ukrainian corruption.

Trump delayed military aid to Ukraine despite a Pentagon review that found the country had made sufficient progress in cleaning up its legacy of corruption to merit the aid that Congress had approved.

**SEKULOW:** "The president of the United States, before he was the president, was under an investigation. It was called Crossfire Hurricane. It was an investigation led by the FBI." — trial Tuesday.

**THE FACTS:** Trump was not under investigation before he took office.

In fact, Trump says he was told that directly and repeatedly by then-FBI Director James Comey. Comey has said the same publicly.

The FBI counterintelligence investigation dubbed Crossfire Hurricane was underway when Trump took office, but that was into whether his campaign more generally coordinated with Russia to tip the election. Agents were also looking criminally at several Trump aides, but that's different from Trump being under investigation.

The situation did change after a matter of months, when Trump fired Comey in May 2017. After that happened, the FBI began looking into whether Trump had criminally obstructed justice. Former acting FBI Director Andrew McCabe has said the FBI also began investigating whether Trump might have been acting on behalf of Russia.

**SEKULOW:** "It was President Zelenskyy who said no pressure." — trial Monday.

**THE FACTS:** True, but the statement skirts important context.

In and around the July 25 phone call, Zelenskyy was deferential to Trump as Ukraine, menaced by Russia, tried to keep U.S. military aid flowing. Even so, Ukrainian officials felt pressure for months to do Trump's bidding, and Zelenskyy himself eventually complained about Trump's dealings with him.

The Associated Press reported that in May, even before taking office, Zelenskyy knew that vital military support might depend on whether he agreed to investigate Democrats as Trump was demanding.

After the July 25 call, Zelenskyy said he had no problem with Trump's comments on the call. But by then, Ukrainian officials were wondering why the aid was being held up. And in October, while insisting "there was no pressure or blackmail from the U.S.," he criticized Trump for blocking the aid and for casting his country as corrupt.

"If you're our strategic partner, then you can't go blocking anything for us," he told Time. "I think that's just about fairness."

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TRUMP LAWYER MIKE PURPURA, dismissing the idea that military aid was released because Trump's pressure campaign on Ukraine had been exposed: "On Sept. 11, based on the information collected and presented to President Trump, the president lifted the pause on the security assistance. ... Our process gave the president the confidence he needed to approve the release of the security sector assistance. ... The president's concerns were addressed in the ordinary course; the president wasn't 'caught' as the House managers allege." — trial Monday.

THE FACTS: The "pause" in Ukraine's military aid was hardly routine, according to testimony heard by House investigators. Moreover, the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office found the aid freeze to be illegal.

House investigators heard about confusion and frustration among senior State Department and Pentagon officials when they learned the congressionally approved aid was being held.

"I was embarrassed that I could not give (Ukraine) any explanation for why it was withheld," said William Taylor, who was the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine.

The Defense Department's Laura Cooper said she and other national security aides unsuccessfully tried to get an explanation for the hold and expressed concern about the White House's legal authority. The Pentagon had already certified to congressional committees in May that Ukraine had made enough progress on reducing corruption to receive the military assistance.

Catherine Croft, special adviser for Ukraine at the State Department, said national security agencies were unified in support of the aid, and she had never before encountered a time when the White House budget office had injected itself into such a matter.

Top advisers scrambled to get Trump to release the aid through August. Ultimately, on Sept. 11, the funds were suddenly released, after Trump learned of the whistleblower's complaint and a few days after Democrats opened a congressional investigation of the episode. The GAO later found that the White House budget office "withheld the funds for an unauthorized reason in violation" of the law that requires the executive branch to spend money that is appropriated by Congress.

Associated Press writers Laurie Kellman, Paul Wiseman, Christopher Rugaber and Eric Tucker in Washington and Tom Krisher in Detroit contributed to this report.

EDITOR'S NOTE — A look at the veracity of claims by political figures.

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## Jury foreman regrets convicting teen in girl's 2002 death

By **MICHAEL REZENDES** and **ROBIN McDOWELL** Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Citing a recent Associated Press investigation, the foreman of the jury that sent a Minnesota teen away for life in the 2002 death of an 11-year-old girl said Friday he regrets voting to convict.

"I do feel badly," jury foreman Joe McLean told the AP. "I feel, for lack of a better word, that we were misled."

"Maybe we should have taken more time," he added. "Maybe we should have said we couldn't decide."

No gun, fingerprints or DNA were ever recovered, and the 2003 trial of Myon Burrell centered on the testimony of one teen rival who offered conflicting stories when identifying the triggerman, who was standing 120 feet away, mostly behind a wall.

McLean said he and other jurors did the best they could with the evidence presented and were unaware of information turned up in the AP review of the case -- in part because his co-defendants were not allowed to take the stand. Both have since said Burrell was not even on the scene. One of them, Ike Tyson, admits to being the shooter.

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"Now there are statements from Ike Tyson saying he did the shooting. We didn't have that then," McLean said.

Meanwhile, Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who led the Hennepin County Attorney's office at the time Tyesha Edward was felled by a stray bullet, was asked about the case while campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination in New Hampshire. She has cited the case repeatedly during her political career, including during her 2006 campaign for the U.S. Senate, and more recently in a Democratic candidates' debate.

"If there is new evidence," Klobuchar told New Hampshire Public Radio, "this should be reviewed immediately because the job of the prosecutor is to convict the guilty and protect the innocent."

Burrell was tried and convicted of Tyesha's murder twice, and the second trial occurred when Klobuchar was no longer the Hennepin County attorney. McLean was the foreman in the first trial.

In his interview with the AP, McLean recalled the trial and said Burrell's defense attorney seemed inexperienced and unable to mount an aggressive defense.

"He was in the deep end and the judge was throwing him bricks," McLean said. "I thought that from the get-go this kid's not got a decent attorney."

Paul Fedor, a juror who held out against a guilty verdict longer than any of the others, told AP there were many aspects of the trial that troubled him.

Although jurors never visited the scene of the shooting, he said, he found it difficult to believe that Burrell, who is 5-foot-3, could have fired a handgun over a 5-foot wall, as prosecutors claimed.

But Fedor said he finally "collapsed."

"I held as long as I could," he said. "It's weird. You think you can do it, you can hold on, but you've never been in that situation."

After the verdict was read, Fedor addressed reporters and said he felt pressured to convict.

McLean said that after jurors agreed on a verdict, he went into a jury restroom and vomited.

"He was a 16-year-old boy and I was a pretty newly minted dad at that time," he said. "Based on our conviction, there was a real possibility that he was going to go to jail for the rest of his life. I was struck by the gravity of that."

McLean's comments followed a Wednesday rally of community activists at the Government Center in downtown Minneapolis where they demanded Klobuchar join with police and prosecutors to re-examine the case, in light of the AP's findings.

The AP examined thousands of pages of court documents and archival video that showed police investigators offered cash to potential witnesses in exchange for information. In addition, they relied on the testimony of jail house snitches who received reduced sentences in exchange, and later recanted their testimony.

At the end of the interview, McLean asked an AP reporter to deliver a message to Burrell: "Tell him that I'm sorry," he said. "I tried to do my best. I kind of think in retrospect I failed."

Robin McDowell reported from Minneapolis.

## Amy Klobuchar helped jail teen for life, but case was flawed

By ROBIN McDOWELL Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — It was a prime-time moment for Amy Klobuchar.

Standing in the glare of television lights at a Democratic presidential debate last fall, she was asked about her years as a top Minnesota prosecutor and allegations she was not committed to racial justice.

"That's not my record," she said, staring into the camera.

Yes, she was tough on crime, Klobuchar said, but the African American community was angry about losing kids to gun violence. And she responded.

She told a story that she has cited throughout her political career, including during her 2006 campaign for the U.S. Senate: An 11-year-old girl was killed by a stray bullet while doing homework at her dining room table in 2002. And Klobuchar's office put Tyesha Edwards' killer -- a black teen -- behind bars for life.

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But what if Myon Burrell is innocent?

An Associated Press investigation into the 17-year-old case uncovered new evidence and myriad inconsistencies, raising questions about whether he was railroaded by police.

This story was produced in collaboration with American Public Media.

The AP reviewed more than a thousand pages of police records, court transcripts and interrogation tapes, and interviewed dozens of inmates, witnesses, family members, former gang leaders, lawyers and criminal justice experts.

The case relied heavily on a teen rival of Burrell's who gave conflicting accounts when identifying the shooter, who was largely obscured behind a wall 120 feet away.

With no other eyewitnesses, police turned to multiple jailhouse snitches. Some have since recanted, saying they were coached or coerced. Others were given reduced time, raising questions about their credibility. And the lead homicide detective offered "major dollars" for names, even if it was hearsay.

There was no gun, fingerprints, or DNA. Alibis were never seriously pursued. Key evidence has gone missing or was never obtained, including a convenience store surveillance tape that Burrell and others say would have cleared him.

Burrell, now 33, has maintained his innocence, rejecting all plea deals.

His co-defendants, meanwhile, have admitted their part in Tyasha's death. Burrell, they say, was not even there.

For years, one of them -- Ike Tyson -- has insisted he was actually the triggerman. Police and prosecutors refused to believe him, pointing to the contradictory accounts in the early days of the investigation. Now, he swears he was just trying to get the police off his back.

"I already shot an innocent girl," said Tyson, who is serving a 45-year sentence. "Now an innocent guy -- at the time he was a kid -- is locked up for something he didn't do. So, it's like I'm carrying two burdens."

Asked for comment on the case, a Klobuchar campaign spokesperson said Burrell was tried and convicted of Tyasha's murder twice, and the second trial occurred when Klobuchar was no longer the Hennepin County Attorney. If there was new evidence, she said, it should be immediately reviewed by the court.

Questions about the case come at a difficult time, as Klobuchar and other presidential hopefuls, including Joe Biden and Michael Bloomberg, face scrutiny for their records on racial justice in the 1990s and early 2000s.

Black and brown communities were being decimated by the war on drugs, and the since-discredited "super-predator" theory prevailed, predicting that droves of poor, fatherless young men devoid of moral conscience would wreak havoc in their neighborhoods.

Democrats joined Republicans in supporting harsher policing and tougher sentencing, leading to the highest incarceration rates in the nation's history.

Some politicians have tried to distance themselves from the period's perceived excesses. In January, for instance, Klobuchar returned a \$1,000 campaign donation from Linda Fairstein, who prosecuted New York's infamous Central Park Five, four black teens and one Hispanic who were later exonerated in the rape of a white jogger in 1989.

While campaigning to be the top prosecutor in Minnesota's most populous county in 1998, Klobuchar advocated for harsher penalties for juvenile offenders.

In Minnesota, allegations of gang affiliation or motive played on the fears of mostly white jurors and led to harsher sentences.

"If you were young and black, and your case was tied to gangs or drugs, it was an especially scary time," said Mary Moriarty, a public defender in Minnesota's Hennepin County for nearly three decades. "I do firmly believe that there were people convicted of crimes that they did not do."

She said that the murder Burrell went down for was problematic from the start.

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"In the case of Myon Burrell -- where you had a really high-profile shooting of an innocent girl and you put a lot of pressure on the system to get someone to be responsible for that -- I think a lot of corners were probably cut."

In Minneapolis, soaring homicides had briefly earned the city the grim nickname "Murderapolis." By the time Klobuchar took office in 1999, crime rates had started to drop. But tensions remained high. Tyesha's death set off an uproar.

Police pulled out all stops, deploying more than 40 officers and gang task force members.

Despite the lack of physical evidence, they all but wrapped up their case against Burrell in four days.

Ike Tyson, 21, and Hans Williams, 23, were easy. Several people saw them roll by in their car minutes before the attack, and a 911 tip from one of their girlfriends helped seal the deal.

Burrell, then 16, was arrested only after a tip from an often-used jailhouse informant. During his lengthy legal process, Burrell hired and fired six attorneys as they failed to cross-examine witnesses, pursue alibis or challenge glaring irregularities in the investigation.

In the end, his sentence stuck: Natural life in prison.

The Minneapolis police declined to comment for this story. Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman's office said it's confident the correct person was convicted but it's always open to reviewing new evidence.

Assistant County Attorney Jean Burdorf, the only prosecutor left who was directly involved in the case, insists that Burrell received justice. "I'll tell you what I've told a lot of people over the years. I have a lot of confidence in Minnesota's justice system," she said.

"Certainly, he's been through the court process, and his conviction has remained intact."

For years, many caught up in Burrell's case have insisted police got the wrong person. Some say they initially lied to protect themselves or their friends. Others say they told police what they wanted to hear to get deals on their own sentences or to punish a rival.

Even though some have changed their stories more than once, they insist they are now telling the truth because they have nothing to gain.

Burrell's co-defendants were members of the Tyson Mob and the Vice Lords. They say drugs and guns were a way of life in their rough neighborhood. But the shooting wasn't gang warfare as police claimed, they insisted -- it was personal.

Tyson said he and Williams were driving in south Minneapolis when they spotted a group of guys hanging out. Among them was 17-year-old Timmy Oliver, a member of the rival Gangster Disciples, who had menacingly waved a gun at them weeks earlier.

The pair slowed down, scowled at Oliver, then continued on. They picked up an unidentified acquaintance, got a gun and headed back. Tyson said it was his idea, and the intention was to scare Oliver, not to kill him.

The three parked a block away, with Williams waiting in the driver's seat for a quick getaway. Tyson and the third man jumped out, cutting through an alley and ducking between houses. Shielded by a wall, Tyson said he could clearly see Oliver standing in the yard across the street with his back turned.

He said he fired off eight rounds, the last few as he was running backward toward the car. It wasn't until later that evening that he learned one of his bullets killed Tyesha in the house next door.

"There was only one weapon, one set of shells," said Tyson. "I'm the one that did this. I did this."

Soon after the shooting, he was telling friends, his attorney, fellow inmates and even a prison guard that Burrell was not at the scene, court records show. But he said his lawyer told him he'd never see the outside of a prison unless he implicated the youth. Eventually he buckled, but only after being promised his plea would not be used against Burrell.

Tyson doesn't want to name the other man who was with him, saying he doesn't want to pull in a person who was only peripherally involved.

The getaway driver, Hans Williams, did identify a third man -- by his full name and in a photo lineup. Police initially said they didn't want to "muddy up the case" with an unverified name, later that they didn't believe him. They made no real effort to follow up. After getting a denial from the suspect in 2005, the chief homicide detective "permanently checked" out their recorded conversation and gave it to the Hen-



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nepin County Attorney's Office. It has since gone missing.

The gun was never recovered and officers said prints on the magazine and the car were not sufficient for identification. Ballistic tests on Tyson's jacket were not carried out to verify claims that he was the triggerman.

The killing of Tyesha Edwards topped television news that night.

That's how a prison inmate first heard about it. Desperate to get money or time cut off his own sentence, he quickly reached out to Oliver, a friend and fellow gang member. Minutes later, the often-used informant gave the cops Burrell's name, helping steer their investigation, the AP found.

Oliver, who had his own troubles with the law, didn't go to police that day, as he promised. He said one of the bullets had pierced his pants, so he threw them away and went to buy a new pair.

But three days later, he was picked up by officers following another, unrelated shooting. Police now had their sole eyewitness in custody, interviewing him for more than eight hours. Though mandated by law, the interrogation was never recorded. Police later said they "made a mistake."

Well after midnight, Oliver signed a statement saying he saw Burrell standing across the street in an open lot between two houses, shooting until he emptied his weapon. Later, Oliver's story would change. He said his diminutive, 5-foot-3 rival was firing from behind a 5-foot wall, 120 feet away, but that his hooded face was still clearly recognizable.

Oliver's best friend, Antoine Williams, said when the gunfire stopped, he ran to his side.

"I asked Timmy at the time, 'Who, who did the shooting?'" Antoine Williams recalled in a recorded interview with a private investigator hired by one of Burrell's attorneys. "He said, 'I couldn't see where it was coming from.'"

He later asked Oliver -- who died in a shooting in 2003 -- why he lied to police.

Oliver told him, "They threatened him, kinda put it like, 'It was your fault because you were there. You were the intended target,'" Antoine Williams said.

With a new trial date approaching and their key witness, Oliver, gone to the grave, the police turned to informants in the jails and prisons. Some were offered generous sentence reductions, cash and other deals for those willing to come forward with a story about what happened in the shooting, even if it wasn't true, inmates said.

There were at least seven jailhouse informants, two of whom had coughed up information in more than a dozen other cases. Another went by 29 different aliases.

Terry Arrington, a member of a rival gang, was among those who talked.

He said he was approached by four officers and the prosecutor at a federal correctional facility where he faced 19 years in prison and was told he could knock that down to three if he was willing to cooperate.

He said he knew nothing about the case: "They basically brought me through what to say. Before I went before the grand jury, they brought me in a room and said ... 'When you get in, hit on this, hit on this.' I was still young and I had fresh kids that I was trying to get home to, so I did what they asked."

He got his deal, but now lives with that burden.

"Like, I don't wish jail on nobody," he said, now back in prison at Rush City correctional facility on other charges. "Even though we was enemies ... that's still a man ... So it really bothers me right now."

He says at least three other men who were locked up with him in the same unit also cut deals with police. One other has recanted.

As far as Arrington knows, "everybody told a lie to get time cut."

Like many young black men in his neighborhood, Burrell's distrust of police came early. He was 12 when a drug addict drew a switchblade, slashing his sister in the hand and drawing blood. His mom called the police, but they assumed the boy was the assailant, threw him up against a sharp fence before hauling him to the station in cuffs. Only then did they realize they had the wrong person.

Soon after, he was caught selling drugs and hanging out with the wrong crowd. Worried he might end up in jail, like his dad and oldest brother, his mother packed up the family and moved to Bemidji, a small city 3 1/2 hours away. But the 13-year-old struggled to fit in and found himself coming back to the Twin

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Cities often.

In 2002, the family traveled to Minneapolis to spend Thanksgiving with his grandmother.

Less than 24 hours later, Tyesha was dead and police were desperate to find her killer.

They decided early on it was Burrell, though he had not had any serious brushes with the law.

In a video taken by police hours before his arrest, chief homicide detective Richard Zimmerman is seen talking to a man brought to the station following another shooting. The officer says he is ready to pay "major dollars" for information about Tyesha's murder -- even if it's just street chatter.

"Hearsay is still worth something to me," Zimmerman tells the man, offering \$500 a name. "Sometimes ... you get hearsay here, hearsay there. Sometimes it's like a jigsaw puzzle, things come together, you know what I mean?"

The man gave up three names, but Zimmerman paid for just one: Burrell's.

The afternoon of the shooting, Burrell said, he was playing video games with a group at his friend's house. Hungry, they decided to walk to Portland Market on 38th Street. When they didn't see anything they liked, they continued on to Cup Foods, just a few hundred yards from Tyesha's house.

During his nearly three-hour interrogation, Burrell identified two people he saw at Cup Foods -- Latosha Evans and his friend, Donnell Jones.

Police never followed up. But Evans and Jones told the AP they were with Burrell at Cup Foods, either as shots were fired or immediately after, when sirens were blaring.

Though the store itself was under police surveillance because of allegations of drug dealing and weapons sales, it appears officers never recovered video surveillance tapes.

Evans remembers worrying that Burrell would get caught up in a police sweep and told him he better leave.

"I'd hate to you get blamed for this," she remembers telling him. "I hugged him and he went his way."

Burrell was picked up four days later. He was not in a gang database, and had never been tied to a serious crime.

During the interrogation, he never asked for an attorney, but he did ask for his mother 13 times. Each time he was told, "no, not now," though she was in a room next door.

A police officer told him that he was a huge disappointment to his mother, and that she had told officers she thought he was capable of the shooting.

"Are you kidding?" Burrell responded. "That's a lie. ... That's not truthful. ... I don't believe that."

Meanwhile, officers told his mother, falsely, that they had several eyewitnesses saying Burrell was the one and only shooter. Sinking into tears, she asked again and again to see him. "Not yet," they said.

One month later, the day before Burrell's indictment, his mother was driving back to Bemidji after a prison visit. She swerved off the road, crashing into a tree. The car burst into flames, killing her.

Klobuchar denied Burrell's request to go to his mother's funeral. He was, she said, a threat to society.

Burrell has spent most of his life in prison. He says he believes authorities knew that he was innocent all along: "They just didn't feel like my life was worth living."

If he had told police he was there, but had been an unwilling participant, as officers seemed to want, his nightmare might have been over by now. But he says he wants justice not just for himself, but for Tyesha. He could never admit to a crime he didn't commit, he says.

"That's something I struggle with to this day, you know. I coulda been home," said Burrell. "At least I can look in the mirror and I can still be proud of who I see looking back."

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Associated Press writer Margie Mason contributed to this report.

## Now for the hard part: EU-UK trade talks to be complicated

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — If you thought the drawn-out battle over the U.K.'s departure from the European Union was painful, wait until you see what comes next.

While Britain formally left the EU at 11 p.m. local time Friday, the hard work of building a new economic relationship between the bloc and its ex-member has just begun. There are difficult negotiations ahead as the U.K. goes its own way while trying to preserve links with its biggest trading partner, covering everything from tariffs and product standards to British industry's ability to recruit foreign workers and the EU's access to U.K. fishing grounds.

"There's a massive agenda to be agreed: trade in goods, trade in services, data protection, security cooperation, aviation, road haulage, fishing, you know the list is endless," said Jill Rutter, a senior research fellow at U.K. in a Changing Europe, a think tank that studies Britain's relations with the now 27-nation bloc. "It is unprecedented."

For now, little has changed. The two sides agreed on a transition period that keeps current rules and regulations in effect until Dec. 31. But that gives the U.K. government just 11 months to negotiate a comprehensive trade deal that could decide the prospects of British businesses for decades to come. The EU accounted for 54% of Britain's imports and 43% of its exports in 2016, according to the Office for National Statistics.

With challenging talks expected to begin fairly quickly, French President Emmanuel Macron published a letter on his Facebook page Saturday morning in English, addressed to his "dear British friends," that sought a conciliatory tone.

"Never has France or the French people – or, I think it is fair to say, any European people – been driven by a desire for revenge or punishment," he said.

British Industry groups are already lining up to protect their interests.

Hotel and restaurant owners say they need to maintain the existing supply of workers from the continent to ensure rooms are cleaned and dinners are prepared. Car makers want to preserve prompt deliveries from European suppliers to avoid manufacturing delays.

Banks and insurance companies are lobbying to maintain access to the lucrative European market. And fishermen want to regain control of fishing grounds they believe have been plundered by European rivals for the past four decades.

If that wasn't enough for Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his ministers, the British government also is keen to negotiate separate trade deals with individual countries now that the country has broken away from the EU.

Johnson's top trade prize outside the EU is the United States, the world's biggest economy and the destination for 18% of British exports.

But the Americans have already made difficult demands. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was in London last week warning of security concerns linked to Chinese telecoms giant Huawei and pressuring British officials to overturn their decision to let the company take part in upgrading the country's wireless network.

U.S. Ambassador Woody Johnson has been lobbying for British officials to open their doors to American goods such as chlorine-washed chicken that have been banned in the U.K. because of production standards the EU disagrees with. And U.S. medical companies are pushing for access to Britain's National Health Service.

Reconciling all these demands will be difficult because any attempt to meet U.S. demands by lowering British standards will push Britain further away from European rules. The EU has already made clear that the price of access to its markets is continued adherence to the bloc's regulations.

Trade negotiations, which are always complex, will be even more complicated because simultaneous negotiations will be taking place with both the EU and the U.S., think tank researcher Rutter said.

"It's like playing 3-D chess," she said.

Even the most difficult issue settled during the first round of negotiations between the EU and the Brit-

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ish government — the knotty question of Northern Ireland — remains problematic.

In an effort to protect the peace process in Northern Ireland and finally win approval for his EU withdrawal deal, Johnson agreed that Northern Ireland would keep the same rules as the bloc's single market for goods after Brexit. As a result, customs checks won't be needed on the border between Northern Ireland, which is part of the U.K., and the Republic of Ireland. Instead, some checks will have to be conducted on goods that enter Northern Ireland from the rest of the U.K. that are destined for the EU.

This essentially means that Johnson agreed to place a trade border in the Irish Sea — upsetting many of his own allies because it treats Northern Ireland differently to other parts of the United Kingdom. Unionists who want to remain part of the U.K. fear the deal will push Northern Ireland closer to the Irish Republic over time.

As complicated as this sounds, the details of exactly how the arrangement will work haven't been finalized.

"The Withdrawal Agreement provided a high-level blueprint without setting out the exact details of how trade across the Irish border and between Great Britain and Northern Ireland will work," a House of Commons report on the agreement said. "The detail will be worked out in discussions between the EU and the U.K. once the U.K. has left and the transition period starts."

Johnson has also promised Northern Ireland's farmers — the region's biggest industry — that the new trade deal with the EU will ensure they retain unfettered access to the rest of the U.K. market, which accounts for 50% of their sales.

Ivor Ferguson, president of the Ulster Farmers' Union, wants an urgent acceleration of talks on a trade deal. Farming, he points out, is a capital-intensive business, with farmers working on low margins and taking out big loans. They need time to plan.

"The heavy lifting is only beginning when we leave the EU," he said.

Meanwhile, Brexit is already reshaping the economy. Companies are shifting investments, creating new supply chains and stockpiling goods to mitigate any negative impacts.

Workers from the EU have started to vote with their feet.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan said last week that fewer EU citizens are coming to work in the city these days, and too many are leaving, causing employment shortages in industries like construction, hospitality and social care. At a small gathering of reporters, he repeatedly stressed his dismay at the turn of events and insisted that London was a global city that welcomed EU citizens.

"And it's really important that the message 'London is open' is heard loud and clear," he said. "And it's really important that we continue to be seen as pluralistic, open-minded and has values that are conducive to talented EU citizens continuing to come to London."

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Associated Press writer Thomas Adamson contributed.

## Lakers return after Bryant's death, lose 127-119 to Blazers

By GREG BEACHAM AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant's resonant voice echoed through the darkened Staples Center while images from his life and career flickered on the scoreboard above.

LeBron James' heartfelt pregame speech honoring his friend then left Lakers fans and players alike cheering through tears.

The Lakers and the Portland Trail Blazers somehow had to play a basketball game after a wrenching pregame ceremony honoring Bryant and the other eight victims of the helicopter crash just five days earlier.

And Damian Lillard gave a performance that nudged aside the basketball world's collective heartbreak for just a moment.

Lillard scored 48 points and the Trail Blazers beat Los Angeles 127-119 on Friday night in the Lakers' first game since Bryant, his 13-year-old daughter Gianna and seven others died in a helicopter crash.

Lillard hit seven 3-pointers and added 10 assists and nine rebounds in an inspired effort that sent the Blazers to a win over an opponent still dealing with the trauma of the crash that claimed the life of their

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franchise icon.

"I think everybody was emotional tonight," said James, who played in two Olympics alongside Bryant. "We all have our individual reasons why emotion hits us, and then we all have this brotherhood and this family, being a part of this Laker organization, which automatically brings in even more emotion."

Both teams stood on the court during a poignant pregame tribute to Bryant including songs, Kobe highlights and James' speech, which captivated the arena.

"So in the words of Kobe Bryant, 'Mamba out,'" James told the crowd. "But in the words of us, 'not forgotten.' Live on, brother."

Highlights of Bryant's career played during every break, but Lillard put on a show between the whistles. Lillard's seven 3-pointers gave him 40 in his last five games, setting an NBA record. But even the Blazers star knew results were secondary on this unique evening.

"I don't feel like anybody feels like we walked away as a winner tonight, given the circumstances," Lillard said. "The memories that we'll take away from it was just sad and just tough. It's good that we had to compete, so being on the winning side is a positive, but I don't think anybody walks away from this moment and this situation a winner."

James had 22 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds, and Anthony Davis had 37 points and 15 boards in the Lakers' first game since last Saturday.

Hassan Whiteside scored 30 points, and C.J. McCollum added 19 for the Blazers, who were playing their third game since Bryant's death, which seems to have affected practically everyone who picked up a basketball in the past quarter-century.

"We've had five days and two games to kind of understand the emotions that were going to be out there," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "I know it was a tough game for the Lakers, watching them during the tribute, during LeBron's talk. I thought it was a difficult game for them to play. I mean, it was difficult for both teams, but I think we've had some time to go through the grieving process."

The entire evening was likely both profoundly painful and cathartic for anyone who loves the Lakers or Bryant, who won five championships while playing his entire 20-year NBA career in purple and gold.

Bryant retired in 2016, but he remained a face of his only franchise and an inspiration to the current players, who learned about his death on their plane ride home from an East Coast road trip. Their next game against the Clippers was postponed, and the Lakers franchise persevered through a brutal week of coping with the loss.

"We understood this was going to be a difficult one," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. "We didn't want to lose, but this week has been more about life than basketball. ... We've got to continue to focus on the work. There's therapy in the work."

Several Lakers teared up during the ceremony, as did the Blazers — but after both teams took 24-second and 8-second violations off the opening tip, they lifted the heavy moment with grace.

Davis began the game with red eyes, but managed to score 18 points in the first quarter alone. The Lakers committed 13 turnovers in the first half while playing with an obvious surfeit of energy.

Lillard, the gifted California native, went wild in the third quarter, scoring 23 points and hitting six 3-pointers in a virtuoso display of offensive skill.

The Lakers then trailed by 12 in the fourth quarter before a "Kobe! Kobe!" chant broke out. They promptly made a 9-0 run, but the Blazers stayed steadily ahead.

## TIP-INS

Trail Blazers: Carmelo Anthony missed the game for what the Blazers called personal reasons. Anthony and Bryant were close friends. ... Lillard became the third player in league history with at least six 3-pointers in five straight games.

Lakers: Quinn Cook, who idolized Bryant, was visibly affected by the ceremony. He checked into the game in the second quarter wearing his new No. 28 jersey, which represents Gianna (2) and Kobe (8). ... Alex Caruso played despite neck soreness.

## SOMBER MOMENTS

The ceremony began in a darkened arena with Usher singing "Amazing Grace." Staples Center then

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showed a video of Bryant's highlights narrated by his own voice.

James then took the microphone, discarded his prepared speech and commanded the crowd with stirring words from the heart. James joined the Lakers in 2018, and he spoke to Bryant several hours before the crash when Kobe congratulated LeBron on moving past him into third place on the NBA's career scoring list.

Lakers public address announcer Lawrence Tanter then introduced each of the Lakers' five starters as Kobe Bryant, drawing tears and cheers from the sellout crowd.

TOUGH TIMES

The Lakers, the Clippers and the NHL's Kings all lost their emotionally charged first games at Staples Center after the death of Bryant, who played his final 17 seasons in the downtown arena.

UP NEXT

Trail Blazers: Host the Utah Jazz on Saturday night.

Lakers: Visit the Sacramento Kings on Saturday night.

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

## Alexa, read me a story: Audio content for kids on the rise

By LEANNE ITALIE AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Melanie Musson in Belgrade, Montana, does a lot of driving with her four girls. Juggling a broad age range, 1 to 9, she's forever searching for ways to keep them all entertained without relying entirely on video.

While she still adores paper and tablet books for her kids, Musson said: "I think when they hear without seeing, they have to make up visuals in their heads. That's so good. They have to be engaged and get more out of it."

There are plenty of quality audiobooks, podcasts and music for the young, she noted, but weeding through thousands of selections and jumping from platform to platform is a challenge since audio content has exploded over the last few years.

Dad blogger Balint Horvath in Zurich agreed after trying to make sense of kid options for his 14-month-old daughter.

"I couldn't find any resource that would organize podcasts according to different criteria. Information without proper searchability is like looking for a needle in a haystack," said Horvath, who works as a productivity coach for research and development teams.

Audiobooks and music for kids have been around awhile, but podcasts made for the 3-to-12 set are relatively new, driving more parents to choose one-stop platforms that include all formats.

Demand is "primarily driven by parents who are podcast listeners or audiobook fans," said Frannie Ucciferri, associate managing editor for the nonprofit Common Sense Media.

With a huge bump in podcasts overall, the value of audio content for kids hasn't been lost on companies large and small.

Spotify recently launched a new ad-free app, Spotify Kids, as a free extension for premium family subscribers. Not yet available in the U.S., it's packed with singalongs, soundtracks and stories for children as young as 3. A platform called Pinna is among the latest to launch ad-free with a variety of content and ages in mind, at \$7.99 a month or \$79.99 a year. Others stick to podcasts alone, while Amazon's FreeTime Unlimited allows parents to customize a child's experience to provide the most relevant books, videos, apps and more without ads, starting at \$2.99 a month.

Old-school broadcasters are also getting into the act. Boston's WGBH, for instance, widely shares free of cost two of its top podcasts for young people: "Molly of Denali," based on the TV series about a girl in Alaska, and "The Creeping Hour," for ages 8 to 12. More are planned as part of the public affiliate's "ongoing exploration of audio storytelling," said WGBH spokeswoman Jeanne Hopkins.

Bonnie Way of Vancouver, British Columbia, has five kids, ranging from 2 to 12, and like Musson, she pulls a lot of travel time with her brood. She reaches for audiobooks to keep them happy, even on short

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trips, and relies a lot on her local library for free selections.

"Yes, it can be challenging to find books that everyone is happy listening to. My 4-year-old is probably exposed to things that her older sisters wouldn't have heard at that age. We started with short stories like Robert Munsch and 'Curious George,' and moved to longer stories like the 'Chronicles of Narnia,'" she said.

Some of her kids are prone to motion sickness, and listening rather than reading helps, Way said. She sees other benefits as well.

"Audiobooks create a shared experience. We're able to discuss the books after we've listened to them, which has been a lot of fun," she said.

Maggie McGuire is a former teacher who has been in children's media for more than 20 years. She's now CEO of Pinna, which is backed by the Graham Holdings Co., formed from what remained of The Washington Post Co. after the Post itself was sold to Jeff Bezos five years ago.

Pinna both curates and creates for kids ages 3 to 12. It offers more than 2,000 audiobooks, podcasts and songs while also producing original podcasts, all ad-free and in compliance with federal standards aimed at protecting children's privacy and safety online, McGuire said. It's available as an app and usable off the Pinna.fm website.

Podcasts, McGuire said, are a "fresh new format that everyone's very excited about."

The company worked with parents and teachers to understand what they were looking for in audio content. Among their priorities were a "one-stop solution" and a high level of curation to ensure quality and that all content was tucked into a safe platform exclusively for kids.

"There's a real desire now to figure out how the media diet in a kid's day, in a kid's week, can include things that aren't wholly screen-based," McGuire said.

Last year, Pinna produced 25 podcasts of its own, and plans to grow that number this year. Its slate of originals accounts for half the listening among its consumers, McGuire said. The company plans to launch curated playlists this month. Not unlike other streamers, Pinna will mix new content with classic stories and other familiar standards.

Included is Pinna's Peabody-winning podcast, "The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel," a serial mystery performed by middle graders for middle graders. Another popular original is "Grimm, Grimmer, Grimest," a series of fairy tales retold. It was written and produced by Adam Gidwitz, bestselling author of "A Tale Dark and Grimm."

For younger kids, Pinna partnered with Random House Children's Books to turn the publisher's popular Ron Roy book series, "A to Z Mysteries," into a podcast. Mo Willems and Rick Riordan are among top names in the company's audiobook lineup on Pinna, along with music from Kidz Bop, They Might Be Giants and Ralph's World.

The Amazon-owned Audible.com, a dominant force in audiobooks, is also reaping benefits from the increased interest in kid content. In 2019, the company said, Audible listeners downloaded 40 percent more such content than they had in 2018. The company offers more than 30,000 titles for kids among more than 475,000 overall.

"Parents and families are excited about listening together before bedtime. They're listening on road trips. They're listening while they're making dinner," said Diana Dapito, a senior vice president of content at Audible.

Audible worked with R.L. Stine on its original "Camp Red Moon," with Pottermore Publishing on Wizarding World audiobooks and has produced more than 100 audiobooks of the "The Baby-Sitters Club" series, including some narrated by Elle Fanning. In September, Audible released an original of Jessica Khoury's middle-grade "The Mystwick School of Musicraft" with music performed by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Youth Orchestras. It's now in Audible's Top 20 most-listened-to kid titles of all time.

Parents' nostalgia has played a role in kids' listening, Dapito said, but so has the emergence of home speakers such as Alexa.

"It's easier than ever for kids to have access," she said, "and for everybody to come together."

**Trump State of the Union won't be 1st delivered amid turmoil**

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By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two decades ago, President Bill Clinton addressed a nation transfixed by impeachment. He didn't use the I-word once in a State of the Union address that ran on for 78 minutes.

Now, President Donald Trump prepares to address the nation under similar circumstances, with the added pressure of a looming presidential election thrown into the mix. And no one expects him to follow the Clinton model by ignoring the elephant in the room — especially since he now appears likely to be acquitted the day after the speech.

Trump is hardly the first president to deliver a State of the Union address in a time of turmoil. Abraham Lincoln delivered a written report during the Civil War, Richard Nixon spoke while embroiled in the Watergate scandal. Gerald Ford declared "the state of the union is not good." But Clinton's 1999 speech offers the most obvious parallels.

A Republican-controlled House impeached Clinton in December 1998 on grounds that he had lied to a federal grand jury and obstructed justice about his relationship with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Just hours before Clinton delivered his State of the Union address, White House lawyers opened their defense of the president in his Senate trial. They argued he was innocent of the charges and "must not be removed from office."

Clinton's address, in the same chamber where he had been impeached weeks earlier, was met with respectful applause, though some Republicans decided to boycott the address saying it was inappropriate for Clinton to appear before Congress during his impeachment trial. Two of his harshest Republican critics, House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas and House Majority Whip Tom DeLay of Texas, sat stonily side by side.

Clinton speechwriter Michael Waldman says he can't recall any discussion leading up to the 1999 address about whether Clinton should talk about the impeachment proceedings.

"It never was considered," says Waldman, president of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law. "His entire goal in a speech like that was to remind people of the policy agenda that he cared about and that they liked, and also to remind people of the parts of the presidency that they liked."

Clinton focused his speech on using the large majority of a projected \$4 trillion surplus over 15 years to shore up Social Security and Medicare. Republicans resisted and instead called for tax cuts. Indeed, he offered so many policy proposals that one Democratic lawmaker, Rep. Joseph Moakley of Massachusetts, remarked; "He did everything but buy a new dress for the Statue of Liberty."

At the time, the economy was entering its third consecutive year of economic growth exceeding 4 percent. An astonishing 69% of the country approved of the job Clinton was doing as president and 29% disapproved, according to Gallup polling. The Senate would go on to acquit Clinton the following month.

Twenty-five years earlier, Nixon devoted much of his final State of the Union speech to the country's energy crisis. But near the end of his remarks, he added a "personal word" about Watergate. Nixon called for the investigation to end, declaring "one year of Watergate is enough" and said he had no "intention whatever" of resigning.

Nixon's poll standing bumped up past the two-thirds level after his State of the Union address. But there was more to Watergate, and as that scandal wore on, into impeachment proceedings, his job approval steadily sank, to 23 percent at the point he finally quit.

The New York Times recounted that Republicans in the chamber greeted Nixon with applause, cheers and whoops for more than two minutes. The "most startling demeanor" was on the Democratic side. Sen. Sam Ervin, chairman of the Watergate Committee, didn't applaud once. While snickers and grimaces greeted Nixon's pledge to protect Americans from such privacy invasions as "electronic snooping."

Trump is coming into the election year with his approval rating at 44% and his disapproval rating at 53%, according to the latest Gallup numbers. In seeking reelection, Trump is hoping to use a backlash against impeachment to help motivate his core supporters, but he also needs to reach out to a broader swath of voters.

The final vote in Trump's impeachment trial is now set for Wednesday afternoon. The Senate on Friday rejected the summoning of witnesses in the trial, all but ensuring Trump's eventual acquittal.



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Republican strategist Matt Mackowiak said there will be lots of other opportunities for Trump to get the last word in on impeachment. The State of the Union is not that time.

"I think in many ways the single best opportunity he has with this particular State of the Union will be to attract a broader coalition of supporters," Mackowiak said. "I'm hoping that he doesn't go on offense too much."

Still, Trump can hardly get through any event at the White House without talking about the impeachment inquiry and trial. His comments in greeting the Louisiana State University college football champions and in signing a new trade deal with Canada and Mexico inevitably included references to the impeachment proceedings.

Aaron Kall, director of debate at the University of Michigan and an author about memorable State of the Union addresses, said that, based on history, Trump would be best served keeping the public's focus off impeachment during the State of the Union.

"The Clinton model proved to be successful," Kall said. But knowing Trump, he added, "It will be impossible for him not to take a victory lap."

AP news researcher Monika Mathur contributed to this report.

## **GOP senators seek to acquit Trump without condoning conduct**

**By ERIC TUCKER Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — There is no question, Sen. Lamar Alexander said, that President Donald Trump actions were "inappropriate" when he asked Ukraine's leader to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden.

But not bad enough, he said, to warrant Trump's removal from office, or even to hear from witnesses or other evidence.

That distinction has been embraced by other Republicans as the trial moves toward a near-certain acquittal of the president in the coming days. It's also in line with arguments from Trump's legal team, which after initially asserting that the president did "absolutely nothing wrong" moved toward insisting that Trump had done nothing impeachable — and attacked the trial as a partisan exercise.

The evolving arguments have allowed Republicans to cite political and historical grounds for acquitting Trump without feeling compelled to condone his behavior, a split-the-difference judgment that avoids a clean break with the president as he stands for reelection.

Alexander, who is retiring from office at the end of the year, was the most vocal, saying he did not need to hear more evidence to conclude that Trump was wrong to ask a foreign leader to investigate a rival.

"But," said Alexander, "the Constitution does not give the Senate the power to remove the president from office and ban him from this year's ballot simply for actions that are inappropriate."

Similarly, Sen. Lisa Murkowski, an Alaska Republican whose opinions have been closely watched because of her centrist reputation, issued a five-paragraph statement Friday that declared her opposition to witnesses without mentioning Trump once or registering any support for his actions.

"Given the partisan nature of this impeachment from the very beginning and throughout, I have come to the conclusion that there will be no fair trial in the Senate," Murkowski said. "I don't believe the continuation of this process will change anything."

Trump has repeatedly called his July 25 phone call with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskiy "perfect," but a drumbeat of revelations that continued even after the trial started made that claim harder for even staunch allies to sustain.

The latest revelation came courtesy of an unpublished manuscript from former national security adviser John Bolton, who writes that Trump tied suspension of military aid to Ukraine to the country's willingness to undertake the investigations the president wanted.

Inside and outside the chamber, the president's allies spent more time questioning the relevancy of the book's content than disputing its accuracy. Republican senators signaled through their questions at trial a willingness to concede certain basic facts of the case, which made it easier them to brush off calls for

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more witnesses. They insist they already have the information they need to make a decision.

"For the sake of argument, one could assume everything attributable to John Bolton is accurate and still the House case would fall well below the standards to remove a president from office," Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, a vocal defender of Trump's, said in a statement.

One question this week from Sens. Susan Collins and Mitt Romney, two Republicans who on Friday joined Democrats in seeking witness testimony, and Murkowski who voted against witnesses, asked whether Trump could be guilty of the abuse of power count if he was motivated by both national interest and "personal political advantage." It was a clear indication that the trio did not dispute that Trump had in fact, been inspired by the pursuit of a "personal political advantage."

Nor did Trump deputy White House counsel Pat Philbin, when it came time to answer the question. He simply suggested that a president cannot be removed from office for having mixed motives.

"There's always some personal interest in the electoral outcome of policy decisions," Philbin said, "and there's nothing wrong with that."

Another question from Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas left open the idea that, contrary to Trump's denials, perhaps there had been a quid-pro-quo after all. But, Cruz asked, "As a matter of law, does it matter? Is it true quid pro quos are often used in foreign policy?"

Here again, Trump attorney Alan Dershowitz responded by saying it would be illegal only if a president had acted on corrupt motives alone.

"It's so dangerous to try to psychoanalyze a president, to try to get into the intricacies of the human mind," Dershowitz said. "Everybody has mixed motives, and for there to be a constitutional impeachment based on mixed motives would permit almost any president to be impeached."

It was an evolution in argument from the one at the outset of the trial, when Trump's attorneys stressed that he had done absolutely nothing wrong.

And by Friday morning, as the decision on witnesses neared, the Republican senators who did come forward to telegraph their votes struck a note similar to Alexander's — attacking the impeachment process without supporting the president's behavior.

The president's actions were "wrong and inappropriate," said Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio. But the process of securing witnesses could take months, he added, and the Senate should not subpoena witnesses like Bolton who were never subpoenaed by the House.

Republican Sen. Roy Blunt of Missouri, speaking to reporters Friday, was asked if he agreed with Alexander that Trump's conduct was inappropriate but not impeachable. He responded by saying that he had a "lot of respect for" Alexander and that he opposed hearing from witnesses for what he said were "institutional" reasons.

Asked again if he agreed with Alexander, he replied, "I've said what I'm going to say about that."

Follow Eric Tucker on <http://www.twitter.com/etuckerAP>

## 2020 candidates brace for frenzied, final weekend in Iowa

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Democratic presidential candidates kicked off a final, frenetic weekend of campaigning ahead of the Iowa caucuses, which will begin the battle to take on President Donald Trump in November.

Former Vice President Joe Biden and Pete Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, returned to the campaign trail a day after knocking each other and progressive rival Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Sanders, along with Sens. Elizabeth Warren, Amy Klobuchar and Michael Bennet, who were stuck in Washington for Trump's impeachment trial, can finally get back to wooing voters after the Senate pushed final voting on the president's fate until Wednesday.

Warren, a Massachusetts senator, missed her scheduled events but flew to Iowa late Friday night, after impeachment wrapped up for the week, and headed straight to a packed Des Moines brewery to briefly

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address a cheering crowd before lining up to take "selfies." That came hours after her husband, Bruce Mann, spoke to about 700 supporters in her stead and invited anyone interested to cross the street and have a late-night beer with her.

Warren also began airing television and online ads arguing she's the most electable candidate in a crowded primary field — capable of uniting the party and defeating Trump while silencing doubts that sexism could prevent a woman from winning the White House.

Sanders' campaign, meanwhile, hosted a concert featuring music from the band Bon Iver as part of his effort to energize young voters, and he called into the event from Washington. He has predicted that, if turnout is high during Monday's caucus, he will win.

Speaking on Capitol Hill before the impeachment trial wrapped up for the week, Klobuchar said her campaign would move forward even if she couldn't be in Iowa on the day of the caucuses.

"I just say bring it on," Klobuchar, a Minnesota senator, said. "Because I just have faith in the people of the country to actually want someone with the experience of standing up."

All face a competition that is exceedingly fluid. Sanders, Biden, Buttigieg and Warren are bunched at the top of most Iowa polls, and Klobuchar has shown signs of strength in recent weeks. Everyone is looking for a strong finish here that could lift them heading into later contests that will help decide the Democratic nomination.

In a race this jumbled, competition is intensifying among the candidates to at least emerge from Iowa as the leader of their ideological lanes. For Sanders and Warren, the caucus represents an opportunity to consolidate support from progressives. They both back priorities such as universal, government-funded health care under "Medicare for All" and wiping out virtually all student debt. But neither has yet pulled away as the undisputed leader of the party's left flank.

"The only way to not have that issue is to have one win and the other lose," said Rebecca Katz, a liberal Democratic strategist based in New York. "I think what you see is the progressive wing is very big and has a lot of needs. It's not something where, all of a sudden, one becomes the leading progressive and all fall in line. Especially if they finish one-two (in Iowa). It's not cut and dried."

The moderate slice of the party is also struggling to unite behind options that include Biden, Buttigieg and Klobuchar.

As a former vice president who is competing in the Iowa caucuses for the third time, Biden is a well-known figure in the state and has won the backing of several leading current and former elected leaders. But attendance at his rallies has been relatively small in recent days. A super PAC aligned with his campaign has already poured \$7.6 million into Iowa — meaning it may not be able to provide additional help in other states if Biden fails to meet expectations.

Still, Biden said Friday he's expecting big things in Iowa.

"I've been saying from the beginning, I think we're going to do well here. I think it's going to be really tight no matter how it works out," the former vice president said.

Biden has lately intensified his attacks on Sanders, questioning whether the senator is truly a Democrat given his democratic socialist ideology. Sanders' camp has shrugged that off, saying it didn't work for Hillary Clinton during the 2016 Democratic primary and it won't resonate now.

On Friday, though, the former vice president reversed course, conceding, "Bernie is a Democrat."

"We have a different view on a whole lot of things. He's a decent guy," Biden told ABC.

While campaigning in Fort Madison, Iowa, Biden argued that he was the candidate Trump least wants to face in the fall. He pointed to the recent attention he's gotten from Republicans during the impeachment trial and in Iowa, where Trump mocked his small crowd sizes during a visit to the state on Thursday.

"They don't want me to be the nominee. I wonder why," he said. "Because they know if I am, we are going to beat him."

The 38-year-old Buttigieg unveiled a video Friday stressing party unity. But, on the campaign trail, he has singled out the 78-year-old Sanders as too uncompromising in his progressive views and the 77-year-old Biden as being tainted by past political brawls during a long career in Washington.

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"The vice president will say we cannot take a risk on someone new," Buttigieg said while campaigning in Council Bluffs, Iowa, drawing a contrast between himself and Biden. "We cannot take the risk of trying to fall back on the old playbook."

Sanders, he said, speaks to "goals that I think everybody shares while presenting it in a political forum that says you either have to choose between revolution or status quo."

While Sanders and Warren were unable to make their final appeals in person all week because of impeachment, being tethered to Washington may have been especially frustrating for Klobuchar. She had been seemingly gaining ground in Iowa but could see that momentum fade by missing time on the trail.

"My ask of you is to run for me, to help me," Klobuchar said in a telephone town hall with New Hampshire voters.

In a memo to reporters, her campaign said that her being the only candidate to campaign in all 99 Iowa counties can boost Klobuchar in smaller communities, where the threshold of support needed to pick up delegates to the Democratic National Convention is lower.

"Achieving viability in rural and mid-sized precincts will propel us forward in the delegate count," campaign manager Justin Buoen and senior caucus adviser Norm Sterzenbach wrote.

Bennet, the Colorado senator, attempted to provide his own contrast to the rest of the field by unveiling a new television ad airing in New Hampshire, which votes after Iowa.

A field that was once the largest in modern history also lost another member when John Delaney exited the race Friday. The former Maryland congressman poured millions of dollars of his own money into the race but never gained traction.

"At this moment in time, this is not the purpose God has for me," Delaney told CNN.

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Associated Press writers Margery Beck in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Alexandra Jaffe in Fort Madison, Iowa, Thomas Beaumont in Des Moines, Iowa, Sara Burnett in Chicago and Mary Clare Jalonick in Washington contributed to this report.

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

## Trump acquittal now likely Wednesday; Senate nixes witnesses

By LISA MASCARO, ERIC TUCKER and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate narrowly rejected Democratic demands to summon witnesses for President Donald Trump's impeachment trial late Friday, all but ensuring Trump's acquittal in just the third trial to threaten a president's removal in U.S. history. But senators pushed off final voting on his fate to next Wednesday.

The delay in timing showed the weight of a historic vote bearing down on senators, despite prodding by the president eager to have it all behind him in an election year and ahead of his State of the Union speech Tuesday night.

Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell spoke by phone to lock in the schedule during a tense night at the Capitol as rushed negotiations proceeded on and off the Senate floor. The trial came to a standstill for about an hour. A person unauthorized to discuss the call was granted anonymity to describe it.

The president wanted to arrive for his speech at the Capitol with acquittal secured, but that will not happen. Instead, the trial will resume Monday for final arguments, with time Monday and Tuesday for senators to speak. The final voting is planned for 4 p.m. Wednesday, the day after Trump's speech.

Trump's acquittal is all but certain in the Senate, where his GOP allies hold the majority and there's nowhere near the two-thirds needed for conviction and removal.

Nor will he face potentially damaging, open-Senate testimony from witnesses.

Despite the Democrats' singular focus on hearing new testimony, the Republican majority brushed past those demands and will make this the first impeachment trial without witnesses. Even new revelations Friday from former national security adviser John Bolton did not sway GOP senators, who said they'd

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heard enough.

That means the eventual outcome for Trump will be an acquittal "in name only," said Rep. Val Demings, D-Fla., a House prosecutor, during final debate.

Trump was impeached by the House last month on charges that he abused power and obstructed Congress as he tried to pressure Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden, using military aid as leverage as the ally fought Russia. He is charged with then blocking the congressional probe of his actions.

Senators rejected the Democrats' effort to allow new witnesses, 51-49, a near party-line vote. Republicans Susan Collins of Maine and Mitt Romney of Utah voted with the Democrats, but that was not enough.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer called that decision "a tragedy on a very large scale." Protesters' chants reverberated against the walls of the Capitol.

But Republicans said Trump's acquittal was justified and inevitable.

"The sooner the better for the country," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Trump confidant. "Let's turn the page."

The next steps come in the heart of presidential campaign season before a divided nation. Democratic caucus voting begins Monday in Iowa, and Trump gives his State of the Union address the next night. Four Democratic candidates have been chafing in the Senate chamber rather than campaigning.

The Democrats had badly wanted testimony from Bolton, whose forthcoming book links Trump directly to the charges. But Bolton won't be summoned, and none of this appeared to affect the trial's expected outcome. Democrats forced a series of new procedural votes late Friday to call Bolton and White House acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, among others, but all were rejected.

In an unpublished manuscript, Bolton has written that the president asked him during an Oval Office meeting in early May to bolster his effort to get Ukraine to investigate Democrats, according to a person who read the passage and told The Associated Press. The person, who was not authorized to disclose contents of the book, spoke only on condition of anonymity.

In the meeting, Bolton said the president asked him to call new Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and persuade him to meet with Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, who was planning to go to Ukraine to coax the Ukrainians to investigate the president's political rivals. Bolton writes that he never made the call to Zelenskyy after the meeting, which included acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and White House Counsel Pat Cipollone.

The revelation adds more detail to allegations of when and how Trump first sought to influence Ukraine to aid investigations of his rivals that are central to the abuse of power charge in the first article of impeachment.

The story was first reported Friday by The New York Times.

Trump issued a quick denial.

"I never instructed John Bolton to set up a meeting for Rudy Giuliani, one of the greatest corruption fighters in America and by far the greatest mayor in the history of NYC, to meet with President Zelenskyy," Trump said. "That meeting never happened."

Key Republican senators said even if Trump committed the offenses as charged by the House, they are not impeachable and the partisan proceedings must end.

"I didn't need any more evidence because I thought it was proved that the president did what he was charged with doing," retiring GOP Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, a late holdout, told reporters Friday at the Capitol. "But that didn't rise to the level of an impeachable offense."

Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska said she, too, would oppose more testimony in the charged partisan atmosphere, having "come to the conclusion that there will be no fair trial in the Senate." She said, "The Congress has failed."

Eager for a conclusion, Trump's allies nevertheless suggested the shift in timing to extend the proceedings into next week, acknowledging the significance of the moment for senators who want to give final speeches.

To bring the trial toward a conclusion, Trump's attorneys argued the House had already heard from 17

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witnesses and presented its 28,578-page report to the Senate. They warned against prolonging it even further. The House impeached Trump largely along party lines after less than three months of formal proceedings, making it the quickest, most partisan presidential impeachment in U.S. history.

Some senators pointed to the importance of the moment.

"What do you want your place in history to be?" asked one of the House managers, Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., a former Army Ranger.

To hear more witnesses, it would have taken four Republicans to break with the 53-seat majority and join with all Democrats in demanding more testimony. But that effort fell short.

Chief Justice John Roberts, in the rare role presiding over the impeachment trial, could break a tie, but that seemed unlikely. Asked late Friday, he told senators it would be "inappropriate."

Murkowski noted in announcing her decision that she did not want to drag the chief justice into the partisan fray.

As protesters chanted outside the Capitol, some visitors watched from the Senate galleries.

Bolton's forthcoming book contends he personally heard Trump say he wanted military aid withheld from Ukraine until it agreed to investigate the Bidens. Trump denies saying such a thing.

The White House has blocked its officials from testifying in the proceedings and objected that there are "significant amounts of classified information" in Bolton's manuscript. Bolton resigned last September — Trump says he was fired — and he and his attorney have insisted the book does not contain any classified information.

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Associated Press writers Alan Fram, Andrew Taylor, Matthew Daly, Laurie Kellman, Deb Riechmann and Padmananda Rama contributed to this report.

## Author Mary Higgins Clark, 'Queen of Suspense,' dead at 92

By HILLEL ITALIE AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Mary Higgins Clark, the tireless and long-reigning "Queen of Suspense" whose tales of women beating the odds made her one of the world's most popular writers, died Friday at age 92.

Her publisher, Simon & Schuster, announced that she died of natural causes in Naples, Florida.

"Nobody ever bonded more completely with her readers than Mary did," her longtime editor Michael Korda said in statement. "She understood them as if they were members of her own family. She was always absolutely sure of what they wanted to read — and, perhaps more important, what they didn't want to read — and yet she managed to surprise them with every book."

Widowed in her late 30s with five children, she became a perennial bestseller over the second half of her life, writing or co-writing "A Stranger Is Watching," "Daddy's Little Girl" and more than 50 other favorites. Sales topped 100 million copies and honors came from all over, including a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters from France or a Grand Master statuette back home from the Mystery Writers of America. Many of her books, like "A Stranger is Watching" and "Lucky Day," were adapted for movies and television. She also collaborated on several novels with her daughter, Carol Higgins Clark.

Mary Higgins Clark specialized in women triumphing over danger, such as the besieged young prosecutor in "Just Take My Heart" or the mother of two and art gallery worker whose second husband is a madman in "A Cry in the Night." Clark's goal as an author was simple, if rarely easy: Keep the readers reading.

"You want to turn the page," she told The Associated Press in 2013. "There are wonderful sagas you can thoroughly enjoy a section and put it down. But if you're reading my book, I want you stuck with reading the next paragraph. The greatest compliment I can receive is, 'I read your darned book 'til 4 in the morning, and now I'm tired.' I say, 'Then you get your money's worth.'"

Her own life taught her lessons of resilience — strengthened by her Catholic faith — that she shared with her fictional heroines. She was born Mary Higgins in 1927 in New York City, the second of three children. She would later take the last name Clark after marriage. Her father ran a popular pub that did well enough for the family to afford a maid and for her mother to prepare meals for strangers in need.

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But business slowed during the Great Depression, and her father, forced to work ever longer hours as he laid off employees, died in his sleep in 1939. One of her brothers died of meningitis a few years later. Surviving family members took on odd jobs and had to rent out rooms in the house.

Clark had always loved to write. At age 6, she completed her first poem, which her mother proudly requested she recite in front of the family. A story she wrote in grade school impressed her teacher enough that Clark read it to the rest of the class. By high school, she was trying to sell stories to True Confessions magazine.

After working as a hotel switchboard operator — Tennessee Williams was among the guests she eavesdropped on — and a flight attendant for Pan American, she married Capital Airways regional manager Warren Clark in 1949. Throughout the 1950s and into the '60s, she raised their children, studied writing at New York University and began getting stories published.

Some stories drew upon her experiences at Pan American. Another story, which appeared in The Saturday Evening Post, "Beauty Contest at Buckingham Palace," imagined a pageant featuring Queen Elizabeth II, Jackie Kennedy and Princess Grace of Monaco. But by the mid-60s, the magazine market for fiction was rapidly shrinking and her husband's health was failing; Warren Clark died of a heart attack in 1964.

Clark quickly found work as a script writer for "Portrait of a President," a radio series on American presidents. Her research inspired her first book, a historical novel about George and Martha Washington. She was so determined that she began getting up at 5 a.m., working until nearly 7 a.m. before feeding her children and leaving for work.

"Aspire to the Heavens" was published in 1969. It was "a triumph," she recalled in her memoir "Kitchen Privileges," but also a folly. The book's publisher was sold near the release date and it received little attention. She regretted the title and learned that some stores placed the book in religious sections. Her compensation was \$1,500, minus commission. Decades later, the novel would be reissued, far more successfully, as "Mount Vernon: A Love Story."

For her next book, she wanted to make some money. Following a guideline she would often suggest to other writers, she looked at her bookshelves, which featured novels by Agatha Christie, Rex Stout and other mystery writers, and decided she should write the kind of book she liked to read. A recent tabloid trial about a young woman accused of murdering her children gave her an idea.

"It seemed inconceivable to most of us that any woman could do that to her children," Mary Clark wrote in her memoir. "And then I thought: Suppose an innocent young mother is convicted of the deliberate murder of her two children; suppose she gets out of prison on a technicality; and then suppose seven years to the day, on her 32nd birthday, the children of her second marriage disappear."

In September 1974, she sent her agent a manuscript for "Die a Little Death," acquired months later by Simon & Schuster for \$3,000. Renamed "Where are the Children?" and released in 1975, it became her first bestseller and began her long, but not entirely surprising, run of success. She would allege that a psychic had told her she would become rich and famous.

Clark, who wrote well into her 90s, more than compensated for her early struggles. She acquired several homes and for a time owned part of the New Jersey Nets. She was among a circle of authors, including Lee Child and Nelson DeMille, who regularly met for dinner in Manhattan. She also had friends in Washington and was a White House guest during the presidential administrations of George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. Barbara Bush became a close friend.

Married since 1996 to former Merrill Lynch Futures CEO John J. Conheeny, Clark remembered well the day she said goodbye to hard times. It was in April 1977, and her agent had told her that Simon & Schuster was offering \$500,000 for the hardcover to her third novel, "A Stranger is Watching," and that the publisher Dell was paying \$1 million for the paperback. She had been running her own script production company during the day and studying for a philosophy degree at Fordham University at night, returning home to New Jersey in an old car with more than 100,000 miles on it.

"As I drove onto the Henry Hudson Parkway, the tailpipe and muffler came loose and began dragging on the ground. For the next 21 miles, I kur-plunked, kur-plunked, all the way home," she wrote in her

memoir. "People in other cars kept honking and beeping, obviously sure that I was either too stupid or too deaf to hear the racket.

"The next day I bought a Cadillac!"

## Woman says Weinstein yelled, 'You owe me!' before raping her

By TOM HAYS, MICHAEL R. SISAK and JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A key accuser in Harvey Weinstein's trial testified Friday that he raped her twice, once bellowing, "You owe me!" as he dragged her into a bedroom.

The first time, the heavysset Hollywood tycoon trapped her in a New York hotel room in March 2013, and angrily ordered her to undress as he loomed over her, and then raped her, she told jurors.

Still, she kept in touch, sending him flattering emails, because "his ego was so fragile," she said, and it "made me feel safe, worshipping him in this sense. ... I wanted to be perceived as innocent and naive."

Then, eight months later at a Los Angeles hotel where she worked as a hairdresser, she told Weinstein that she was dating an actor, she said.

"You owe me one more time!" he screamed, she told jurors. She said she begged him not to take off her clothes, but he said, "I don't have time for games" and ripped off her pants before pushing her legs apart and raping her.

Afterward, she said, she crawled into the bathroom, her eyes red and swollen from tears, and worried that he'd get angry if he knew she was crying.

"OK, now go have your relationship," he told her, according to her testimony. His apology: "I just find you so attractive, I couldn't resist."

The 34-year-old woman's testimony, which is set to continue Monday, is a pivotal moment in the rape case against the once-powerful movie producer who became one of the #MeToo movement's top targets. He is charged in New York with the March 2013 rape and also sexually assaulting Mimi Hiley, a former "Project Runway" production assistant, in 2006. A conviction could put him behind bars for the rest of his life.

Weinstein, 67, has insisted that any sexual encounters were consensual. His lawyers aim to raise doubts about the rape accuser's credibility by seizing on her complicated history with the former film producer.

The defense says the woman sent Weinstein warm emails that said things like "Miss you, big guy." Not once, in more than 400 messages between the two, did the woman accuse Weinstein of harming her, his lawyers have said.

Asked by a prosecutor to describe Weinstein's body, the woman said that when she first saw him naked, she noticed "extreme scarring" on his stomach and thought he had characteristics of both male and female genitalia.

"When I first saw him, I was filled with compassion, absolute compassion," she said, adding, "It seemed his anger came from a place of pain."

As he left the courtroom, Weinstein was asked if the description of body was accurate.

"Yeah, perfect," he said, sarcastically. One of Weinstein's attorneys, Arthur Aidala, said it wasn't accurate.

Asked why she didn't break off contact with Weinstein at the first sign of trouble, the woman testified she didn't want to offend him. But defense lawyer Donna Rotunno asked whether it was really because the woman "wanted to benefit from the power he had."

The woman responded that her relationship with the then-married Weinstein was more complicated than that.

The Associated Press has a policy of not publishing the names of sexual assault accusers without their consent. It is withholding name of the rape accuser because it isn't clear if she wishes to be identified publicly.

The woman testified that she met Weinstein at a party in late 2012 or early 2013 after she moved from Washington state to Los Angeles to pursue acting.

The producer behind such Oscar-winning films as "Shakespeare in Love" and "Pulp Fiction" offered to help her, she said, asking her to meet him at a bookstore to learn about movie-business history.



"I thought it was a blessing," she said.

Later, what she thought was a professional dinner at a Los Angeles hotel ended up in his suite, she testified. She said she thought Weinstein just wanted to avoid public attention, but he pressured her into giving him a massage on the bed with his shirt off.

At another point, he invited her and friend to a hotel suite to give them a script after telling them he wanted to cast them in a vampire film, the woman said.

"Oh, no. I know what that means," she said she told him. "And he laughed at me and said, 'I am a harmless old man.'"

Weinstein started undressing, went into a bedroom and called for her. When she went to find out what he wanted, he grabbed her arm, closed the door and started "trying to kiss me like crazy," she said.

She said she tussled with him, and he grew increasingly angry and said: "I'm not letting you leave until I do something for you." He then performed oral sex on her, she told jurors, her voice breaking.

She said she feigned orgasm to extricate herself from the encounter but later started having "non-forcible" oral sex with Weinstein.

"I was confused after what happened and I made a decision to be in a relationship with him," she said. While she wasn't sexually attracted to Weinstein, she felt compassion for him and wanted his approval, she added.

But the relationship quickly turned "degrading," she said. Weinstein could be charming, but "if he heard the word 'no,' it was like a trigger for him," she said.

The first rape happened after she agreed to meet Weinstein for breakfast with friends, she said. She was upset when he checked into a New York hotel where she was staying, she said, but she accompanied him to his room to tell him off in private.

Instead, the producer held the door shut, barked at her to undress and "stood over me until I was completely naked," she told jurors.

Then he went into another room, emerged naked and raped her, she testified. Afterward in a bathroom, she found a needle in a trash can, she said, and believed, after some research, that he had injected himself with an erection-inducing drug.

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On Twitter, follow Michael Sisak at [twitter.com/mikesisak](https://twitter.com/mikesisak) and Tom Hays at [twitter.com/aptomhays](https://twitter.com/aptomhays)

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For more coverage of Harvey Weinstein's trial visit: [apnews.com/HarveyWeinstein](https://apnews.com/HarveyWeinstein)

## Trump to tout U.S. 'comeback' at State of the Union speech

By AAMER MADHANI Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump will use next week's State of the Union to promote what he calls the "Great American comeback," according to a senior administration official.

The speech comes at a moment when Trump is hoping to put his Senate impeachment trial behind him. White House officials say Trump wants to use the nationally-televised address to highlight his administration's efforts to bolster the economy, tighten immigration rules and lower prescription drug costs just as his reelection effort accelerates.

"I think it's safe to say the speech will celebrate American economic and military strength and present an optimistic vision of America's future," said the senior administration official, who briefed reporters on the broad outlines of the speech that Trump is scheduled to deliver before a joint session of Congress Tuesday.

But for the second straight year, Trump will deliver his speech with a cloud over his presidency as his Senate impeachment edges to a rancorous close. Last year, Trump was forced to postpone his speech because of the longest government shutdown in the nation's history triggered by bitter partisan battle over his push for funding for his border wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Trump appeared headed for an all-but-certain impeachment acquittal as senators prepared on Friday to reject efforts to call more witnesses to testify about his efforts to pressure Ukraine's president to inves-

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tigate former Vice President Joe Biden and his son's business dealings in the Eastern European nation.

But as the trial wraps up, Washington is bitterly divided. Democrats claim that Republicans refusal to allow witnesses, has undercut the fairness of the trial. Meanwhile, most Republican senators—even those who say that Trump acted inappropriately in pushing a foreign leader to investigate a domestic rival—have indicated they don't believe Trump's actions warranted removing him from office.

The official who briefed reporters on Trump's State of the Union preparations declined to comment on how Trump will address impeachment. His predecessors traditionally have tried to use the annual address as a platform to try to offer a unifying message to the country.

In recent days, Trump has spoken out bitterly about what he calls a "hoax" trial pushed by his Democratic opponents.

But White House officials stressed Friday that the president was determined to offer an "optimistic" message with his address and believe that he could strike a chord with Americans by highlighting the strength of economy under his watch.

"I've heard the President say in a public forum .... that he always thought America could unite around success," the administration official said.

Trump has invited U.S. Army veteran Tony Rankins, who has battled post-traumatic stress disorder and battled drug addiction, and Raul Ortiz, a deputy chief of the U.S. Border Patrol, to be two of his guests at the speech, the official added.

## Guardian of Monarch butterfly grounds eulogized in Mexico

By MARK STEVENSON Associated Press

OCAMPO, Mexico (AP) — Hundreds of farmers and agricultural workers thronged the funeral of activist Homero Gómez González on Friday, and the homage to him was like a tribute to the monarch butterfly he so staunchly defended.

The butterflies' annual migration, threatened by logging, avocado farming and climate and environmental change, has also represented a ray of hope and income for the impoverished, pine-clad mountains of Michoacan state.

Nobody worked harder than Gómez González — whose body was found this week at the bottom of a holding pond with a head wound — to stop logging, reforest and bring tourists to the butterflies' wintering grounds.

In an area where crime, construction work and wood cutting provide some of the only sources of income, Gómez González provided a way out, ensuring income for the communal farmers who actually own the land in the butterfly reserve.

"Thanks to him many of you had work, or more work — those who sell food in the reserve, those who sell their handicrafts, those who bring their horses to carry visitors into the reserve.," Rev. Saul Saucedo said in the funeral homily.

It may sound like low-wage jobs, but it is that tenuous economy that keeps the pine and fir trees from being cut down and preserves the butterflies' marvelous migration from the United States and Canada each year.

It also feeds the family of communal farmer Raúl García González.

"When there's no work here, I go out and look for day labor jobs," said the stringy, weather-beaten García González.

Like many of the communal land owners, he fears Gómez González's death could add to the already bad reputation that drug cartel violence has given to the western state of Michoacan.

"We hope that all the people who come to the reserve will feel safe, because what happened to him was an accident," the farmer said.

But the death was not so clear. Autopsy results showed Gómez González drowned in the holding pond after leaving a party Jan. 13, but they also showed he had a head wound.

There would have been no shortage of people for whom life would have been easier if Gómez González

wasn't around.

García recalled how, in 2019, Gómez González led hundreds of communal farmers in a demonstration in the nearby town of Angangueo to demand the town pay for water it receives from the mountain streams that are born on their properties.

They never got an answer.

While known as a friendly, big-hearted man who liked to pose for photographs surrounded by the swarms of black and orange butterflies that roost in trees here each winter, Gómez González was a leader and a community activist — a dangerous profession in Mexico, where dozens are killed each year.

Son Homero Gómez Valencia, 19, said his father could organize angry, resolute demonstrations, like the time he led farmers in taking over the state capitol building in the city of Morelia to demand development aid.

"He fought for his town, and that fills me with pride," said Gómez Valencia. "A lot of the things we have are due to that struggle, which took many years. He fought against a thousand things."

One of those enemies were illegal loggers, who threatened to punch gaps in the protective tree cover needed by the butterflies to survive winter chills. He then persuaded fellow farmers to replant cleared land with trees.

By local accounts, he managed to reforest about 150 hectares (370 acres) of previously cleared land.

"He taught us to be a united people," his son said.

In Mexico, that can be a dangerous thing to do. London-based Global Witness counted 15 killings of environmental activists in Mexico in 2017 and 14 in 2018. In an October 2019 report, Amnesty International said 12 had been killed in the first nine months of that year.

"Something strange is happening, because they're finishing off all the activists, the people who are doing something for society," said Amado Gómez, the victim's brother.

A few hours after the body was found on Wednesday, Michoacan state prosecutors said an initial review indicated a drowning and found no signs of trauma, but a statement Thursday night said more detailed autopsy results produced evidence of the head injury.

Authorities gave no other information on the injury and did not say how it might have been inflicted. They said an investigation continued, suggesting the case wasn't considered an accident.

Prosecutors said robbery appeared not to be a potential motive, since almost \$500 in cash was found on his body.

On Thursday night, mourners in threadbare clothes amid a few candles and simple floral arrangements underscored the tough struggle being played out in the nesting grounds, beset by grinding poverty and gang violence.

"I would like to ask the authorities to do their job and do more to protect activists like my brother, because lately in Mexico a lot of activists have died," Amado Gómez said. "With his death, not only my family lost a loved one; but the whole world, and the monarch butterfly and the forests lost, too."

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador described Gómez González's death as "regrettable" and "painful" in remarks Thursday.

## US bars foreigners coming from China for now over virus fear

By **KEN MORITSUGU** and **ZEKE MILLER** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States on Friday declared a public health emergency and took drastic steps to significantly restrict entry into the country because of a new virus that hit China and has spread to other nations.

President Donald Trump has signed an order that will temporarily bar foreign nationals, other than immediate family of U.S. citizens and permanent residents, who have traveled in China within the last 14 days. The new restrictions, which take effect at 5 p.m. EST on Sunday, were announced by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, who is coordinating the U.S. response.

"It is likely that we will continue to see more cases in the United States in the coming days and weeks,

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including some limited person-to-person transmissions," Azar said. "The American public can be assured the full weight of the U.S. government is working to safeguard the health and safety of the American people."

Americans returning from China will be allowed into the country, but will face screening at select ports of entry and required to undertake 14 days of self-screening to ensure they don't pose a health risk. Those returning from Hubei province, the center of the outbreak, will be subject to up to 14 days of mandatory quarantine.

Beginning Sunday, the U.S. will also begin funneling all flights to the U.S. from China to seven major airports where passengers can be screened for illness.

The virus has infected almost 10,000 people globally in just two months, a troublesome sign that prompted the World Health Organization to declare the outbreak a global emergency. The death toll stood at 213, including 43 new fatalities, all in China.

A public health emergency in the U.S. allows the government to tap additional resources to send to states, such as emergency funding and if necessary drugs or equipment from the national stockpile, and to suspend certain legal requirements.

Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said that while the risk in the U.S. is low, "I want to emphasize that this is a significant global situation and it continues to evolve."

There are seven cases of this virus in the U.S. and all were travelers except for a Chicago man who caught it from his wife, who had been in China.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, infectious diseases chief at the National Institutes of Health, said one reason the U.S. stepped up its quarantine measures was an alarming report from Germany that a traveler from China had spread the virus despite showing no symptoms. Fauci contrasted it with the response to recent outbreaks of Ebola, which can't be spread unless someone is very ill.

At the same time, federal health authorities were recognizing that the test they're using to detect the virus isn't always dependable. Redfield said when it was used on some of the people currently in isolation, they'd test positive one day and negative another.

Lawrence Gostin, a Georgetown University expert on public health law, said putting a large number of people under quarantine "is virtually unprecedented in modern American history."

Declaring a public health emergency "gives HHS added powers, and is warranted. Quarantine of those returning from Hubei is also reasonable given the high risk of exposure to coronavirus in that province," he said.

He did note that travelers from other parts of China don't pose as high a risk. "We need to use the least restrictive measure necessary to safeguard the population," Gostin said.

Deputy Secretary of State Steve Biegun offered America's "deepest compassion" to the Chinese, noting that the deadly outbreak came during the peak of their holiday season, when everyone would ordinarily be celebrating and not living in fear of contracting the virus.

Biegun said the U.S. is working hard to find donors of supplies and making arrangements for a "robust effort to help the Chinese people get their arms around this outbreak."

The announcement came hours after the State Department issued a level 4 "Do Not Travel" advisory, the highest grade of warning, and told Americans in China to consider departing using commercial means. "Travelers should be prepared for travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advance notice," the advisory said.

Hours later, Delta Air Lines and American Airlines announced they were suspending all flights between the U.S. and China, joining several international carriers that have stopped flying to China as the virus outbreak continues to spread.

Meanwhile, U.S. health officials issued a two-week quarantine order for the 195 Americans evacuated earlier this week from the Chinese city of Wuhan, provincial capital of Hubei province. It was the first time a federal quarantine has been ordered since the 1960s, when one was enacted over concern about the potential spread of smallpox, the CDC said.

None of the Americans being housed at a Southern California military base has shown signs of illness, but infected people don't show symptoms immediately and may be able to pass on the virus before they

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appear sick.

One of the evacuees, Matthew L. McCoy, a theme park designer who lives in China, said the group was very relieved by the quarantine order.

"All of us really want to stay here and make sure we're all medically clear and the public safe," he said from the military base.

China counted 9,692 confirmed cases Friday, the vast majority in Hubei province.

The National Health Commission reported 171 cases of people who have been "cured and discharged from hospital." WHO has said most people who got the illness had milder cases, though 20% experienced severe symptoms. Symptoms include fever and cough, and in severe cases, shortness of breath and pneumonia.

China has placed more than 50 million people in the region under virtual quarantine.

American Airlines said it was halting all flights starting Friday and running through March 27. Delta plans to wait until Feb. 6 to suspend China operations to help travelers in China leave the country. It said the stoppage will continue through April 30. United Airlines announced that it will suspend flights to Beijing, Shanghai and Chengdu but continue flights to Hong Kong.

The U.S. screening airports are John F. Kennedy International in New York, San Francisco International in California, Seattle-Tacoma International in Washington, O'Hare International in Chicago, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International in Georgia, and Daniel K. Inouye International in Hawaii.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average skidded more than 600 points Friday as the outbreak continued to widen, stoking fears that the travel restrictions and other uncertainties caused by the health emergency in the world's second-largest economy could dent global growth.

Since China informed WHO about the new virus in late December, at least 23 countries have reported cases, as scientists race to understand how exactly the virus is spreading and how severe it is.

Experts say there is significant evidence the virus is spreading among people in China, and WHO noted with its emergency declaration Thursday it was especially concerned that some cases abroad also involved human-to-human transmission. It defines an international emergency as an "extraordinary event" that poses a risk to other countries and requires a coordinated international response.

"The main reason for this declaration is not because of what is happening in China but because of what is happening in other countries," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters in Geneva. "Our greatest concern is the potential for this virus to spread to countries with weaker health systems which are ill-prepared to deal with it."

A declaration of a global emergency typically brings greater money and resources, but may also prompt nervous governments to restrict travel and trade to affected countries. The announcement also imposes more disease reporting requirements on countries.

The last time the U.S. government ordered a quarantine was in 1963 when a woman named Ellen Siegel was held in quarantine for up to 14 days because she did not present a valid certificate of vaccination against small pox. Siegel had visited Sweden when it still had a case of smallpox and although she had been revaccinated about two months earlier, the vaccination was said to be unsuccessful.

On Friday, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing said it was authorizing the departure of family members and all non-emergency U.S. government employees from Beijing and the consulates in the cities of Chengdu, Guangzhou, Shanghai, and Shenyang. Staff from the Wuhan consulate departed earlier this week.

The decision was made "out of an abundance of caution related to logistical disruptions stemming from restricted transportation and availability of appropriate health care," the embassy said.

Mike Wester, a businessman in Beijing who has lived in China for 19 years, said he has no plans to leave.

"I feel safer self-quarantining myself here at home than I do risking travel," Wester said.

He pointed to potential risks from crowds at airports and being required to remove a mask for passport and security checks.

Japan and Germany also advised against non-essential travel and Britain did as well, except for Hong Kong and Macao. Popular holiday and shopping destination Singapore barred Chinese from traveling there, becoming the first Southeast Asian nation to do so.

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Tedros said WHO was not recommending limiting travel or trade to China.

"There is no reason for measures that unnecessarily interfere with international travel and trade," he said. He added that Chinese President Xi Jinping had committed to help stop the spread of the virus beyond its borders.

Although scientists expect to see limited transmission of the virus between people with close contact, like within families, the instances of spread to people who may have had less exposure to the virus is worrying.

In Japan, a tour guide and bus driver became infected after escorting two tour groups from Wuhan. In Germany, five employees of a German auto parts supplier became ill after a Chinese colleague visited, including two who had no direct contact with the woman, who showed no symptoms of the virus until her flight back to China. On Friday, Germany confirmed a sixth case, a child of one of the people already infected.

"That's the kind of transmission chain that we don't want to see," said Marion Koopmans, an infectious diseases specialist at Erasmus University Medical Center in the Netherlands and a member of WHO's emergency committee.

The new virus has now infected more people globally than were sickened during the 2002-2003 outbreak of SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, a cousin of the new virus. Both are from the coronavirus family, which also includes those that can cause the common cold.

Moritsugu reported from Beijing. Associated Press reporters Joe McDonald and Sam McNeil in Beijing, Luran Neergaard, Darlene Superville, Kevin Freking and Deb Riechmann in Washington, Mike Stobbe and Alexandra Olson in New York, Maria Cheng in London, Jamey Keaten in Geneva, Edith Lederer at the United Nations, Elaine Ganley in Paris, Frank Jordans in Berlin and Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo contributed to this report.

This story corrects the number of cases in China that have been cured and discharged to 171, not 596.

## Britain leaves the European Union, leaps into the unknown

By JILL LAWLESS and RAF CASERT Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, adieu.

With little fanfare, Britain left the European Union on Friday after 47 years of membership, taking a leap into the unknown in a historic blow to the bloc.

The U.K.'s departure became official at 11 p.m. (2300GMT), midnight in Brussels, where the EU is headquartered. Thousands of enthusiastic Brexit supporters gathered outside Britain's Parliament to welcome the moment they'd longed for since Britain's 52%-48% vote in June 2016 to walk away from the club it had joined in 1973. The flag-waving crowd erupted in cheers as Big Ben bonged 11 times — on a recording. Parliament's real bell has been silenced for repairs.

In a message from nearby 10 Downing St., Prime Minister Boris Johnson called Britain's departure "a moment of real national renewal and change."

But many Britons mourned the loss of their EU identity, and some marked the passing with tearful vigils. There was also sadness in Brussels as British flags were quietly removed from the bloc's many buildings.

Whether Brexit makes Britain a proud nation that has reclaimed its sovereignty, or a diminished presence in Europe and the world, will be debated for years to come.

While Britain's exit is a historic moment, it only marks the end of the first stage of the Brexit saga. When Britons wake up on Saturday, they will notice very little change. The U.K. and the EU have given themselves an 11-month "transition period" — in which the U.K. will continue to follow the bloc's rules — to strike new agreements on trade, security and a host of other areas.

The now 27-member EU will have to bounce back from one of its biggest setbacks in its 62-year history to confront an ever more complicated world as its former member becomes a competitor, just across the English Channel.

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French President Emmanuel Macron called Brexit a "historic alarm signal" that should force the EU to improve itself.

"It's a sad day, let's not hide it," he said in a televised address. "But it is a day that must also lead us to do things differently."

He insisted that European citizens need a united Europe "more than ever," to defend their interests in the face of China and the United States, to cope with climate change and migration and technological upheaval.

In the many EU buildings of Brussels on Friday, British flags were quietly lowered, folded and taken away. This is the first time a country has left the EU, and many in the bloc rued the day. EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen lamented that "as the sun rises tomorrow, a new chapter for our union of 27 will start."

But she warned Brexit day would mark a major loss for the U.K. and said the island nation was heading for a lonelier existence.

"Strength does not lie in splendid isolation, but in our unique union," she said.

Johnson insisted post-Brexit Britain would be "simultaneously a great European power and truly global in our range and ambitions."

"We want this to be the beginning of a new era of friendly cooperation between the EU and an energetic Britain," Johnson said in a pre-recorded address to the country broadcast an hour before Britain's exit.

In a break with usual practice, independent media outlets were not allowed to film Johnson's speech, which the government recorded Thursday at 10 Downing St.

Johnson won an election victory in December with a dual promise to "get Brexit done" and deliver improved jobs, infrastructure and services for Britain's most deprived areas, where support for leaving the EU is strongest. On Friday, he symbolically held a Cabinet meeting in the pro-Brexit town of Sunderland in northeast England, rather than in London.

Johnson is a Brexit enthusiast, but he knows many Britons aren't, and his Conservative government sought to mark the moment with quiet dignity. Red, white and blue lights illuminated government buildings and a countdown clock projected onto the prime minister's Downing Street residence.

There was no such restraint in nearby Parliament Square, where arch-Brexitteer Nigel Farage gathered a crowd of several thousand, who belted out the patriotic song "Land of Hope and Glory" as they waited for the moment that even Farage sometimes doubted would ever come.

"This is the single most important moment in the modern history of our great nation," Farage told the crowd.

"The war is over," said Farage, who often describes Britain's relationship with Europe in martial terms. "We have won."

Londoner Donna Jones said she had come to "be part of history."

"It doesn't mean we're anti-Europe, it just means we want to be self-sufficient in a certain way," she said.

But Britons who cherished their membership in the bloc — and the freedom it bought to live anywhere across of 28 countries — were mourning.

"Many of us want to just mark our sadness in public," said Ann Jones, who joined dozens of other remainers on a march to the EU's mission in London.

"And we don't want trouble, we just want to say, well you know, we didn't want this."

Britain's journey to Brexit has been long, rocky — and far from over.

The U.K. was never a wholehearted EU member, but actually leaving the bloc was long considered a fringe idea. It gradually gained strength within the Conservative Party, which has a wing of fierce "euro-skeptics" — opponents of EU membership. Former Prime Minister David Cameron eventually agreed to hold a referendum, saying he wanted to settle the issue once and for all.

It hasn't worked out that way. Since the 2016 vote, the U.K. has held fractious negotiations with the EU that finally, late last year, secured a deal on divorce terms. But Britain is leaving the bloc arguably as divided as it was on referendum day.

By and large, Britain's big cities voted to stay in the EU, while small towns voted to leave. England and Wales backed Brexit, while Northern Ireland and Scotland voted to remain.

Candlelit vigils were held in several Scottish cities, government buildings in Edinburgh were lit up in the EU's blue and yellow colors, and the bloc's flag continued to fly outside the Scottish Parliament.

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said Brexit was "a moment of profound sadness."

"And here in Scotland, given that it is happening against the will of the vast majority of us, that sadness will be tinged with anger," she said in a speech in Edinburgh.

Sturgeon's Scottish National Party government is demanding the right to hold a referendum on independence from the U.K., something Johnson refuses to grant.

London, which is home to more than 1 million EU citizens, also voted by a wide margin to stay in the bloc.

Mayor Sadiq Khan said he was "heartbroken" about Brexit. But he insisted London would remain that welcomed all, regardless of "the color of your skin, the color of your flag, the color of your passport."

Negotiations between Britain and the EU on their new relationship are due to start in earnest in March, and the early signs are not encouraging. The EU says Britain can't have full access to the EU's single market unless it follows the bloc's rules, but Britain insists it will not agree to follow an EU rule book in return for unfettered trade.

With Johnson adamant he won't extend the transition period beyond Dec. 31, months of uncertainty and acrimony lie ahead.

In the English port of Dover, just 20 miles (32 kilometers) across the Channel from France, retiree Philip Barry said he was confident it would all be worth it.

"My expectation is that there may be a little bump or two in the road but in the end it will even out," he said. "Somebody once said: short-term pain but long-term gain."

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Associated Press video journalists Jo Kearney and Philipp-Moritz Jenne contributed. Casert reported from Brussels.

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Follow AP's full coverage of Brexit and British politics at: <https://www.apnews.com/Brexit>

## Police open fire at 'impaired' driver in Mar-a-Lago breach

By TERRY SPENCER Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Law enforcement agents opened fire on an SUV driver who smashed through two security checkpoints at Mar-a-Lago on Friday in what authorities described as the actions of "an obviously impaired" driver but not an intentional attack on President Donald Trump's resort.

The driver, Hannah Roemhild, 30, of Connecticut, who identifies herself on her Facebook page as an opera singer, was later arrested at a nearby motel. No one was injured, authorities said, and Trump was not at the Palm Beach club at the time, although he was scheduled to arrive there later in the day.

Roemhild was not at any time "even remotely close" to getting into the "inner perimeter" of the president's resort, Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw said at a news conference.

He said Roemhild, "obviously impaired," was dancing on top of her vehicle outside the Breakers hotel, about 3 miles (5 kilometers) from Mar-a-Lago, when an off-duty Florida Highway Patrol officer who was working hotel security approached her.

Roemhild jumped into the SUV and refused to open the window or acknowledge the officer, Bradshaw said. She then put the car in reverse and began driving away. The trooper smashed the window and tried to grab the steering wheel, but was unable to stop her, the sheriff said.

Roemhild led officers on a high-speed pursuit, at times driving on the wrong side of the road at speeds nearing 70 miles (113 kilometers), said Major Robert Chandler of the Florida Highway Patrol.

She crashed through one Mar-a-Lago checkpoint then barreled through a second, where Secret Service agents and sheriff's deputies were barely able to avoid being hit before they opened fire, Bradshaw said. The authorities fired numerous rounds, but Roemhild kept driving and was able to get away.

Investigators believe she picked up a female relative before they later located her car using a license plate reader. Roemhild ran from her car outside a nearby motel and was tackled by a trooper, Bradshaw said.



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Later Friday, the SUV could be seen in the motel's parking lot, with both the driver's side window and the rear window completely shattered. The parking lot was lined with red police tape and law enforcement vehicles surrounded the property.

Bradshaw said Roemhild did not appear to have a criminal record. After Friday's events, she was going to be charged with assault on a federal officer, deadly assault on two sheriff's deputies and traffic charges, he said.

Mar-a-Lago has been the scene of several intrusions since Trump became president. On Jan. 5, just hours after Trump and his family had left the club following a two-week vacation, a Florida man who had been dishonorably discharged from the Marines for sex offenses was arrested after he got past two checkpoints. He had falsely identified himself as part of the president's helicopter crew.

In March 2019, Chinese national Yujing Zhang gained access to Mar-a-Lago while carrying a laptop, phones and other electronic gear. That led to initial speculation that the 33-year-old businesswoman from Shanghai might be a spy, but she was never charged with espionage. Text messages she exchanged with a trip organizer indicated she was a fan of the president and wanted to meet him or his family to discuss possible deals.

Zhang was found guilty of trespassing and lying to Secret Service agents and was sentenced to time served.

In December, the club's security officers confronted Jing Lu, 56, for trespassing and told her to leave, but she returned to take photos. Lu was charged with loitering and resisting an officer without violence after taking photos by entering a service entrance.

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Associated Press reporter Colleen Long in Washington contributed to this report.

## **The shunned: People from virus-hit city tracked, quarantined**

**By DAKE KANG Associated Press**

BEIJING (AP) — Meron Mei, a sophomore at Wuhan University in the Chinese city at the heart of a viral outbreak, went back to his home village and started to cough.

So he went to the hospital and got checked. Doctors determined it was a common cold, not the new coronavirus, he says, and he returned home. Then a week ago, he says, five officers showed up at his house in Xishui County, a two hour drive from Wuhan. They wore masks and wielded blue, gun-shaped thermometers.

Now Mei finds himself under constant surveillance by plainclothes police. His doorstep has been posted with a red warning: "Do not approach – patient with suspected pneumonia." Doctors in gowns, goggles and masks check his temperature three times a day, and the government calls him constantly to monitor his condition — despite tests that he says show his body is free of the coronavirus. His phone is constantly checked; its camera has been disabled and his photos deleted. He relayed his story to The Associated Press via messages in English to prevent officers from reading them.

"I am in prison," said Mei, whose story could not be independently verified by the AP. "I'm so angry. I feel physically and mentally exhausted."

As China institutes the largest quarantine in human history, locking down more than 50 million people in the center of the country, those who have recently been to Wuhan are being tracked, monitored, turned away from hotels and placed into isolation at their homes and in makeshift quarantine facilities.

The information available to regular people is uneven. Uneasy residents have circulated lists of hundreds of people from Wuhan containing sensitive personal information including addresses, phone numbers, national ID numbers, dates of birth and occupations.

One list sent by a Shanghai resident to the AP lists 174 people in the city's Putuo district, including a foreigner, some city natives, many people from other parts of China, and an apartment where the resident lives. The identification numbers were authentic and matched other data on the list, according to a Chinese ID reference tool.

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"Inside information! Accurate and reliable!" said one post sharing the list, in a screenshot shared with the AP. "Putuo friends please pay attention, the people listed here have all gone to Wuhan, and they aren't allowed into hospitals, so they're being forcibly isolated at home! Neighbors, don't go outdoors under any circumstances!"

During the past decade, the Chinese government crafted a rigorous system of social control, which it calls "stability maintenance." Through methods high-tech and low, from face-scanning cameras to neighborhood informants to household registration, Beijing keeps track of its 1.4 billion citizens, managing them via community-level officials.

Such monitoring doesn't typically bother most people in China. Usually only political dissidents or minorities are subject to overt state control. But in times of extraordinary stress, such as the virus outbreak, these systems swing into action nationwide.

On Jan. 25, an extraordinary televised meeting of the Politburo Standing Committee, China's ruling inner circle of power, ordered officials to carry out "prevention and control work" with special emphasis on "monitoring, screening and warning." Since then, millions of local officials and officers have mobilized to monitor, screen and warn — and restrict, to varying degrees — in a governance approach that Beijing calls "blanket-style tracking."

"We must effectively manage people from Wuhan according to the principles of 'tracking people, registering them, community management, inspecting them at their door, mass transfers, treat abnormalities,'" Li Bin, deputy director of the Chinese National Health Commission, said at a news conference the next day.

Officials say — and some experts agree — that the stringent measures are necessary. "This epidemic is spreading quite quickly, which presents challenges and is putting pressure on our control and prevention work," said Ma Xiaowei, director of the Chinese National Health Commission. "The country has adopted more powerful measures, which should be able to control the epidemic at a lower cost and faster speed."

A woman who works in education in Wuhan said she had been back in her hometown in China's Inner Mongolia region for nearly two weeks when friends and relatives forwarded her an Excel sheet that contained not just her name but her ID number, address, and occupation. At first, she said, she felt shock, then fury.

"It listed a bunch of people in the whole city who had come back from Wuhan," said the woman, Na. Like many Chinese, she gave only her last name so she could speak openly on a sensitive topic. Police are vigilant about cracking down on information spread through unofficial channels, and many people are often hesitant to speak to the foreign press.

"I was so angry," Na said. "This could affect me later in life."

Unlike Mei, Na's hometown is more than 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) from Wuhan, and she wasn't confined to her home. But Na said she began to receive calls from the police, community officials and a newly established epidemic prevention center.

Because government departments often fail to share or coordinate data collection, many calling Na asked the same questions. On the first day, she said, she got a dozen calls, possibly more, asking a slew of questions: Where are you? When are you going home? Who'd you come into contact with?

"It's so bothersome," she said. "I made it clear that I didn't want my personal information leaked."

Others upset at leaks took to Weibo, a Chinese social media platform, and demanded to know what was going on. Most posts were deleted, but the censors left up a post by Cui Baoqiu, the vice president of Chinese cellphone maker Xiaomi, who criticized the leaks for stigmatizing people from Wuhan.

"Sick people are not criminals," Cui said. "This data must be managed by a few people in the government. They need to tighten their controls."

Whether the leaks were intentional is unclear. Various government departments gather reams of data from cameras, cellphones, and social media, as well as through transportation records and queries from health and security officials.

In one case, Nick, who asked to be identified by only his English name, said he had merely driven through Wuhan but later found his name on a leaked list. In other cases, people were told to report on anyone

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suspected of having gone to Wuhan by ringing a hotline. A woman who answered a hotline for Baoshu, a village in Fujian province, confirmed they were offering a 1200 RMB (\$173) reward for information. And in a news conference Thursday, a China State Railway Group representative said it is providing passenger data to the government.

Many of the more than 9,600 confirmed cases are in Wuhan and surrounding cities in Hubei province. Virtually the entire province was locked down last week. But even Wuhan natives who slipped out before the trains and planes stopped running are finding there's no escape.

An IT worker from Wuhan who also asked only to be identified by his English name, Andy, to protect his family's privacy, was sightseeing in Beijing with his wife and two children when he heard the government was closing off his hometown. The family went to Nanjing, a city near China's coast, but the Intercontinental Hotel turned them away after seeing their national ID cards, which include their Wuhan addresses. Andy finally found a room at the five-star Shangri-La hotel and settled in, planning to stay until it was safe to go back home.

On Monday, reception called: Police were kicking them out. It didn't matter that Andy's family hadn't been in Wuhan for more than a week, or that they'd been wearing masks for nearly two. Everyone from Wuhan was being ordered to stay at an isolated Home Inn for 14 days.

When they saw their room at the new hostel, Andy panicked: it was drafty. He stuffed wet towels in the cavity underneath his door, but worried it was futile since doors were opened for meals. He was awake until 2 a.m., fretting over his two young children and imagining potentially virus-filled air from the hallways, swirling into their room.

Andy says he "totally understands" and "trusts" the government, and appreciates the hard work of doctors and nurses on the front lines. He's grateful, but he can't stop worrying.

"I understand that in such a big country you don't want this to spread further," he said. "What I can't accept is, what about my children? Who's going to guarantee our safety?"

## FDA approves first treatment for kids with peanut allergy

By LAURAN NEERGAARD AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first treatment for peanut allergies is about to hit the market, a big step toward better care for all kinds of food allergies -- but still a long way from a cure.

Friday's approval by the Food and Drug Administration promises to bring some relief to families who've lived in fear of an accidental bite of peanuts at birthday parties and play dates, school cafeterias and restaurants. Named Palforzia, it was developed by Aimmune Therapeutics.

"It's been a life-changer," said Nina Nichols, 18, of Washington, whose first encounter with peanuts as a toddler -- a peanut butter cracker shared by a friend -- required a race to the emergency room. She entered a Palforzia research study as a teen and calls it "a security blanket."

The treatment is a specially prepared peanut powder swallowed daily in tiny amounts that are gradually increased over months. It trains children's and teens' bodies to better tolerate peanut so that an accidental bite is less likely to cause a serious reaction, or even kill in severe cases.

Palforzia users still must avoid peanuts just like they always have.

The treatment is not for everyone. Palforzia can cause side effects, including occasional severe allergic reactions. The FDA is requiring that doctors and their patients enroll in a special safety program, and patients must take the first dose and each increased dose under supervision in a certified health center.

And if youngsters stop taking the daily dose, they lose the protection.

Shots have long been used to induce tolerance for allergies to bee stings or pollen. But swallowing an allergen to build tolerance is a new twist — one that scientists call "oral immunotherapy." And peanuts are just the first food to be tackled. Tests for eggs, milk and tree nuts are underway.

But because of the drawbacks, scientists also are developing next-generation options that work differently. Next up for FDA review: A skin patch for peanut allergy.

"For so long, we had nothing to offer these patients," said Dr. Pamela Guerrerio of the National Insti-

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tutes of Health, which funded much of the research that led to food allergy therapies. "We finally have a treatment. That's a big step."

Aimmune executives said Friday they hope doctors can begin prescribing the treatment in "a matter of weeks." They set the treatment's list price at \$890 a month, but how much patients will pay depends on their insurance. Aimmune says it is working with insurance companies for coverage, and will offer a patient co-pay assistance program.

## FOOD ALLERGY IS A GROWING PROBLEM

Millions of Americans have food allergies, including about 1 in 13 children, and the numbers have increased in recent years. Peanut allergy is the most common one among children, and among the most dangerous. Accidental exposures are frequent, with about 1 in 4 affected children winding up in the emergency room every year.

What happens: The immune system overreacts to the food by triggering an inflammatory cascade. On average, children can experience hives, wheezing or worse from just a 30th of a single peanut, sometimes even less, said Dr. Hemant Sharma, who leads oral treatment studies at Children's National Hospital in Washington.

Until now, all doctors could advise was to read food labels and avoid anything that might contain hidden peanuts. Decades ago, attempts at shots were deemed too risky for food allergies. Then, in 2006, researchers at Duke University and the University of Arkansas reported tantalizing signs that swallowed treatments might work instead.

## HOW IT WORKS

Doctors prescribe a miniscule Palforzia starting dose. The powder, stored in a capsule, is mixed into any unheated food, such as Nichols' favorite fruit smoothies. Patients take the first dose in a doctor's office, in case of a bad allergic reaction. Every few weeks, the dose is increased until after about six months, they're taking the equivalent of about one peanut.

In a study of nearly 500 children, two-thirds who received Palforzia could eat the equivalent of two peanuts — and some three or four — compared to just 4% of patients given a dummy drug.

A few hundred allergy doctors around the country already offer their own version of the treatment, using store-bought peanut flour — or similar options for other food allergies — to customize doses for patients outside of research studies.

## THE WARNINGS

Palforzia users still must carry their rescue medicine, such as EpiPens, to treat severe allergic reactions. Most experience at least mild side effects, such as hives or stomachaches, and about a fifth dropped out of the study, said Dr. Scott Sicherer, a pediatric allergist at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York.

As for severe reactions, they struck about 9% of patients treated in the Palforzia study, nearly three times the number in the placebo group and prompting debate about the drug's usefulness.

"There is a trade-off," Sicherer said. Families and doctors together will have to decide "does it make sense for me or my child?"

## OTHER OPTIONS

Other allergy treatments in the pipeline:

--DBV Technologies' Viaskin is a daily patch that contains small amounts of peanut protein absorbed through the skin, in hopes of fewer side effects.

—Allergen drops under the tongue are in early-stage testing but showed promise in a recent study from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

—Shots to block allergic reactions deliver antibodies that tamp down the inflammatory cascade that follows accidental exposure. A Stanford University pilot study suggested a single shot could block a peanut reaction for two to six weeks.

"Palforzia is a step forward," said Children's National's Sharma. "What all of us hope for that would be truly revolutionary is a treatment that's curative, that really gets rid of the food allergy permanently."

Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

## Second CIA contractor testifies in 9/11 case at Guantanamo

By BEN FOX Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Md. (AP) — A former CIA contractor who helped design a harsh interrogation program following the Sept. 11 attacks sought Friday to minimize the severity of techniques used on the men facing war crimes charges for their alleged roles in the plot.

John Bruce Jessen, testifying in public for the first time about an interrogation program long shrouded in secrecy, told a military court at the U.S. base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, that the techniques used against detainees had been shown to have no lasting effects and were used only a small portion of the time they were in captivity.

Jessen said the techniques, which included waterboarding and prolonged sleep deprivation, were employed only to gather intelligence aimed at preventing another terrorist attack.

"If at any time they didn't want the techniques to be applied, all they had to do was talk, and most of them did that right away," said the retired Air Force psychologist.

Jessen took the stand after eight days of testimony by James Mitchell, also a retired Air Force psychologist. The pair are considered the architects of the interrogation program, which was used on detainees in clandestine CIA facilities around the world and is now largely viewed as torture.

Their testimony comes as lawyers for the five men charged in the attacks seek to exclude a key piece of evidence against them: statements the defendants gave to FBI agents after they were moved from CIA custody to Guantanamo in September 2006. Their death penalty trial is scheduled to start at the base next January.

Jessen, as Mitchell did before him, described how Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, the self-proclaimed mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, learned to withstand the waterboarding and eventually began to volunteer information, including his role in the killing of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl in Pakistan in 2002.

"The objective was to get the detainees to willingly engage in dialogue with the CIA analysts at some level," Jessen testified.

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.

Jessen, who now lives in Washington state, created the interrogation program with Mitchell based on the experience both men had training Air Force pilots and other service members to put up resistance to the enemy if captured. Their company received \$81 million from the CIA, according to the Senate report.

Mitchell earlier defended the interrogation program, though he conceded that some interrogators used unapproved methods or that some techniques were used even when not necessary because detainees were cooperating.

Mitchell and Jessen testified that they raised concerns with officials when they saw the use of unauthorized methods. Both said they did so after observing the treatment of Gul Rahman, who died while being subjected to brutal treatment in CIA custody at a detention facility in Afghanistan in 2002.

The methods they developed included sleep deprivation for days at a time, confinement in small spaces, painful shackling, forced standing in the nude, being plunged into icy water as well as the simulated drowning process known as waterboarding,

Mitchell said the overall goal of the program was to prevent another terrorist attack. "I felt my moral obligation to protect American lives outweighed the temporary discomfort of terrorists who voluntarily took up arms against us," he said.

Air Force Col. Shane Cohen, the judge, said he will ultimately decide how to characterize the treatment the men were subjected to in various clandestine CIA detention facilities before they were taken to Guantanamo in September 2006. They are now among the 40 prisoners still held at the base.

"The opinion of the Department of Justice, the attorney general, or even the president of the United States is not binding on me," Cohen said during Mitchell's testimony.

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His decision could have a significant effect on what evidence the government can present in the case against Mohammad and his four co-defendants. Proceedings against the men have been bogged down in pretrial hearings since their May 2012 arraignment on charges that include nearly 3,000 counts of murder, hijacking and terrorism. They could get the death penalty if convicted at the trial by military commission. Jessen is scheduled to resume testifying at a pretrial hearing in March.

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.

## Stocks sink on fears virus outbreak will dent global economy

By ALEX VEIGA AP Business Writer

Stocks fell sharply on Wall Street Friday as fears spread through the markets that a virus outbreak emanating from China will dent global growth.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average skidded more than 600 points and the S&P 500 index erased its gains for January.

Technology companies, which do a lot of business with China, led the losses. Airlines fell after Delta and American suspended flights to and from the country.

Just two weeks ago, the S&P 500 had closed at an all-time high, having climbed around 13% since early October. A preliminary trade deal signed by the U.S. and China earlier in the month eased a big source of uncertainty in the markets. Volatility was running at 12-month lows and even a dust up between the U.S. and Iran didn't rock markets.

Then came the virus outbreak in China.

Markets around the globe have sold off on concerns about the potential economic impact of the outbreak. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 5.9% this week and South Korea's Kospi dropped 5.7%. Markets in Europe declined as well. The U.S. stock market, which had calmly been setting record after record, suffered its worst January since 2016 and its first monthly loss since August.

China's stock markets reopen Monday after being closed since Jan. 23 for the Lunar New Year. A lot of pent-up selling has likely built up in the meantime.

Some funds that try to mimic the movements of Chinese indexes are still trading in the United States and elsewhere. These exchange-traded funds, or ETFs, are moving on investors' expectations for where Chinese stocks would be if markets in mainland China were still open. The Xtrackers Harvest CSI 300 China A-Shares ETF tracks an index of large stocks that trade in Shanghai and Shenzhen, for example. It's down roughly 9% since Jan. 23.

The virus has infected almost 10,000 people in just two months, mostly in China. The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak a global emergency, a designation that signals that the virus is now a significant risk to other countries and requires a global response. The death toll stood at 213, including 43 new fatalities, all in China.

"It seems like the equity market is now coming around to the realization that maybe this is something that may linger for some time," said Sameer Samana, senior global market strategist at Wells Fargo Investment Institute.

American Airlines fell 3.2% and Delta Air Lines slipped 2.4%. Apple, which relies on Chinese consumers for sales and factories for supplies, fell 3.9%. Nvidia slid 3.8% and other chipmakers slipped.

Amazon was a rare bright spot in the market Friday. The online retailer surged 7.4% after blowing past Wall Street's fourth-quarter profit forecasts. The company said Prime membership exploded 50% since it last disclosed that figure in 2018.

The S&P 500 sank 58.14 points, or 1.8%, to 3,225.52. The Dow Jones industrials fell 603.41 points, or 2.1% to 28,256.03 The Nasdaq dropped 148 points, or 1.6%, to 9,150.94.

Bond prices rose, a signal that investors are seeking safety. The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 1.51% from 1.55% late Thursday.

In another sign of how much fear is in the market, the yield on the three-month Treasury rose above the 10-year yield, a relatively rare occurrence that hasn't happened since October. Investors see such inversions

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as a fairly reliable warning signal of a recession within a year or so, though the track record isn't perfect.

Economists are scrambling to calculate the virus' impact on China's economy. The Chinese economy is far bigger and more closely integrated with the rest of the world than it was at the time of the SARS outbreak 17 years ago. China now accounts for 16% of global economic output, up from 4% in 2003.

Ben May, director of global macro research at Oxford Economics, estimates that the virus will shave 0.4 percentage points off Chinese economic growth this year, leaving it at 5.6%, the slowest since 1990, and reduce global growth by 0.2 percentage points to 2.3%, the weakest since the financial crisis.

Others expect a repeat of the SARS experience: a quarter or two of weaker Chinese growth followed by a quick and full recovery with limited fallout worldwide.

"History suggests that unless the end of the world is going to be caused by this flu-like virus, it will prove to be only a slight headwind for the global economy," Carl Weinberg, chief economist at High Frequency Economics, wrote in a research report.

Concerns over the potential impact the virus could have intensified Friday after the U.S. State Department warned against travel to China and some U.S. carriers responded by suspending flights.

The move by U.S. airlines helped deepen a slide in oil prices. U.S. crude fell nearly 6% in January, a decline that coincides with a sell-off on energy stocks. The sector is down 11.2% for the year, the biggest decliner in the S&P 500. Industrial stocks, which include airlines and other transportation companies, also ended the month in the red.

"The economic and market impact now are becoming much more significant and those two sectors are probably the most important to keep an eye on," said Samana. "If you're going to restrict travel and you're going to restrict movement, you're by default going to hit energy prices."

Exxon Mobil slid 4.1% after the country's biggest oil producer's profit slid more than 5% in the fourth quarter and fell short of Wall Street forecasts. Rival Chevron fell 3.8% after it posted a quarterly loss of \$6.6 billion.

Benchmark crude oil fell 58 cents to settle at \$51.56 a barrel. Brent crude oil, the international standard, dropped 13 cents to close at \$58.16 a barrel. Wholesale gasoline was unchanged at \$1.49 per gallon. Heating oil declined 1 cent to \$1.63 per gallon. Natural gas rose 1 cent to \$1.84 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Gold fell 60 cents to \$1,582.90 per ounce, silver rose 2 cents to \$17.97 per ounce and copper was unchanged at \$2.52 per pound, but it's down 6.4% for the week. Copper is widely used in manufacturing and is often seen as an indicator of how that sector is doing.

The dollar fell to 108.37 Japanese yen from 108.78 yen on Thursday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1089 from \$1.1031.

European markets closed broadly lower. Markets in Asia finished mostly lower, though Japan's Nikkei 225 rose 1%.

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AP Business Writers Damian J. Troise and Stan Choe and AP Economics Writer Paul Wiseman contributed.

## Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2020. There are 334 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 1, 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven of its crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; mission specialists Kalpana Chawla, David Brown and Laurel Clark; and payload specialist Ilan Ramon (ee-LAHN'rah-MOHN'), the first Israeli in space.

On this date:

In 1790, the U.S. Supreme Court convened for the first time in New York. (However, since only three of the six justices were present, the court recessed until the next day.)

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In 1862, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," a poem by Julia Ward Howe, was published in the Atlantic Monthly.

In 1896, Giacomo Puccini's opera "La Boheme" premiered in Turin, Italy.

In 1942, during World War II, the Voice of America broadcast its first program to Europe, relaying it through the facilities of the British Broadcasting Corp. in London.

In 1943, during World War II, one of America's most highly decorated military units, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up almost exclusively of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

In 1960, four black college students began a sit-in protest at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, where they'd been refused service.

In 1962, the Ken Kesey novel "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" was first published by Viking Press.

In 1968, during the Vietnam War, South Vietnam's police chief (Nguyen Ngoc Loan) executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head in a scene captured by news photographers. Richard M. Nixon announced his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

In 1979, Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (hoh-MAY'-nee) received a tumultuous welcome in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

In 1982, "Late Night with David Letterman" premiered on NBC.

In 1991, 34 people were killed when an arriving USAir jetliner crashed atop a commuter plane on a runway at Los Angeles International Airport.

In 1994, Jeff Gillooly, Tonya Harding's ex-husband, pleaded guilty in Portland, Oregon, to racketeering for his part in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan in exchange for a 24-month sentence (he ended up serving six) and a \$100,000 fine.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama unveiled a multitrillion-dollar spending plan, pledging an intensified effort to combat high unemployment and asking Congress to quickly approve new job-creation efforts that would boost the deficit to a record-breaking \$1.56 trillion.

Five years ago: An interception at the goal line by rookie Malcom Butler preserved a 28-24 win by the New England Patriots over the Seattle Seahawks in the Super Bowl.

One year ago: New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker joined the 2020 presidential race with a call for Americans to unite in a time of bitter polarization. Democratic allies urged Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam to resign after a racist picture surfaced from his 1984 medical school yearbook page. (After initially acknowledging that he appeared in the photo, Northam denied he was pictured, but admitted to wearing blackface as a young man.) The Trump administration said the U.S. was withdrawing from a 1987 nuclear arms treaty with Russia, accusing Russia of violating the treaty by deploying banned missiles. American skier Lindsey Vonn announced that she would retire from ski racing after the upcoming world championships in Sweden.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Stuart Whitman is 92. Singer Don Everly is 83. Actor Garrett Morris is 83. Bluegrass singer Del McCoury is 81. TV personality-singer Joy Philbin is 79. Political commentator Fred Barnes is 77. Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., is 76. Rock musician Mike Campbell (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 70. Blues singer-musician Sonny Landreth is 69. Actor-writer-producer Bill Mumy (MOO'-mee) is 66. Rock singer Exene Cervenka is 64. Actor Linus Roache is 56. Princess Stephanie of Monaco is 55. Country musician Dwayne Dupuy (Ricochet) is 55. Actress Sherilyn Fenn is 55. Lisa Marie Presley is 52. Comedian-actor Pauly Shore is 52. Actor Brian Krause is 51. Jazz musician Joshua Redman is 51. Rock musician Patrick Wilson (Weezer) is 51. Actor Michael C. Hall is 49. Rock musician Ron Welty is 49. Rapper Big Boi (Outkast) is 45. Roots rocker Jason Isbell is 41. Country singer Julie Roberts is 41. Actor Jarrett Lennon is 38. Rock singer-musician Andrew VanWyngarden is 37. TV personality Lauren Conrad is 34. Actress-singer Heather Morris is 33. Actress and mixed martial artist Ronda Rousey is 33. Rock singer Harry Styles (One Direction) is 26.

Thought for Today: "It is the tragedy of the world that no one knows what he doesn't know — and the less a man knows, the more sure he is that he knows everything." — Joyce Cary, English author (1888-1957).