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Chicken Soup
for the Soul



"CHOCOLATE IS THE ANSWER. WHO CARES WHAT THE QUESTION IS."
-AUTHOR UNKNOWN

It's Basketball Action on GDILIVE.COM



**Langford
Area
Lions**

VS



Groton Area Tigers

Tuesday, Feb. 4, at Groton Area
Broadcasting Boys JV at 5 p.m.
Girls Varsity at 6:30 and Boys Varsity to follow

Boys JV: Grain Solutions LLC with Jesse Zak

Varsity Games Sponsors

Allied Climate Professionals
Blocker Construction
Groton Dairy Queen
Jark Real Estate
John Sieh Agency
Milbrandt Enterprises
Tyson DeHoet Trucking



At one point in the tournament, four Groton Teams were competing at the same time. On the left side are Corbin Reich, Noah Tullis, Jace Kroll, River Pardick. On the right side are Axel Warrington, Ethan Clark, Jack Dinger, Danny Feist, Tanner McGannon and Travis Townsend.

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

GT Robotics Hosts VEX Robotics Tournament

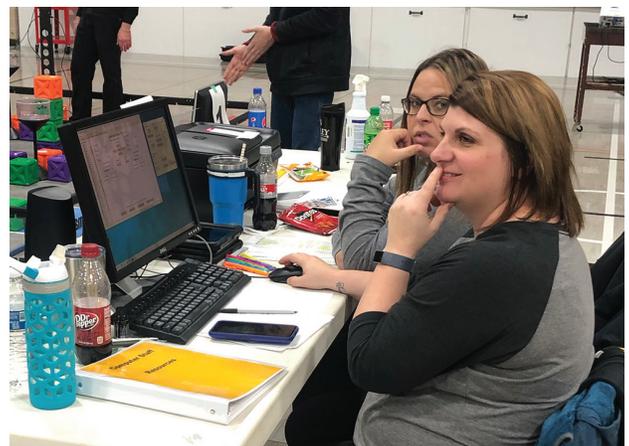
GT Robotics teams did not have a good day at their own tournament on Saturday January 25th. None of our teams finished the qualifying matches ranked in the top half. Gear Heads (Ethan Clark, Jack Dinger, Axel Warrington) with their alliance partner from Box Elder was the only Groton team that made it to the semi-finals.

All of Groton's robotists will need to do some serious study about their robot design, function quality, match play strategy and driver skills before the next two tournaments.

Three GT Robotics teams end the qualifying matches with a record of four wins and five losses. Geek Squad (Nick Morris, Charlie Frost, James Brooks), Gear Heads and Galaxy (River Pardick, Jace Kroll, Isaac Higgins). G.A.T. Wrenches (Noah Tullis, Corbin Reich, Adrian Knutson) ended qualifying with a record of three wins and six losses. G-Force (Travis Townsend, Tanner McGannon, Dan Feist, Garrett Schultz) had a record of two wins and seven losses.

GT Robotics' next competition will be February 8th in Harrisburg.

Jim Lane, GT Robotics



Becky Kotzer and Emily Dinger were making sure the tournament ran smoothly. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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Rankings of GT Robotics teams at the end of qualifying rounds for the tournaments

| Tournament Location | Groton | Mitchell | Box Elder | Ramsey | Canton | Groton |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Number of teams in Tourney and date | 18 Oct 19 | 21 Nov 9 | 20 Nov 19 | 32 Dec 14 | 24 Jan 11 | 18 Jan 25 |
| 9050A G-Force | 8 | 13 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 17 |
| 9050B Gear Heads | 2 | 9 | 2 | 30 | 5 | 10 |
| 9050C G.A.T. Wrenches | 4 | 12 | 13 | 6 | 19 | 16 |
| 9050D Geek Squad | 10 | 14 | 3 | 17 | 22 | 9 |
| 9050E Galaxy | 15 | 20 | 18 | 11 | 14 | 13 |

How far did GT Robotics team get in elimination rounds (playoffs)?

| | Tournament | Groton | Mitchell | Box Elder | Ramsey | Canton | Groton |
|-------|-----------------|--------|----------|-----------|--------|--------|-------------|
| 9050A | G-Force | Semi-F | Semi-F | Semi-F | 1st rd | Semi F | Qtr-Finals |
| 9050B | Gear Heads | Finals | Semi-F | Qtr-F | | Qtr-F | Semi Finals |
| 9050C | G.A.T. Wrenches | Qtr-F | Qtr-F | Qtr-F | Qtr-F | Semi-F | 1st round |
| 9050D | Geek Squad | Semi-F | Qtr-F | Finals | 1st rd | 1st rd | Qtr-Finals |
| 9050E | Galaxy | | Qtr-F | Finals | 1st rd | Qtr-F | 1st round |



Laura Clark, Amy Warrington and Jim Lane helped to set up the cubes after each event. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Weston Dinger uses a tablet to keep score of each match. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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11-point 4th quarter rally gives Lady Tigers win over Northwestern

Groton Area had an 11-point rally in the fourth to help push them to a 41-38 non-conference win over Northwestern Area. The game was played Monday in Mellette and was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by the South Dakota Army National Guard and by Locke Electric of Groton.

The Tigers jumped out to a 6-0 lead and took an 11-7 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Tigers shot four of 17 for 23 percent and the Wildcats shot three of 16 for 18 percent.

Northwestern took the lead in the second quarter at 15-13 and the Tigers tied the game at 15 and 17 before Northwestern Area took a 22-19 lead at half time. In the second quarter, Groton Area made four of 12 shots for 33 percent and the Wildcats were six of 13 for 46 percent.

Only one field goal and four free throws were scored in the entire eight-minute third quarter with Northwestern holding on to the lead, 24-23. The Tigers were one of 10 in shooting and Northwestern missed 12 attempts.

The Wildcats gained a five-point advantage at 31-26 before Groton Area scored 11 straight points to take a 37-31 lead. Northwestern Area closed to within one, 39-38, but perfect shooting from the free throw line for the Tigers provided the win. In the fourth quarter, Groton Area was five of 15 for 33 percent and Northwestern Area was five of 18 in shooting.

Groton Area was seven of seven from the line off of Northwestern's 11 team fouls. Northwestern was eight of 16 for 50 percent off of Groton Area's 18 team fouls.

For the game, Groton Area made eight of 37 two-pointers for 22 percent and six of 18 three-pointers for 33 percent.

Six players scored for the Tigers with Gracie Traphagen leading the way with 14 points followed by Brooke Gengerke with 11, Allyssa Locke had six, Alyssa Thaler and Kaycie Hawkins each had four and Madeline Flihs had two points.

Seven players scored for the Wildcats with Hannah Schentzel leading the way with 14 points followed by Chrissy Stoltenberg with eight, Madalyn Groft and Miranda Thorson each had five, Hailey Boekelheide had three, Sydney Schell two and Jessica Boekelheide had three, Sydney Schell two and Jessica Boekelheide added a free throw.

Traphagen and Locke each had seven of the team's 32 rebounds. Hawkins and Thayler each had three of the team's 10 assists. Thayler had three of the team's eight steals and Traphagen had two blocks.

Groton Area is now 4-7 on the season and Northwestern is 3-12.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 34-20. Brooke Gengerke had six points, Trista Keith had four, Madeline Flihs had five, Maddie Bjerke had two points, Aspen Johnson had nine points, Shallyn Foertsch had three points, Emma Schinkel had four points and Sydney Leicht had two points.

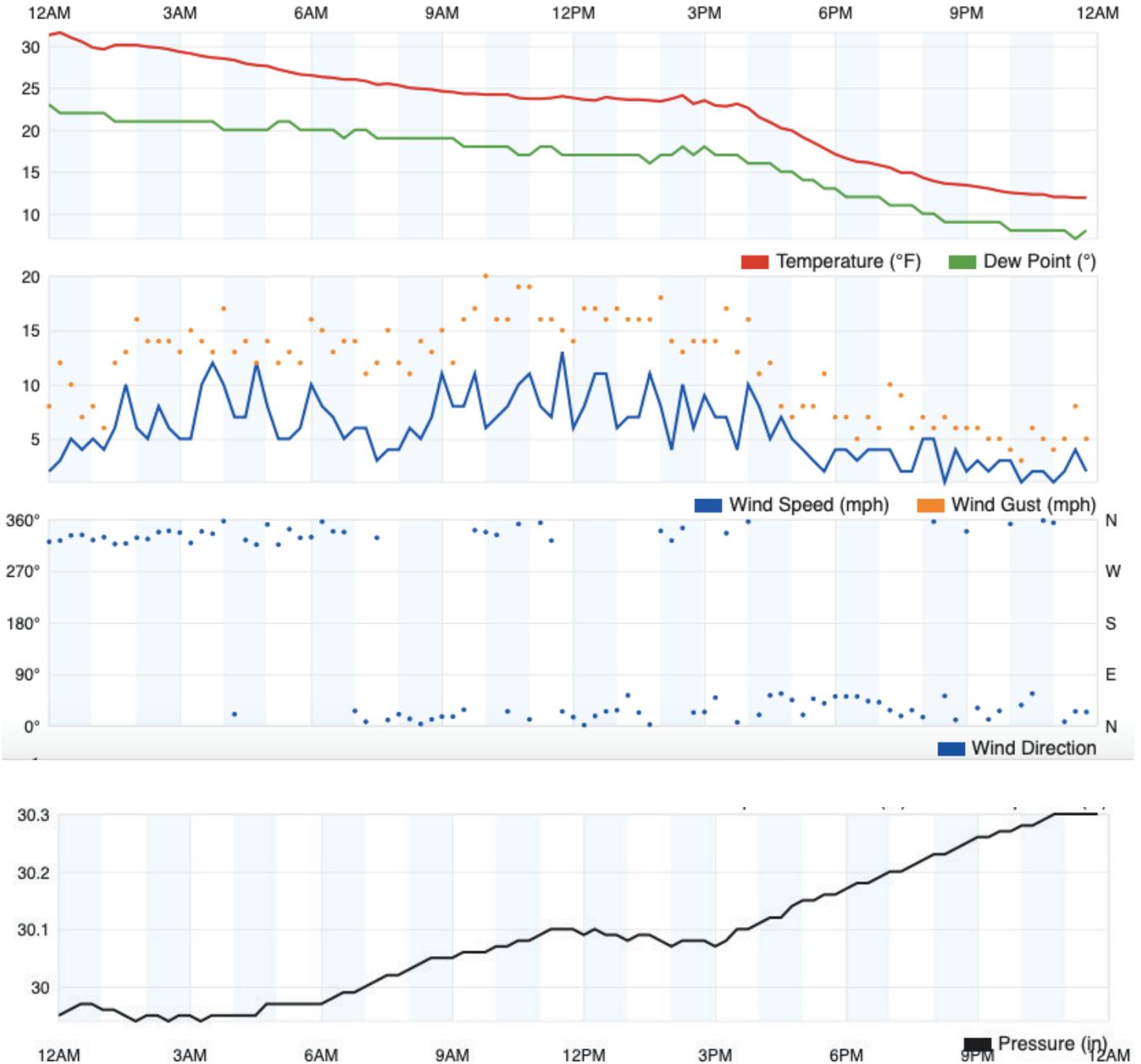
Groton Area made it a clean sweep with a C game win. Carly Guthmiller and Sydney Leicht each had nine points, Anna Fjeldheim had eight, Emma Schinkel six, Lydia Meier two and Karsyn Jangula and Cadence Feist each had two points.

- Paul Kosel

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



Upcoming Events

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

Noem, Federal Representatives Continue Working Toward July 3 Fireworks Celebration at Mount Rushmore

Governor Kristi Noem last week welcomed representatives from the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to South Dakota to continue working toward the July 3 fireworks celebration at the Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

"Mount Rushmore is America's 'Shrine of Democracy,'" said Noem. "It is only fitting that it should be prominently featured as part of the nation's Independence Day celebrations. We are so thankful to President Trump and our federal partners for helping us bring back this American tradition."

The State of South Dakota, in partnership with the National Park Service, is developing the Independence Day fireworks display, which will be hosted at Mount Rushmore National Memorial on July 3, 2020. The National Park Service is currently conducting an environmental assessment to ensure the fireworks display is safe and enjoyable.

Fireworks were last seen at Mount Rushmore in 2009 but were discontinued following concerns related to the pine beetle infestation in the Black Hills National Forest. Since that time, the forest has gained strength and advancements in pyrotechnics allow for a safe fireworks display.

To stay updated on fireworks developments, visit travelsouthdakota.com/rushmorefireworks.

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Today



Mostly Sunny

High: 12 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 3 °F

Wednesday



Sunny

High: 25 °F

Wednesday
Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 13 °F

Thursday



Chance Snow

High: 23 °F

Dry And Cool

- High near 10F over west central Minnesota.
- High near 32F "west river".
- Light wind becoming southerly up to 10 mph this afternoon.

 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Updated: 2/4/2020 4:20 AM Central

Winds will start off light and variable this morning, under high pressure influence. But, by late this afternoon, the high pressure is relocating south in the region, allowing for a light southerly wind to develop. Also, by this afternoon, much of the region should be into abundant sunshine. The coldest air over the northern plains is situated over Minnesota and the far eastern edge of the Dakotas, with warmer air the further west you go.

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Today in Weather History

February 4, 1984: A fast-moving blizzard pounded the northeast and east-central with light snow and raging winds. Snow amounts were less than 2 inches region-wide. As the storm progressed, temperatures dropped thirty degrees in three hours as winds gusted to 70 mph. Fierce winds struck quickly, plummeting visibilities to zero and made travel difficult in a matter of minutes. No travel was advised across much of the area. Hundreds of travelers became stranded in the white-out, and the highway crews were pulled off the road to wait for decreasing winds. There were also some spotty power outages.

1924: In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 20.3 inches of snow fell in 24 hours. This ranks as the most snowfall in 24 hours since 1884. This storm caused over \$1 million damage. Streetcar and train service crippled. Snowdrifts of 8 to 10 feet high were common along with much ice on trees and wires. Schools were closed, and several plate glass windows were broken.

1995: A massive nor'easter pounded areas from the southern Mid-Atlantic to northern New England. It would be the only significant storm in the 94-95 winter season. Over 20 inches of snow buried parts of upstate New York. Wind chills dropped as cold as 40 degrees below zero. Behind the storm, arctic air crossing the relatively warm waters of the Great Lakes produced intense lake effect squalls for nearly two weeks from the 4th through the 14th. Snowfall totals for the storm ranged from near two to seven feet. At one point during the storm east of Lake Ontario, snow was falling at the incredible rate of five inches an hour! The heavy snows combined with strong winds to produce white-outs and hazardous driving. Actual storm totals downwind of Lake Erie included: Erie County: West Seneca 39 inches, Orchard Park 36 inches, Cheektowaga 36 inches, Colden 32 inches, and Buffalo Airport 31 inches; Genesee County: Corfu 38 inches; Chautauqua County: Sinclairville 27 inches and Jamestown 15 inches. Downwind of Lake Ontario, storm totals included: Oswego County: Palermo 85 inches, Fulton 60 inches, and Oswego 46 inches; Lewis County: Montague 66 inches, Highmarket 48 inches, and Lowville 36 inches; Cayuga County: Fairhaven 36 inches, Wayne County: Wolcott 22 inches; and Jefferson County: Adams 47 inches.

2011: A winter storm settled four to six inches of snow over northern Texas, including Dallas, just days before the Super Bowl between the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Green Bay Packers.

1961 - The third great snowstorm of the winter season struck the northeastern U.S. Cortland NY received 40 inches of snow. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Gales lashed the northern Pacific coast and the coast of northern New England. A storm in the central U.S. produced five inches of snow at Rapid City SD. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A winter storm produced heavy snow from the Upper Ohio Valley to New England, with up to 12 inches reported in Vermont and New Hampshire. Strong northerly winds in the Upper Midwest produced wind chill readings as cold as 60 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Two dozen cities in the south central and northwestern U.S. reported new record low temperatures for the date. The low of 14 below zero at Boise ID was a February record. A winter storm continued in the southwestern U.S. Alta UT reported 49 inches of snow in four days, Wolf Creek CO reported 66 inches in six days, including 28 inches in 24 hours, and up to 84 inches buried the ski resorts of northern New Mexico in three days. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - A winter storm produced heavy snow in the northeastern U.S. Snowfall totals in Maine ranged up to 13 inches at Gorham, with 11 inches reported at Portland. Totals in New Hampshire ranged up to 14 inches at Franconia, with 13 inches reported at Portsmouth. A mixture of snow, sleet and freezing rain caused numerous traffic accidents in eastern New York State resulting in three deaths and fourteen injuries. Subzero cold also gripped parts of the northeastern U.S. Caribou ME and Houlton ME reported morning lows of 15 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2004 - 7.15 inches of rain deluges Pinson, AL, setting an all-time record rainfall over 24 hours for the town. The Weather Doctor

2007 - Kahului reports a minimum temperature of 54°F, a daily low temperature record for the date. The Weather Doctor

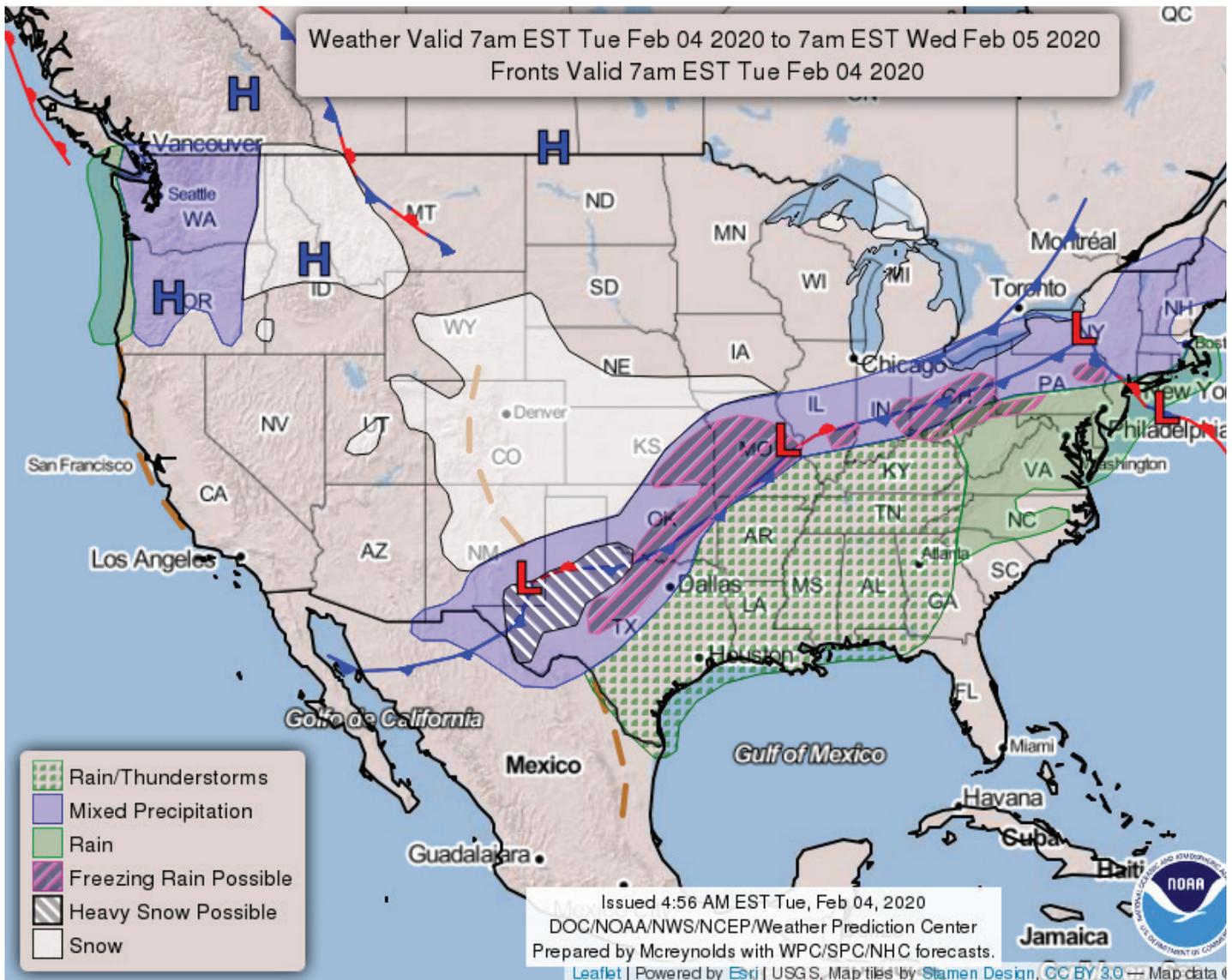
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 32 °F at 12:11 AM
Low Temp: 12 °F at 11:52 PM
Wind: 21 mph at 11:00 AM
Snow

Record High: 55° in 2005
Record Low: -36° in 1893
Average High: 25°F
Average Low: 3°F
Average Precip in Feb.: 0.04
Precip to date in Feb.: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 0.51
Precip Year to Date: 0.35
Sunset Tonight: 5:44 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:50 a.m.



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CHANGE YOUR COURSE

One night at sea, with the winds howling and the waves crashing all around his ship, the captain of a large destroyer saw blinking lights off in a distance. It appeared as though another ship was heading directly toward him. Turning to his signalman, he ordered him to send a warning, which read: "I'm a Captain. I'm on a destroyer. Change your course ten degrees south."

Came the reply, "I'm a Seaman First Class, Sir. I'm in a lighthouse that is unmovable. Change your course ten degrees north."

There are many times when it does not matter who you are, but where you are, and - even more importantly - where you are going. There is great advice to support this fact in Proverbs: "There is a path before each person that seems right, but ... it ends in death."

There is a vast difference between "the right choice" and the choice that "seems right." Sometimes we make decisions quickly to solve problems without seeking God's guidance. Decisions or solutions that are often simple, easy, convenient or attractive, may - unless we seek God's counsel - lead us in the wrong direction. This is why we need God's help and guidance. Unless we look carefully and cautiously at our options through God's teachings, we cannot be certain that our choices will honor Him and assure us of His blessings and peace and presence.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to look to You for wisdom, insight, and knowledge for every choice we make. Guide us, guard us, and give us direction and protection, always. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 14:12 There is a path before each person that seems right, but ... it ends in death.

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2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/26/2020 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 04/04/2020 Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. Sharp (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 04/26/2020 Father/Daughter dance.
- 05/02/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/25/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)
- 06/8-10/2020 St. John's VBS
- 06/19/2020 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
Groton Hosting State B American Legion Baseball Tournament
- 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
- 07/31-08/04/2020 State American Legion Baseball Tournament in Groton
- 09/12/2020 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Sat. after Labor Day)
- 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest
- 10/31/2020 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/14/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Annual Turkey Party (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)

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News from the Associated Press

Monday's Scores By The Associated Press

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL

Colman-Egan 62, Chester 41
Corsica/Stickney 79, Bon Homme 35
Ethan 63, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 54
Freeman 48, Scotland 40
Herreid/Selby Area 64, Wakpala 51
Kimball/White Lake 55, Sunshine Bible Academy 39
Marshall, Minn. 77, Sioux Falls Washington 66
Menno 55, Avon 38

GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

Chamberlain 64, Philip 41
Dakota Valley 60, Sioux City, North, Iowa 35
Dell Rapids 58, Baltic 43
Dupree 71, Bison 38
Elkton-Lake Benton 52, Iroquois 31
Ethan 52, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 51
Gregory 63, Bon Homme 43
Harding County 52, Timber Lake 49
Herreid/Selby Area 66, Wakpala 41
Langford 56, Waubay/Summit 33
Lemmon 47, Mobridge-Pollock 31
Lyman 63, Colome 35
Marshall, Minn. 55, Sioux Falls Washington 49
Yankton 55, Aberdeen Central 45

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

Minnesota regulators put Line 3 oil pipeline back on track

By STEVE KARNOWSKI Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Minnesota utility regulators put Enbridge Energy's plan to replace its aging Line 3 crude oil pipeline back on track Monday, approving a court-ordered revised environmental review and reinstating two key approvals that the company needs to proceed with the disputed project.

The state Public Utilities Commission voted 3-1 to approve an updated environmental impact statement for the \$2.6 billion project, finding that the new review adequately addressed the impacts of a potential spill in the Lake Superior watershed.

The new pipeline would replace Enbridge's Line 3, which was built in the 1960s. Enbridge, based in Calgary, Alberta, says the old line needs to be replaced because it is increasingly prone to corrosion and cracking and can run at only about half its original capacity.

Commissioner Valerie Means, who was not on the board in 2018 when the commission approved the previous environmental review, Chairwoman Katie Sieben and commissioner John Tuma all voted to approve the revised environmental impact statement. They also agreed, by the same 3-1 vote margin, to reissue a certificate of need and a route permit that had been vacated by an earlier court decision. Commissioner Matt Schuerger was the lone dissenter.

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The three votes clear the way for Enbridge to obtain two remaining major state and federal permits and some minor permits that it still needs. But environmental and tribal activists — who say the pipeline would aggravate climate change and risk spoiling pristine water resources — vowed to keep working to ensure that the project is never built.

“The PUC has repeatedly ignored unacceptable risks to Minnesota’s clean water and to the communities that would be directly affected by Line 3,” Margaret Levin, the Sierra Club’s state director, said in a statement. “Now more than ever it is time for Governor (Tim) Walz to lead — to defend Indigenous rights and our climate future, and ensure that this dirty tar sands pipeline is never built. The Sierra Club will continue to fight alongside our allies, including in the courts.”

But Enbridge welcomed the approvals.

“After nearly 5 years and thousands of hours of study, environmental review and regulatory process, it’s good to see the Line 3 Replacement Project move forward,” the company said in a statement. “It is a \$2.6 billion investment in the state’s critical energy infrastructure, that will better protect communities and the environment. We now look forward to next steps on the project’s remaining permits.”

The commission approved the previous environmental review in March 2018. But 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.

Line 3 starts in Alberta and clips a corner of North Dakota before crossing northern Minnesota en route to Enbridge’s terminal in Superior, Wisconsin.

Man serving life at South Dakota penitentiary dies at 68

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota State Penitentiary inmate serving life in prison for first-degree murder for a fatal shooting more than 25 years ago has died.

David Stansbury died Saturday at the penitentiary, the state Department of Corrections said. He was 68 and was serving a life sentence from Minnehaha County.

Stansbury pleaded guilty in September 1993 to the murder of Marlin McLaughlin, the brother of Stansbury’s ex-girlfriend, the Argus Leader reported. Stansbury had stalked and shot the woman before gunning down McLaughlin in Sioux Falls in March 1993. Stansbury’s ex-girlfriend was able to scramble back inside the home, but McLaughlin was shot in the heart and died in less than a minute.

Stansbury died of natural causes, Corrections Department spokesman Michael Winder said.

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press undefined

Argus Leader, Sioux Falls, Jan. 31

Procedural bills should be dismissed as power grab

In what’s become an annual tradition, the South Dakota Legislature is drawing more attention for discriminatory and downright puzzling bills than addressing the needs of the state. From anti-transgender measures to fighting against bans of plastic bags and straws, our lawmakers are making national headlines for all the wrong reasons.

And even with the deluge of bills filed late this week, there aren’t a lot of substantive policy proposals to analyze and debate.

Four bills filed early in the process did catch our eye, however, raising serious concerns about public transparency and good governance.

Collectively, House Bills 1001, 1002, 1003 and Senate Bill 3 are an attempted power grab by the legislative branch, as they try to wrest more independence from the executive branch. Specifically, they would cut from law the way our legislature chooses its leaders, conducts its daily business and keeps permanent

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record of that work, shifting those procedures into legislative rules.

The big issue here is legislative rules can be changed at any time, on the fly or even suspended completely with a simple majority vote. No notice needed. No public input or engagement. No checks and balances from the governor.

The separate branches of government are an intentional check on anyone becoming too powerful, and the potential for abuse of legislative rules is real. This isn't the first time the legislature has tried to make these adjustments — House Speaker Steven Haugaard filed three similar bills just last year.

Proponents argue that having these processes in both statute and rules is needlessly duplicative and that the legislature shouldn't have to consult the governor in order to conduct business. That argument won the day in the House, as all three bills sailed through on their way to the Senate (SB 3 is still in committee).

But such arguments either oversimplify the issue or are disingenuous. The fundamental way the legislature is set up, elects its leaders, conducts the people's business and records history of that business were set up to be in the public eye on purpose.

Removing this language from law and exposing them to the free will of the day is not only a threat to transparency but also to potential abuse to solidify or prevent the transfer of power. We've seen some eyebrow-raising behavior in state legislatures around the country, and there's plenty of recent evidence that our own legislature could use more public scrutiny, not less.

We urge the Senate to kill these bills in committee.

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Jan. 30

We say Name Change

THUMBS UP to Mount Marty College for taking the next, big step in what can only be considered its recent overall upgrade. On Wednesday, MMC officials announced that, as of July 1, the school will be known as Mount Marty University — a name change that more befits its status and better prepares it for the future. The actual concept of a name change isn't new, as there was talk of something along this line back in the 1990s, for example. The change now reflects that key word in Mount Marty's new branding — momentum. It's another new development for a school that, lately, has been full of forward steps. Congratulations!

Meeting Day

THUMBS UP to another successful Yankton Day at the Legislature. The Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce's annual pilgrimage to Pierre gave local officials and other interested parties another chance to meet face to face with state department heads who may otherwise be hard to speak with during the session. Many questions were answered and the delegation got a glimpse of upcoming programs that could assist in housing development, education and the area's vibrant tourism industry.

Climate For Concern?

THUMBS DOWN to the potential prospect of a dust bowl hitting the United States, particularly the Great Plains, by 2025. That outlook was provided this week by Ellwyn Taylor, a retired Iowa State University climatologist, who spoke at the Southeast Research Farm's annual meeting in Yankton. Taylor based his thoughts on historical data showing the most recent U.S. dust bowls occurred in 1847 and 1936. Given those cycles, the next one should be expected in 2025, although signs of it could come even earlier, he said. Taylor also spoke on the impact of climate change on agriculture, including a westward shift in the Corn Belt.

Leaving A Legacy

THUMBS UP to this week's Gunderson Lecture at the University of South Dakota, featuring former South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard. The Republican from Dell Rapids served as lieutenant governor from 2002-2010 before winning two terms as governor from 2010-2018 (along with running mate Matt Michels of Yankton). While this week's USD event was labeled a lecture, it was a conversation with USD Law School Dean Neil Fulton. The hourlong program featured an interesting inside look at the former

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governor's personal and political life. Daugaard showed a sense of humor about himself along with fun glimpses during Fulton's "lightning round" with "What is your favorite ..." questions.

Aberdeen American News, Feb. 1

So it's come to this— a debate about littering

We can all agree that littering is bad, right?

Not just bad, but ugly, dirty and completely annoying.

Litter has come to the forefront in recent years in relation to climate change and the rise of greenhouse gasses. The argument goes like this: the use of plastics is bad for the environment. The creation of plastics involves the burning of fossil fuels, which puts carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. And when plastic decomposes, more carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere.

A 2017 article in *Issues in Science and Technology*, a quarterly journal published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine and Arizona State University, notes that "keeping carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere is a waste management problem."

That means that we should be careful with what we throw away — and, by extension, what we use before we throw it away.

But whether you believe that litter — or plastic — contributes to global warming isn't the point here. We should all be able to agree that littering, in the broadest sense of the word, is not OK. Litter contributes to other problems, like harming animals and polluting waterways. And no one wants to see cigarette butts, fast food containers and plastic bags strewn across their neighborhood.

That last example — plastic bags — is part of a larger plastic discussion across the nation. Some cities have banned the use of plastic straws. Some states have started charging a small fee for plastic bags at the grocery store.

But in South Dakota a group of state lawmakers is taking the opposite approach, saying individual communities shouldn't be allowed to ban bags, beverage straws and other containers.

Dana Loesky, a volunteer lobbyist with the Friends of the Big Sioux River, argues that plastic bags and other forms of waste are becoming a huge problem in South Dakota.

That's no huge surprise. We've all seen litter, and it's not a problem specific to a particular part of the country.

But state Sen. Jeff Monroe, R-Pierre, offered a curious take this past week. He said that plastic in some bodies of water is good because it provides habitat for animals.

"Every time I think about a plastic coffee can getting thrown in the river, it doesn't bother me at all because it sinks to the bottom and it's habitat for bait fish, habitat for crayfish, if you like to eat those, and I really don't have a problem with that," Monroe said Tuesday. "I really don't see a big problem with this bill (that would keep communities from banning some plastic containers), protecting businesses, keeping costs down and relearning how to recycle plastic, and there are a lot of ways to do it."

Monroe is right in that we should all be willing to recycle products that can be used again. And one plastic can thrown into a river will likely sink to the bottom and not do much harm. But what about 1,000 plastic coffee cans? What happens when the amount of trash is so great that it's no longer invisible under water? What will the accumulation of trash do to that river?

Just because something is thrown away and we can no longer see it doesn't mean it's not there. When this happens over and over again, it certainly contributes to the accumulation. This leads to an "unnatural" habitat.

Animals do not require plastic coffee cans to survive. In fact, it's hard to imagine they're helpful at all.

Drink containers, garbage bags and garbage can liners are already on the state's list of items that cannot be prohibited. Opponents of SB 54 want to keep the decision of whether to ban "auxiliary containers" at the local level.

Leaving decision-making up to local governmental boards is something the state Legislature often claims it wants to do. And certainly the state wants that freedom when it comes to topics discussed at

the federal level.

So this bill is a bit of a head-scratcher.

It seems like we should all be agreement about one thing — littering does nothing to contribute to a clear, welcoming community, to say nothing of clear, clean water. Scientists tell us that plastic can take up to 1,000 years to decompose, so it's never too early to start thinking about the effect our decisions have on our children, their children and their children after.

We are the cure for a dirty planet.

Midwest Economy: January state-by-state glance

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Institute for Supply Management, formerly the Purchasing Management Association, began formally surveying its membership in 1931 to gauge business conditions.

The Creighton Economic Forecasting Group uses the same methodology as the national survey to consult supply managers and business leaders. Creighton University economics professor Ernie Goss oversees the report.

The overall index ranges between 0 and 100. Growth neutral is 50, and a figure greater than 50 indicates growth in that factor over the next three to six months.

Here are the state-by-state results for January:

Arkansas: The overall index for Arkansas climbed to 59.0 from December's 53.0. Index components were new orders at 68.1, production or sales at 54.8, delivery lead time at 54.8, inventories at 61.8 and employment at 55.4. Over the past 12 months, average hourly wages for private workers in Arkansas rose by 6.7%, the report said. "Nondurable-goods manufacturers are outperforming durable-goods producers in terms of Arkansas job growth," said Goss.

Iowa: Iowa's overall index jumped in January to 55.7, compared with 50.9 in December. Index components were new orders at 60.8, production or sales at 53.1, delivery lead time at 53.6, employment at 53.5 and inventories at 57.7. Average hourly wages for private workers in Iowa rose 3% over the past 12 months, the survey report said. "Manufacturers closely linked to agriculture continue to experience slow to no growth," he said.

Kansas: The state's January index climbed to 58.4 from December's 52.1. Kansas index components were new orders at 65.6, production or sales at 56.9, delivery lead time at 54.4, employment at 54.7 and inventories at 60.4. Average hourly wages for private workers in Kansas rose by 4.3% over the past 12 months, the report said. Both durable- and nondurable-goods manufacturers are expanding at a slow pace, the report said. "Even aircraft component manufacturers continue to expand despite Boeing's problems," Goss said.

Minnesota: Minnesota's overall index soared to 57.9 from 50.7 in December. Index components were new orders at 64.1, production or sales at 57.3, delivery lead time at 54.1, inventories at 59.5 and employment at 54.3. Average hourly wages for private workers in Minnesota rose by 4.5% over the past 12 months, the survey report said. Durable-goods manufacturers in the state are shedding jobs, while nondurable-goods manufacturers continue to add jobs at a slow pace, he said.

Missouri: The state's overall index rose to 56.2 from December's 50.5. Missouri's index components were new orders at 59.3, production or sales at 58.7, delivery lead time at 53.3, inventories at 56.8 and employment at 53.1. Average hourly wages for private workers in Missouri rose by 3.5% over the past 12 months, the report said. "Nondurable-goods manufacturers are expanding at a solid pace, while durable-goods producers are experiencing pullbacks in economic activity," said Goss.

Nebraska: Nebraska's overall index jumped 6.7 percentage points to hit 58.8, compared with 52.1 in December. Index components were new orders at 68.0, production or sales at 53.9, delivery lead time at 54.8, inventories at 61.7 and employment at 55.3. Average hourly wages for private workers in Nebraska rose by 5.2% over the past 12 months, the report said. "Nondurable-goods manufacturers in the state are expanding at a solid pace, while durable-goods producers are experiencing slight to no growth," he said.

North Dakota: The state's overall index climbed above growth neutral to reach 52.0 in January, com-

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pared with December's 48.2. North Dakota's index components were new orders at 63.0, production or sales at 39.3, delivery lead time at 49.8, employment at 48.7 and inventories at 58.9. Average hourly wages for private workers in North Dakota rose by 2.6% over the past 12 months, the survey report said. "Nondurable-goods manufacturers in the state are experiencing slow to no growth, while durable-goods producers are expanding at a solid pace," said Goss.

Oklahoma: For the first time since October, Oklahoma's overall index climbed above growth neutral. The overall index for January rose to 52.2 from December's 48.4. Index components were new orders at 40.1, production or sales at 59.0, delivery lead time at 53.1, inventories at 56.1 and employment at 52.7. Average hourly wages for private workers in Oklahoma rose by 0.8% over the past 12 months, the report said. "Both durable- and nondurable-goods manufacturers in the state are experiencing slow to no growth," Goss said.

South Dakota: The South Dakota overall index rocketed to a regional high of 59.3 from December's 52.3. Index components were new orders at 68.2, production or sales at 56.2, delivery lead time at 54.9, inventories at 61.8 and employment at 55.4. Average hourly wages for private workers in South Dakota rose by 3.3% over the past 12 months, the report said. "Both durable- and nondurable-goods manufacturers in the state are expanding at a slow but positive pace," he said.

Survey suggests economy growing in 9 Midwest, Plains states

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A monthly survey of business supply managers released Monday suggested the economy continues to grow in nine Midwest and Plains states, but an economist said the spreading coronavirus outbreak could soon threaten that growth.

The Mid-America Business Conditions index jumped to 57.2 in January from 50.6 in December, the survey report said. The November figure was 48.6. The January figure was the highest since March 2019.

The report said the jump, plus January's signing of the U.S.-Mexico Canada Agreement on trade and the "phase one" trade agreement with China, bodes well for the regional manufacturing economy. However, the survey was conducted before much of the bad news about the coronavirus outbreak that originated in China was reported.

"The negative impacts from this virus could place significant negative pressure on the regional economy in the weeks ahead," said Creighton University economist Ernie Goss, who oversees the survey.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth. A score below that suggests decline. The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

The regional trade numbers were mixed, according to the report. The index for new export orders soared to 52.1 from December's weak 43.5. The regional imports index sank to 46.3 from December's 52.0.

The two new trade agreements boosted the regional business confidence, however. The index rose to 58.8 from December's 57.6.

The January employment index increased to 53.8 from December's four-year low of 45.6. In past months, job growth was held in check by the trade constraints and the lack of available workers.

"January's positive employment reading was a positive and unexpected outcome," Goss said.

10 Things to Know for Today

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

1. DEMOCRATS LAY A BIG CAUCUS EGG The Iowa Democratic Party says that results from the state's first-in-the-nation caucus are delayed due to "quality checks" and "inconsistencies" in some reporting.

2. HONG KONG WORKERS STRIKE AT HOSPITALS Hong Kong hospitals are cutting services as medical workers walk out for a second day to demand the borders with mainland China be shut completely to ward off a virus that caused its first death in the territory.

3. US ADDS 'LOW YIELD' NUCLEAR WEAPON TO ARSENAL A Pentagon official tells the AP the submarine-launched weapon will make nuclear war less likely, something congressional critics call a dangerous and

unnecessary addition.

4. **TRUMP TO FACE ACCUSERS** The impeached president will deliver his State of the Union speech on the eve of what's anticipated to be his Senate acquittal.

5. **'WE ARE COMING BACK'** Lebanese protesters signal that demands for sweeping government reforms won't be squashed easily, even as security forces resort to more violent means of crowd control.

6. **WHAT BUS GUNMAN SAID BEFORE ATTACK** A Maryland man who killed a woman and wounded five others on a Greyhound bus in Southern California was cursing and muttering incoherently before the attack.

7. **FORMER KENYAN PRESIDENT DIES** Daniel arap Moi, who presided over years of repression and economic turmoil fueled by runaway corruption, was 95.

8. **KEY WEINSTEIN ACCUSER DUE BACK ON STAND** The 34-year-old broke down in tears, halting an exhaustive cross-examination that focused on the nature of her relationship with the once-powerful movie mogul.

9. **MIAMI SEES A RETURN TO CULTURAL HARD LINE ON CUBA** Performers from the island who support its communist government or don't speak out against it are facing backlash from some members of the United States' largest Cuban-American community.

10. **WADA WANTS RUSSIA SPORTS CASE OPEN TO PUBLIC** If granted, it would be a rare public hearing for sport's highest court to judge a four-year slate of punishments faced by Russia for persistent cheating.

Holocaust survivor seeks teens to bear witness for future

By **LORI HINNANT** Associated Press

DRANCY, France (AP) — The girls and boys in the room were just a little older than Victor Perahia was when he was finally freed in 1945, his body wracked with tuberculosis and typhus, his mind anguished by the suffering and death he had seen. After 40 years of self-imposed silence, he now returns time and again to bear witness at Drancy, the transit center from where the French government deported tens of thousands of Jews into the hands of Nazis.

"From the day of my arrest to the day of my liberation, I will tell you my story," Perahia said. He sat with his back to the window overlooking the Drancy housing project, where he spent 21 months. It was the last place in France his father and grandfather saw before they were loaded into a train bound for the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp.

The students from a middle school in nearby Livry Gargan held their breaths, their eyes fixed on Perahia's lined face.

Perahia spoke to the students last week amid a series of events to mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Surveys in recent years, including one released this year, show young people in France and elsewhere in Europe increasingly question the scale of the Holocaust, although outright denial is rare.

Perahia told the students he was 9 when six German soldiers stomped upstairs to the family apartment in the coastal town of Saint-Nazaire. They kept him hostage while his mother ran to fetch his father, who demanded to know what was happening.

"We are here for a simple identity check. You will follow us, along with your wife and your child, and in 48 hours, you will be home again," the officer told his father.

The lie was revealed two days later. They were in a detention camp near the city of Tours when still more German officers separated men from women and children, Perahia told the teens, his voice steady.

The room fell utterly silent as he spoke.

"My father looked me deep in the eyes, as if he felt that it was going to be a difficult moment to live through. Because maybe he thought that it would be the last time that we would see each other." Perahia paused briefly. "I'll tell you right away, that was the last time I saw my father... Because he was deported in convoy Number 8."

Convoy Number 8, like nearly all the convoys from Drancy, was bound for Auschwitz. The students from Livry Gargan — a town about 7 kilometers (4 miles) away — by then already had learned from their history

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teacher, Valérie Maloberti, that the vast majority of the 57,977 people deported from Drancy perished at the Nazi death camp.

But here before them was a man for whom this was not history but bitter memory. He told them about the children he had known, the teens who took care of babies whose parents were deported, before they themselves were gathered up and told they would join their families. He described what they experienced, nearly minute by minute, after they arrived on the platform at Auschwitz, where German soldiers greeted them with dogs and shouts, where they were told they were going to take a shower and instead walked into a gas chamber. And where every last one of them died.

"I who knew them, I who loved these children, I always talk about them with a lot of emotion, and I talk about them freely because it feels like when I talk about them again, it brings them back to life a little," he said.

By now, Maloberti's students were wiping tears from red eyes, thinking of their parents, their siblings, themselves being loaded into livestock cars from the French national railway like the one they could see through the window. Perahia and his mother barely survived the Bergen Belsen labor camp and were liberated by Russian soldiers on their way to Berlin.

"When we returned home, we thought we would reconnect with the past, rediscover an identity deeply altered by three years in the camps. But no one was waiting for us. We were confronted with an incredulous society, incapable of understanding us," he said. "So for decades we did not speak. I personally could not speak for 40 years, not even to my family, not even to my children, who had questions that I could not answer." he said.

Finally, he decided that he owed it to his family and to the future to speak.

In the French equivalent of ninth grade, classes spend about eight hours on World War II, which includes around two hours devoted to the Holocaust, Maloberti said. But visiting Drancy is different.

"It seems unreal to them. So there it is, it's true, it really existed," she said. "The numbers are there. The buildings, the documents are there. I have never had a student who denied the information once we gave it."

But what Perahia was after was something more powerful than just teaching the truth. An atheist, he has visited Auschwitz repeatedly to intone the Jewish prayer for the dead for his father and grandfather who died there.

And for the children listening to him on this day, organized jointly by the Drancy memorial and the Jewish umbrella organization CRIF, it seemed he had succeeded in leaving something behind.

"Victor Perahia will leave a mark. That's the thing that will leave a mark, what I will tell my family, my children, if I have any. This will surely stay with me the rest of my life," said Iness Boubaaat-Lebreton.

By now, the light was fading but Perahia said he would join the class outside. More than two dozen teens surrounded him, slowing their pace to his as they walked toward the buildings where he had spent almost two years of his life, before being deported to Bergen Belsen.

The transit camp buildings were converted into apartments almost immediately after the war for people whose homes had been bombed. This troubled some of the students, but not Perahia.

"After all you have survived, all you have gone through, are you happy?" came one of the final questions of the day.

"I am happy," Perahia said. "But it is a little late."

Hong Kong reports virus death as workers strike at hospitals

By KEN MORITSUGU Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Hong Kong hospitals cut services as medical workers were striking for a second day Tuesday to demand the border with mainland China be shut completely to ward off a virus that caused its first death in the semi-autonomous territory and that authorities fear could be spreading locally.

All but two of Hong Kong's land and sea crossings with the mainland were closed at midnight after more than 2,000 hospital workers went on strike Monday. But on Tuesday, health authorities reported

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two additional patients without any known travel to the virus epicenter, bringing the number of locally-transmitted cases up to four.

Chuang Shuk-kwan, who heads the communicable disease branch at the Center for Health Protection, said the growing caseload "indicates significant risk of community transmission" and could portend a "large-scale" outbreak.

According to the Hospital Authority Employees' Alliance, the strike organizer, more than 7,000 members joined the strike today to demand closure of the border across which tens of thousands of people continue to travel daily.

Hong Kong's Hospital Authority said it was cutting back services because "a large number of staff members are absent from duty" and "emergency services in public hospitals have been affected."

Hong Kong was hit hard by SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, in 2002-03, an illness from the same virus family as the current outbreak. Trust in Chinese authorities has plummeted following months of anti-government protests in the Asian financial hub.

The territory's beleaguered leader Kerry Lam criticized the strike action and said the government was doing all it could to limit the flow of people across the border.

"Important services, critical operations have been affected," including cancer treatments and care for newborns, Lam told reporters. "So I'm appealing to those who are taking part in this action that let's put the interests of the patients and the entire public health system above all other things."

Also Tuesday, the leader of the nearby gambling enclave of Macao asked the city's casino bosses to suspend operations to prevent further infections after a worker at one of the resorts tested positive for the virus. Macao has recorded 10 cases in all.

The mainland's latest figures of 425 deaths and 20,438 confirmed infections of the new coronavirus were up from 361 deaths and 17,205 cases the previous day. Outside mainland China, at least 180 cases have been confirmed, including two fatalities, one in Hong Kong and the other in the Philippines.

The patient who died in Hong Kong was a 39-year-old man who had traveled to Wuhan, the mainland city that has been the epicenter of the outbreak, before being hospitalized. The Hospital Authority said Tuesday he had existing health conditions but did not give details. Hong Kong later reported two other people were confirmed to have the virus, with countries from Belgium to Vietnam also reporting new cases. A growing list of countries from the U.S. to Iran have arranged flights to return their citizens home from China.

Most cases of the illness have been mild, and many who died have been older people with other ailments such as diabetes or heart disease.

China has struggled to maintain supplies of masks to filter out the virus, along with protective suits and other key articles, as it seeks to enforce temperature checks at homes, offices, shops and restaurants, require masks be worn in public and keep more than 50 million people from leaving home in Wuhan and neighboring cities.

To help meet demand, the European Union office in Beijing said member states have shipped 12 tons of protective equipment to China, with more on the way.

Late Monday, China's President Xi Jinping presided over a special meeting of the top Communist Party body for the second time since the crisis started, saying "we have launched a people's war of prevention of the epidemic."

Other countries are continuing evacuations and restricting the entry of Chinese or people who have recently traveled in the country.

Germany's Lufthansa became the latest international airline to suspend flights to China, and several countries are barring Chinese travelers or people who passed through China recently. Japan Airlines and All Nippon Airways also said they were suspending or cutting back on flights from Japan to several Chinese cities from mid-February to late March.

In Wuhan, patients were being transferred to a new 1,000-bed hospital that officials hope will improve isolation to stem the virus's spread. It was built in just 10 days, its prefabricated wards equipped with

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state-of-the-art medical equipment and ventilation systems. A 1,500-bed hospital also specially built for patients infected with the new virus is due to open within days.

Elsewhere in Wuhan, authorities were converting a gymnasium, exhibition hall and cultural center into hospitals with a total of 3,400 beds to treat patients with mild symptoms of the virus. Television footage of those facilities showed beds placed in tight rows in large rooms without dividers or any barriers to keep patients isolated.

Authorities hope that will help relieve what is being described as an overwhelmed public health system in Wuhan and surrounding areas.

One man, Fang Bin, said he saw wards so crowded during a visit to the city's No. 5 Hospital on Saturday that some patients were forced to sit on the ground for lack of seating.

"There are too many patients, it's overcrowded," Fang told The Associated Press. He said he was taken from his home and questioned by police after he posted a video of what he'd seen online, a reflection of the communist government's instinctive impulse to control all information about politics and public emergencies.

"There aren't enough beds at all these hospitals," Fang said.

Such scenes have revived memories of the 2002-2003 outbreak of SARS that began in China and spread worldwide. The new virus is believed to be much less virulent, however, with experts putting the mortality rate of those catch it at about 2 percent. Most victims were over 60 years and many had pre-existing medical problems.

With no end to the outbreak in sight, authorities in Hubei and elsewhere extended the Lunar New Year holiday break, due to end this week, well into February to try to keep people at home and reduce the spread of the virus. All Hubei schools are postponing the start of the new semester until further notice, as a many in Beijing, Shanghai and elsewhere.

Chinese scientists said they have more evidence the virus originated in bats. In a study published in the journal Nature, Shi Zhen-Li and colleagues at the Wuhan Institute of Virology reported that genome sequences from seven patients were 96% identical to a bat coronavirus.

On Tuesday, the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said a 42-year-old South Korean woman tested positive for the virus, days after she returned from a trip to Thailand with chills and other symptoms.

It is South Korea's 16th case. Thailand has confirmed 19 cases, mostly Chinese tourists but also in a Thai taxi driver.

A passenger on a Japanese-operated cruise ship tested positive after leaving the vessel while it was in Hong Kong, and Japanese officials were conducting medical checks on the more than 3,000 people on board Tuesday.

Associated Press writers Maria Cheng in London, Alice Fung in Hong Kong and Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo contributed to this report.

Democrats lay big caucus egg: No results from Iowa election

By STEVE PEOPLES, THOMAS BEAUMONT and ALEXANDRA JAFFE Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Democratic party officials in Iowa worked furiously Tuesday to deliver the delayed results of their first-in-the-nation caucus, as frustrated presidential candidates claimed momentum and plowed ahead in their quest for the White House.

Technology problems and reporting "inconsistencies" kept Iowa Democratic Party officials from releasing results from Monday's caucus, the much-hyped kickoff to the 2020 primary. It was an embarrassing twist after months of promoting the contest as a chance for Democrats to find some clarity in a jumbled field with no clear front-runner.

Instead, caucus day ended with no winner, no official results and many fresh questions about whether Iowa can retain its coveted "first" status.

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State party officials said final results would be released later Tuesday and offered assurances that the problem was not a result of "a hack or an intrusion." Officials were conducting quality checks and verifying results, prioritizing the integrity of the results, the party said in a statement.

The statement came after tens of thousands of voters spent hours Monday night sorting through a field of nearly a dozen candidates who had spent much of the previous year fighting to win the opening contest of the 2020 campaign and, ultimately, the opportunity to take on President Donald Trump this fall.

The candidates didn't wait for the party to resolve its issues before claiming, if not victory, progress and moving on to next-up New Hampshire.

"It looks like it's going to be a long night, but we're feeling good," former Vice President Joe Biden said, suggesting the final results would "be close."

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders said he had "a good feeling we're going to be doing very, very well here in Iowa" once results were posted. "Today marks the beginning of the end for Donald Trump," he predicted.

"Listen, it's too close to call," Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren said. "The road won't be easy. But we are built for the long haul."

And Pete Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, was most certain.

"So we don't know all the results, but we know by the time it's all said and done, Iowa, you have shocked the nation," he said. "By all indications, we are going on to New Hampshire victorious."

Democrats faced the possibility that whatever numbers they ultimately released would be questioned. And beyond 2020, critics began wondering aloud whether the Iowa caucuses, a complicated set of political meetings staged in a state that is whiter and older than the Democratic Party, are a tradition whose time had past.

The party has tried to accommodate critics, this year by promising to report three different data points about voters' preferences, presumably improving transparency. But the new system created new headaches.

State party spokeswoman Mandy McClure said it had "found inconsistencies in the reporting of three sets of results," forcing officials to try to verify results with "underlying data" and the paper trail.

Some of the trouble stemmed from issues with a new mobile app developed to report results to the party. Caucus organizers reported problems downloading the app and other glitches.

Des Moines County Democratic Chair Tom Courtney said the new app created "a mess." As a result, Courtney said precinct leaders were phoning in results to the state party headquarters, which was too busy to answer their calls in some cases.

Organizers were still looking for missing results several hours after voting concluded.

Shortly before 2 a.m., the state party was making plans to dispatch people to the homes of precinct captains who hadn't reported their numbers. That's according to a state party official in the room who was not authorized to share internal discussions publicly.

Earlier in the night, Iowa Democrats across the state cast their votes, balancing a strong preference for fundamental change with an overwhelming desire to defeat Trump. At least four high-profile candidates vied for the lead in a contest that offered the opening test of who and what the party stands for in the turbulent age of Trump.

It's just the first in a primary season that will span all 50 states and several U.S. territories, ending at the party's national convention in mid-July.

For Democrats, the moment was thick with promise for a party that has seized major gains in states since Trump won the White House in 2016. But instead of clear optimism, a growing cloud of uncertainty and intraparty resentment hung over the election as the prospect of an unclear result raised fears of a long and divisive primary fight in the months ahead.

One unsurprising development: Trump won the Republican caucus, a largely symbolic victory given that he faced no significant opposition.

The president's campaign eagerly seized on the Democrats' problems.

"Democrats are stewing in a caucus mess of their own creation with the sloppiest train wreck in history,"

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Trump campaign manager Brad Parscale said. "It would be natural for people to doubt the fairness of the process. And these are the people who want to run our entire health care system?"

Pre-caucus polls suggested Sanders entered the night with a narrow lead, but any of the top four candidates — Sanders, Biden, Warren and Buttigieg — was positioned to score a victory. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who represents neighboring Minnesota, was also claiming momentum, while outsider candidates including entrepreneur Andrew Yang, billionaire activist Tom Steyer and Hawaii Rep. Tulsi Gabbard could be factors.

"We know one thing: We are punching above our weight," Klobuchar said late Monday, promising to keep fighting in New Hampshire.

New voters played a significant role in shaping Iowa's election.

About one-quarter of all voters reported that they were caucusing for the first time, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of voters who said they planned to take part in Monday's Democratic caucuses. The first-timers were slightly more likely to support Sanders, Warren or Buttigieg, compared with other candidates.

At the same time, VoteCast found that roughly two-thirds of caucusgoers said supporting a candidate who would fundamentally change how the system in Washington works was important to their vote. That compared to about a third of caucusgoers who said it was more important to support a candidate who would restore the political system to how it was before Trump's election in 2016.

Not surprisingly, nearly every Iowa Democrat said the ability to beat Trump was an important quality for a presidential nominee. VoteCast found that measure outranked others as the most important quality for a nominee.

The 2020 fight has already played out over myriad distractions, particularly congressional Democrats' push to impeach Trump, which has often overshadowed the primary and effectively pinned several leading candidates to Washington at the pinnacle of the early campaign season.

Meanwhile, ultrabillionaire Mike Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York City, is running a parallel campaign that ignored Iowa as he prepares to pounce on any perceived weaknesses in the field come March.

The amalgam of oddities was building toward what could be a murky Iowa finale before the race pivoted quickly to New Hampshire, which votes Feb. 11.

For the first time, the Iowa Democratic Party planned to report three sets of results: a tally of caucusgoers' initial candidate preference; vote totals from the "final alignment" after supporters of lower-ranking candidates were able to make a second choice; and the total number of State Delegate Equivalents each candidate receives.

There is no guarantee that all three will show the same winner when they're ultimately released.

The Associated Press will declare a winner based on the number of state delegates each candidate wins, which has been the traditional standard.

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

Trump faces accusers: What to watch during his big speech

By LAURIE KELLMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Who's clapping now?

On the brink of his Senate acquittal, President Donald Trump will be unleashing "relentless optimism" during his third State of the Union address, a speech designed to pivot from his impeachment to his drive for reelection. Trump is speaking from a position of strength, with nearly complete control of the Republican Party. The theme of his speech: "The Great American Comeback."

It'll be a different experience for Democrats, nearly all of whom voted for Trump's impeachment in the House. Where Trump will point to GOP unity ahead of the 2020 elections, Democrats and their difficult nomination will be on display after a long night of uncertainty in Iowa's kickoff caucuses.

The contrast with Trump's State of the Union address last year will be stark. Then, Democrats were

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triumphant just a few days after taking control of the House. Speaker Nancy Pelosi had forced Trump to reopen the government. Her smirking clap, eye-to-eye with him, mocked the president of the United States in front of the world.

What to watch during Trump's speech at 9 p.m. EST Tuesday:

TRUMP AND PELOSI

They haven't spoken since Pelosi stood up, pointed at Trump across a table at the White House and bluntly suggested he is controlled by the president of Russia. "All roads lead to Putin," she said, before stalking out.

The extraordinary moment last October was captured in a now-famous photograph that Trump released and Pelosi slapped across the top of her Twitter page. At other times, she's questioned his "manhood" and he's called her "crazy."

Impeachment has only inflamed things. Pelosi last week said Trump will never have a true acquittal because the Senate did not hold a real trial with witnesses. But, she's said with relish, "He'll be impeached forever."

Trump, meanwhile, is poised to claim vindication in yet another "witch hunt" by Democrats who, he says, just wanted to overturn the 2016 election.

Watch them for any spark of civility. Pelosi and many Democratic women are expected to wear suffragette white to the speech.

TONE

The White House said last week to look for "can-do optimism in the face of unjustified pessimism we are hearing from some in Congress."

But officials would not guarantee that Trump will stick to his speech. The president will be in the same room as his accusers at a moment of impending victory. He has a strong and often-stated sense of grievance and is known for going off-script.

Look for roaring applause and cheers from Republicans, who have almost completely stuck with the retribution-loving president.

THE BIG PICTURE

Trump is sure to use the speech to try to remind the country of what he's accomplished.

The White House would not say whether it is modeling Trump's speech on President Bill Clinton's in 1999, amid his own impeachment trial. Clinton never mentioned the I-word.

Look for Trump, like Clinton, to promote a strong economy. Trump is expected to lead with talk about what the White House calls a "blue-collar boom." There have been gains in blue-collar wages under Trump, though some of those gains have faded as Trump's trade war hurt manufacturing.

Watch to see if Trump can stick to the high road rhetorically, in his own style. Clinton ended his by asking the nation to envision a State of the Union speech 100 years from that night, from the "mountaintop of the American Century."

"Let it be said of us then that we were thinking not only of our time, but of their time; that we reached as high as our ideals. That we put aside our divisions and found a new hour of healing and hopefulness; that we joined together to serve and strengthen the land we love."

At the time, some said his rhetoric was over the top.

UKRAINE?

Will Trump even mention Ukraine? Republicans have started to come out and agree that the president had "inappropriately" tried to get political help from that country while he held up military aid.

The House impeached him for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress for his actions in response to the House investigation.

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The issue clearly puts Republicans in a bind. Several have said that House prosecutors proved their case, but even so, the wrongdoing didn't rise to the level of impeachment or removal from office.

CORONAVIRUS

Will he make any mention of the new coronavirus?

"We've offered China help, but we can't have thousands of people coming in who may have this problem, the coronavirus," Trump said Sunday. At the same time, the president has tried to avoid angering China by being too outspoken, according to confidants.

Under new rules, U.S. citizens who have traveled in China within the last 14 days will be re-routed to one of eight designated airports, where they will undergo enhanced health screening procedures.

MIDEAST PEACE

Trump is focused on re-introducing himself to Americans as a president who has made the country — and voters' lives specifically — better. So listen for any mention of foreign policy and national security issues.

Trump's Mideast peace plan is a good test. Trump said that his efforts to solve the long-running conflict between Israel and the Palestinians would gain support because it's a "win-win" for both sides. In fact, Trump's plan favors Israel on key contentious issues and attaches nearly impossible conditions for granting the Palestinians their hoped-for state. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas dismissed the plan as "nonsense."

If Trump says nothing about the plan during the speech, that could signal that Trump knows it's in trouble.

IRAN

Listen for how harsh Trump is on Tehran in the wake of Iran's bombing that injured U.S. soldiers in Iraq. The attack was retribution for the U.S. killing of Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani. In the month since, an uneasy quiet has settled over the region.

Will Trump suggest he'll eventually want to sit down and talk with the Iranians, signal the door is closed for talks, or poke Tehran?

The White House said to expect Trump's tone to be "determined" and "forceful."

AFGHANISTAN

Will Trump announce a troop withdrawal?

The Taliban want U.S. and other coalition forces to leave. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo says a deal is close, but it won't happen without a reduction in violence and a pathway for talks between the Taliban and other Afghans about a peaceful way forward for the nation.

IN THE ROOM

There's always some suspense over who shows up and who stays away.

Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren's campaign said late Monday it was unlikely that the Massachusetts senator will attend Trump's speech, coming the day after the Iowa caucuses. Another Democratic contender, Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, has an event in New Hampshire scheduled earlier Tuesday evening.

Other legislators have their own reasons for attending — or not.

Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, said she'll attend "to bear witness."

"That means that I do not clap. I do not acknowledge. I'm just there as a witness," she said.

Associated Press writer Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

Follow Kellman at <http://www.Twitter.com/APLaurieKellman>

Bloodied but determined, Lebanese protesters take stock

By A.J. NADDAFF Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — At a Beirut hospital ward, five Lebanese protesters with bandaged eyes and faces huddled in a circle, their arms wrapped around each other, and they vowed to be back on the streets soon, despite their wounds from recent clashes with police.

"We are coming back," said one of them, 20-year-old Charbel Francis.

Such resolve by some protesters signals that demands for sweeping government reforms won't be squashed easily, even as security forces throw up cement barriers and resort to more violent means of crowd control, such as rubber bullets. But the recent descent into clashes after three months of peaceful protests has also triggered introspection and divisions among the demonstrators about their next moves.

More than 500 people, including over 100 security forces, have been injured in confrontations outside the parliament building in downtown Beirut last month.

Most of the injuries occurred on Jan. 18. For hours, protesters hurled stones, firecrackers and flares at police who responded by firing tear gas, water cannons and shooting rubber bullets. More than 150 people were injured that night, many of them struck in the head and eyes.

It was a shocking reversal for a popular uprising against a corrupt political class that started in mid-October and had been characterized by its striking peacefulness — particularly compared to the bloodbath in Iraq, where a similar uprising has resulted in the death of more than 500 protesters since October, most of them shot dead by security forces.

The violence in Lebanon has ebbed since then, particularly since a new government was formed on Jan. 21 and protesters take stock. Although they reject the new Cabinet, some protesters believe it should be given a chance to enact urgent reforms to avoid complete collapse amid a crippling economic and financial crisis. Others have been discouraged and disgusted by the rioting and the violence.

As banks increase capital controls and the economic situation worsens, most agree it's only a matter of time before the protests ignite again. For wounded protesters, their injuries have only increased their resolve.

Francis considers himself lucky. A tear gas canister hit him above his left eye at a protest last month, and he required 120 stitches. "One of the security forces looked me straight in the eye. He was 3 meters away, he pointed at my head and fired," he said.

Lina Labake, his mother, was at the emergency room with him Wednesday for an appointment to remove his stitches. "May God forgive them. Would they allow this to happen to their kids?" she said, holding back tears.

Not everyone was as lucky. With him in the same ward were four other young men, each with an eye bandaged over, waiting for word if they would keep their sight.

One of them, 17-year-old Abdurrahman Abdul-Jabbar came to Beirut from his hometown in the Bekaa Valley with a couple of friends on Jan. 18 unbeknownst to his parents. He was shot in the right eye by a rubber bullet.

Doctors gave him only a 10% chance of keeping vision in the eye. Even if he loses his sight, he hoped doctors don't remove the eye — "I hope it stays as a decoration," he said.

He said it's worth losing his eye "for the nation" and was keen to return to the streets. The crumbling economy has hit him hard: he dropped out of school because his family couldn't afford tuition, and the struggling restaurant where he worked fired him.

"I'm trying to change something. I am asking to live with dignity," he said.

Francis and his mother debated over whether he'd go back to protests, but she soon relented. Resigned, she forced a wry grin and nodded, "He will return."

He patted her back and said, "It was a really tough scene for her, something no mother should witness. But she knows we have no other choice. We want electricity, clean water, to marry and live normal lives — is this too much to ask?"

Under a tent in the rain at the epicenter of the protests in downtown Beirut, Abboud sat in a plastic

chair, a New York Yankees cap on his head and his arm in a sling.

The 22-year-old used to manage a snack shop in the northern Akkar district, but his salary plunged from \$1,200 a month to \$500. Despairing, he quit and came to Beirut to join the protests on Oct. 17. As arrests and assaults by police grew in December, he became convinced the only way to be heard was through force.

On Jan. 18, he confronted police at a roadblock on a major highway linking Beirut with the south. At the front lines of clashes, he was shot twice in the leg by rubber bullets. Falling to the ground, he noticed a bomb rolling in his direction.

"I thought it was a tear gas bomb so I grabbed it to try and throw it back, but it was a sound bomb. It exploded in my hands and my finger flew off," he said. "I didn't feel anything but just grabbed my fallen thumb and held onto it." He spoke on condition he be identified by first name only because he is sought by the police.

Just 10 minutes before he was hit, his girlfriend had sent him a WhatsApp message with a sad face emoji, writing, "Please take care of yourself. You don't have to be there." He disagrees, insisting that sacrifices need to be made for revolutions to succeed.

At the nearby "restaurant of the revolution" tent, Bilal Allaw apologized as he turned back a tray of macaroni that was served to him. "The painkillers I'm taking fill me up and make me want to vomit," he said. A nose splint and a black eye marked his face.

Since the uprising broke out, Allaw has become a familiar face, known for his unmitigated temerity in confronting politicians and police. On Oct. 17, he was one of the protesters who punched and kicked the car of the education minister as he passed through downtown Beirut.

The 25-year-old left his job as a chef in the coastal city of Byblos to join the movement. Now he sleeps in a tent downtown.

He has been injured four times in the past month.

"The first time, an officer slammed his helmet on my head. Three days later, they shot me with a rubber bullet in my leg. Then, I was hit with a rock," he said. Just over a week ago, anti-riot police threw a rock at his face, breaking three bones in his nose and cheek.

He said he initially believed the protest movement needed to remain peaceful, but now believes violence is the only way the government will listen.

"This is a revolution not a carnival. They need to face the consequences."

Key Weinstein accuser, driven to tears, is due back on stand

By TOM HAYS and MICHAEL R. SISAK Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A key accuser in the New York City rape trial of Harvey Weinstein is due back on the witness stand for a third day of testimony after she broke down in tears Monday, halting an exhaustive cross-examination that focused on the nature of her relationship with the once-powerful movie mogul.

The woman is expected to be on the stand much of the day Tuesday as Weinstein's lawyers continue a painstaking review of emails and other evidence they say paint the 34-year-old as a manipulative liar who gritted her way through sexual encounters with Weinstein because she enjoyed the perks of knowing him.

She became emotional while reading an email passage about being abused earlier in her life. It was part of a lengthy confessional email she sent to her then-boyfriend in May 2014 about her relationship with Weinstein.

She was bawling as she left the courtroom, at first for a brief break, and her cries could be heard from a nearby witness room. When it was clear she could not continue, the judge adjourned for the day, sending the jury home about an hour earlier than usual.

The shortened court session and the woman's return to the witness stand Tuesday have thrown the trial schedule into disarray, pushing other witnesses to later in the week and slowing what had been an unexpectedly fast-paced trial.

The woman, who met Weinstein while she was an aspiring actress, testified Monday that she tried to

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make Weinstein "my pseudo father" after a rough upbringing. She said she continued seeing him and sending him flattering emails after the alleged rape in March 2013 because she didn't want him to harm her fledgling career.

"I wanted him to believe I wasn't a threat," the woman testified.

During Monday's round of cross-examination, Weinstein lawyer Donna Rotunno zeroed in on the woman's admission that she also had noncoerced sexual encounters with Weinstein. The woman said those happened only after "a long negotiation" in which she sought to limit their activities. She said even then, "I wasn't happy to do it."

"You manipulated Mr. Weinstein every single time, isn't that correct?" Rotunno asked.

The woman responded: "I felt there was an aspect to the way I felt I needed to protect myself that had an element of manipulation."

At one point, Rotunno shot back: "You made a choice to have sexual encounters with Harvey Weinstein when you weren't sexually attracted to him. ... You liked the parties and you liked the power."

The woman alleges Weinstein 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 alleges Weinstein raped her again eight months later at a Beverly Hills hotel, where she worked as a hairdresser. She said Weinstein attacked her after she told him she was dating an actor.

The woman said she has not testified before a grand jury regarding that matter and hasn't decided whether to pursue charges, saying she asked California prosecutors "to just give me space until this trial is over."

The testimony comes at a pivotal moment in the trial of Weinstein, whose downfall energized the #MeToo movement. He is charged in New York with the 2013 rape and also sexually assaulting Mimi Haley, 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.

The Associated Press has a policy of not publishing the names of people who say they are victims of sexual assault without their consent, unless they go public. The AP is withholding the name of the woman because it isn't clear if she wishes to be identified publicly.

On Twitter, follow Michael Sisak at twitter.com/mikesisak and Tom Hays at twitter.com/aptomhays

For more Weinstein trial coverage, visit: <https://apnews.com/HarveyWeinstein>

Former Kenyan president Daniel arap Moi dies at 95

By TOM ODULA Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Daniel arap Moi, a former schoolteacher who became Kenya's longest-serving president and presided over years of repression and economic turmoil fueled by runaway corruption, has died. He was 95.

Moi's death was announced by President Uhuru Kenyatta in a statement Tuesday.

Moi, who ruled Kenya for 24 years, had been in and out of hospital for months.

He died peacefully this morning, said Moi's son Senator Gideon Moi at the Nairobi hospital.

Kenyatta ordered national flags to fly half-mast from Tuesday until sunset of the day of the burial. He said Moi, Kenya's second president, was a leader in the struggle for independence and an ardent Pan-Africanist.

Despite being called a dictator by critics, Moi enjoyed strong support from many Kenyans and was seen as a unifying figure when he took power after the East African country's founding president Jomo Kenyatta died in office in 1978. Some allies of the ailing Kenyatta, however, had tried to change the constitution to prevent Moi, then the vice president, from automatically taking power upon Kenyatta's death.

So wary was Moi of any threat during that uncertain period that he fled his Rift Valley home when he

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heard of Kenyatta's death, returning only after receiving assurances of his safety.

In 1982 Moi's government pushed through parliament a constitutional amendment that made Kenya effectively a one-party state. Later that year the army quelled a coup attempt plotted by opposition members and some air force officers. At least 159 people were killed.

Moi's government then became more repressive in dealing with dissent, according to a report by the government's Truth Justice and Reconciliation Commission that assessed his rule.

Political activists and others who dared oppose Moi's rule were routinely detained and tortured, the report said, noting unlawful detentions and assassinations, including the killing of a foreign affairs minister, Robert Ouko.

"The judiciary became an accomplice in the perpetuation of violations, while parliament was transformed into a puppet controlled by the heavy hand of the executive," the report said.

Corruption, especially the illegal allocation of land, became institutionalized, the report said, while economic power was centralized in the hands of a few.

In 1991, Moi yielded to demands for a multi-party state due to internal pressure, including a demonstration in 1991 during which police killed more than 20 people, and external pressure from the West.

Multi-party elections in 1992 and 1997 were marred by political and ethnic violence that critics asserted were caused by the state.

By the time Moi left power in 2002, corruption had caused Kenya's economy, the most developed in East Africa, to contract.

Moi often blamed the West for bad publicity and the economic hardships many Kenyans had to endure during his rule.

As with his predecessor, Kenyatta, many government projects, buildings and currency notes and coins were named after Moi. Fed up, Kenyans voted for a new constitution that was implemented in 2010 and made provisions to bar personality cults.

Mixed reaction greeted Moi's death.

Commentator Patrick Gathara said in a tweet that Tuesday was a day to remember Moi's victims "as well as the thousands who stood against his brutal and murderous kleptocracy. It is a day to remember that the current crop of politicians helped him escape justice for his crimes."

Salim Lone, a former U.N. spokesman who fled into exile because of harassment under Moi, said the former president began so well and "so many supported your promise of a free more inclusive, corruption-free Kenya." He said that Moi at the beginning of his rule released political prisoners and famously said it was better to eat sukuma wiki (kale) and sleep in peace than seek riches.

"How it went wrong is not for now," Lone said in a tweet.

Iowa a carnival of democracy for media — until it went sour

By DAVID BAUDER AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — As MSNBC's Katy Tur wandered through a gym in Des Moines during her network's coverage of the Iowa caucuses Monday, she found a voter wearing a Bernie Sanders button sitting with supporters of Amy Klobuchar.

"I'm a little split," the woman conceded.

Call her the poster girl for media coverage of Iowa, a carnival of democracy that was fun and bewildering to watch until it all went sour. The failure of authorities to produce results meant no one knew as bedtime came what it would all mean to the matter at hand: picking a Democratic candidate to challenge President Donald Trump in November.

Reporters swarmed to sites where voters, for the first time in the 2020 campaign cycle, were making their voices heard. Yet their findings were only anecdotal.

"It's most unfair to the voters, the caucusgoers who came out today, when now they have a question mark hanging over the results," said CNN's David Chalian.

Candidates gave speeches to their supporters with no real idea of what it all meant, and their campaigns

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let reporters know of their unhappiness.

Unlike in past election cycles, Iowa seemed to sneak up on television viewers, despite nearly a year's worth of debates and campaigning. Trump's impeachment trial, where closing arguments were televised earlier Monday, robbed much of the public attention.

ABC, CBS and NBC evening newcasts devoted a total of 10 minutes to the Iowa campaign last week, compared with 86 minutes the week ahead of the 2016 caucuses and 66 minutes in 2012, according to news consultant Andrew Tyndall.

For Monday's vote, cable news networks assigned their number crunchers — Steve Kornacki on MSNBC, John King on CNN and Bill Hemmer on Fox News Channel — in front of data screens in studios.

The real action was happening on a granular level, with reporters in rec halls and auditoriums interviewing citizens as they bunched together with like-minded Democrats supporting the candidates of their choice.

In Sioux City, a CNN camera followed the decidedly low-tech system of a precinct commander counting the raised hands of supporters for each candidate, hoping he wasn't missing or double-counting anyone.

"This is like the nerdiest reality television show ever," said CNN's Van Jones.

Tur darted between sections of gymnasium stands, pointing to groups of supporters for Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, Pete Buttigieg, Joe Biden, Amy Klobuchar and Andrew Yang.

"I feel like I'm directing a wave or a cheering crowd," she said.

CNN and MSNBC sent reporters to different caucus sites across the state, while Fox News seemed caught between two impulses. An election panel featuring Bret Baier, Martha MacCallum, Karl Rove and Chris Stirewalt was on hand for news and analysis, working in between the commentary of Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham.

Carlson at one point complained about "the illiterates posing as political analysts on your TV," presumably on rival networks. Hannity talked about the "radical, extreme, socialist Democrats" and the screen behind him labeled the campaign a "Democratic dumpster fire."

An unexpectedly raw exchange on MSNBC illustrated the tensions within the Democratic Party.

When Sanders surrogate Nina Turner, in an interview with Chris Matthews, referred to billionaire Michael Bloomberg as an "oligarch," the word choice angered network analyst Jason Johnson. He said it's fine to debate Bloomberg on his ideas, but wrong to slur him because he has money. The two went at it, talking over one another.

The fight annoyed host Nicolle Wallace, a former Republican who makes no secret of her distaste for Trump.

"I am nauseous when I see Democrats fight amongst themselves," she said.

Meanwhile, The New York Times website announced the return of "The Needle." The clocklike graphic measures, in real time, the chances of different candidates winning in a particular caucus or primary.

That evoked some post-traumatic distress for Democrats, who recall how similar tools on election night 2016 began with Hillary Clinton a seemingly sure winner and slowly swung over into Trump territory.

"Hello darkness my old friend," was one comment on Twitter.

US adds 'low yield' nuclear weapon to its submarine arsenal

By ROBERT BURNS AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. military has deployed a new addition to its nuclear arsenal — a long-range missile armed with a nuclear warhead of reduced destructive power. The so-called low-yield missile joins other, more powerful weapons aboard stealthy submarines prowling the oceans.

The debut deployment aboard long-range submarines, known as boomers, is a landmark in U.S. nuclear weapons policy. It is the first major addition to the strategic nuclear arsenal in recent decades and is a departure from the Obama administration's policy of lessening dependence on nuclear weapons in pursuit of a nuclear-free world.

In confirming the missile deployment to The Associated Press, the Pentagon's top policy official asserted that the weapon makes Americans safer by making nuclear war less likely. Critics, including some

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Democrats in Congress, call it a dangerous excess that increases the risk of war.

John Rood, the undersecretary of defense for policy, said in an AP interview Monday that adding the "low-yield" warhead, known as the W76-2, to submarines which tote Trident II ballistic missiles lowers the risk of nuclear war. He said the United States will continue its stated policy of using nuclear weapons only in "extraordinary circumstances." He also said the warhead will help the United States dissuade Russia from risking launching a limited nuclear conflict.

"This supplemental capability strengthens deterrence and provides the United States a prompt, more survivable low-yield strategic weapon," Rood said, adding that it supports the U.S. commitment to deter attacks against allies, and "demonstrates to potential adversaries that there is no advantage to limited nuclear employment because the United States can credibly and decisively respond to any threat scenario."

Rood declined to provide details about the deployment, including when or where the deployment began; all details, he said, are classified secret. The deployment was reported last week by the Federation of American Scientists, citing anonymous sources and reporting that it was believed to have begun in the final weeks of 2019 with an Atlantic deployment of the USS Tennessee.

Adding the W76-2 fits President Donald Trump's stated interest in beefing up the nuclear arsenal, although he has not commented on this specific weapon. His administration is committed to a broader, costly modernization of the nuclear force.

The essence of critics' argument against the low-yield weapon is that it makes the world less safe because it offers decision-makers another option for using a nuclear weapon in a conflict that could then escalate to a full-blown nuclear war. They also contend that lower-yield air-launched nuclear weapons already in the U.S. arsenal make the W76-2 redundant.

Rood, however, said the submarine-launched low-yield missile is important because it can more reliably penetrate air defenses than could an airplane armed with nuclear weapons.

The W76-2 is the Trump administration's answer to what it calls a Russian misconception of an exploitable "gap" in U.S. nuclear capabilities. By deploying missiles at sea with a lower nuclear yield, or destructive power, the administration aims to dissuade Moscow from thinking it could "win" a war in Europe, for example, by firing its own low-yield nuclear weapon first, forcing Washington and its NATO allies to either commit to full-scale nuclear war or capitulate.

The yield, or destructive power, of the W76-2 is classified. Experts say it may be about 5 kilotons, or roughly one-third the destructive power of the "Little Boy" nuclear bomb the United States dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in the final days of World War II, killing tens of thousands of people. By comparison, the missile that has been deploying aboard strategic submarines for decades has carried the 90-kiloton W76 warhead and the 475-kiloton W88 warhead.

The newly deployed warhead was produced by modifying the W76. Last February the administration said it expected to have the new version ready for use by late 2019.

The W76-2 has been fitted atop an undisclosed number of Trident ballistic missiles carried aboard the Navy's Ohio-class submarines. This submarine fleet, split between bases at Bangor, Washington, and King's Bay, Georgia, represents one leg of the U.S. nuclear "triad," along with the Air Force's long-range B-2 and B-52 bombers and land-based Minuteman 3 missiles.

The newest addition to the arsenal comes amid important shifts in the U.S.-Russia strategic relationship. Doubts are growing that the Trump administration will accept Moscow's offer to extend the New START arms control treaty before it expires next February. It is the only remaining treaty limiting the number of U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear weapons.

Rood noted that deploying the new lower-yield missiles has not increased the total number of American weapons under the New START limits because each of the warheads replaces one of the more powerful versions that had been exclusively deployed aboard the subs.

Bruce Blair, a former Air Force nuclear weapons officer and co-founder of Global Zero, an international group that advocates the elimination of nuclear arms, said he sees merit in reducing the destructive power of nuclear arsenals.

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"But we must not delude ourselves into thinking lower-yield nukes are more usable in a conflict," he said. "Any use of this sea-based weapon -- either first or second -- will risk stoking the flames of conflict and escalating to all-out nuclear war. A wiser response to an enemy's use of one or two low-yield nukes would be to refrain from nuclear escalation while unleashing America's ferocious and decisive conventional juggernaut."

Blair, who testified to Congress last year in opposition to the new weapon, also argues that the rationale has been overtaken by events. The Russians, in his view, have shifted their focus to non-nuclear means, including with cyberweapons, of striking primarily Western civilian infrastructure.

"Instead of using small numbers of tactical nukes to frighten the U.S. and NATO into suing for peace, the Russians today plan to paralyze civilian financial, energy, communications and transportation grids to incite NATO populations to demand an end to hostilities," he said.

The Trump administration moved quickly to produce and deploy the new weapon after announcing its intentions in a nuclear policy document published two years ago this month.

Opposition in Congress was led by Rep. Adam Smith, a Washington Democrat who is chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. The House version of the 2020 defense bill prohibited deployment of the modified warhead, but that was dropped in the final version passed by Congress and signed by Trump in December.

"I maintain that this is one weapon that will not add to our national security but would only increase the risk of miscalculation with dire consequences," Sen. Jack Reed, a Rhode Island Democrat, said in Senate floor speech in December.

Maryland man held in bus shooting that killed 1, injured 5

By STEFANIE DAZIO Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A gunman who killed a woman and wounded five others on a Greyhound bus in Southern California was cursing and muttering incoherently before the attack, passengers and authorities said.

Investigators are trying to determine a motive for the apparently random assault Monday that left two people in critical condition.

Anthony Devonte Williams, 33, of Capitol Heights, Maryland, was arrested after passengers managed to disarm him and get him off the bus, California Highway Patrol Sgt. Brian Pennings said.

"There's no indication that he knew anybody on there," Pennings said.

Williams was booked at the Kern County jail Monday evening on suspicion of murder and attempted murder and was held without bail. It wasn't immediately known whether he had an attorney.

The packed bus was heading from Los Angeles to San Francisco when shots were fired at about 1:30 a.m. Monday on Interstate 5 near the small mountain community of Lebec, about 70 miles (113 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles.

The driver and 42 passengers were aboard, including 6- and 8-year-old children who were not hurt.

Passenger Mark Grabban, 29, told The Associated Press that the gunman had been sitting with his leg sticking out into the aisle, muttering to himself incoherently.

"He was just saying weird stuff like 'you don't know me like that,' 'wait til we get to the station,' 'get away from the dude in the striped shirt,'" Grabban said in a series of Instagram messages.

Suddenly, the man started cursing and shooting, Grabban said. Grabban hid beneath the seat in front of him. He said the gunman fired eight or nine shots that "seemed to go on forever." He added: "I was waiting for one to hit me."

"I thought I was shot because I felt a rush of heat on the back of my head as I went down," he said. "But I guess I just smashed my head on the seat as I went down to the floor."

Then, silence fell. The injured passengers began moaning, and others started panicking.

The driver had pulled to the shoulder of the freeway, where authorities said some passengers managed to get the man off the bus.

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"Due to some very heroic acts by the passengers, they were able to overcome this subject and disarm him," California Highway Patrol Sgt. Brian Pennings said. "They were able to escort him off of the bus." He didn't provide details.

Passengers told Grabban someone wrestled the gun away from the shooter, but he didn't witness it, he said.

Grabban said the driver of the stopped vehicle asked over the loudspeaker if anyone had been hurt and did not immediately pull away. "Everyone was screaming at him to drive off," Grabban said.

The passengers gave first aid to the wounded as the driver continued to the next exit, where he pulled off at a gasoline station.

Meanwhile, CHP officers took Williams into custody on the road shoulder where he had been left.

The gun, a 9 mm semi-automatic pistol, and several ammunition magazines were found in the bus, Pennings said.

Grabban, who was sitting near the back of the bus with his girlfriend, said he had picked up the gun's empty magazine clip and handed it to the driver. A casing ended up on Grabban's lap, and he noticed a bullet hole in the floor next to him.

"I saw the blood on the floor of the aisle," Grabban told NBC News. "I looked to the woman on the left, and she wasn't responding, wasn't moving or anything. She was lifeless."

The dead passenger was a 51-year-old woman from Colombia, based on her passport, but her name wasn't immediately released, Pennings said.

A 45-year-old man and a 19-year-old woman were hospitalized in critical condition, a 39-year-old woman had major injuries, a 49-year-old man had moderate injuries and a 50-year-old woman had minor injuries, Pennings said.

The remaining passengers were later driven to Northern California on another bus.

Authorities were looking into whether a video camera aboard the vehicle captured the attack when the bus was at the top of Tejon Pass. It rises to an elevation of more than 4,100 feet (1,250 meters) in Lebec.

Greyhound prohibits passengers from bringing guns, explosives or dangerous chemicals on board its buses or in their luggage, according to its website. The company declined to answer additional questions about security on its buses.

Pompeo message in Europe, Central Asia trip: Beware of China

By MATTHEW LEE AP Diplomatic Writer

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AP) — The countries Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited on a five nation-tour over the last week varied from longtime ally Britain to ex-Soviet republics in Central Asia. But the message he conveyed to his hosts stayed the same: Beware of China.

In his trip to Europe and Central Asia, Pompeo denounced China's human rights record, criticized its aggressive trade practices and urged his hosts to be wary of Chinese investment and influence. He warned that China poses a risk as countries develop next-generation, high-speed wireless networks.

His language was blunt. "The Chinese Communist Party presents the central threat of our times," Pompeo said last week in London, just days after the European Union unveiled security guidelines for 5G wireless networks that stop short of a ban on Huawei in the latest setback for the U.S. campaign against the Chinese tech company.

Pompeo's tough rhetoric, on a trip coinciding with the rapid spread of a new virus that originated in China and threatens global growth, underscores his preoccupation with the country and its recent diplomatic and trade victories.

His comments contrast with President Donald Trump's more conciliatory language on China. That's partly because Trump is working to complete a trade deal with President Xi Jinping. When he signed the first phase of the agreement last month, Trump called Xi a "very, very good friend of mine" and said he planned to visit China in the not-too-distant future.

Trump said then that he and Xi have "developed an incredible relationship."

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Pompeo's comments in London, however, maintain the tough approach that he and Vice President Mike Pence have espoused about China, driven mainly by the country's repression of Muslims and ethnic minorities in its western Xinjiang Province, but also by what they say are Beijing's predatory trade practices and development projects that they say put small and poor countries at great risk.

Pompeo's visit to Britain came just 48 hours after the country, which is eagerly hoping to secure a massive post-Brexit trade deal with the U.S., ignored American threats and allowed Huawei to have a role in its 5G network.

The decision highlighted the limits of the Trump administration's ability to lobby for its policies as it defied a U.S. threat to sever intelligence sharing if Huawei had any presence. U.S. officials believe that the security of information on a network that uses Huawei technology or equipment could be compromised.

The U.S. has been lobbying European allies to ban Huawei over concerns it could be compelled to help with the Chinese government with electronic eavesdropping. U.S. officials also worry that 5G networks would rely heavily on software, leaving them open to vulnerabilities, and have repeatedly warned they would have to reconsider intelligence sharing with allies that use Huawei. The company has denied the allegations.

Stung by the British move but still hoping to retain and boost the U.S.-Britain "special relationship," Pompeo appeared to step back from the threat on intelligence sharing, saying that he was certain a way could be found to avoid it.

Yet, he made clear that the Trump administration would continue to confront China on multiple fronts, including commerce, infrastructure and technology, militarily and diplomatically, even as the administration pursues a second phase of a massive deal to end a current trade war with Beijing.

"We have to collectively – the West – ensure that the next century is governed by Western democratic principles," he said. "And that will take a concerted effort not just by the United States but by all of those who love freedom and cherish democracy and the rule of law to ensure that that remains the predominant model for the world for the next century."

In Central Asia, where three of the five nations share borders with western China, Pompeo denounced Chinese human rights abuses.

"The United States urges all countries to join us in pressing for an immediate end to this repression," he said on Sunday in Kazakhstan. "We ask simply for them to provide safe refuge and asylum to those seeking to flee China; protect human dignity; just do what's right."

In Uzbekistan on Monday, Pompeo played up the benefits of Central Asia doing business with the U.S. rather than China.

"They have long borders, they sit in a region where both China and Russia are present," he said. "What we want them to do and what America is here to do is to support their capacity to make good decisions, to have transparent rule of law investments be present."

"We remind them constantly" of the benefits of American investment and warn them against "state-sponsored, politically driven transactions" of the kind favored by China, Pompeo said.

Associated Press writer Deb Riechmann in Washington contributed to this report.

Super Bowl halftime show draws praise, tears from US Latinos

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — When the Super Bowl halftime show began, Yol-Itzma Aguirre and her relatives watched with anticipation. The El Paso, Texas, family was curious how Colombian-born Shakira and New York-raised Jennifer Lopez, two of the world's most popular Latina artists, would seize the stage.

The performance Sunday was draped in Hollywood tropes of female sexuality. But it also contained subtle political messages about anxieties shared by many Latinos in the U.S. — children in cages, Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria and the urge to be heard.

Aguirre, 39, had to watch the performance again. "My sister was tearing up. We saw more things,"

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Aguirre said. "We stopped caring about the game."

Across the U.S., Latinos took to social media to praise and dissect the show.

Shakira paid homage to her Colombian roots by performing the mapalé — an Afro-Colombian style of dance from the country's Caribbean coast. She also made a tongue-flicking cry called a zaghrouta, a way to express joy in Arab culture. Her father is of Lebanese descent.

During her performance, Lopez brought out a dual Puerto Rican-American flag while her daughter sang the lyrics to Bruce Springsteen's "Born in the U.S.A." Her daughter and other children with American flags on their shirts had emerged from what appeared to be steel cages.

"Let's get loud!" Lopez sang as her daughter sang the Springsteen hook. Shakira hit some drums.

In the background, strobe lights crossed each other to form an image of a cage.

Latinos saw the juxtaposition as a call for them to vote, being mindful that American authorities on the U.S.-Mexico border separated migrant children from their parents and locked them up.

"It was brilliant," said Aguirre, a writer who has toured immigration facilities holding children.

Others pointed out that Lopez held up a Puerto Rican flag — once banned in 1948 — at a time of anger over how President Donald Trump has handled relief efforts after the island was hit by the hurricane and a recent earthquake.

The flag became a symbol of resilience and hope following the hurricane, which struck in September 2017 as a Category 4 storm. It caused more than \$100 billion in damage and killed an estimated 2,975 people in its aftermath. The flag also became a symbol of resistance and justice last summer when massive protests over corruption and other issues led to the resignation of the island's former governor.

Luivette Resto, a Puerto Rico-born poet who now lives in Los Angeles, said she felt conflicted about the use of the flag because of the island's history.

"Puerto Rico is still a colony of the U.S.," Resto said. "We're treated like property."

But Resto said she was glad the appearance of the flag sparked needed conversations about Puerto Rico's status.

Still, she was disappointed that more Afro-Latinos or Mexicans were not represented in the performance — a critique shared by many on social media. The legendary Mexican band Los Tigres del Norte from San Jose, California, opened the Spanish broadcast for Super Bowl LIV, but the performance was not seen on the English broadcast.

Others said they are satisfied by the overall Latina theme of the performance.

"It was a PERFECT example of how different cultures can exist under the 'Latino' umbrella," comedian Cristela Alonzo tweeted. "We are different from each other and therefore should be allowed to tell DIFFERENT stories. See us as individuals."

Late Monday, Lopez posted an Instagram video of her and her daughter before the performance. Lopez wrote that she wanted the girls on stage with her to know how to use their voices and be proud of everything they are. "Other people can try to build walls, keep us out or put us in cages," Lopez wrote. "We are proud to recognize that all of us together are what makes this beautiful country truly great."

Shakira also posted an Instagram video of her performance and thanked Colombia for giving her "the mapalé, the champeta, the salsa and the Afro-Caribbean rhythms" that have allowed her to create the Super Bowl Halftime Show that she dreamed of more than a decade ago.

The halftime show wasn't the only moment for Latinas on Super Bowl Sunday. The game began with multi-platinum Demi Lovato singing the national anthem. The Albuquerque, New Mexico-born Lovato is a descendant of Francisco Perea, a Hispanic hero for the Union in the Civil War who saw President Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

The rendition by Lovato, who is recovering from drug addiction, sparked an emotional response from the people of New Mexico — a state with the nation's highest percentage of Hispanic residents that has historically had some of the country's highest drug overdose death rates.

For Shakira, this wasn't her first time participating in an event with a political dimension. In 2011, for example, she told The Associated Press that proposed anti-immigrant legislation in some U.S. states went against her foundation's efforts to provide education to poor people around the world.

The Grammy Award-winning singer said Latino immigrants in the U.S. who were facing anti-immigrant bills would have “justice” as public awareness about their plight grew.

“Justice will come. I’m sure,” Shakira told the AP after receiving an award at Harvard University. “Wherever there is ... a kid, who could be the son or the daughter of a Latino immigrant, who cannot attend a school in the United States of America, that kid should be a concern to all of us and our responsibility.”

Lopez rarely speaks out on social issues, and her fiance, retired baseball player Alex Rodriguez, famously avoided addressing the mistreatment of Latinos as an active player.

But in recent months, Lopez has loaned her name to causes. In August, she signed an open letter in support of Latinos after deadly shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Gilroy, California.

Associated Press Writer Danica Coto in San Juan contributed to this report.

Russell Contreras is a member of The Associated Press’ race and ethnicity team. Follow him on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ruscontreras>.

Clock is ticking for companies that depend on China imports

By PAUL WISEMAN and ANNE D’INNOCENZIO AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — For companies bracing for losses from China’s viral outbreak, the damage has so far been delayed, thanks to a stroke of timing: The outbreak hit just when Chinese factories and many businesses were closed anyway to let workers travel home for the week-long Lunar New Year holiday .

But the respite won’t last.

If much of industrial China remains on lockdown for the next few weeks — a very real possibility — Western retailers, auto companies and manufacturers that depend on Chinese imports will start to run out of the goods they depend on.

In order to meet deadlines for summer goods, retail experts say that Chinese factories would need to start ramping up production by March 15. If Chinese factories were instead to remain idle through May 1, it would likely cripple retailers’ crucial back-to-school and fall seasons.

“There’s complete uncertainty,” said Steve Pasierb, CEO of the Toy Industry Association. “This could be huge if it goes on for months.”

Wuhan, the Chinese city where the outbreak hit hardest, is a center of automotive production. It’s been closed off, along with neighboring cities, isolating more than 50 million people and bringing factories to a standstill.

So far, U.S. automakers haven’t had to curb production for want of Chinese parts. But David Closs, professor emeritus at Michigan State University’s Department of Supply Chain Management, said the clock is ticking.

“I would say it’s weeks at the most,” Closs said. “One to two to three weeks.”

The partial shutdown of Wuhan has already harmed the production of TV display panels and raised prices, according to a report by research group IHS Markit. The city has five factories making liquid crystal displays, known as LCDs, and organic light-emitting diodes, known as OLEDs, both of which are used for television and laptop monitors. China accounts for more than half of the global production of these display panels.

David Hsieh, an analyst at IHS Markit, said in a report that “these factories are facing shortages of both labor and key components as a result of mandates designed to limit the contagion’s spread,” leading suppliers to raise panel prices more aggressively.

Phone-maker Motorola, which has a facility in Wuhan, said that so far, it expects little impact because it has a flexible global supply chain and multiple factories around the world. Its priority has been the welfare of local employees, Motorola, which is owned by the Chinese electronics giant Lenovo, said in a statement.

Apple CEO Tim Cook told analysts last week that the company’s contractors in China had been forced to delay reopening factories that closed for the Lunar New Year holiday. Cook said the company is seek-

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ing ways to minimize supply disruptions. Some of its suppliers are in Hubei, the Chinese province at the center of the outbreak. Most of Apple's iPhones and other devices are made in China.

In the meantime, economists are sharply downgrading the outlook for China's economy, the world's second-biggest. Tommy Wu and Louis Kuijs of Oxford Economics have slashed their forecast for Chinese economic growth this year from 6% to 5.4%. They expect most of the damage to be inflicted in the first three months of 2020.

"But a more serious and long-lasting impact cannot be ruled out," they wrote Monday.

Forecasters are contending with unknowns. No one knows how long the outbreak will last, how much damage it will cause or how policymakers will respond to the threat.

"We're grasping for precedents," said Phil Levy, chief economist at the freight company Flexport who was an economic adviser in the administration of President George W. Bush.

Some look back to the SARS outbreak, which paralyzed the Chinese economy for the first few months of 2003. But the damage from SARS faded quickly: China was booming again by year's end. And the world economy emerged mostly unscathed.

But times have changed in ways that are not favorable to containing the economic damage. Back then, China was the world's workshop for cheap goods — toys and sneakers, for instance. Now, China has moved up to sophisticated machine parts and electronics like LCDs. And it accounts for about 16% of global economic output, up significantly from just 4% in 2003.

Levy said he was struck by how U.S. airlines reacted to the coronavirus: They suspended flights between the United States and mainland China for weeks — American airlines through March 27, United through March 28 and Delta until April 30.

The move doesn't just affect tourists, students and business travelers. Passenger planes also carry a lot of freight.

"When you see them loading those big 747s, that's not just your luggage," Levy said. "That can be pallets full of electronics and other things."

The health crisis coincides with an especially difficult time for China's factories. A 19-month trade war with the United States — in which the Trump administration imposed tariffs on \$360 billion of Chinese imports — has already led U.S.-based multinational corporations to look for alternatives to Chinese suppliers. Many are moving to Vietnam or other low-wage countries to dodge President Donald Trump's taxes on Chinese-made goods.

The coronavirus, along with fears that U.S.-China tensions over trade and geopolitics will persist, gives them one more reason to reduce their reliance on China. Among multinational firms, there is "increasing unease that China is starting to become quite risky," said Johan Gott, an independent consultant who specializes in political risks for businesses.

But it isn't easy to completely abandon China, where specialized suppliers cluster in manufacturing centers and make it convenient for factories to obtain parts when they need them.

Basic Fun, a toy company based in Boca Raton, Florida, has sought suppliers in Vietnam and India with no luck yet. Its CEO, Jay Foreman, said he is hoping that the factories in China will resume production by early April, which he considers the best-case scenario. But he fears that any more delays could mean that the factories don't start to ramp up production until after May 1.

The stakes are high. Basic Fun gets about 90% of its toys from China. And Foreman has been contending with the trade war and disruptive protests in Hong Kong.

The coronavirus, he said, is "just a continuation of sitting on the knife's edge ... sleeping on the bed of nails from tariffs to the riots in Hong Kong and the virus. We just can't get a break."

D'Innocenzio reported from New York. AP Business Writers Tom Krisher in Detroit and Matt O'Brien in Providence, Rhode Island, contributed to this report.

Asia shares gain, Shanghai up slightly after Wall St rebound

By ELAINE KURTENBACH AP Business Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — Shares advanced in Asia on Tuesday, with the Shanghai Composite up 0.2% after a rebound on Wall Street overnight.

Markets were still far from giving the all-clear on the virus outbreak that has spread to more than 20 countries and killed more than 400 people.

But calm returned after Monday's 8% plunge in Shanghai, despite news that the number of people infected by the virus from China has risen to more than 20,000.

Chinese leader Xi Jinping has declared the crisis the country's biggest priority, as tens of millions of people remain in lockdown as a precaution against contagion.

Japan's Nikkei 225 index gained 0.4% to 23,070.61, while the Kospi in South Korea jumped 1.7% to 2,154.95. Australia's S&P ASX/200 rose 0.5% to 6,959.30, while the Hang Seng in Hong Kong climbed 1.1% to 26,658.53. The Shanghai Composite was up 5.8 points at 2,752.44. Taiwan's benchmark surged 1.9% and the Sensex in India gained 0.8%.

"The market is still, for the most part, in the fear mode, but as traders consume more economic data fallout, the hit to the real economy should become more apparent. Then the market will get steered by data, not opinions, or the herd mentality," Stephen Innes of AxiCorp said in a commentary.

Overnight, U.S. stocks recovered some of their losses from earlier weeks, though a warning signal of recession in the bond market was still flashing red, and oil tumbled on worries about weakened demand. The S&P 500 rose 0.7%, to 3,248.92. The Dow Jones Industrial Average picked up 0.5%, to 28,399.81, and the Nasdaq added 1.3%, to 9,273.40.

Markets have been wracked by uncertainty over how much the virus will spread, how many it might kill and how long the outbreak might persist, hurting economies and corporate profits.

Some major companies have closed factories in central China, airlines have cancelled hundreds of flights and economists are cutting growth forecasts for the world's second-largest economy.

The crisis struck just as investors believed economic growth would pick up thanks largely to interest-rate cuts and other bold actions by the Federal Reserve and other central banks around the world. A report on Monday said U.S. manufacturing returned to growth in January for the first time in six months, but many investors paid little attention because it doesn't fully reflect all the virus concerns.

"Think about what global central bankers are thinking about now" said Emily Roland, co-chief investment strategist at John Hancock Investment Management. She imagined them saying: "Are you kidding me? We pumped so much liquidity into the economy last year, and now the yield curve is inverting again?"

The yield curve is a tool used by investors that sits in the dusty corners of the bond market. Markets don't pay it much attention until it becomes inverted, a relatively rare occurrence that happens when short-term Treasuries offer higher yields than longer-term Treasuries. An albeit imperfect rule of thumb says a recession may be a year or so away when the three-month Treasury's yield is higher than a 10-year Treasury's.

On Tuesday, the three-month yield was at 1.55%, above the 1.54% yield of the 10-year, which itself rose from 1.51% late Friday.

"Sentiment builds on sentiment, and there's so much uncertainty right now," Roland said. "We're not ready to call the all-clear until we see a sustained re-acceleration not only in earnings estimates but also in the economic data."

In the U.S. stock market, gains were relatively widespread on Monday with two stocks rising for every one falling. But nearly a quarter of the gain for the S&P 500 came from just two stocks: Microsoft and Google's parent company, Alphabet.

These two, along with other tech behemoths, have increasingly been driving the market as the top five stocks in the S&P 500 account for roughly 18% of the index by market value. Alphabet will report its latest quarterly reports after markets close on Monday, while Microsoft reported much stronger-than-expected earnings last week.

Nike jumped 3.9% to help drive Dow Jones Industrial Average higher as investors continue to try to handicap how much its earnings will be hurt by the virus. It had dropped more than the rest of the market in earlier weeks because it depends on China not only to help make its shoes and athletic products but also to buy them. Nearly 18% of its revenue last quarter came from China.

Benchmark U.S. crude gained 38 cents to \$50.48 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It tumbled \$1.45, or 2.8%, on Monday to settle at \$50.11 per barrel on worries about demand. It had been above \$63 toward the start of the year, before the virus outbreak. Brent crude, the international standard, added 30 cents to \$54.75 per barrel. It fell \$2.17, or 3.8%, to settle at \$54.45 per barrel overnight.

In currency trading, the dollar was steady at 108.69 Japanese yen. The euro likewise was almost unchanged, at \$1.1060.

AP Business Writer Stan Choe contributed.

Rush Limbaugh says he's been diagnosed with lung cancer

By LYNN ELBER AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Conservative radio host and Republican kingmaker Rush Limbaugh said he's been diagnosed with advanced lung cancer.

Addressing listeners on his program Monday, Limbaugh said he will take some days off for further medical tests and to determine treatment.

"I have to tell you something today that I wish I didn't have to tell you," announced Limbaugh, 69. The cancer diagnosis was confirmed by two medical institutions in late January after he experienced his only symptom so far, shortness of breath, on his Jan. 12 birthday weekend, he said.

He was reluctant to discuss personal matters and distract from his work, he said, and wasn't seeking to cover up his illness. He realized it was better to be honest and avoid the speculation that would follow when he has to miss being on air for treatment or as the result of treatment, Limbaugh added.

"But it is what it is. And you know me, I'm the mayor of Realville," he said. "My intention is to come here every day I can. And to do this program as normally" and competently as usual.

He said he considers his listeners to be to be part of a "family type relationship" with him, adding that his job has given him the "greatest satisfaction and happiness" he's experienced.

Limbaugh's announcement comes at a tumultuous political time, as the conclusion of President Donald Trump's impeachment trial nears.

Trump paid tribute on Twitter, writing: "Many people do not know what a great guy & fantastic political talent the great Rush Limbaugh is. There is nobody like him. Looking for a speedy recovery for our friend!"

"It's shocking to the industry, and it should be shocking to the political establishment," Michael Harrison, publisher of Talkers magazine, the trade industry publication for talk radio, said of Limbaugh's disclosure.

He started his first national radio show in 1988 from New York, later relocating to Palm Beach, Florida.

The hyper-partisan broadcaster has dominated talk radio with a raucous, liberal-bashing style that made him one of the most influential voices of American right-wing politics and inspired other conservative broadcasters including Sean Hannity, Glenn Beck and Bill O'Reilly.

"Rush you are in our prayers," Beck tweeted. "We live in a time of modern miracles. Millions are praying you find one."

Limbaugh said he intends to work as much as possible. He also said he had focused more "intensely" in the past two weeks on what he called his "deeply personal relationship" with God.

The media figure's endorsement and friendship is a conservative political treasure. His idol, Ronald Reagan, wrote a letter that Limbaugh read on the air in December 1992 and which sealed his reputation among conservatives: "You've become the number one voice for conservatism in our country," Reagan wrote.

Two years later, Limbaugh would be so widely credited as key to Republicans' takeover of Congress for

the first time in 40 years, he was deemed an honorary member of the new class.

Limbaugh has frequently been accused of hate-filled speech, including bigotry and blatant racism through his comments and sketches such as "Barack the Magic Negro," a song featured on his show that said Obama "makes guilty whites feel good" and that the politician is "black, but not authentically."

His popularity has survived brickbats and thrived despite personal woes.

In 2003, Limbaugh admitted an addiction to painkillers and entered rehabilitation. Authorities opened an investigation into alleged "doctor shopping," saying he received up to 2,000 pills from four doctors over a period of six months, but he ultimately reached a deal with prosecutors that dismissed the single charge.

AP Media Writer David Bauder in New York contributed to this report.

AP Exclusive: Border apprehensions drop 8 straight months

By COLLEEN LONG and BEN FOX Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of border apprehensions has dropped for the eighth straight month, following crackdowns by the Trump administration that include forcing asylum seekers back over the U.S.-Mexico border to wait out their claims, a Homeland Security official said Monday.

The official said the number of encounters with border officials over the past four months was 165,000. A year earlier during the same time it was about 242,000. The official spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the official results have not been released.

The tally for the month of January was about 36,000, including apprehensions of people crossing illegally and migrants who were declared inadmissible by border officers at a port of entry. It was a 10 percent decline from December.

The steep decline will almost certainly figure heavily into President Donald Trump's State of the Union address Tuesday. Trump has made cracking down on immigration — legal and illegal — a signature issue. He has railed against asylum seekers and other border crossers as con artists who "scam" the system, and derided immigrants from Mexico as "bad hombres."

Trump uses the monthly border tallies as a benchmark to determine how his policies are working, railing against Homeland Security officials when the numbers are up. The number of people crossing the border traditionally declines when it's hot outside — but the winter months often see creeping increases.

The monthly tally is down almost 75 percent from the peak last May, when there were more than 144,000 encounters with migrants, the large majority families from Central America who are not easily returned over the border. The immigration system was vastly strained last spring, with migrants crammed for weeks into small border stations not meant to hold people beyond a few days. News of the conditions in the border stations, coupled with migrant deaths, promoted massive outrage and pushed Congress into emergency funding to help ease the crush.

The reduction comes at a cost. More than 55,000 asylum seekers, including families and pregnant women, have been sent over the border to Mexico to wait out their asylum cases and have faced sickness and squalid conditions in makeshift camps, plus assault and kidnapping by cartels that patrol the borderlands.

Mexico has also stepped up its own border enforcement, making clear that caravans that once traveled through its territory are no longer allowed to do so, following intense pressure and threatened trade tariffs from Washington last year. And U.S. policy now essentially bans anyone from claiming asylum if they crossed through another country first. Officials are also now sending asylum seekers to Central American nations as part of a border security agreements with Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Despite the nosedive at the border, asylum seekers are still signing up on a waiting list to enter the U.S. at an official crossing in San Luis, Arizona. U.S. Customs and Border Protection calls the Mexican shelter that manages the list to say how many asylum claims it will process each day. The shelter estimates the wait at three to four months.

After Oprah's exit, Russell Simmons doc acquired by HBO Max

By JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The documentary about several women who have accused Russell Simmons of sexual abuse has found a distributor after Oprah Winfrey's exit from the film left it in the lurch.

HBO Max on Monday said it acquired Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering's film, "On the Record," following its premiere last week at the Sundance Film Festival. Along with other stories, "On the Record" tracks the decision of music executive Drew Dixon to publicly state that her then-boss Simmons raped her at his New York home in 1995.

Simmons, the co-founder of Def Jam Recordings, has denied all accusations of sexual abuse.

"On the Record" had been set to be released by Apple TV Plus, with Winfrey as an executive producer. But in the weeks ahead of the film's Sundance premiere, Winfrey departed the film because she said she that while she believed Dixon, she felt more reporting was needed on her story.

Yet "On the Record" made a strong impression at Sundance, where standing ovations greeted Dixon and other accusers, including Sil Lai Abrams and Sheri Hines. Critics called the film a powerful documentary that brings issues of race into #MeToo discussions.

"The fierce determination of Drew Dixon and all the women who bravely chose to share their stories in 'On the Record' moved us profoundly," said Sarah Aubrey, head of original content at HBO Max, in a statement.

China virus death toll rises to 425, total cases now 20,438

By KEN MORITSUGU Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — The death toll in mainland China from the new type of virus has risen to 425, with the total number of cases now standing at 20,438, officials said Tuesday.

The new figures come after the country opened a new hospital built in 10 days, infused cash into tumbling financial markets and further restricted people's movement in hopes of containing the rapidly spreading virus and its escalating impact.

Japanese officials were deciding whether to quarantine more than 3,000 people on a cruise ship that carried a passenger who tested positive for the virus.

The latest figures are up from 361 deaths and 17,205 confirmed cases.

Other countries are continuing evacuations and restricting the entry of Chinese or people who have recently traveled in the country. In the province at the epicenter of the outbreak, a specialized 1,000-bed hospital started treating patients and a second hospital with 1,500 beds is to open within days.

Other countries continued evacuating citizens from hardest-hit Hubei province and restricted the entry of Chinese or people who recently traveled to the country. The World Health Organization said the number of cases will keep growing because tests are pending on thousands of suspected cases.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, presiding over a special meeting of the country's top Communist Party body for the second time since the crisis started, said "we have launched a people's war of prevention of the epidemic."

He told the Politburo standing committee that the country must race against time to curb the spread of the virus and that those who neglect their duties will be punished, state broadcaster CCTV reported.

Medical teams from the People's Liberation Army were arriving in Wuhan, the capital of Hubei province, to relieve overwhelmed health workers and to staff the new 1,000-bed hospital, located in the countryside far from the city center.

Its prefabricated wards are equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment and ventilation systems. A second hospital with 1,500 beds is due to open within days.

China's Shanghai Composite stock index plunged nearly 8% on the first day of trading after the Lunar New Year holiday, despite a central bank announcement that it was putting 1.2 trillion yuan (\$173 billion) into the markets.

"We are fully confident in and capable of minimizing the epidemic's impact on the economy," Lian Weiliang,

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deputy chief of the National Development and Reform Commission, said at a news conference in Beijing.

Hong Kong's leader, Carrie Lam, announced that the semi-autonomous territory will shut almost all but two land and sea border crossings with the mainland at midnight to stem the spread of the virus. Only the land checkpoints at Shenzhen Bay and the bridge to Macao and Zhuhai will remain open.

More than 2,000 hospital workers went on strike earlier in the day, demanding a complete closure of the border, and their union has threatened a bigger walkout Tuesday.

Hong Kong was hit hard by SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, in 2002-03, an illness from the same family of viruses as the current outbreak and which many believe was intensified by official Chinese secrecy and obfuscation.

Chinese scientists said they have more evidence that it likely originated in bats. In a study published in the journal Nature, Shi Zhen-Li and colleagues at the Wuhan Institute of Virology reported that genome sequences from seven patients were 96% identical to a bat coronavirus.

SARS is also believed to have originated in bats, although it jumped to civet cats before infecting people. Scientists suspect the latest outbreak began at a seafood market in Wuhan where wild animals were on sale and in contact with people.

Meanwhile, Japanese health officials said a passenger on a Japanese-operated cruise ship tested positive for the virus after leaving the vessel in Hong Kong on Jan. 25.

The Diamond Princess returned to Yokohama carrying more than 3,000 passengers and crew after making port calls in Vietnam, Taiwan and Okinawa. A team of quarantine officials and medical staff boarded the ship Monday and began medical checks of everyone on board, a health ministry official said, speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with department rules.

The passengers and crew members may be quarantined on the ship if the captain agrees to do so, the official said.

The ship's captain said Hong Kong's health authorities notified the ship about the passenger's infection on Saturday, six days after he got off the ship after not being caught on thermal screening, according to a recording of the announcement tweeted by a passenger. The patient is currently recovering and is in stable condition, and his traveling companions so far have not been infected, the captain said.

"I wish we were informed as soon as they found out, then I could have worn a mask or washed hands more carefully," the passenger said. "I was in Hong Kong nine days ago and it seems to be too late now."

South Korea, which has 15 confirmed cases, quarantined 800 soldiers who had recently visited China, Hong Kong or Macao or had contact with people who had, defense ministry spokeswoman Choi Hyunsoo said.

The Philippines banned the entry of all non-citizens from China after two cases were confirmed there, including the only death outside China. The U.S., Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, New Zealand and Australia have imposed similar restrictions despite criticism from China and WHO's guidance that such measures were unnecessary.

About 150 cases have been reported in two dozen other countries.

With no end to the outbreak in sight, authorities in Hubei and elsewhere extended the Lunar New Year holiday break, due to end this week, well into February to try to keep people at home and reduce the spread of the virus. All Hubei schools are postponing the start of the new semester until further notice.

Associated Press writers Bharatha Malawaraarachchi in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Maria Cheng in London, Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo, Jamey Keaten in Geneva and Joe McDonald in Beijing and researchers Yu Bing in Beijing and Chen Si in Zhengzhou, China, contributed to this report.

Brazil's government blasts Oscar-nominated documentary-maker **Associated Press undefined**

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazil's government criticized Oscar-nominated filmmaker Petra Costa on Monday after she once more labeled far-right President Jair Bolsonaro a risk to the country's democracy.

Costa's documentary about the 2016 impeachment of former President Dilma Rousseff, "The Edge of Democracy," has been praised by leftists and loathed by conservatives in the politically divided nation.

Ahead of the competition for the best documentary Oscar on Feb. 9, Costa spoke on PBS and once more accused Bolsonaro of stimulating "farmers and loggers to invade indigenous reserves, burn and deforest the Amazon, which is already at a tipping point in which it could become a savanna."

She also repeated her accusation that the Brazilian president has attacked the rights of minorities. Costa made similar statements before she was nominated, but this time Brazil's government chose to answer through an official social media channel.

"Filmmaker Petra Costa played the role of an anti-Brazil activist and tarnished the country's image abroad with a series of fake news in an interview on American television," the communication secretariat for Brazil's presidency said in a string of posts on Twitter, in both English and in Portuguese.

"Without the slightest sense of respect for her homeland and for the Brazilian people, Petra said in an unreasonable script that the Amazon will become a savanna soon and that President Bolsonaro orders the murder of both African-Americans and homosexuals," it added.

Bolsonaro has also criticized the 36-year-old Costa's documentary. As fringe lawmaker, he was a staunch advocate of Rousseff's removal and famously celebrated the man who tortured her during the country's military dictatorship during his vote in favor of her ouster.

Costa did not immediately respond a request for comment from The Associated Press.

In the documentary, the Brazilian director uses her personal story to suggest the abrupt end to 13 years of Workers' Party rule came along with a desire for an autocracy similar to the 1964-1985 dictatorship.

Rousseff was removed for manipulating government finances to conceal a widening deficit, which she argued was not an impeachable offense. Right-wingers insist it was impeachable, and some have also said her administration was wreaking too much havoc on the economy to be allowed to continue.

With Rousseff's removal in 2016, her conservative vice president, Michel Temer, took office. Temer remained deeply unpopular until his term ended in 2018, when Bolsonaro defeated the Workers' Party candidate to win the presidency.

The other films nominated for best documentary are "American Factory," "The Cave," "For Sama" and "Honeyland." The winning film will be announced at a ceremony in Los Angeles.

Trump trial closing arguments aim at voters, history **By LISA MASCARO and ERIC TUCKER Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Closing arguments Monday in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial were directed more toward history than to sway the outcome, one final chance to influence public opinion and set the record ahead of his expected acquittal in the Republican-led Senate.

The House Democratic prosecutors drew on the Founding Fathers and common sense to urge senators — and Americans — to see that Trump's actions are not isolated but a pattern of behavior that, left unchecked, will allow him to "cheat" in the 2020 election.

Democrat Rep. Adam Schiff implored those few Republican senators who have acknowledged Trump's wrongdoing in the Ukraine matter to prevent a "runaway presidency" and stand up to say "enough."

"For a man like Donald J. Trump, they gave you a remedy and meant for you to use it. They gave you an oath, and they meant for you to observe it," Schiff said. "We have proven Donald Trump guilty. Now do impartial justice and convict him."

The president's defense countered the Democrats have been out to impeach Trump since the start of his presidency, nothing short of an effort to undo the 2016 election and to try to shape the next one, as early primary voting begins Monday in Iowa.

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"Leave it to the voters to choose," said White House counsel Pat Cipollone.

He called for an end to the partisan "era of impeachment."

All that's left, as the Senate prepares to acquit Trump on charges that he abused power and obstructed Congress, is for Americans to decide now and in the November election, as the third presidential impeachment trial in the nation's history comes to a close.

Most senators acknowledge the House Democratic managers have essentially proven their case. Trump was impeached in December on two charges: that he abused his power like no other president in history when he pushed Ukraine to investigate rival Democrats, and he then obstructed Congress by instructing aides to defy House subpoenas.

But key Republicans have decided the president's actions toward Ukraine do not rise to the level of impeachable offense that warrants the dramatic political upheaval of conviction and removal from office. His acquittal in Wednesday's vote is all but assured.

GOP Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska called the president's actions "shameful and wrong," but in a powerful speech late Monday she also derided the highly partisan process. "I cannot vote to convict," she said.

Republican Sens. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, Marco Rubio of Florida and Rob Portman of Ohio are among those who acknowledged the inappropriateness of Trump's actions, but said they would not vote to hear more testimony or to convict.

"What message does that send?" asked Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., a House prosecutor. He warned senators that for Trump, the "past is prologue." He urged the Senate to realize its failure to convict will "allow the president's misconduct to stand."

The Senate proceedings are set against a sweeping political backstop, as voters in Iowa on Monday are choosing presidential Democratic primary candidates and Trump is poised to deliver his State of the Union address Tuesday in his own victory lap before Congress.

It is unclear if any Republican or Democratic senators sworn to do "impartial justice" will break from party lines. One centrist Democrat, Sen. Joe Manchin, W-Va., said he was heavily weighing the vote ahead. He suggested censure may be a bipartisan alternative.

The House Democrats unveiled a striking case centered on Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, running an alternative foreign policy that drew alarm at the highest levels. As part of the "scheme," Trump held up \$391 million in U.S. aid from Ukraine, a fragile ally battling Russia, for his personal political gain, they argued. The money was eventually released after Congress intervened.

As Chief Justice John Roberts presided, the House managers opened with a plea from Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., a freshman and former Army Ranger: "We cannot and should not leave our common sense at the door."

One by one, the Democrats drew on their life experiences to remind senators, and Americans, of the simple difference between right and wrong in the case against Trump.

Rep. Val Demings, a former police chief, argued that the president is not behaving like someone who is innocent. She warned that if senators do not convict, Trump will try to "cheat" again ahead of 2020.

"You will send a terrible message to the nation that one can get away with abuse of power, cheating and spreading of false narratives," she told them.

Before Trump's celebrity defense mounted its closing argument, the president himself already registered his views on Twitter, where he decried the whole thing — as he often does — as a "hoax."

Kenneth Starr, the former prosecutor whose investigation led to Bill Clinton's impeachment, complained about the inadequacy of the House prosecutors' "fast track" case.

Trump attorney Jay Sekulow showed political clips of Democrats calling for impeachment — with many lawmakers of color, including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a top Republican foil — to argue this was the "first totally partisan presidential impeachment in our nation's history, and it should be our last."

One key Trump lawyer, Alan Dershowitz, who was forced to walk back a sweeping defense of presidential power in last week's arguments, did not appear.

Trump wanted acquittal secured before he arrives at the Capitol for the State of the Union address

Tuesday, but that will not happen.

Senators carrying the power of their votes to the history books wanted additional time to make their own arguments, in public speeches from the floor of the Senate. Those began Monday afternoon and were expected to continue until Wednesday's vote.

The trial unfolded over nearly two weeks and reached a decisive moment last Friday when senators voted against calling witnesses and documents. Key Republicans said they had heard enough. It becomes the first impeachment trial in the nation's more than 200-year history without any witnesses.

Even new revelations from John Bolton, the former White House national security adviser, whose forthcoming book discloses his firsthand account of Trump ordering the investigations, did not impress upon senators the need for more testimony.

Bolton said he would appear if he received a subpoena, but GOP senators said the House should have issued the summons and the Senate did not want to prolong the proceedings.

Prosecutors relied on a 28,000-page report compiled over three months of proceedings in the Democratic-controlled House, including public and private testimony from 17 witnesses, among them current and former ambassadors and national security officials with close proximity to the Ukraine dealings.

The case stems from Trump's July 25 call with Ukraine that he maintains was "perfect." A government whistleblower alarmed by the call filed a complaint that sparked the inquiry.

Associated Press writers Mary Clare Jalonick, Matthew Daly, Laurie Kellman and Padmananda Rama contributed to the story.

Experts prepare but new China virus not a pandemic yet

By CARLA K. JOHNSON AP Medical Writer

Health authorities are preparing for a possible pandemic as they work to contain a respiratory illness in China that's caused by a new virus. Governments are limiting travel, isolating sick people and keeping travelers returning from the affected region under quarantine to watch for symptoms.

In the United States, the scope and cost of the government response is increasing. U.S. health officials already have tapped into a \$105 million rapid response fund and notified Congress that they may need \$136 million more.

Here's what you should know about the illness:

IS IT A PANDEMIC?

Not yet. The virus is an epidemic in China, where more than 17,000 cases have been reported, but has not affected enough people around the globe to be considered a pandemic. So far, other countries have reported only a few dozen cases, most involving travelers returning from China and their close contacts.

And while there have been more than 360 deaths, all but one has been in China.

Based on the way the virus spread in China, investigators believe each infection has led to an average of 2.2 others getting sick. That's a bit more than ordinary flu but less than SARS, severe acute respiratory syndrome, a genetic cousin of the new virus.

Governments are preparing for a possible pandemic and taking actions to prevent one.

The World Health Organization designates a pandemic when there are outbreaks on at least two continents. So far, WHO has called this a "public health emergency of international concern."

The 2009 H1N1 influenza virus reached pandemic level. Now, H1N1 is a regular flu virus that circulates around the globe seasonally.

WHAT IS THE NEW VIRUS?

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

WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

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

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Common symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In serious cases, the virus can cause pneumonia. Some patients have needed oxygen. Others have had only mild illness.

It's too early to say whether the new virus will fade out as cold and flu viruses do when winter ends. If it does, a second wave of illness could start up in the fall. By then, there may be a vaccine to slow it down.

HOW IS IT TREATED?

The World Health Organization has said there is not a specific medicine recommended to treat the illness, although some will be tested. For now, doctors are treating symptoms with anti-fever drugs. Some doctors are trying antiviral drugs developed for HIV or Ebola.

HOW IS IT SPREADING?

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

Masks can block large droplets from sneezes and coughs. They also can stop people from touching their own mouths and noses, another way to stop germs. Experts say the best way to avoid getting sick from any virus is washing hands with soap and water.

AP writer Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar in Washington contributed to this report.

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

Just under 100 million people watch Super Bowl on Fox

By DAVID BAUDER AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Super Bowl put a halt to a four-year decline in viewership, with an estimated 99.9 million people watching the Kansas City Chiefs come back to defeat the San Francisco 49ers in what is annually the most-watched television event of the year.

The Nielsen company said viewership rebounded slightly from the 98.5 million who watched in 2019. An exciting game that featured a fourth quarter comeback and two teams that haven't been in the ultimate game lately most likely helped drive public interest.

Super Bowl viewership had been slowly eroding since its peak in 2015, when 114.4 million watched a thrilling finish between the New England Patriots and Seattle Seahawks.

By one measure, Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes wasn't the biggest star on the field — not by a long shot.

Halftime show performer Jennifer Lopez led all personalities with 2.2 million interactions on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, according to Nielsen. Mahomes, the Kansas City quarterback, was the top player with 514,000 interactions.

The peak moment for social media activity came just at the end of the halftime show starring Lopez and Shakira, Nielsen said.

Fox estimated that Sunday's game had 102 million viewers in total, when people who streamed the game through Verizon or watched on the Fox Deportes Spanish-language network are taken into account. The halftime show had 103 million viewers, Fox said.

Fox also said that 23.7 million people watched the episode of "The Masked Singer" following the game, in what is always the most-coveted time slot on television.

Google 4Q revenue grew, but not enough for Wall Street

By BARBARA ORTUTAY AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google's revenue grew, but Wall Street wanted more.

Parent company Alphabet's stock fell more than 4% after financial results came out Monday, even as profits rose 19% and beat expectations for the last three months of the year.

Helped by lower taxes, Alphabet said Monday it earned \$10.7 billion, or \$15.35 per share, more than the \$12.49 a share analysts polled by FactSet were expecting. Net revenue, after subtracting advertising costs, was \$37.6 billion, up 18% from a year ago. But analysts were looking for \$38.4 billion.

This was the second rocky quarter in a row for the online search leader. Its third quarter brought higher-than-expected revenue but a profit shortfall due to higher spending on new hires, data centers and other expenses.

Dan Morgan, a portfolio manager at Synovus Trust Co., said Wall Street is worried that Google's weaker than expected ad revenue results could indicate a broader slowdown in online advertising spending.

While Google is still the clear leader in the digital advertising market, it is seeing growing competition from the likes of Facebook and Amazon.

Google — and with it, Alphabet — makes the majority of its money from selling targeted advertising across the web, apps and Google products including its search engine and video streaming site YouTube. Investors are now also closely watching the growth of Google's cloud business and its aspirations in the health care industry. Google agreed to buy the fitness tracker company Fitbit in November.

Alphabet disclosed revenue for YouTube and its cloud business for the first time, something analysts have been seeking for years.

"The information should also give advertisers valuable information about the importance of YouTube as a digital ad vehicle," eMarketer analyst Nicole Perrin said.

Alphabet said YouTube's advertising revenue grew 31% to \$4.72 billion, while Google Cloud revenue grew 53% to \$2.61 billion. Though it's still No. 3 in cloud, Google is gaining some market share from the likes of Amazon's and Microsoft's cloud businesses, according to Morgan, the analyst.

Chief Financial Officer Ruth Porat said the quarter's profit benefitted from lower taxes due to several years of audits. Alphabet is setting aside \$33 million for income taxes in the quarter, compared with \$1.12 billion a year earlier.

She said that there has no impact on Alphabet from the coronavirus outbreak in China and that the company is helping with relief efforts. She said the virus could eventually hurt Google's sales of hardware, such as Chromebooks and Pixel phones, if it continues to spread and become a long-term problem.

This was Alphabet's first earnings report with Sundar Pichai at the company's helm, following the departure of co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin, the co-founders of Google, in December. Pichai was head of Google before.

Shares of Alphabet fell \$65.85, or 4.4%, to \$1,416.75 in after-hours trading, after increasing 3.5% during the regular session.

1st US patient with new virus leaves hospital, is recovering

By CARLA K. JOHNSON AP Medical Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — The man who became the first U.S. patient infected with the new virus from China has left the hospital and said in a statement that he is getting better and looking forward to life returning to normal, according to a statement from the man provided to The Associated Press on Monday.

The 35-year-old man thanked his doctors, nurses and other staff at Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, Washington, about 30 miles (48 kilometers) north of Seattle, according to the statement from the unidentified man given to the AP by hospital officials.

The unidentified man fell sick after returning home from a visit to China and was admitted to the hospital on Jan. 20. He was still there as of last Friday and is now in isolation at home, monitored by officials with the Snohomish Health District in coordination with the hospital.

"I am at home and continuing to get better," the man said. "I ask that the media please respect my privacy and my desire not to be in the public eye."

The man added in the statement: "I appreciate all of the concern expressed by members of the public, and I look forward to returning to my normal life."

The hospital has been coordinating with U.S., state and local health officials about the man's care.

The hospital declined to provide information about when he was discharged or the process of his discharge from the hospital.

UK and EU clash over trade with 11 months to make a deal

By JILL LAWLESS and RAF CASERT Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Britain and the European Union set out clashing opening gambits Monday on striking a post-Brexit trade deal, making it clear that each side is willing to walk away without an agreement rather than compromise on key issues.

U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson sent a bravado-filled salvo toward Brussels three days after Britain left the bloc, the first country to exit. In a speech to business leaders and international diplomats in London, Johnson said "we want a free trade agreement" — but not at any cost.

"I see no need to bind ourselves to an agreement with the EU," he said, insisting that Britain would "restore full sovereign control" over its borders, rules and economy.

EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier was equally emphatic that the EU's 27 remaining nations wouldn't agree to any British trade deal just to avoid a costly, chaotic "no-deal" at the start of 2021, when an 11-month post-Brexit transition period ends.

"We are in favor of free trade, but we are not going to be naive," Barnier said. "If the request is to have broad access to a market of 450 million European consumers, zero tariffs, zero quotas — that won't happen for nothing, or in any kind of condition."

In their divorce agreement, Britain and the EU agreed to strike an "ambitious, broad, deep and flexible partnership," including a free trade deal and agreements for security and other areas. The details are to be worked out during a transition period lasting until the end of 2020, in which relations stay essentially unchanged. For the rest of this year the U.K. will continue to follow EU rules, although it will no longer have a say in EU decision-making.

After that, a cliff-edge looms. But Johnson insisted the choice facing Britain was not "deal or no deal."

"The question is whether we agree a trading relationship with the EU comparable to Canada's — or more like Australia's," Johnson said.

Australia does not have a free-trade deal with the EU, and Australia-style trade would mean a panoply of new tariffs and other barriers between the U.K. and the EU, its near neighbor and biggest trading partner.

Britain is aiming for a "Canada-style" free trade agreement with the EU, which would eliminate almost all tariffs and cover both goods and services. But it is adamant it won't agree to follow the EU's entire rule book in return for unfettered trade because it wants to be free to diverge in order to strike other new deals around the world.

The bloc insists there can be no trade deal unless Britain agrees to a "level playing field" and doesn't undercut EU regulations, especially when it comes to the environment, workers' rights and health and safety standards.

"There is no such thing like a free ride to the (EU's) single market," EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said. "It is always rights and obligations in a good balance."

Johnson, however, doubled down on Britain's tough stance in Monday's speech. He delivered it in the Painted Hall at the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich on the River Thames, a spot steeped in Britain's past military glories. The vast hall, covered in paintings glorifying British achievement, is where Adm. Horatio Nelson lay in state after his death at the Battle of Trafalgar against the navies of France and Spain in 1805.

Even as he set out a vision of trade that would impose new barriers between Britain and the EU, John-

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son said the U.K. would become a champion of free trade in a world where "the protectionists are gaining ground."

And he sought to allay EU fears that a post-Brexit Britain will slash workplace and environmental protections in order to gain a competitive edge.

"The U.K. will maintain the highest standards in these areas — better, in many respects, than those of the EU — without the compulsion of a treaty," Johnson said.

Johnson's bullish message was aimed as much at a domestic audience as it was at the bloc, but EU leaders are unlikely to be reassured by what they'll see as British intransigence and wishful thinking.

"The U.K. can independently decide not to respect the rules," said France's Europe Minister Amelie de Montchalin before pointedly adding: "But when it passes the frontier, it concerns the place where it arrives."

She said the EU would be as vigilant about checking the product itself as about the way it is produced, making sure it would respect social, environmental and other standards that are cornerstones of EU policy.

"It is important for European citizens to know that the single market will be protected," she said.

Barnier signaled that one flashpoint in the talks will be fishing. He said the EU would link access to its market for British products directly to the access that EU boats are given to U.K. waters.

"That agreement on fisheries will be inextricably linked to the trade agreement," he said.

Formal trade talks won't start until next month, once they have been approved by all 27 EU nations.

EU leaders have repeatedly warned that the timetable is tight to strike any kind of deal. Free-trade agreements typically take years. The EU-Canada deal that the British government cited as a model took seven years to negotiate.

If there is no deal by the end of 2020, and the U.K. refuses to extend the negotiating period, Britain faces an abrupt, disruptive economic break from the bloc — with tariffs and other obstacles to trade imposed immediately between the U.K. and the EU.

That prospect alarms many businesses, especially in sectors such as the auto industry, which depend on the easy flow of parts across borders.

The devil will be in the details, and Britain's position as outlined in a government document is less set in stone than Johnson's speech suggested. It said Britain would negotiate with the EU "on access to waters and fishing opportunities," and also spoke of possible "regulatory and supervisory cooperation" in financial services, a key area for the British economy.

However, Barnier said the EU would continue to prepare for no deal.

"If we cannot manage by the end of the year, there will be a widespread cliff," he said.

Johnson, however, brushed off the idea of a "no-deal" Brexit — though that is essentially what Australian-style trade means.

One word was noticeably missing from his wide-ranging speech: "Brexit." Asked whether he had banned the term, he said: "It's not banned. It's just over."

Jill Rutter of political think-tank U.K. in a Changing Europe said there was a gap in both style and substance between the two sides.

"The U.K. PM has chosen a speech in a historic setting to lay down red lines, embellished with rhetorical flourishes, while the EU has laid out 167 paragraphs of negotiating demands in a functional conference room in Brussels," she said.

"We have to hope that, behind the Johnson oratory, U.K. ministers have agreed their own parallel version of the EU text."

Casert reported from Brussels.

Follow AP's full coverage of Brexit and British politics at: <https://www.apnews.com/Brexit>

YouTube: No 'deepfakes' or 'birther' videos in 2020 election

By MATT O'BRIEN AP Technology Writer

Better late than never, YouTube is making clear there will be no "birtherism" on its platform during this year's U.S. presidential election. Nevermind that the conspiracy theory around former President Barack Obama's citizenship emerged in 2008 and has not been a widespread issue since he last ran for president in 2012.

The Google-owned video service is also reiterating that it won't allow election-related "deepfake" videos and anything that aims to mislead viewers about voting procedures and how to participate in the 2020 census.

Neither of these policies is new either, but YouTube clarified its rules ahead of the Iowa caucuses Monday in an apparent attempt to ensure that it is working to prevent the spread of election-related misinformation on its service. Google, Facebook, Twitter and other technology platforms are under intense pressure to prevent interference in the 2020 elections after they were manipulated in 2016 by Russia-connected actors.

The company is mostly reiterating guidelines that it has been putting in place since the last presidential election in 2016.

Its ban on technically manipulated videos of political figures was made apparent last year when YouTube became the first major platform to remove a doctored video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. But the announcement Monday further clarifies that it will take down any election-related videos that are technically altered to mislead people in a way that goes beyond simply taking clips of speech out of context. The company also said it would remove doctored videos that could cause "serious risk of egregious harm" — such as to make it appear that a government official is dead.

Facebook, which last year had resisted early calls to yank the Pelosi video, said in January that it was banning "deepfake" videos, the false but realistic clips created with artificial intelligence and sophisticated tools. Such videos are still fairly rare compared to simpler "cheap fake" manipulations such as were used in the video that altered Pelosi's speech to make it seem like she was slurring her words.

Google also said Monday that it will remove any videos that advance false claims about whether political candidates and elected officials are eligible to serve in office. That had been policy before, but wasn't made explicit.

The company's announcement comes about nine years after celebrity businessman Donald Trump began to get notice for claiming that Barack Obama, the nation's first African American president, was not born in the United States.

Trump repeatedly voiced citizenship doubts even after Obama produced his long-form birth certificate. Trump only fully backed off from the idea in the final stages of his 2016 presidential campaign.

YouTube said it will also crack down on any attempts to artificially increase the number of views, likes and comments on videos. It changed its systems for recommending what videos users watch last year in a push to curb harmful misinformation. Twitter and Pinterest also last week outlined their efforts to reduce election misinformation on their platforms.

___ AP Technology Writer Barbara Ortutay contributed to this story from San Francisco.

Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 4, the 35th day of 2020. There are 331 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 4, 2004, the social networking website Facebook had its beginnings as Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg launched "Thefacebook."

On this date:

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In 1783, Britain's King George III proclaimed a formal cessation of hostilities in the American Revolutionary War.

In 1789, electors chose George Washington to be the first president of the United States.

In 1861, delegates from six southern states that had recently seceded from the Union met in Montgomery, Alabama, to form the Confederate States of America.

In 1938, the Thornton Wilder play "Our Town" opened on Broadway. Walt Disney's animated feature "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" opened in general U.S. release.

In 1944, the Bronze Star Medal, honoring "heroic or meritorious achievement or service," was authorized by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin began a wartime conference at Yalta.

In 1974, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst, 19, was kidnapped in Berkeley, California, by the radical Symbionese Liberation Army.

In 1976, more than 23,000 people died when a severe earthquake struck Guatemala with a magnitude of 7.5, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

In 1983, pop singer-musician Karen Carpenter died in Downey, California, at age 32.

In 1997, a civil jury in Santa Monica, California, found O.J. Simpson liable for the deaths of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

In 2004, the Massachusetts high court declared that gay couples were entitled to nothing less than marriage, and that Vermont-style civil unions would not suffice.

In 2018, the Philadelphia Eagles, led by backup quarterback Nick Foles, became NFL champs for the first time since 1960, beating Tom Brady and the New England Patriots 41-33 in the Super Bowl.

Ten years ago: Republican Scott Brown took over the seat of the late Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy as he was sworn in by Vice President Joe Biden at a Capitol Hill ceremony. The first National Tea Party Convention opened in Nashville.

Five years ago: As Boston continued to dig out from more than 3 feet of snow in the past week, the New England Patriots were finally honored with a parade celebrating their fourth Super Bowl win. Some fans defied police warnings and watched the parade from atop giant piles of snow.

One year ago: Jury deliberations began in the New York trial of Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman. (Guzman was convicted of murder conspiracy and drug trafficking and was sentenced to life in prison.) More than a dozen European Union countries endorsed Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido (gwy-DOH') as the country's interim president, increasing pressure on embattled President Nicolas Maduro to resign and clear the way for a new election. A British newspaper published an interview with actor Liam Neeson in which Neeson admitted that he'd had violent thoughts about killing a black person nearly 40 years earlier after learning that someone close to him had been raped.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Jerry Adler is 91. Former Argentinian President Isabel Peron is 89. Actor Gary Conway is 84. Actor John Schuck is 80. Rock musician John Steel (The Animals) is 79. Singer Florence LaRue (The Fifth Dimension) is 78. Former Vice President Dan Quayle is 73. Rock singer Alice Cooper is 72. Actor Michael Beck is 71. Actress Lisa Eichhorn is 68. Football Hall of Famer Lawrence Taylor is 61. Actress Pamelyn Ferdin is 61. Rock singer Tim Booth is 60. Rock musician Henry Bogdan is 59. Country singer Clint Black is 58. Rock musician Noodles (The Offspring) is 57. Country musician Dave Buchanan (Yankee Grey) is 54. Actress Gabrielle Anwar is 50. Actor Rob Corddry is 49. Singer David (dah-VEED') Garza is 49. Actor Michael Goorjian is 49. TV personality Nicolle Wallace is 48. Olympic gold medal boxer Oscar De La Hoya is 47. Rock musician Rick Burch (Jimmy Eat World) is 45. Singer Natalie Imbruglia (em-BROO'-lee-ah) is 45. Rapper Cam'ron is 44. Rock singer Gavin DeGraw is 43. Rock singer Zoe Manville is 36. Actor/musician Bashy, AKA Ashley Thomas, is 35. Actor Charlie Barnett is 32. Olympic gold medal gymnast-turned-singer Carly Patterson is 32. Actress Kyla Kenedy (cq) (TV: "Speechless") is 17.

Thought for Today: "Life is doubt, and faith without doubt is nothing but death." — Miguel de Unamuno (oo-nah-MOO'-noh), Spanish philosopher (1864-1936).

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