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Sunday, Sept. 11

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

Emmanuel: 9 am Worship with Backpack blessing; 10:15 am God's Work, Our Hands Sunday service; 6 pm Youth Movie Night

Groton CM&A Church: Sundays: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.

NO OUTDOOR WATERING!

Effective immediately, no outdoor watering is permitted in the City of Groton until further notice. (About 4-6 weeks)

Groton Daily Independent
PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445
Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located west of the city shop. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



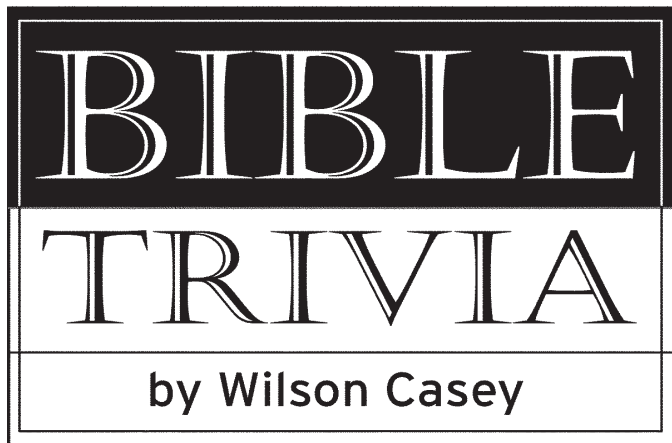
*He who sins is of the devil,
for the devil has sinned
from the beginning. For this
purpose the Son of God was
manifested, that He might
destroy the works of the devil.*

1 JOHN 3:8

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1. Is the book of II Samuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. "Holy One of Israel" is most often used in which book to describe the Lord? *Hosea, Revelation, Judges, Isaiah*

3. King Solomon had his carriage's seat upholstered in what color? *Gold, White, Red, Purple*

4. What insect does Proverbs 6 tell lazy people to learn from? *Ants, Flies, Gnats, Locusts*

5. Mahlon, a son of Elimelech, was whose first husband? *Ruth, Hannah, Esther, Deborah*

6. In Revelation 1:3, "Blessed is he that ..."? *Thinks, Sleeps, Saveth, Readeth*

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Isaiah, 3) Purple, 4) Ants, 5) Ruth, 6) Readeth

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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by Healthy Exchanges

Luau Ambrosia Salad

If you have the apples, I have the recipe! I love autumn for many reasons, but one of my "first loves" of the season has to be apples! One bite of this salad, and you'll taste why!

- 2 cups cored, unpeeled and chopped Red Delicious apples
- 1 (8-ounce) can pineapple tidbits, packed in fruit juice, drained and 2 tablespoons liquid reserved
- 3 tablespoons chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup miniature marshmallows
- 3/4 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping
- 2 tablespoons no-fat sour cream
- 1 teaspoon coconut extract
- 2 tablespoons flaked coconut

1. In a large bowl, combine apples, pineapple and reserved pineapple liquid. Stir in pecans and marshmallows. In a small bowl, combine whipped topping, sour cream and coconut extract. Add mixture to apple mixture. Mix well to combine.

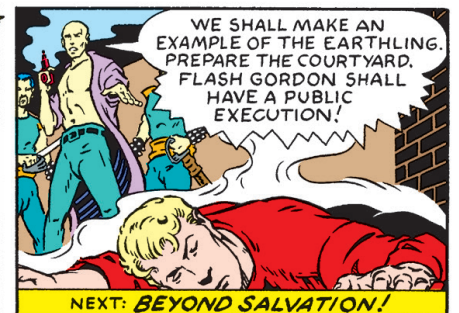
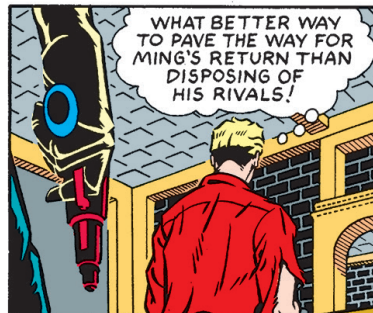
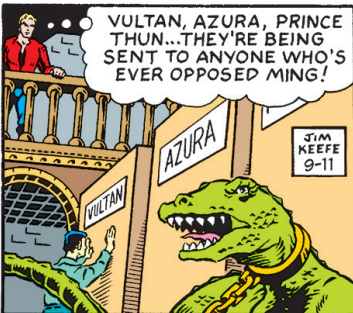
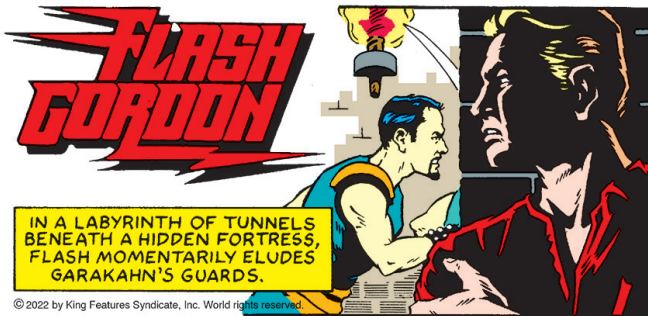
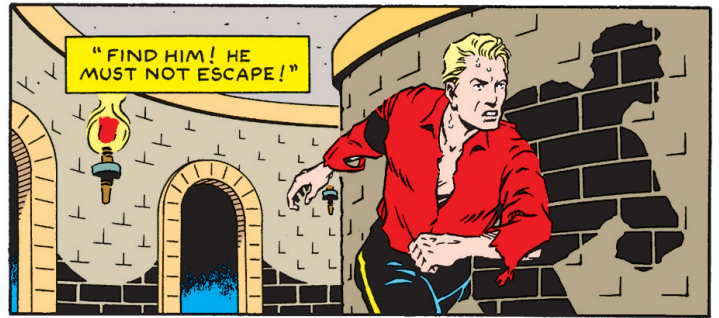
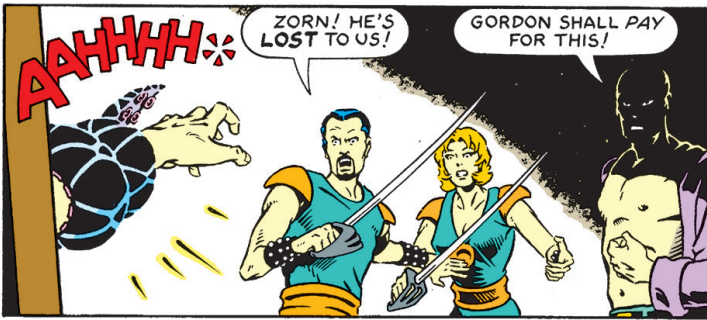
2. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Gently stir again just before serving. When serving, sprinkle 1 teaspoon coconut over each serving. Makes 6 (1/2 cup) servings.

• Each serving equals: 87 calories, 3g fat, 1g protein, 14g carb., 18g sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fruit, 1/2 Starch, 1/2 Fat.

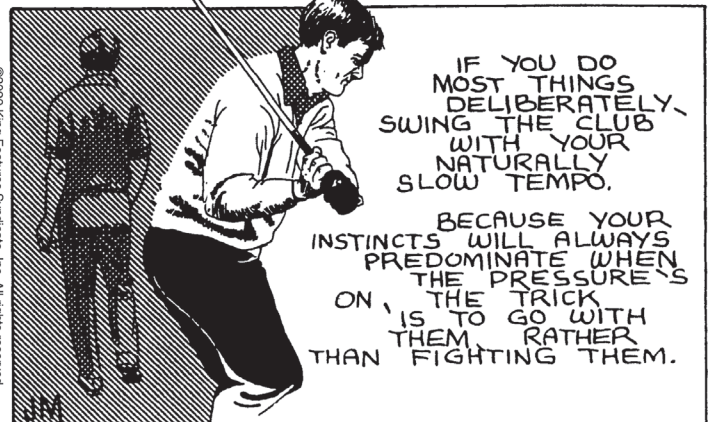
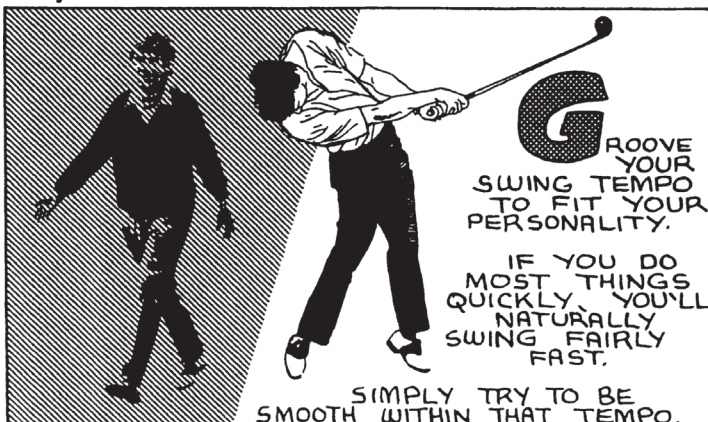
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Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Hiatal Hernia Is Not Correlated to Asthma Medication

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 80 years old, still work full-time and have generally good health, except for adult-onset asthma. Advair 250/50 was prescribed for me over 10 years ago, and I've been taking it regularly each morning, thoroughly rinsing each time to prevent thrush. About five years ago, I developed an abdominal hernia just below my waistline. My primary physician referred me to a general surgeon, who did a very thorough exam, including an MRI from the jaw down. He discovered an esophageal hernia in addition to the abdominal hernia, and told me that a specialist would have to perform the double surgery. His advice was to avoid surgery, leaving it as a last resort. He prescribed famotidine twice daily to preclude acid reflux. That generally works, but not always.

My question is, does Advair 250/50 cause or contribute to an esophageal hernia? — D.A.A.

ANSWER: A hiatal hernia ("hiatus" means "gap" in Latin), also called an esophageal or paraesophageal hernia, is when the hole in the diaphragm through which the esophagus passes is larger than normal, so other abdominal organs, especially the stomach, can slide through the hole from the abdomen into the chest.

Most hiatal hernias are thought to be congenital, meaning you were born with the propensity to have a larger-than-needed hole in the diaphragm. Most people with this condition have no symptoms and do not need treatment. The unusual person with symptoms from a sliding hiatal hernia is usu-

prescribed famotidine, which reduces stomach acid. In the rare case when the paraesophageal hernia is so large that the stomach gets stuck inside the chest, or when other abdominal organs enter the chest, a person may require surgery.

Neither asthma nor Advair, a combination of an inhaled steroid (fluticasone) and a long-acting beta agonist (salmeterol), is related to hiatal hernias.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a 63-year-old male who does weight-bearing exercises three or four times a week. Also, I am on multiple blood pressure meds, including atenolol, which slows the heart rate. What is the target heart rate while on this drug, for maximum cardiac health? — H.C.

ANSWER: There are two ways to answer your question, the difference being the target resting heart rate and the target exercise heart rate.

The goal for atenolol as a blood pressure medicine is not the resting heart rate, but the resting blood pressure. However, atenolol and other beta blockers are seldom used as the first medicine to treat blood pressure, except in cases where beta blockers are also useful for something else.

Still, when a person requires multiple medications, beta blockers are often used as a second- or third-line treatment. If a person has good control of their blood pressure at a heart rate of 80, the medication is successful. However, most times, the resting heart rate needs to be in the 50s or 60s for the blood pressure to come down to goal in a patient taking a beta blocker.

The target exercise heart rate is usually recommended to be between 55% and 85% of your maximum heart rate, which can be measured by a stress test, or estimated by a calculator. Unfortunately, the calculator is only a rough guide at best, especially in women and middle-aged (or older) people, and beta blockers have variable effects on individuals.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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"Lou" (R) -- A reclusive woman named Lou (Allison Janney) lives deep in the woods, hiding from her troubled past. Lou lives next door to a mother (Jurnee Smollett) and her young daughter, both of whom she only sees in passing. But, when a tumultuous thunderstorm knocks out their power, forcing the single mother to step outside to switch the breaker, her daughter gets kidnapped right under her nose. Left with no other help besides her antagonistic (yet resourceful) neighbor, she teams up with Lou to save her missing child. Out on Sept. 23. (Netflix)



Allison Janney and Jurnee Smollett star in "Lou." Courtesy of Netflix

"Heatwave" (R) -- In this steamy thriller, a young woman named Claire (Kat Graham) finds herself garnering success after a traumatizing fire uprooted her life. As a professional aching to get ahead, she secures a job assisting an influential executive named Scott Crane (Sebastian Roche). Meanwhile, she meets a woman named Eve (Merritt Patterson) and begins a passionate romance with her. Everything starts falling into place for Claire, finally. That is, until she meets her boss' wife, who just so happens to be Eve. When Scott passes away suddenly with indications of foul play, Claire realizes she's been caught in the middle of an elaborate scheme, with no other option left but to weasel her way out. (Prime Video)

"Dancing with the Stars" (TV-PG) -- After 30 seasons running on ABC, this reality dance show is now switching over to stream exclusively on Disney+. The premiere of season 31 is out now, and this season has quite the star-studded cast to make for an interesting competition. Competitors this season include TikTok sensation Charli D'Amelio, as well as her mother Heidi D'Amelio. "Jersey Shore's" Vinny Guadagnino also joined the cast, along with singers Jordin Sparks and Jessie James Decker. But, Selma Blair is the true standout addition to the show this season, as the actress had gone public in 2018 about her diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. Since then, Blair has become an advocate and all-around inspiration for those battling MS. (Disney+)

"Sidney" (PG-13) -- Produced by Oprah Winfrey, this documentary covers the life of the late legendary actor Sidney Poitier. With a humble beginning in the Bahamas, Poitier immigrated to Miami and found that he had a completely different perspective about race than those in the United States during the 1950s. When launching his acting career, Poitier refused to play roles that minimized or disrespected Black people because of the color of their skin. He instead chose roles that allowed him to maintain his power. In that choice, Poitier paved the way for others to follow in his footsteps, not just in a filmmaking capacity, but, in a societal capacity as well. "Sidney" premieres Sept. 23. (Apple TV+)

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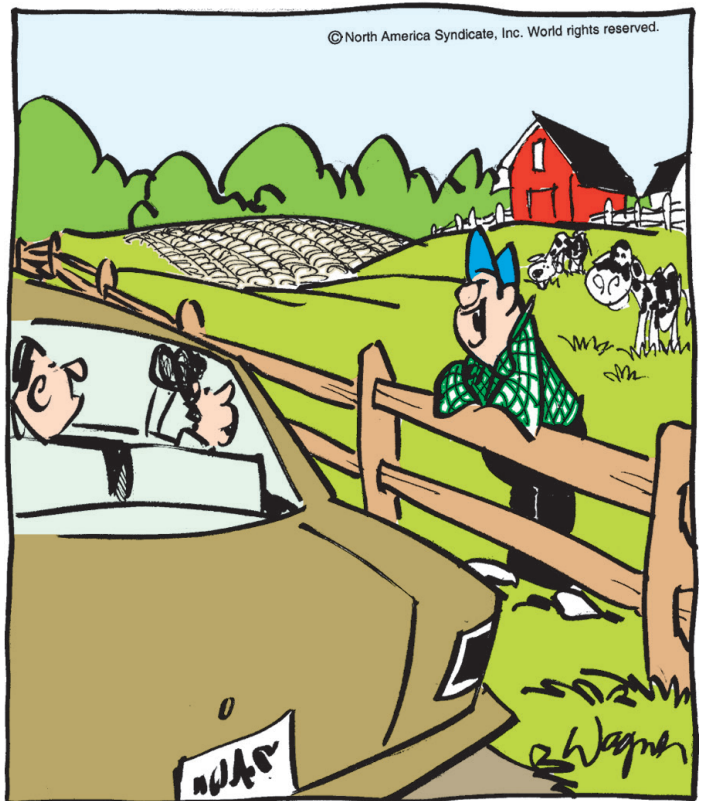
1. Which group wrote and released "Reminiscing"?
2. Name the group that released an album titled "Walking Through Fire."
3. Which group released "Neon Rainbow"?
4. Name the band that wrote and released "I Can See for Miles."
5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "You may think I'm foolish for the foolish things I do, You may wonder how come I love you when you get on my nerves like you do."

Answers

1. The Little River Band, in 1978. Recording the song was difficult until the perfect keyboard player came into town just as the band was about to give up. One more shot and there it was, a hit.
2. April Wine, in 1985. The group was under contract for one more album, but by the time they produced this one, the group had already broken up. They managed to pull it off with the use of session musicians and two original members of the band.
3. The Box Tops, in 1967, three months after "The Letter" was released.
4. The Who, in 1967.
5. "Pink Cadillac," by Bruce Springsteen in 1984. The song stayed on Billboard for 14 weeks and was later covered by numerous others, including Natalie Cole and Jerry Lee Lewis.

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GRIN and BEAR IT ^{by Wagner}



"Right now I'm between not growing wheat and not growing cotton."

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

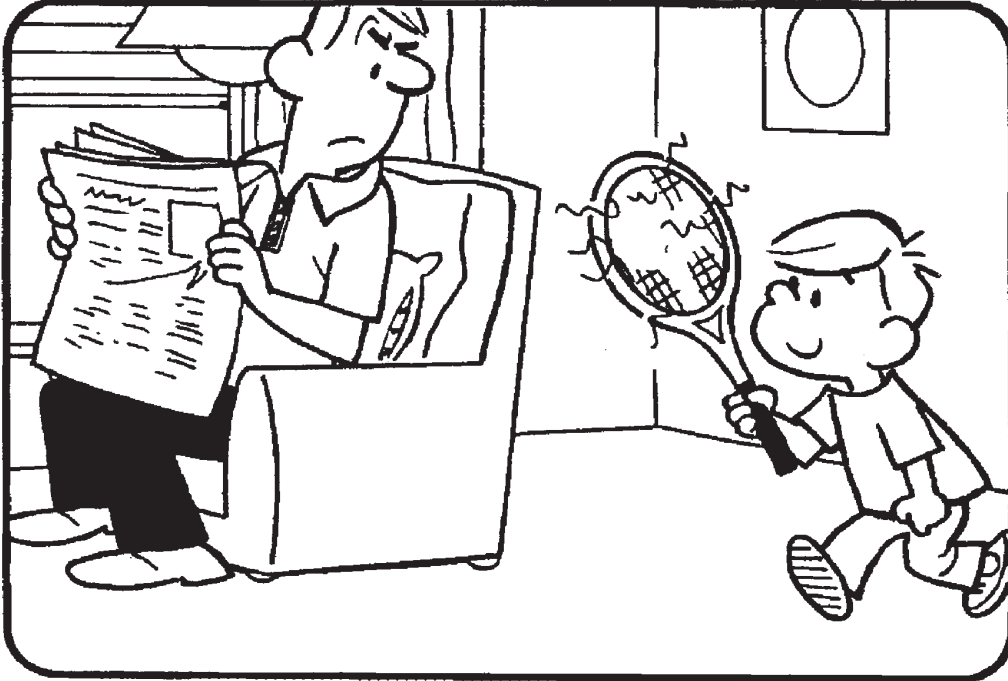


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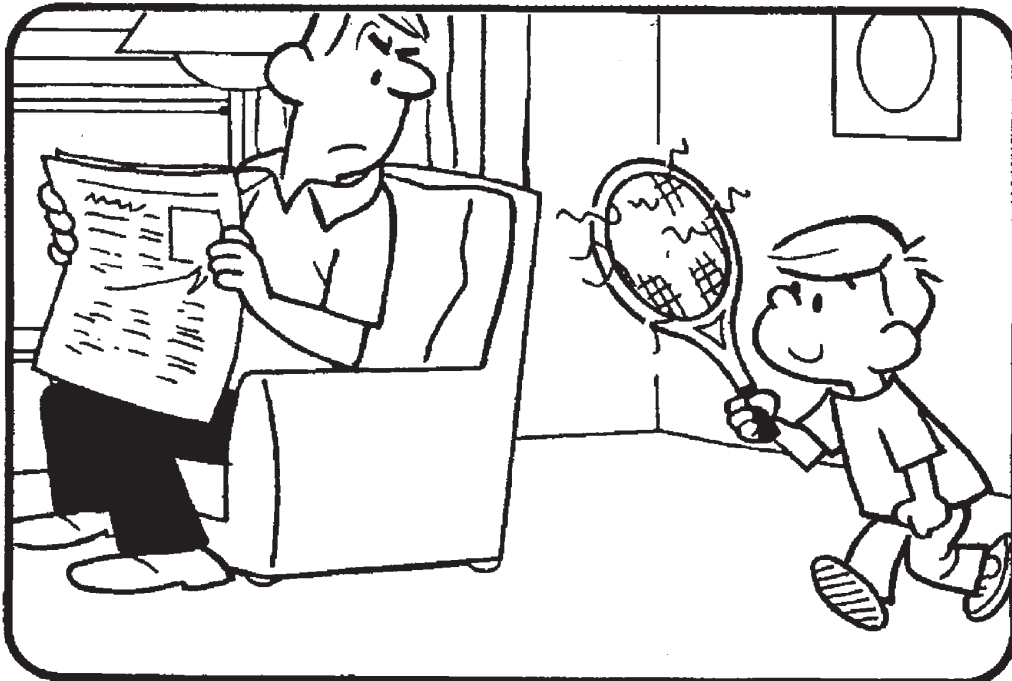
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Paper is different. 2. Buttons are missing. 3. Pillow is missing. 4. Picture is missing. 5. Handle is shorter. 6. Leg is moved.

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* "I make presents pretty by cutting leftover gift wrap into quarter-inch strips, curling them and attaching them to the gift. The more the better. It's attractive and makes an impression." -- M.F. in Washington

* "I love to have sauteed, sliced mushrooms, and I use my egg slicer to get perfect slices. It's very handy and much easier to use than doing it with a knife." -- K.P. in Arizona

* To make your own ammonia-based pretreatment for laundry stains, mix together equal parts water, liquid detergent and ammonia in a spray bottle. Never use with bleach.

* You can use a soft cloth dampened with vinegar to clean greasy stains off of suede shoes. This also works on patent leather.

* "To clean plastic, vented hairbrushes, stick them in the dishwasher. You also can put toothbrushes in the dishwasher periodically." -- E.L. in Michigan

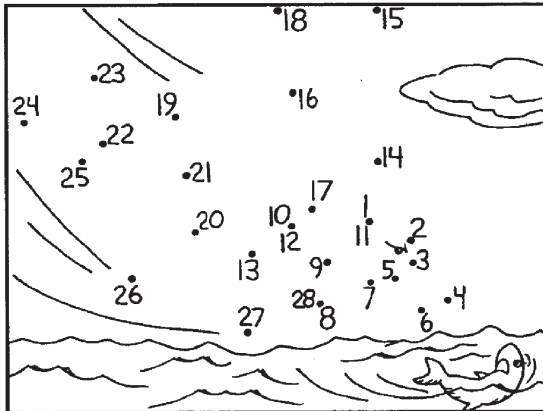
"If you or your child has a wood splinter, soak the finger/toe in icy water. The water swells the wood, making it easier to remove, while the iciness numbs the area, making it less painful." -- R.D. in Oregon

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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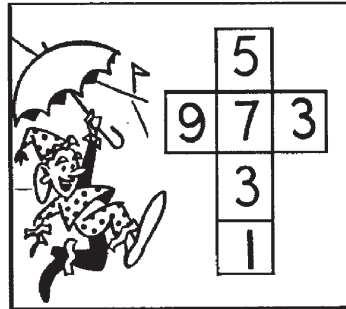
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SKY DIVER! Something's up, watch out below! Add lines from dot to dot to complete the picture. What can you draw?

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



SUM UPS AND DOWNS IN LINEUPS

OBJECT of this number poser (see left) is to have totals match both across and down. That is to say, the three horizontal numbers are to total the same as the four verticals.

There is a bit of a catch. To achieve the desired result, one of the numbers must be turned upside down.

Nine, obviously, can become a 6, and sums across and down will be 16.

Moreover, with 9 out, 6 in, there are other ways in which sums can be made to correspond. See if you can find another equal sum arrangement.

Time limit: Two minutes.

Numbers 753 horizontally, and 6531 vertically, for instance, will do it.

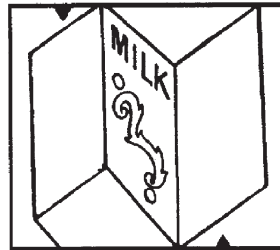
NAME GAME! Alas, anagrams of last names of some U.S. presidents can be less than complimentary. Examples: 1. SAW NOTHING. 2. AM SAD. 3. AGE RAN. 4. ID MOANS. 5. NO WISE HERE. Name them, if you can.

1. Washington. 2. Adams. 3. Reagan. 4. Madison. 5. Eisenhower.

SPILLED MILK! Answer this: Is the milk container shown at right below standing on end, or is it resting on its side? It all depends on how you look at it.

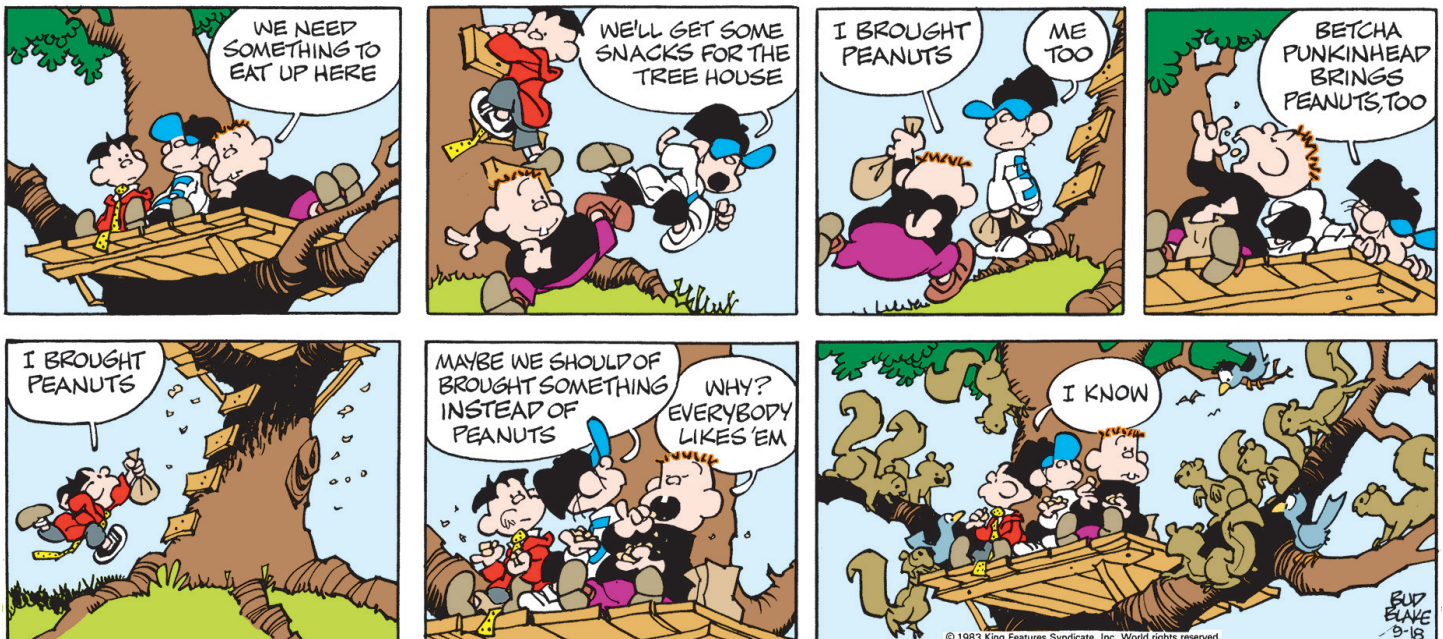
Fix your gaze on the figure for several seconds, and presto change, the container will appear to move from one side to the other (note arrows).

It's an optional illusion with seemingly shifting lines that fool you, of course.



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Dame Dench
- 5 Witty one
- 8 Leer at
- 12 Western tribe
- 13 TV pioneer
- 14 Eye part
- 15 Dressing ingredient
- 17 Sugar unit
- 18 Fill in — blank
- 19 Conclude
- 20 Monk's home
- 21 Droop
- 22 Bikini top
- 23 Wan
- 26 Germ
- 30 God, in Granada
- 31 Joke
- 32 Spoken
- 33 "You wish!"

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | | | | | 13 | | | | 14 | | | |
| 15 | | | | 16 | | | | | 17 | | | |
| 18 | | | | 19 | | | | 20 | | | | |
| | | | 21 | | | | 22 | | | | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | 26 | | | | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | 31 | | | | 32 | | | |
| 33 | | | | 34 | | | | 35 | | | | |
| | | | 36 | | | | 37 | | | | | |
| 38 | 39 | 40 | | | | 41 | | | | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| 45 | | | | | 46 | | | | 47 | | | |
| 48 | | | | | 49 | | | | 50 | | | |
| 51 | | | | | 52 | | | | 53 | | | |

- 35 Pesky insects
- 36 Chairman of China
- 37 Greyhound vehicle
- 38 Hoopster
- 41 Dict. info
- 42 Chi follower
- 45 Sandwich cookie
- 46 Fuel-producing area
- 48 Hindu royal
- 49 Parisian pal
- 50 Advertising award
- 51 Genesis
- shepherd
- 10 Margarita garnish
- 11 Glimpse
- 16 Campus VIP
- 20 Lob's path
- 21 Staple in some Asian recipes
- 22 Ginormous
- 23 Do sums
- 24 Polite address
- 25 Weed whacker
- 26 Chess piece
- 27 — pro nobis
- 28 Cudgel
- 29 Overhead trains
- 31 Sticky stuff
- 34 Scratch
- 35 Nonsense
- 37 Prove untrue
- 38 Comics' Mrs. Dithers
- 39 Bedouin
- 40 Hereditary unit
- 41 Exemplar of thinness
- 42 Soccer legend
- 43 Faux pas
- 44 Nuptial vows
- 46 Klutz
- 47 Glacial

DOWN

- 1 Equitable
- 2 Beehive State
- 3 Take out of context?
- 4 "This — recording"
- 5 Incorrect
- 6 Battery fluid
- 7 Lass
- 8 Getty and Rockefeller, e.g.
- 9 Vittles

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— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J | U | D | I | | W | A | G | | O | G | L | E | |
| U | T | E | S | | R | C | A | | I | R | I | S | |
| S | A | L | A | D | O | I | L | | L | U | M | P | |
| T | H | E | | E | N | D | | | A | B | B | E | Y |
| | | | S | A | G | | | B | R | A | | | |
| A | S | H | E | N | | M | I | C | R | O | B | E | |
| D | I | O | S | | G | A | G | | O | R | A | L | |
| D | R | E | A | M | O | N | | G | N | A | T | S | |
| | | | M | A | O | | | B | U | S | | | |
| C | A | G | E | R | | D | E | F | | P | S | I | |
| O | R | E | O | | O | I | L | F | I | E | L | D | |
| R | A | N | I | | A | M | I | | C | L | I | O | |
| A | B | E | L | | F | E | E | | Y | E | P | S | |

LAFF - A - DAY



"Henry has a very radical way of settling intellectual disputes."

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

IN THE MOVIE TOP GUN, FIGHTER PILOTS USED CALL SIGNALS LIKE "MAVERICK," "GOOSE" AND "ICEMAN"... WHAT IF PILOTS USED CALL SIGNALS BASED ON POPULAR MOVIE THEATER CANDY?...

STAR BURST

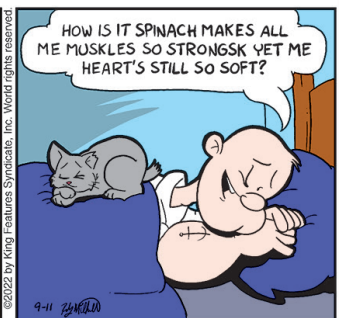
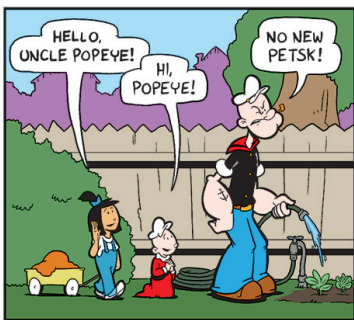
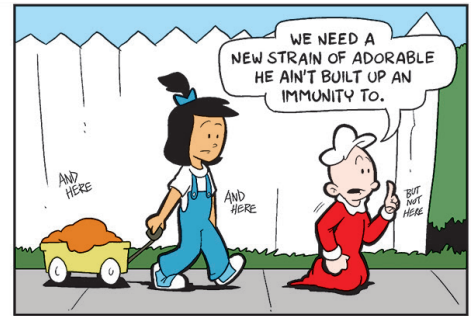
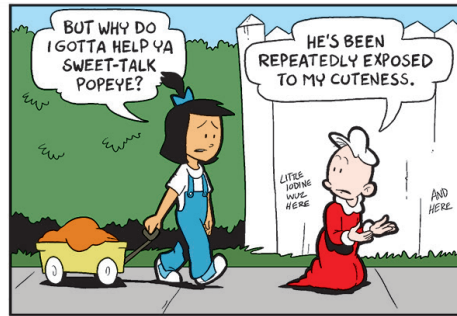
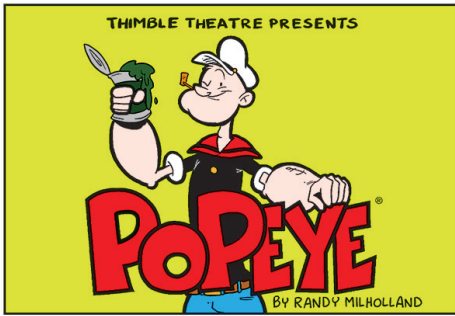
TWIZZLER

SNO CAP

SOUR PATCH

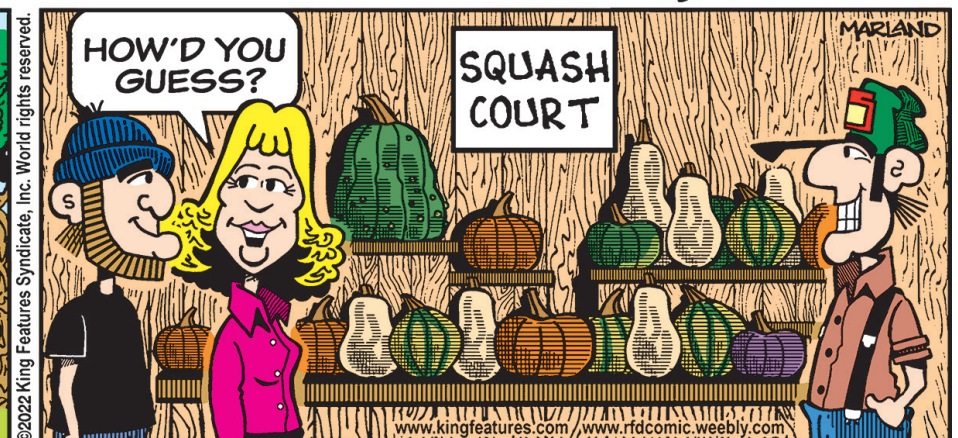
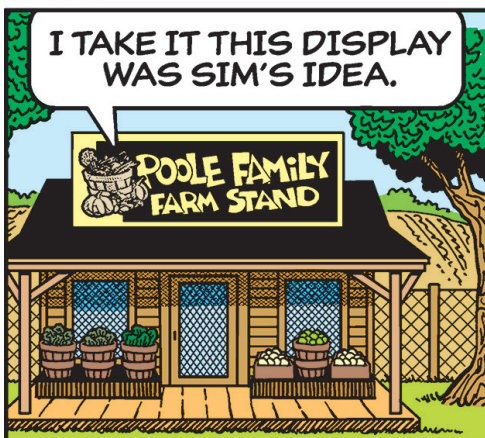
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R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



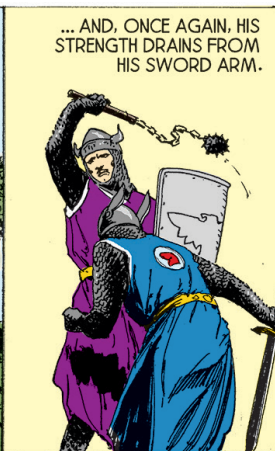
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Hal Foster's
Prince Valiant
By Gianni and Schultz

MALDUBH, SURE THAT HER CRASHING OAK HAS DESTROYED HER NEMESIS, RETURNS TO HER MAGICAL ATTACKS ON VAL ...



... AND, ONCE AGAIN, HIS STRENGTH DRAINS FROM HIS SWORD ARM.



LEAVING ONLY HIS REFLEXES TO SAVE HIM FROM DRACO'S REACH.



BUT THE BATTLE IS FAR FROM WON. A SUDDEN GUST OF WIND CLAWS AT DRACO'S WITCH WIFE, PULLING HER FROM THE VERY GROUND...



... AND GROWING TO AN INTENSITY THAT SWEEPS HER SORCEROUS APPARATUS AWAY! THE HOODED TRIO RISE UNHARMED FROM MALDUBH'S MAYHEM.



WHILE ON THE FIELD OF MORTAL COMBAT, VAL'S STRENGTH FLOODS BACK. A SAVAGE BLOW CUTS THE HAFT OF DRACO'S WEAPON IN TWO!



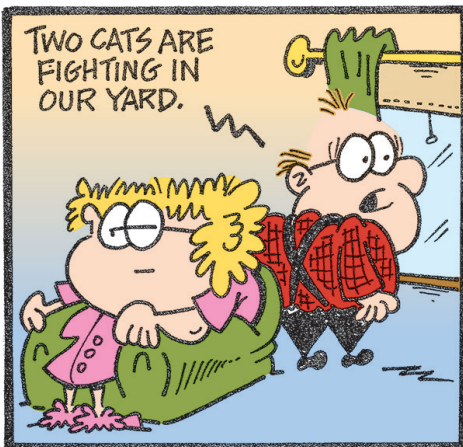
CONVINCED THAT MALDUBH HAS ABANDONED HIM, THE WOULD-BE USURPER TURNS TAIL AND RUNS...

NEXT: *Bark skins*

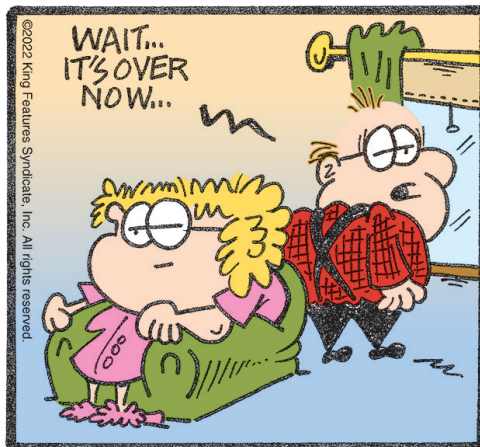
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The Spats

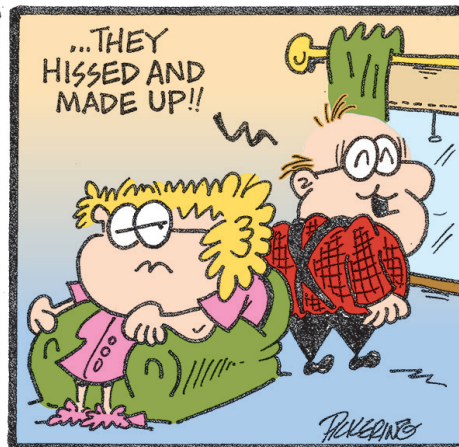
by Jeff Pickering



TWO CATS ARE FIGHTING IN OUR YARD.



WAIT... IT'S OVER NOW...



...THEY HISSED AND MADE UP!!

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PICKERING

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Scammers and the Omicron Vaccine

The latest scam against seniors appears to have started the very day the new Covid omicron vaccine was announced as being approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

The call I received promised to help me get to the front of the line ... ahead of all the people who were going to be eligible at the same time. All I had to do was provide my banking information or Medicare card number so they could "hold a place" for me in the appointments.

After all, the scammer said, millions of people were going to be rushing to get the vaccine. I didn't want to be left out, did I?

I had a few minutes, so I decided to test the scammer's actual knowledge about the vaccine. He was fuzzy on the information and stumbled to answer, sometimes making it up as he went.

Here are some facts to remember should you get one of these vaccine scam calls:

The truth is that not everyone is going to be eligible. Those who haven't had any previous Covid vaccines cannot get the omicron vaccine until they take the other ones. Then you have to wait two months before getting the new one.

The Pfizer booster will be for those age 12 and over, with the Moderna for those 18 and up. They don't know yet about children younger than those ages.

No, at this point there haven't been any clinical trials about how well the omicron version works. Mice, yes, but people, no. (Moderna and Pfizer both did mini-tests of 600 people each.)

The omicron vaccine will cover not only the omicron BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants, but also the original Covid as well. It's called a "bivalent" vaccine because it covers both.

But the big thing to remember: These scammers don't want to help you get the new omicron booster. They only want your personal information.

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1. What Minnesota Twins first baseman hit a grand slam in Game 6 of the 1987 World Series to help the Twins tie the series with an 11-5 win over the St. Louis Cardinals?

2. What 5,000-year-old sport, brought to the United States by Hmong immigrants, has players using sticks and strings to hurl spinning tops?

3. Name the Basketball Hall of Famer who holds the NBA career record for most field goals missed.

4. A 1960 episode of what TV series centered on a robot named Casey who pitched for the fictional Hoboken Zephyrs?

5. What sports website and digital media company was founded as a print publication by David Portnoy in 2003?

6. In 1993, what apparel company became the exclusive supplier of caps for Major League Baseball?

7. The Connecticut Whale, Buffalo Beauts, Boston Pride and Metropolitan Riveters are teams in what women's pro hockey league?



by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. Kent Hrbek.

2. Tuj Lub (pronounced "too-loo").

3. Kobe Bryant, with 14,481.

4. "The Twilight Zone."

5. Barstool Sports.

6. New Era Cap Company.

7. The Premier Hockey Federation (formerly the National Women's Hockey League).

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Building a Pet First-Aid Kit

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I read in a guide about cutting dogs' toenails that styptic will stop bleeding if you cut their paws. What is that, and where do I get it? -- Perry in Dallas

DEAR PERRY: Styptic powder can be used on small nicks and tiny cuts to stop bleeding and reduce pain. That's helpful when trimming pets' toenails, which can be a traumatic experience for them, especially if you should trim a little too far up the nail and accidentally cut the quick. The powder is applied with a cotton ball or soft cloth. Most owners keep it right next to them as they trim their pets' nails, so it can be applied immediately.

In fact, styptic powder should be an essential part of something every pet owner has: an easy-to-access first-aid kit for their pets. You don't have to buy a complete kit; you can assemble a few key items and store them in a tightly sealed plastic container.

In addition to the powder, a pet first-aid kit should have gauze and tape, a small bar of soap, a disinfectant like hydrogen peroxide or alcohol wipes, Benadryl (plain, with no ibuprofen or acetaminophen), cotton balls and disinfecting hand wash (for you). Its main purpose is to treat small cuts and scrapes, but you can add other items that you think are essential, including the veterinarian's phone number, extra identification tags, copies of your pet's shot records and a spare leash. More ideas can be found at the Humane Society of the United States' website.

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

* Because we know you've always secretly wondered, that depression on the flexure of your arm is called a chelidon.

* In 1992, Saab created a prototype vehicle called Prometheus that featured a joystick in place of a steering wheel. While it increased safety and space, it also proved more tiring and challenging to use, and the car never made it to production.

* A one-eyed yellowtail rockfish at the Vancouver Aquarium was given a prosthetic eye by the facility's head veterinarian after being bullied by its fellow fish on its blind side.

* Here's an incentive to keep up your hygiene: When scientists examined the genetic makeup of bacteria in navel lint from 60 volunteers, one notable subject who hadn't washed for several years was found to host two species of extremophile bacteria that typically thrive in ice caps and thermal vents!

* The modern high jump technique was created by Dick Fosbury and dubbed the Fosbury Flop.

* Dooley Wilson, who played Sam at Rick's Cafe Americain in "Casablanca," was an experienced musician and bandleader, but a drummer, not a pianist. He mimed his piano performance, and "As Time Goes By" was dubbed in later.

* A linguistic study revealed that winter workers in Antarctica began to develop a new accent as a result of being isolated together for several months.

* Sharks have existed on Earth for roughly 50 million years longer than trees.

* John Joseph Merlin, often credited with inventing roller skates, debuted them at a 1760's masquerade in London by rolling into a room as he played the violin ... then crashing head-on into a quite expensive mirror.

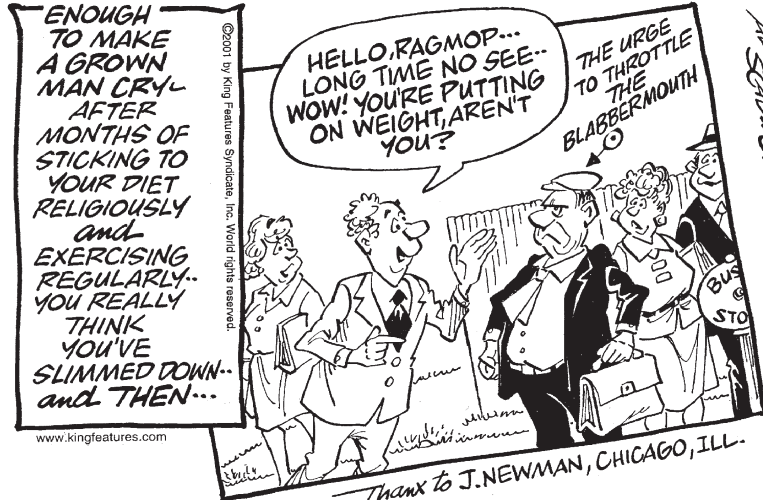
Thought for the Day: "The history of Western science confirms the aphorism that the great menace to progress is not ignorance but the illusion of knowledge." -- Daniel J. Boorstin

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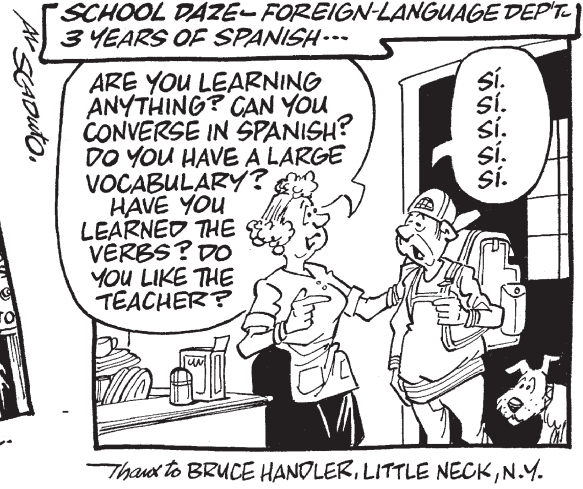
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THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

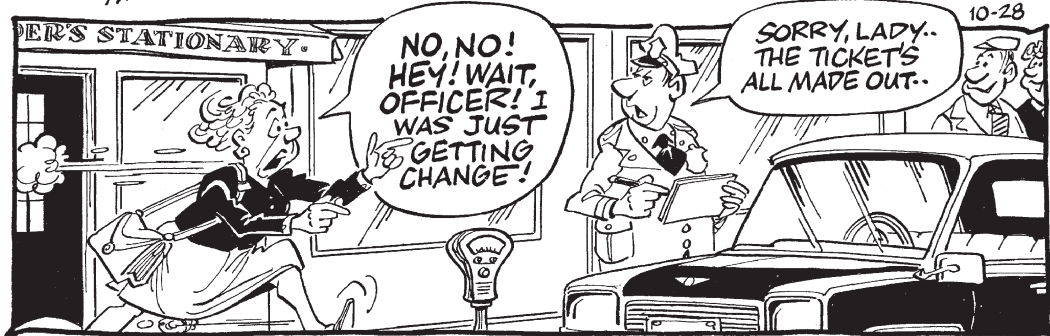


BY AL SCADUTO



EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? WHEN YOU DO FIND A PARKING-METER SPACE... THAT'S WHEN YOU'VE GOT NO CHANGE...

Thank to T. DELANEY, CINCINNATI, OHIO



The Garden Bug

The red-spotted purple

(*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)

Source: entnemdept.ufl.edu



This butterfly lives from Florida over to eastern Texas, and northward into Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire. Adults prefer to feed on tree sap, fermenting fruit or dung, but they also take nectar from flowers and frequently feed at mud puddles.

Plant hosts for red-spotted purple larvae are black cherry, deerberry, willows, aspens, poplars, cottonwood, hawthorn, birches and black oak.

- Brenda Weaver



by Freddy Groves

Homeless Veterans Still Need Help

Right about now the weather is cooling off. Or, if it hasn't, it soon will. Before we know it, hard winter will be upon us. As of this year, there are 38,000 homeless veterans who will be living outside in that weather.

Homeless people make up 7% of the population, but 13% of the homeless population are veterans. Over half have a disability. Nearly three-quarters have substance abuse problems. Fully half are over the age

of 50. Kind of makes you think, doesn't it?

Despite all the programs the Department of Veterans Affairs has come up with to reduce veteran homelessness, our comrades are still out there by the thousands. Large dollars are budgeted for this, grants handed out to community homeless advocacy groups, studies done, numbers arranged in neat columns on printouts, meetings held -- and the numbers just don't go down an appreciable amount. In fact, the point-in-time (PIT) count numbers (every homeless veteran counted in a single day) for the past several years have been inching upward, despite all the efforts to manage the problem.

We, on either an individual or group basis, need to step up.

Start by making calls. Call Voluntary Services at the closest VA hospital and ask what they need. Hook up with the CEC (community employment coordinator) at the hospital and offer your help. Work at a Stand Down. Sign up to drive veterans to medical appointments and job interviews.

On a smaller level, band with others and prepare to open your wallets just a little bit. Remember: While what we do might seem negligible in the whole range of efforts, it won't be a small thing for the veteran who gets a thick winter coat, some dry socks, a ride to the VA clinic or your skills in drafting up a resume.

Keep this number handy: National Call Center for Homeless Veterans 877-424-3838. They answer 24/7 and have help for homeless veterans or those who are in danger of becoming homeless.

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Wishing Well®

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby hedgehog called?
2. MOVIES: Which 1960s movie features a character named Holly Golightly?
3. HISTORY: In which country did the Easter Rising of 1916 take place?
4. GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. state is bordered by the states of Washington, Oregon, Montana, Utah, Wyoming and Nevada?
5. LITERATURE: What do the initials in J.D. Salinger's name stand for?
6. GEOMETRY: How many sides does a heptagon have?
7. TELEVISION: Richard Dawson was the original host of which TV game show?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which gymnast was the first to score a perfect 10 in Olympic competition?
9. U.S. STATES: Which state's official animal is a red fox?
10. MEDICAL: What is the common name of a condition called tussis?

Answers

1. Hoglet.
2. "Breakfast at Tiffany's."
3. Ireland.
4. Idaho.
5. Jerome David.
6. Seven.
7. "Family Feud."
8. Nadia Comaneci.
9. Mississippi.
10. Cough.

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South Dakota Governor

Kristi Noem



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

The Best State In the Country To Do Business

2022 is on track to be another fantastic year for economic investment in South Dakota. Since I took office, I have championed our state as the best place in the country to do business. We had all the ingredients to succeed, even before the COVID pandemic hit, but now we're breaking records for economic growth and business investment.

We have always had the potential to become an economic powerhouse – we're one of the best states in the nation to start a small business thanks to our low taxes, limited red tape and regulations, and – most importantly – our hardworking people. We can be flexible and innovative in ways that other states can't be.

The attention that we received during the pandemic gave us the opportunity to tell this story. And now, we have another success story to celebrate. We recently welcomed Gevo to Lake Preston and celebrated the groundbreaking of their new facility – the largest economic investment in South Dakota history.

Gevo's new, \$1 billion jet fuel plant will be a world-class sustainable fuel production facility. They will create 1,000 jobs during construction and 90 long-term, high-paying jobs. It's the first billion dollar project in the history of the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

Gevo will also be giving back to their community on day one by supporting two Build Dakota Scholarships for students at Lake Area Technical College. These students will start their careers right here in South Dakota. And that underscores another major success that we've had – South Dakota is turning around the longstanding trend of students leaving the state. Now, all the exciting new jobs are right here at home!

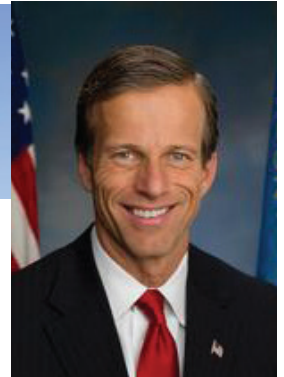
Gevo is one of dozens of businesses that have noticed our great state over the last few years and chosen to expand or relocate in South Dakota. My Office of Economic Development facilitated \$4.5 billion in capital investment in South Dakota in 2020 and 2021 alone. Communities from Belle Fourche to Brandon to Yankton thrived in a state where government stayed out of the way. We allowed families and businesses to make their own decisions.

Along with Gevo's incredible investment in our state, we've seen longtime South Dakota businesses growing their operations here. Valley Queen in Milbank announced the largest expansion in their history in May. Terex celebrated the grand opening of their new manufacturing headquarters in Watertown. And in March, Dakota State University secured \$90 million to make cybersecurity the state's next big industry with a new lab facility in Sioux Falls.

Companies like Gevo are also proving that government mandates aren't necessary for our energy industry to be environmentally responsible. They are taking the lead to "go green," and they're working with our farmers to do it. The facility will use sustainable, regionally grown corn as its feedstock and will pay farmers a premium for sustainably grown corn. This is one area where the free market should – and is – taking the lead.

I'm proud of Gevo and all the innovative, hardworking businesses in South Dakota. They are helping make our state an example to the nation.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Democrats' Supersized IRS Hits Working Families

Last week, the official statistics confirmed what Americans are feeling every day: Inflation remains at a 40-year high. Seventeen straight months of higher prices have taken a toll on family budgets, driving up grocery bills and causing one in six households to fall behind on utility bills. As I travel across South Dakota, inflation is undoubtedly the top concern I hear from farmers, business owners, and working families.

Unfortunately, soaring prices are likely to continue for the foreseeable future. If you ask the president, though, he says he's not concerned. In fact, on the same day the inflation rate rose 8.3 percent from the same month a year ago, the White House hosted a celebration for passing the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, which more than one independent analysis confirms will do little to nothing to reduce inflation. It's difficult to understand what there was to celebrate about a bill that won't reduce inflation, falls short on deficit reduction, and is chock-full of tax increases that are expected to result in slower growth, lower wages, and thousands of fewer jobs.

In addition to Democrats' usual reckless, big-government spending and tax hikes, the bill included an unprecedented \$80 billion for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to raise revenue by increasing audits and placing new burdens on taxpayers. This funding will enable the IRS to hire as many as 87,000 new employees, more than doubling its current workforce and making it larger than Customs and Border Patrol and the Coast Guard combined.

More than half of the new IRS funding is earmarked for increased enforcement, while a mere 4 percent goes to improving customer service at an agency that answered just 10 percent of taxpayers' phone calls this filing season. That is why, as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight, I recently introduced the Increase Reliable Services Now Act to prevent the IRS from hiring new employees for enforcement until customer service at the agency reaches an acceptable level. It is unconscionable that audits on South Dakotans should increase when 90 percent of taxpayer phone calls to the IRS go unanswered.

I also joined my Republican colleagues on the Senate Finance Committee to introduce legislation to prevent the IRS from using this new funding to audit American workers and small business owners earning less than \$400,000 per year. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that this funding will help the IRS collect an additional \$4 billion from middle-income taxpayers, which contradicts the president's pledge and his treasury secretary's assurances that this group of Americans would be protected.

In recent years, there have also been disturbing instances of the IRS compromising private taxpayer information. As the IRS has not provided accountability on recent data breaches, I have pressed the IRS commissioner to inform Congress how the agency plans to ensure these breaches do not happen again. At a minimum, taxpayers deserve to be confident that their personal information will be protected when they file their taxes.

Democrats' \$1.9 trillion spending spree early last year helped spark the ongoing inflation crisis. While Americans are experiencing serious economic hardship, Democrats have doubled down on policies that threaten to worsen economic pain and create additional frustrations from an even bigger bureaucracy. I will continue to fight back against these out-of-touch ideas and push for common-sense solutions for South Dakotans.

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CONGRESSMAN
DUSTY JOHNSON
Representing **SOUTH DAKOTA** at large



Keeping Supply Chains on Track

Cargo ships to planes, semi-trucks to trains, it seems we keep hitting roadblock after roadblock to get our supply chain on the right track – and keep it there.

First, it was the clogged ports due to unfair practices by cargo shipping companies. My Ocean Shipping Reform Act (OSRA) addressed this issue and now the average shipping rate is less than half the price before OSRA became law.

Next, it was the airlines. The looming pilot shortage is threatening to disrupt already difficult air travel and air cargo shipments. I introduced the Let Experienced Pilots Fly Act with U.S. Rep. Chip Roy (R-TX) to allow pilots to fly for two more years than they are currently allowed, effectively filling the 12,000-pilot shortage that will be caused by their retirement under current law.

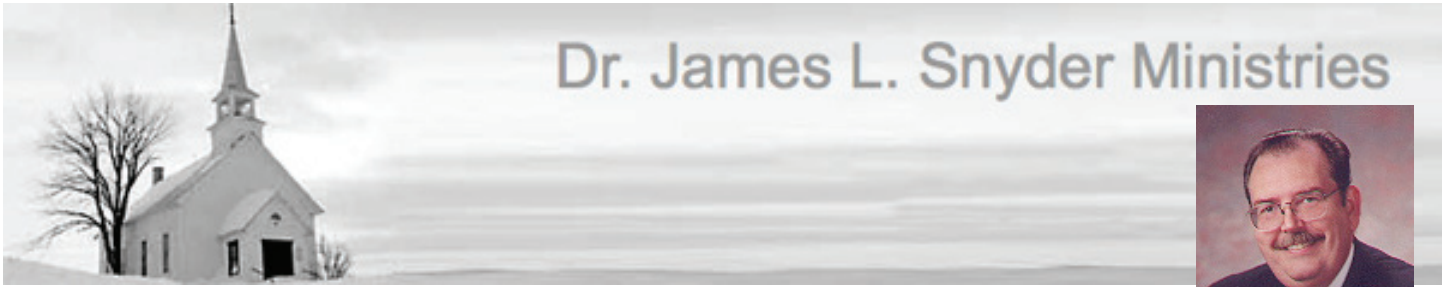
Then, it was trucking. An 80,000-truck driver shortage combined with new, more stringent CDL requirements, not enough safe truck stops, and record-high gas prices, provided another obstacle for the supply chain. I pushed the Biden Administration to allow 18-year-olds with a trucking license to drive across state lines and delay the new Entry-Level Driver Training rule earlier this year, and I introduced the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act to alleviate the parking shortage and make driving safer for all.

Now, at a time when Americans are still experiencing supply chain delays, record-high prices, and persistent inflation, earlier this week we saw what could happen if rail workers go on strike. Labor negotiations between railroad workers and railroad companies lasted three years, but if they didn't reach a deal by midnight last night, the workers would go on strike.

Unsure if an agreement would be met, early this week, rail companies were canceling shipments of hazardous materials, fertilizer, grain, animal feed, and refrigerated goods. These cancelations gave us a preview of how cancelation of all freight would cause major disruptions to our economy, supply chain, food supply, and energy supply. A disruption like this would cause \$2 billion of economic losses per day. Even a short-term disruption could cause massive problems in the supply chain.

The supply chain backlogs that began at our ports trickled down to our freight rail networks, and a strike by employees would exacerbate these delays. In August, I introduced the Freight First Act to ease the supply chain-related gridlock and delays by prioritizing the movement of goods by freight rail.

I am even more grateful an agreement between rail companies and workers was reached after seeing this week's news that food-at-home prices are up 13.5% over the past year. This is a stark reminder of how high the stakes are to keep the rail supply chain moving. An efficient and effective supply chain is necessary to bolster our economy. It is imperative that we keep our trains on track, and our supply chain and our country moving in the right direction.



Sir Forgets-A-Lot to the Rescue



Contrary to the idea that the older you get, the more you forget, it has never been my experience. I have forgotten things for as long as I can remember. I even forget things that never actually happened.

It runs in our family, though it came to me legitimately down through the generations. A nut doesn't fall far from the tree.

As a young person, I was quite fascinated with uncle Fred. Everybody who knew him called him Sir Forgets-A-Lot. At the time, I didn't know what they were talking about because good old uncle Fred seemed like a very nice guy.

I remember once spending a whole day with him working on his farm. I forget what we were doing, but we spent our time together. He told me one funny story after another, and I enjoyed them all.

Finally, I had come to the point of asking him about his nickname.

"Uncle Fred, why do they call you Sir Forgets-A-Lot?"

He looked at me, laughed, sat down and began explaining the situation. I was eager to hear the story from his perspective.

"Well," he said as he began his story, "it's basically because I do forget a lot of things." And then he laughed.

He went on and on about forgetting people and situations and everything. As I was listening to him, I began chuckling on the inside. I was chuckling because I knew he was making up the story as he went along. I forget how I knew that.

Then he said something that sort of stumped me.

"Son," he said with a very serious tone of voice, "sometimes the best thing you can do is to forget something."

Looking at him, I didn't quite understand what he was talking about, and then he continued.

"Sometimes, you can make up a story when you forget something, and people don't know the difference."

At that time, I saw him staring off into space with a great big grin on his face. I knew he was thinking of something, but I didn't know if he would tell me the truth or not.

"It's much easier to deal with people when you can say, 'I'm sorry I just forgot.'"

Then he explained that people understand that everybody forgets something at some time. And when you confess to forgetting something, he explained, people take you seriously, and they are eager to forgive. I can live with forgiveness.

Then he gave me some illustrations.

"I'm sorry I didn't show up at your birthday party; I just forgot. Please forgive me."

"I'm sorry I didn't send you that money; I just forgot. Please forgive me."

I began to understand why anybody who knew uncle Fred called him Sir Forgets-A-Lot. He got out of trouble whenever he was in trouble by confessing that he had forgotten about it.

After spending the day with uncle Fred, I wasn't quite sure that he was as forgetful as most people thought. So whenever he would tell me one of those stories, he would look at me, smile and wink.

He didn't forget anything; he was simply manipulating people at the time. The great part was that very

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few people, maybe I'm the only one, ever knew what he was doing.

I thought about him for a while, and the more I thought about him, the more I began to understand what he was talking about. So no matter what problem he was in, he could solve that problem by saying, "I just forgot. Please forgive me."

As a surviving relative of Sir Forgets-A-Lot, I have learned to handle situations in my life that I did know how to handle before. Uncle Fred taught me a lot. I'm not sure, but I've come very close to being crowned the Sir Forgets-A-Lot of this generation.

Uncle Fred passed away a few years back, and I can't forget him. I now know why he was always smiling, and I am interested in what he was teaching me. Whether he was teaching me intentionally or not, I am becoming a grade A student.

The test of all this is in front of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She never knew uncle Fred, and I have yet to tell her his story. Some things are better forgotten, if you know what I mean.

I've been trying to perfect my forgetting skill as best I can. I still have some work to do, but I'm busily engaged in my strategy of forgetting.

When I come against The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, I must understand that she never forgets anything. In fact, I have suspected on many occasions that she remembered something that never actually happened. I have never addressed that in front of her. That's why I'm a happy husband.

Being as old as I am, it is a handy tool to use, particularly with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She can't forget anything. And there is nothing in life that I can't forget.

She will often query me by stating, "Did you remember....?" I always reply, "I'm sorry, my dear, I just forgot. Please forgive me."

Forgetting is not just the blessing of old age, it's just a blessing.

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more" (Hebrews 8:12).

Even God exercises the blessing of forgetting, for which I am so grateful.

EARTHTALK ™

Dear EarthTalk: What's new in food packaging to make it more sustainable? – E.C., Bern, NC

Along with food waste, food packaging is a significant source of pollution, generating approximately half of the packaging waste in the United States. In the wake of growing concerns about climate change and food product packaging's role in it, companies are taking action to make packaging more sustainable.

There are many changes in progress. Corn and cane sugar plants are being increasingly used as materials for packaging food. However, this system puts pressure on already-stressed agricultural land and can jeopardize food security, since crops that could be used for food itself are being used for other purposes. One solution is to use agro-food residue, the byproduct of agricultural production—cornstarch, rice husks, etc. that would otherwise be discarded—for food packaging. In this way, packaging can reduce agricultural material waste without threatening agriculture or food resources.

Companies have begun taking the whole life cycle of a product's packaging, beyond just use and disposal, into consideration. In doing so, they have prompted designs of products made from and transported using sustainable materials, not just ones that can be recycled by customers. For example, Heinz is working with Pulpex to prototype a food-grade bottle made from sustainably-sourced wood pulp that can be recycled and biodegrades if it is thrown away. It has a 90 percent lower carbon footprint than glass and a 30 percent lower footprint than PET, a very common type of plastic in food packaging.

Other examples abound. Alter Eco worked with Natureflex to create truffle wrappers that are made from eucalyptus and birch and then lined with aluminum. The material reportedly composts in industrial settings and biodegrades in the ocean. Boxed Water is Better sells water in recyclable boxes, made of 75 percent paper that is flattened so efficient for shipping, allowing one truck to carry as many boxes to filling centers as 26 trucks carrying plastic bottles. The company also ensures that the paper comes from well-managed forests, that the material is free of BPA's and other chemicals, and that part of the profit is invested in planting trees in deforested and fire-prone areas. Mondelez, which produces snacks like Oreos, and Wheat Thins, Ritz and Belvita crackers, has almost reached its goal of reducing its use of virgin plastic by 25 percent for rigid packaging and by five percent overall by 2025.

Such technologies are creating more effective food packaging that reduce waste, but these solutions face obstacles. Investing in sustainable materials and partnering to develop new ideas, combined with the supply chain and inflation disruptions associated with the pandemic, come with potentially-prohibitive financial costs that have impeded some planned transitions. Also, demonstrating the benefits of these changes has proven to be difficult, and "greenwashing"—marketing that overstates companies' products' environmental pluses—has made investors wary. However, the chances of success are significant as growing numbers of customers demand sustainable packaging. For example, 24 percent of young adults have indicated a willingness to pay five percent more for sustainably packaged food. .

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.



Heinz is working with Pulpex to prototype a food-grade bottle made from sustainably-sourced wood pulp that can be recycled and biodegrades if it is thrown away.

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South Dakota COVID-19 Report

New Confirmed and Probable Cases

1173

Active Cases

753
+109

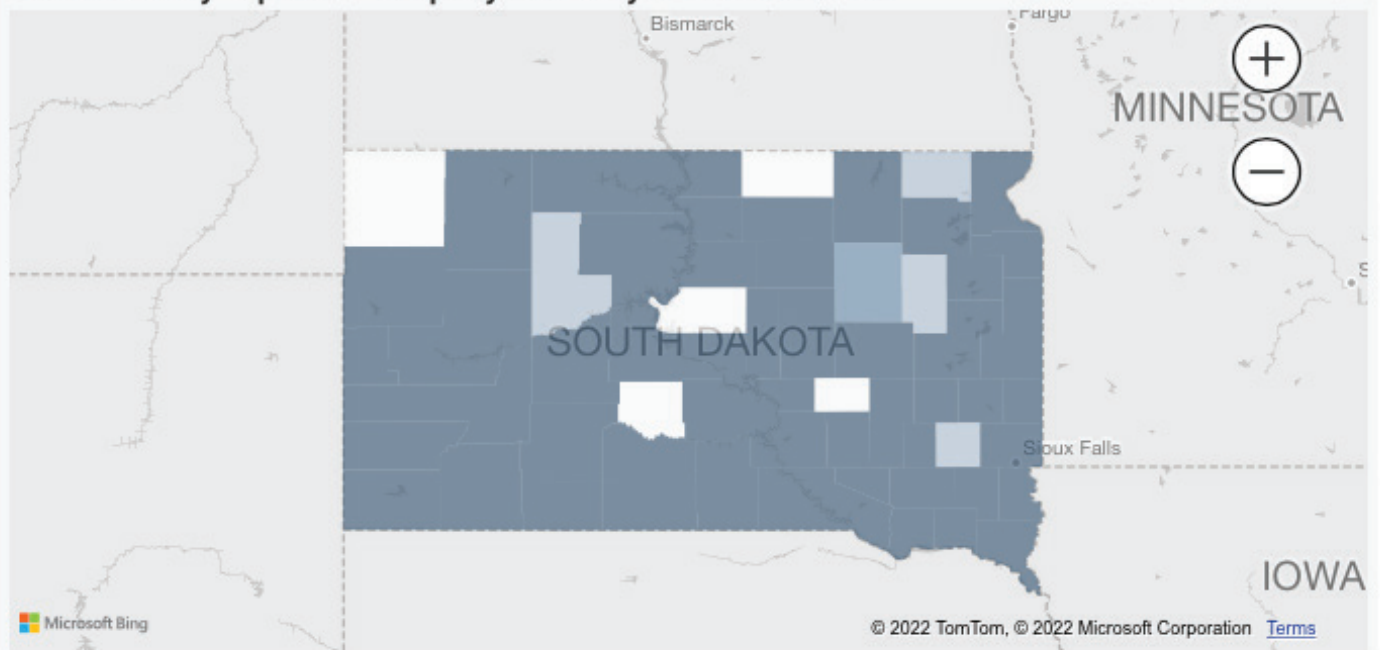
Recovered Cases

255,916

Currently Hospitalized

85

Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread Low Moderate Substantial High

Hover over a county to see its details, or click county to update the orange boxes.

More information on U.S COVID-19 Community levels can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Total Confirmed and Probable Cases

259,683

Total Tests

2,317,268

Deaths Among Cases

3,014

Ever Hospitalized

11,687

Percent of State Population with at least 1 Dose**

75%

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Brown County COVID-19 Report

New Confirmed and Probable Cases

48

Active Cases

29
+9

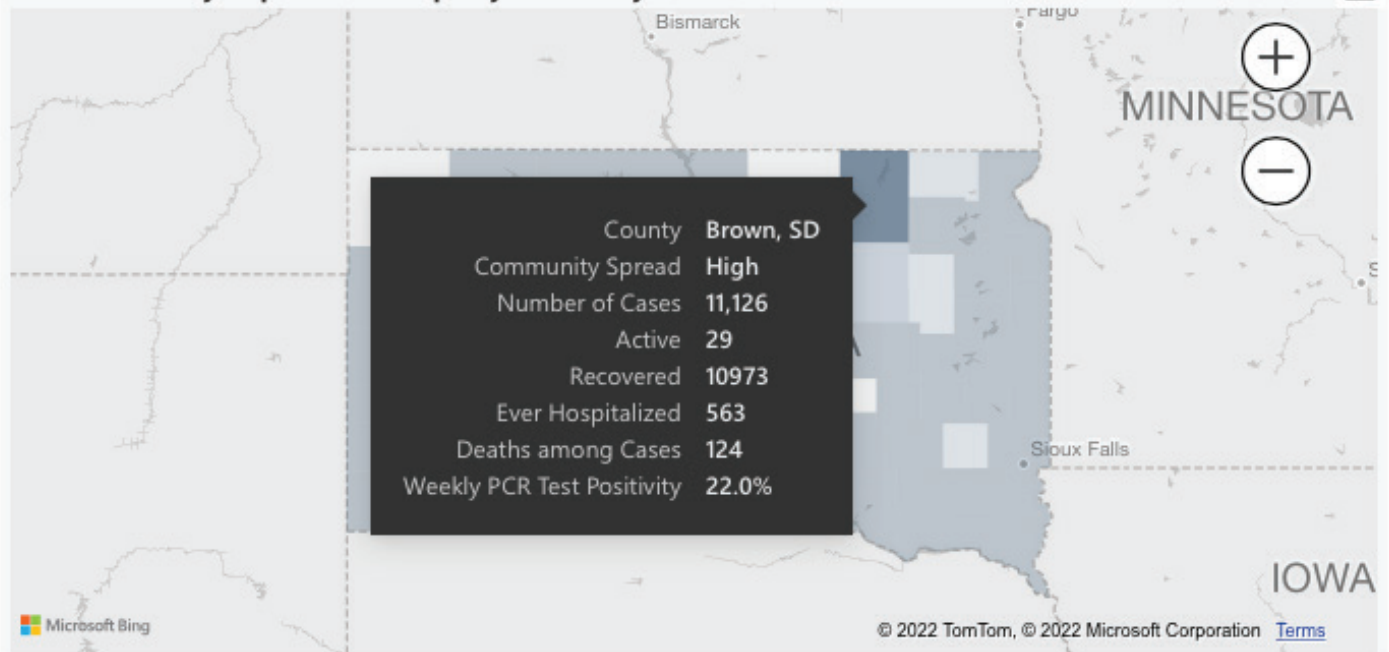
Recovered Cases

10,973

Currently Hospitalized

85

Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread Low Moderate Substantial High

Hover over a county to see its details, or click county to update the orange boxes.

More information on U.S COVID-19 Community levels can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Total Confirmed and Probable Cases

11,126

Total Tests

110,194

Deaths Among Cases

124

Ever Hospitalized

563

Percent of State Population with at least 1 Dose**

75%

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Day County COVID-19 Report

New Confirmed and Probable Cases

5

Active Cases

3
-1

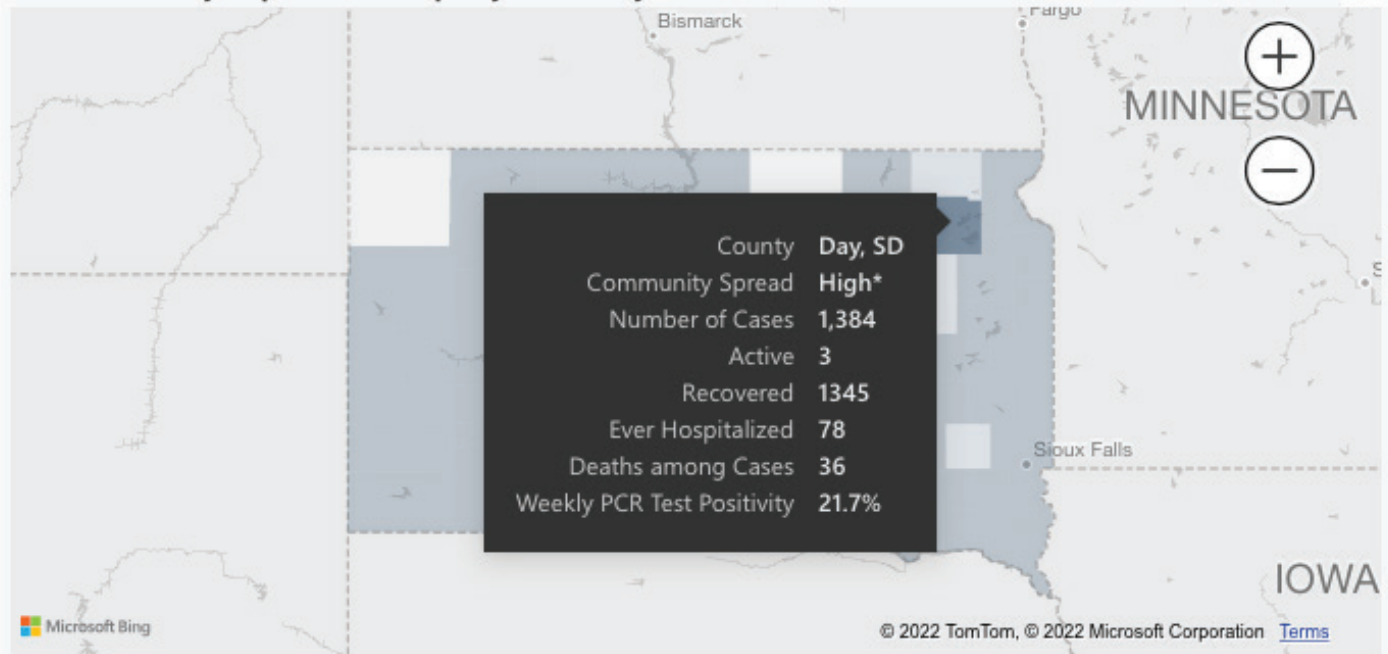
Recovered Cases

1,345

Currently Hospitalized

85

Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread Low Moderate Substantial High

Hover over a county to see its details, or click county to update the orange boxes.

More information on U.S COVID-19 Community levels can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Total Confirmed and Probable Cases

1,384

Total Tests

17,589

Deaths Among Cases

36

Ever Hospitalized

78

Percent of State Population with at least 1 Dose**

75%

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Ever Hospitalized

11,687

03/07/2020 - 09/12/2022

Currently Hospitalized

85
-14

VARIANT CASES OF COVID-19 IN SOUTH DAKOTA

| COVID-19 Variant | # of Cases | # of Cases - Last 3 Months |
|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Delta (B.1.617.2 & AY lineages) | 1,720 | 151 |
| Omicron (B.1.1.529 & BA lineages) | 1,494 | 327 |
| Alpha (B.1.1.7) | 176 | 3 |
| Omicron (BA.2) | 143 | 131 |
| Gamma (P.1) | 4 | 1 |

SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

| Sex | # of Cases | # of Hospitalizations | # of Deaths Among Cases |
|--------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Male | 121,464 | 6,087 | 1,639 |
| Female | 138,219 | 5,600 | 1,375 |

AGE GROUP OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

| Age Range with Years | # of Cases | # of Hospitalizations | # of Deaths Among Cases |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 10-19 years | 30,310 | 188 | 2 |
| 20-29 years | 44,796 | 627 | 14 |
| 30-39 years | 43,254 | 862 | 54 |
| 40-49 years | 35,777 | 991 | 89 |
| 50-59 years | 33,061 | 1,546 | 228 |
| 60-69 years | 28,256 | 2,344 | 485 |
| 70-79 years | 15,756 | 2,498 | 706 |
| 80+ years | 10,720 | 2,459 | 1,433 |

RACE/ETHNICITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

| Race/Ethnicity | # of Cases | # of Hospitalizations | # of Deaths |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Asian / Pacific Islander | 3,602 | 114 | 20 |
| Black | 6,298 | 218 | 23 |
| Hispanic | 11,077 | 365 | 39 |
| Native American | 33,316 | 1,992 | 451 |
| Other | 2,260 | 62 | 14 |
| Unknown | 5,632 | 81 | 22 |
| White | 197,498 | 8,855 | 2,445 |

Volleyball team takes fifth at Hamlin Tournament

Groton Area's volleyball team took fifth place at the Hamlin Tournament held Saturday.

The matches were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Bahr Spray Foam, John Sieh Agency, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Locke Electric, Dacotah Bank, SD Army National Guard with Brent Wienk, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc, Groton Area Chamber of Commerce. Justin Hanson did the play-by-play commentary.

Groton opened the tournament with a 25-18 and 25-15 win over Tiospa Zina. Castlewood then defeated Groton Area by identical scores of 25-20. Colman-Egan defeated Groton Area, 25-19 and 25-16. The Tigers won the fifth place match in three sets, 21-25, 25-13 and 25-15.

Aspen Johnson had 27 kills, seven digs, two solo and two assisted blocks, and one assist. Lydia Meier had 20 kills, four ace serves, 10 digs and one assisted block. Anna Fjeldheim had 14 kills, five ace serves, 21 digs and one solo block. Sydney Leicht had 13 kills, 28 digs, two assisted blocks and one assist. Elizabeth Flieds had six kills, two ace serves, 20 digs, one assisted block and 66 assists. Emma Kutter had six kills and four solo and two assisted blocks. Carly Guthmiller had one kill, six ace serves, 29 digs and four assists. Laila Roberts had one kill, one ace serve and 18 digs. Jaedyn Penning had one kill and seven digs. Jerica Locke had three ace serves, 24 digs and one assist. Chesney Weber had one ace serve, two digs and three assists.

Groton Area, now 6-5 on the season, will host Warner on Tuesday and Tiospa Zina on Thursday.

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Wolves Prove the Power of the Pack in Win over No. 24 Minnesota State

Aberdeen, S.D. – What started out as a beautiful early fall evening in Aberdeen turned into a historic night for the Northern State University football team, as they defeat No. 24 Minnesota State. Over 5000 Wolves faithful were on hand for the 1-point victory over the Mavericks, marking just the second in program history over Mankato.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 23, MSU 22 Records: NSU 2-1, MSU 2-1 Attendance: 5378

HOW IT HAPPENED

- The two teams played 15 minutes of scoreless football through the opening quarter
- The Wolves scored first notching ten points in the second and another ten in the third
- Minnesota State stormed back with 22 total points in the fourth, however a field goal by Payton Eue early and a final minute interception by Ar'Shon Willis sealed the victorious ending for the Wolves
- Eue went 3-for-3 in field goal attempts, notching 11 total points (including two PATs) in the win, with a 28-yarder in the second, 33-yarder in the third, and 33-yarder in the fourth
- Will Madler entered the game early in the second and took command of the Wolves offense, scoring the first touchdown of his career, a 16-yard run, with three minutes on the clock
- Madler then tallied his first career passing touchdown, connecting with Mankato native Wyatt Block for a 26-yard reception
- Following Eue's fourth quarter opening field goal, Minnesota State went on a 22-0 run with three touchdowns, two PATs, and a safety
- The Mavericks were knocking on the door, taking possession with just 1:20 left in the contest
- MSU trotted to the Northern 40-yard line, where Willis stopped them in their tracks, grabbing his second interception of the 2022 season as the clock ticked under a minute
- In total, Northern recorded a game leading 20 first downs, 144 yards rushing (averaging 3.7 yards per carry), and 302 yards of total offense
- They held possession for over 37 minutes, went 4-of-4 in the red-zone, and converted on their lone fourth down attempt
- In addition, the Wolves defense held Minnesota State to 5-of-14 on third down and 43 yards rushing, recorded two sacks for a loss of 12 yards, and tallied four interceptions
- The Northern State offense saw six players carry the ball and eight tally at least one reception
- Luke Gunderson, Brennan Kutterer, and Trey King led the way notching six tackles each, while 16 players notched multiple in the win

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

- Will Madler: 113 yards passing, 10-of-29, 41 yards rushing, 1 rushing touchdown
- Stanley Haskins Jr.: 57 yards rushing, 30-yard long, 5.2 yards per carry
- Wyatt Block: 36 yards rushing, 66 yards receiving, 1 touchdown
- Luke Gunderson: 6 tackles, 1.0 sack, 50 kick return yards
- Ar'Shon Willis: 4 tackles, 1 interception
- Trevor Johnson: 3 tackles, 1 interception
- Lynden Williams / Hunter Hansen: 2 tackles, 1 interception
- Jordan Hillesheim: 2 tackles, 1.0 sack
- Payton Eue: 37.8 yards per punt, 3-for-3 FG attempts, 2-for-2 PAT, 64.3 yards per kickoff

BEYOND THE BOX SCORE

- Northern State tallied just their second win in program history over the Mavericks and the first in over 50 years
- The victory marks the first for the Wolves over a AFCA Top-25 opponent in the NCAA Division II-era
- The last time NSU recorded four interceptions in a contest was versus Concordia-St. Paul in 2018
- Northern is now 5-2 from the confines of Dacotah Bank Stadium

UP NEXT

Northern State hits the road for two straight weeks, beginning at Augustana next Saturday. Kick-off is set for 1 p.m. against the Vikings. The Wolves return home for the annual Gypsy Days game on October 8 versus Winona State. For a full list of game day promotions [CLICK HERE](#). Fans are also reminded that all game day information and protocols are posted on the Dacotah Bank Stadium homepage.

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Quinn Quacks

I just drove through a town so small their tallest building is a storage shed. – Quinn Quacks

The early bird catches the worm. But who wants a worm? – Quinn Quacks

= = = = =

Quinn Column

Rix Quinn – Nursery rhyme re-visit

As I get older, I try to learn something every day. That's not always possible, because some days I just watch reruns.

I'm not alone in this mission. My friend Lucas spent months trying to read deeper meanings into old nursery rhymes.

For instance, "Incy Wincy Spider climbed up the water spout. Down came the rain, and washed the spider out. Out came the sun, and dried up all the rain. And Incy Wincy Spider climbed up the spout again."

Lucas claims this is about perseverance. Spider is determined to get to the top.

My question is: Why would this arachnid keep re-climbing? Thirst? Higher quality insects to trap at the top? Better access to the web?

Here's one of my favorites: "A wise old owl sat in an oak. The more he heard, the less he spoke. The less he spoke the more he heard. Why aren't we all like that wise old bird?"

Seriously, this is great advice. Yesterday in the cafeteria, I listened. Here's what I heard.

Two older golfers discussed a particularly difficult sand trap. At the next table, a group of ten gathered to hear their company's income report.

Then, amidst this drudgery, two twenty-somethings sitting next to me – obviously dating – talked about their upcoming weekend in detail.

Much like the owl, for the first two conversations I didn't give a hoot.

But that last dialog was so spicy I felt out of my chair trying to hear. But I just told the couple I had a balance problem.

Want another nursery song? "If you're happy and you know it clap your hands. If you're happy and you know it, and you really want to show it, if you're happy and you know it clap your hands."

I tried this walking downtown last Saturday. Any time I suddenly felt happy, I started clapping.

This attracted two other clappers with alternative rhythms, a harmonica player, a juggler, and a dog that walked on its back legs.

We open next Thursday night at the civic center.

Got a story idea for Rix? E-mail him at rix@rixquinn.com.

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Wolves Volleyball Drops NSIC Match to No. 10 Minnesota Duluth

Duluth, Minn. – The (RV) Northern State University volleyball team dropped a hard fought match at No. 10 Minnesota Duluth this afternoon. Despite falling in three, the Wolves forced two extra point sets.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 0, UMD 3

Records: NSU 7-5 (2-2 NSIC), UMD 12-0 (4-0NSIC)

Attendance: 580

HOW IT HAPPENED

- In the opening two sets, Northern fell 28-26 and 26-24
- Duluth added a 25-17 victory in set three
- The Wolves hit .165 as a team with 40 kills and 38 assists
- NSU recorded a game high 41 digs and added five blocks and two aces
- Minnesota Duluth recorded a .212 attack percentage with 43 kills and 38 assists

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

- Taylor Buckley: 9 kills, .389 attack%, 8 digs
- Keri Walker: 30 assists, 5 kills, 3 digs
- Madison Langlie: 18 digs, 3 assists

UP NEXT

Northern State returns to Wachs Arena next Friday and Saturday versus Concordia-St. Paul and Minnesota State. First serve is set for 6 p.m. on Friday versus the Golden Bears and 2 p.m. on Saturday against the Mavericks.



Work continues on pickle ball and tennis courts

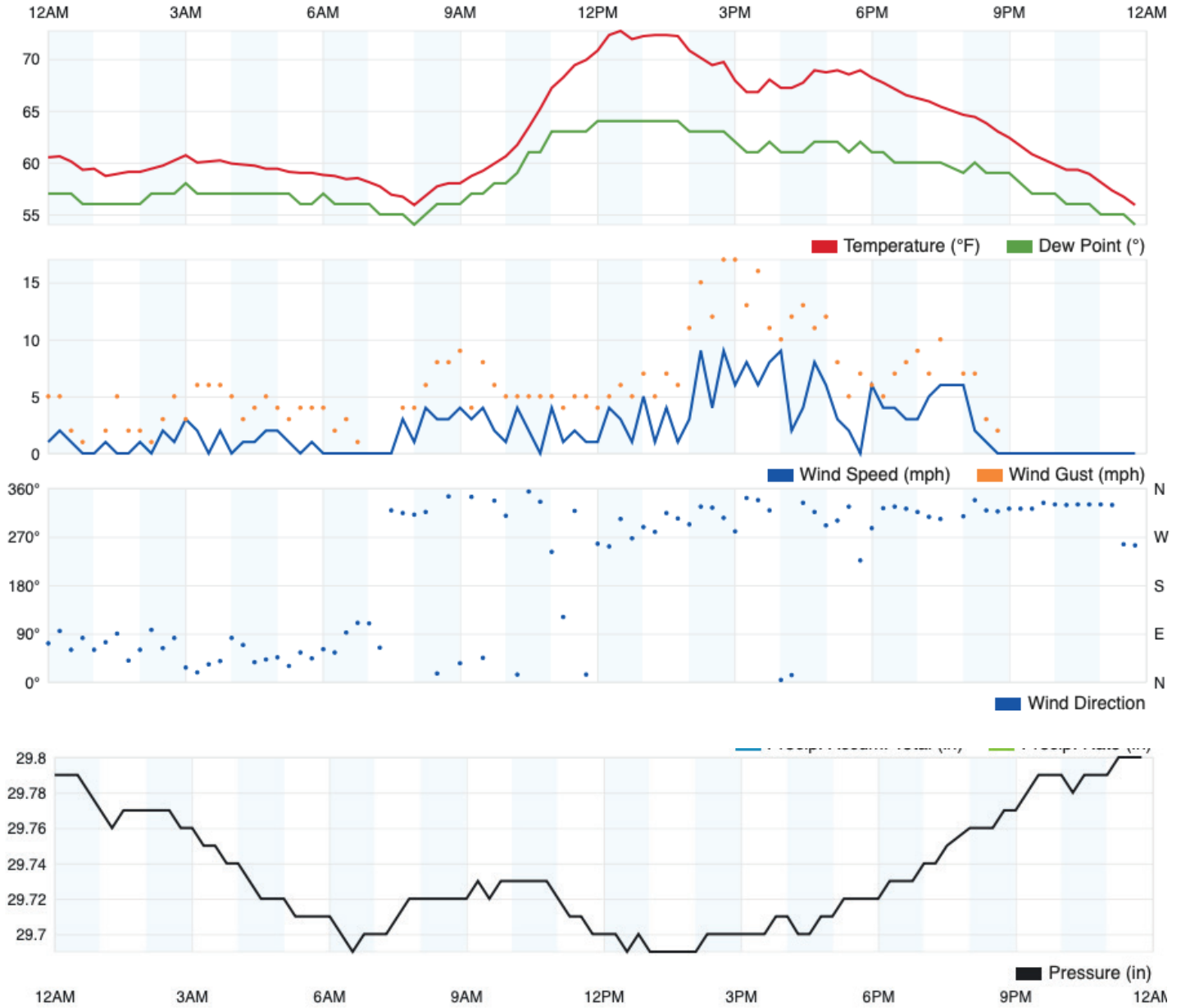
Work is nearing completion of the pickle ball and tennis courts in Groton. The crack sealing was completed and the primer was put down. Three coats of paint are in the works as Carlos Rosado and Alejandro Martinez from Pro Track and Tennis, Inc. continue the work. Work could be completed today.



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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

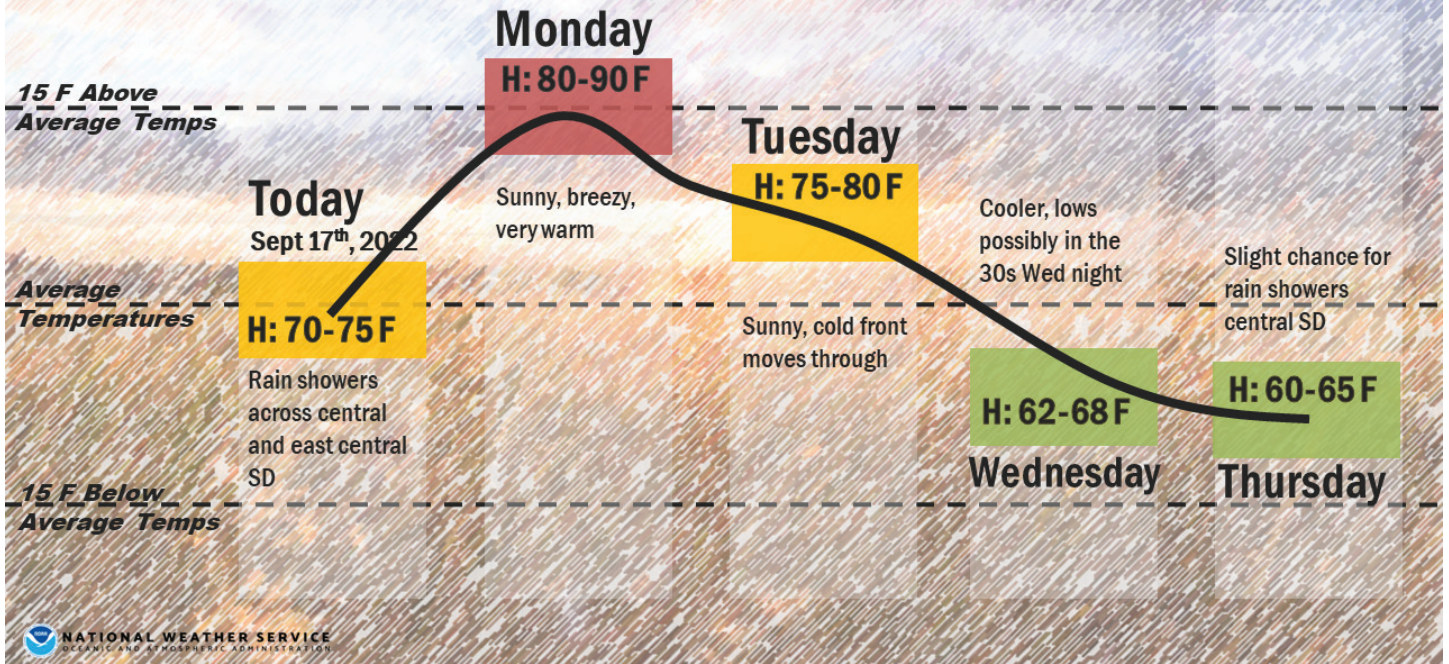


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| Today | Tonight | Monday | Monday Night | Tuesday |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Areas Fog then Slight Chance Showers | Mostly Clear | Slight Chance Showers and Breezy | Clear | Sunny |
| High: 73 °F | Low: 51 °F | High: 83 °F | Low: 56 °F | High: 77 °F |

Temperature Roller Coaster



Temperatures will be seasonal today, as light rain showers and or cloud cover move through the area. Heat builds in on Monday, but it'll be short-lived as a cold front moves through the following day. Below normal temperatures are then expected by the middle of next week.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 72.7 °F at 12:30 PM

Low Temp: 55.9 °F at 8:00 AM

Wind: 17 mph at 3:00 PM

Precip: : 0.00

Day length: 12 hours, 26 minutes

Today's Info

Record High: 95 in 2000

Record Low: 22 in 1896

Average High: 74°F

Average Low: 46°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.20

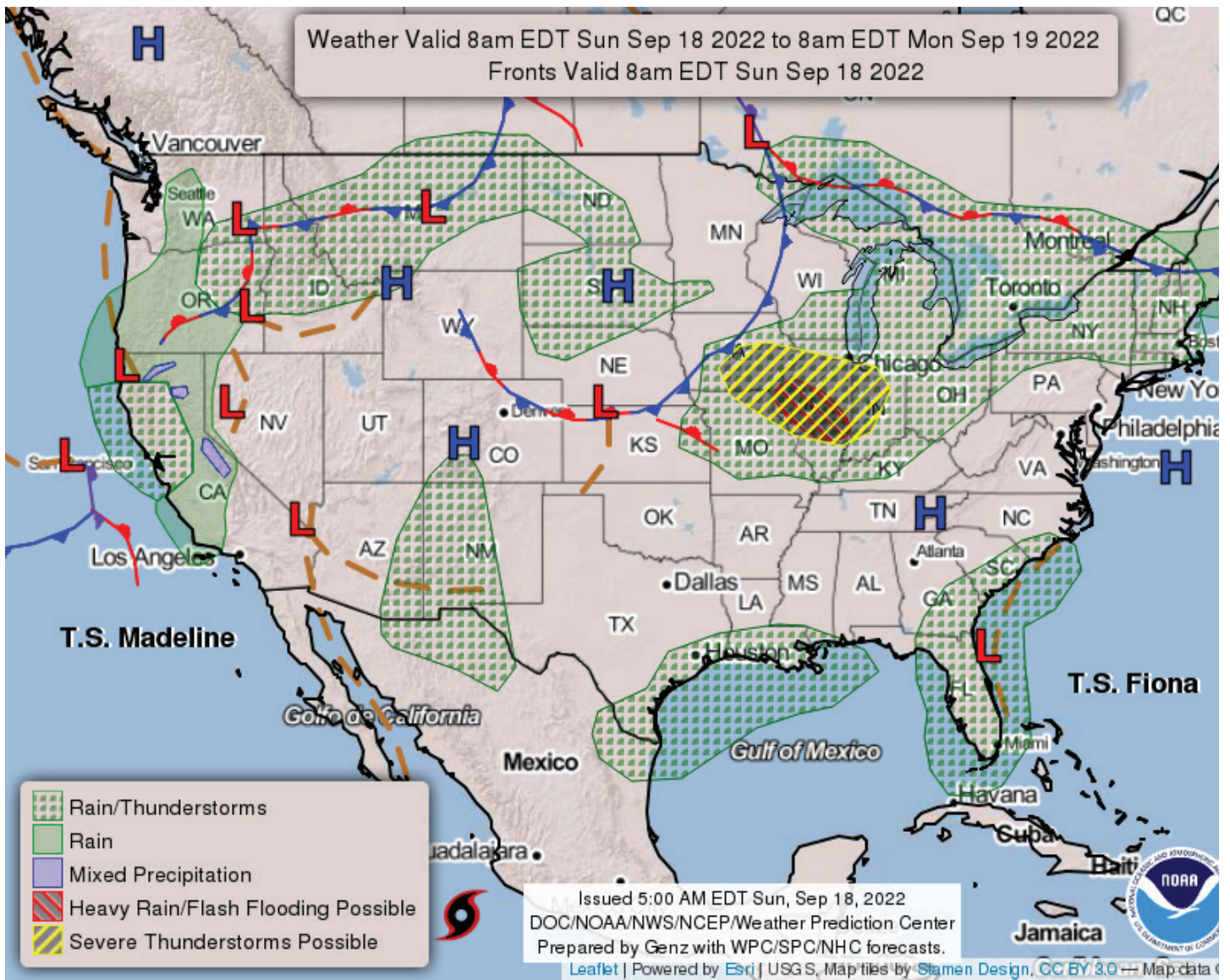
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.07

Average Precip to date: 17.54

Precip Year to Date: 16.05

Sunset Tonight: 7:39:26 PM

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:14:39 AM



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Today in Weather History

September 18, 2000: Mid-September record to near record heat occurred across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. Aberdeen, Kennebec, Pierre, and Wheaton all set record highs for the day. Aberdeen and Wheaton set record highs of 95 degrees. Kennebec rose to a record high of 99 degrees while Pierre rose to 104 degrees on this day in 2000. Some of the near record highs occurred at Timber Lake and Mobridge with 92 degrees and 97 degrees, respectively.

1926: The great "Miami Hurricane" produced winds of 138 mph that drove ocean waters into the Biscayne Bay drowning 135 persons. The eye of the hurricane passed over Miami, at which time the barometric pressure reached 27.61 inches. Tides up to twelve feet high accompanied the storm, which claimed a total of 372 lives.

1941: One of the greatest aurora borealis or northern lights ever observed in the central Atlantic and mid-central portions of the U.S. occurred on the night of September 18-19th. The displays continued from twilight until just before dawn and were observed as far south as Florida and southern California.

1987 - Early morning thunderstorms in northern Texas produced wind gusts to 65 mph at Sulphur Springs, and 2.50 inches of rain in one hour at Commerce, which caused widespread street flooding. Bonham TX received 4.50 inches of rain which also resulted in widespread street flooding as Pig Branch overflowed its banks. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A strong cold front produced severe thunderstorms in the north central U.S. High winds behind the cold front gusted to 92 mph at Fort Collins CO, and up to a foot of snow blanketed the mountains of Montana, with seven inches reported at Great Falls. High winds in Colorado caused three million dollars damage. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Hurricane Hugo hit Puerto Rico, producing wind gusts to 92 mph at San Juan, and wind gusts to 120 mph at Roosevelt Roads. Hugo produced a storm surge of four to six feet, and northeastern sections of the island were deluged with more than ten inches of rain. Hugo claimed the lives of a dozen persons in Puerto Rico, and caused a billion dollars damage, including 100 million dollars damage to crops. Thunderstorms representing what remained of Hurricane Octave continued to bring heavy rain to the valleys of northern California. Heavier 24 hour rainfall totals included 3.15 inches at Redding, and 2.66 inches at Red Bluff. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Daily Devotionals

Seeds of Hope

LIFE'S ALTERNATIVES

"There are three sets of alternatives," our professor of ethics once said. "They include 'either/or, neither/nor or both/and.'" We often tend to focus on one of them when we face certain situations, never bothering to consider that the one we have chosen may or may not be the right one. We often make a decision without thinking it through completely or wanting to get it over quickly because we don't see other "alternatives."

But God's Word is very clear when choices are to be made. There are times when one has no options: so it is "neither" this "nor" that. For example, "You shall have no other God except or before me!" It's neither this god nor that god, because, "I am the Lord your God!"

There are also times when it is "both/and." For example, we read, "Do this and you will live." This alternative is a win/win approach to life. When we follow the rules of God, we will live and live well because we are assured of His blessings and the prosperity that comes from being obedient to His laws and commands.

Solomon said, "A man cannot be established through wickedness, but the righteous cannot be moved." Stability in life comes from following God and being obedient to His Word. "In the beginning was the Word," said John. God's Word has been, is and always will be the ultimate test! His truth cannot be negotiated. The one who builds his life and ways on the Word of God will never have to question what is right or wrong, good or bad, honest or deceitful.

Prayer: May we have the courage, conviction, and commitment to follow Your ways, Lord, and enjoy Your blessings now and eternal life with You when we die. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Wickedness never brings stability, but the godly have deep roots. Proverbs 12:3



We all need the encouragement, comfort, and peace that comes through God's grace. Our daily devotionals, known as Seeds of Hope, have been a means through which thousands of people have experienced this grace. Each devotional comes from God's Word and we pray this good "seed" finds good soil in your heart. Our aim is that the Seeds of Hope will be a great source of daily encouragement to you and that God will use them to draw you near to Him

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2022-23 Community Events

- 07/21/2022: Pro Am Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course
07/22/2022: Ferney Open Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Start
07/24/2022: Moonlight Swim at the Swimming Pool 9-11pm for 9th grade to age 20
07/27/2022: Golf Fundraiser Lunch at Olive Grove Golf Course 11a-1pm
08/05/2022: Wine on Nine at Olive Grove Golf Course 6pm
08/12/2022: GHS Basketball Golf Tournament
No Date Set: Groton Firemen Summer Splash Day 4-5pm GHS Parking Lot
09/10/2022: Lions Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
09/11/2022: 6th Annual Doggie Day at the Swimming Pool 3-5pm
09/11/2022: Couples Sunflower Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 10 a.m.
09/02-04: Groton Airport Fly-In/Drive-In, Groton Municipal Airport
10/01/2022: Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm
10/07/2022: Lake Region Marching Band Festival 10am
10/31/2022: Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm (working day on or closest to Halloween)
10/31/2022: United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
11/12/2022: Legion Post #39 Turkey Party 6:30pm (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
11/24/2022 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center 11:30am-1pm (Thanksgiving)
12/03/2022 Tour of Homes & Holiday Party at Olive Grove Golf Course
12/10/2022: Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services 9am-12pm
01/29/2023 Groton Robotics Pancake Feed, 10am-1pm, Community Center
01/29/2023 85th Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
04/01/2023 Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt 10am Sharp at the City Park (Saturday a week before Easter)
04/22/2023 Firemen's Spring Social at the Fire Station 7pm-12:30am (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
04/23/2023 Princess Prom 4:30-8pm (Sunday after GHS Prom)
05/06/2023 Lion's Club Spring Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm (1st Saturday in May)
05/29/2023 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)
07/04/2023 Firecracker Couples Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Registration, 10am Start (4th of July)
07/09/2023 Lion's Club Summer Fest/Car Show at the City Park 9am-4pm (Sunday Mid-July)
09/09/2023 Lion's Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
10/31/2023 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm (working day on or closest to Halloween)
10/31/2023 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
11/23/2023 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center 11:30am-1pm (Thanksgiving)

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News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Dakota Cash

08-15-25-27-35

(eight, fifteen, twenty-five, twenty-seven, thirty-five)

Estimated jackpot: \$63,000

Lotto America

05-09-14-28-52, Star Ball: 3, ASB: 3

(five, nine, fourteen, twenty-eight, fifty-two; Star Ball: three; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$23,030,000

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: 277,000,000

Powerball

05-25-36-51-61, Powerball: 1, Power Play: 3

(five, twenty-five, thirty-six, fifty-one, sixty-one; Powerball: one; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$238,000,000

Saturday's Scores

The Associated Press

PREP VOLLEYBALL=

Clark/Willow Lake def. Wilmot, 21-25, 25-17, 31-29, 25-11

Garretson def. Elkton-Lake Benton, 25-19, 22-25, 25-20, 25-23

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland def. Sanborn Central/Woonsocket, 25-12, 25-18, 22-25, 25-17

Rapid City Christian def. Red Cloud, 25-11, 25-10, 25-13

Sioux Falls Jefferson def. Rapid City Stevens, 25-22, 25-21, 17-25, 25-13

Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Pierre, 25-19, 25-19, 25-21

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Rapid City Central, 25-10, 25-18, 25-16

BC Triangular (A&B Teams)=

Lyman def. Bennett County, 25-22, 26-24, 25-14

Big Dakota Conference Tournament=

Chamberlain def. Cheyenne-Eagle Butte, 25-12, 25-11

Miller def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-18, 25-19

Miller def. Stanley County, 25-21, 25-11

Miller def. Todd County, 25-9, 25-9

Miller def. Winner, 25-21, 25-21

Stanley County def. Chamberlain, 25-14, 25-23

Stanley County def. McLaughlin, 25-12, 25-8

Winner def. Chamberlain, 25-19, 25-21

Bridgewater-Emery Tournament=

Canistota def. Hanson, 25-20, 25-14

Freeman def. Hanson, 25-21, 25-16

Gold Bracket=

Championship=

Freeman def. Howard, 25-18, 25-23

Silver Bracket=

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Championship=

Canistota def. Bridgewater-Emery, 25-23, 25-12

Cavalier Clash=

Avon def. Vermillion, 25-13, 25-11

Beresford def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-17, 25-19

Corsica/Stickney def. Centerville, 25-23, 19-25, 25-21

Platte-Geddes def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-8, 25-12

Wagner def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-14, 25-14

Wagner def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-13, 25-8

Wagner def. Gayville-Volin, 25-19, 25-9

Championship Bracket=

Championship=

Wagner def. Bon Homme, 25-17, 25-22

Quarterfinal=

Alcester-Hudson def. Beresford, 27-25, 25-22

Bon Homme def. Vermillion, 25-15, 25-18

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Northwestern, 25-20, 25-18

Wagner def. Platte-Geddes, 25-18, 25-20

Semifinal=

Bon Homme def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-19, 25-16

Wagner def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 25-14, 25-17

Hamlin Tournament=

Hamlin def. Florence/Henry, 28-30, 25-18, 25-23

Hamlin def. James Valley Christian, 25-9, 25-14

Hamlin def. Sisseton, 25-8, 25-10

Ipswich Tournament=

Ipswich def. Langford, 25-10, 25-11

Ipswich def. Lemmon, 25-14, 23-25, 25-19

Kimball/White Lake def. Ipswich, 25-22, 25-16

Kimball/White Lake def. Langford, 25-8, 25-13

Third Place=

Herreid/Selby Area def. Ipswich, 25-18, 26-24

Lake Preston Tournament=

Arlington def. Iroquois/ Lake Preston Co-op, 25-3, 25-12

Estelline/Hendricks def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-14, 25-14

Sioux Valley def. Estelline/Hendricks, 16-25, 25-19, 25-10

Mitchell-Spearfish-Douglas Triangular=

Mitchell def. Douglas, 25-13, 22-25, 25-12, 25-17

Mitchell def. Spearfish, 22-25, 25-18, 25-19, 20-25, 15-12

Spearfish def. Douglas, 25-19, 25-15, 25-18

PREP FOOTBALL=

Standing Rock, N.D. 56, Pine Ridge 6

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

Camp leads South Dakota to 38-21 victory over Cal Poly

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Sophomore Carson Camp threw for a career-high 355 yards and three touchdowns and ran 75 yards for a score to power South Dakota to a 38-21 victory over Cal Poly on Saturday.

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Camp opened the scoring for South Dakota (1-2) with his long touchdown run. He followed with 40- and 46-yard scoring strikes to Wesley Eliodor and freshman Shomari Lawrence, respectively, as the Coyotes scored on their first three possessions to lead 21-7 after one quarter.

Camp hooked up with freshman Jack Martens 51 seconds into the fourth quarter for a 70-yard score to push South Dakota's lead to 28-7. Travis Theis added a 19-yard touchdown run.

Camp completed 18 of 21 passes.

Spencer Brasch threw for 362 yards on 24-of-42 passing with three touchdowns and one interception for Cal Poly (1-2).

Zedakiah Centers and Chris Coleman both finished with 107 yards receiving and a touchdown for the Mustangs. Brasch and freshman Logan Booher teamed up for a 35-yard score in the first quarter.

More AP college football: <https://apnews.com/hub/college-football> and https://twitter.com/AP_Top25. Sign up for the AP's college football newsletter: <https://apnews.com/cfbtop25>

Gronowski's 4 TDs lead South Dakota State by Butler 45-17

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Mark Gronowski passed for 279 yards and three touchdowns, and he carried it eight times for 55 yards and a score to help South Dakota State beat Butler 45-17 on Saturday night.

Jadon Janke, Zach Heins and Jaxon Janke each had a receiving touchdown for South Dakota State (2-1). Heins scored from 28-yards out, diving into the end zone for his eighth career touchdown to make it 28-7. Jadon Janke was left wide open in the corner of the end zone for a 17-yarder.

Canyon Bauer highlighted the first quarter by catching a short pass and breaking two tackles before running for a 54-yard gain. Jaxon Janke capped the 75-yard drive with a 7-yarder to give SDSU a lead, 14-7, it would not relinquish.

SDSU held Butler to 264 total yards and 12 first downs in front of an announced attendance of 16,414.

Bret Bushka passed for 211 yards with 56-yard touchdown and one interception for Butler (2-1).

More AP college football: <https://apnews.com/hub/college-football> and https://twitter.com/ap_top25. Sign up for the AP's college football newsletter: <https://tinyurl.com/mrxhe6f2>

Ukraine alleges torture at village near Russian border

By ELENA BECATOROS and LEO CORREA Associated Press

KOZACHA LOPAN, Ukraine (AP) — In a dank basement behind the local supermarket, metal bars cordon off a corner of the room to form a large cell. Dirty sleeping bags and duvets show three sleeping spots on top of sheets of Styrofoam for insulation from the damp earth floor. In the corner, two black buckets served as toilets.

A few meters (yards) outside the barred cell, three dilapidated chairs stand around a table, cigarette butts and empty husks of pumpkin seeds littering the floor around them.

Ukrainian authorities say this was a makeshift prison where Russian forces abused detainees before Ukrainian troops swept through the village of Kozacha Lopan in a major counteroffensive in the Kharkiv region this month. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said more than 10 such "torture chambers" have been discovered in the region since the hasty withdrawal of Russian troops last week. The claims of what occurred in the room could not be independently confirmed.

Kozacha Lopan, whose edge lies less than two kilometers (just over a mile) from the Russian border, was retaken by Ukrainian forces Sept. 11.

In a statement posted Saturday on its Telegram channel, the prosecutor's office of the Kharkiv region, in whose jurisdiction Kozacha Lopan lies, said the room seen by AP journalists was used as a torture cell during the occupation of the area. It said Russian forces had set up a local police force that ran the prison, adding that documents confirming the functioning of the police department and implements of torture had been seized. The statement said an investigation was being conducted.

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Images the prosecutors released showed a Russian military TA-57 telephone with additional wires and alligator clips attached to it. Ukrainian officials have accused Russian forces of using the Soviet-era radio telephones as a power source to electrocute prisoners during interrogation.

In his nightly address to the nation Saturday, Zelenskyy mentioned another location, at the railway station in Kozacha Lopan, where he said "a room for torture and tools for electric torture was found." AP journalists did not see that location.

Zelenskyy compared the Russians to the Nazis during World War II.

"And they will answer in the same way — both on the battlefields and in the courtrooms," he said.

Burial sites have been found in some areas where Russian forces were pushed out, most notably in the city of Izium, where Ukrainian officials say more than 440 graves have been found near the city's cemetery. Zelenskyy has said they contain the bodies of civilian adults and children, as well as soldiers, showing signs of violent deaths, some possibly from torture.

Vitalii, a commander in the National Guard, said his team is hunting for graves of possible victims of abuse at the detention center in Kozacha Lopan. He asked to be identified by his first name only for security reasons.

The team is also recovering bodies on the battlefield, which are lying where they fell on farm fields or inside burned-out tanks. The Russian army was pushed all the way back across the border into Russia after holding the area for months. But artillery shells still whistle through the air, fired from inside Russia and landing with resonating thumps and billows of black smoke on Ukrainian territory.

Despite the shelling, a small group of soldiers winds its way along a rutted mud track to where a dead Ukrainian combatant lies, spotted by a drone used to search for bodies and shallow graves.

"It's a risk. We are always risking our lives and at any moment there might be some shell flying in from the territory of Russia," Vitalii said.

The dead Ukrainian is lying on his back in body armor and helmet, a cap beneath it to block out the sun. The body has been there for a long time.

They document the scene and lift the remains into a body bag before heading farther along the track to a charred Russian tank. It takes only one of the team to carry away the body bag holding the remains of the Russian found inside.

Autopsies will follow, and the details of the sites recorded and passed on to investigators looking into potential war crimes, Vitalii said.

Throughout this border area, where fierce battles raged, villages bear the devastating scars of war: houses bombed and burned, roads pitted with craters from exploding mortar shells, smashed cars lying by the roadside.

In the days after the Russians were chased out, local people have been returning to see what is left of their homes.

"Three days before we decided to leave, it was like hell in here" from all the shooting, said Larysa Letiucha, 56, in the nearby village of Prudyanka. "It was flying from all over the place. It was whistling and exploding. We hid in the basement and ... our door was blasted off."

She left with her family in April, and returned to check on her property a few days after Ukrainian soldiers retook the village.

"I saw a horror. I still cannot pull myself together," she said in recounting her first sight of what remained of her house. "We were living here our whole lives. We were building it, making renovations. Our whole life was invested here."

The windows are blasted in and the ceiling leaks from where a patch is missing from an explosion. In the small house her parents built on the same plot, the entire back part is missing. Shrapnel and debris litter the house.

"Our houses are comfortable even though we live in the village," Letiucha said. "It's a horror. I don't even know when we will renovate and rebuild all of this."

UK: Russia likely to step up Ukraine civilian target attacks

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Prosecutors in an area of Ukraine where Russian forces recently retreated in the face of a Ukrainian counteroffensive are accusing Russia of torturing civilians in one village that was recently freed.

In an online statement, prosecutors in the Kharkiv region said they found a basement where Russian forces allegedly tortured prisoners in the village of Kozacha Lopan, near the border with Russia.

In images they released, they showed a Russian military TA-57 telephone with additional wires and alligator clips attached to it. Ukrainian officials have accused Russian forces of using the Soviet-era radio telephones as a power source to electrocute prisoners during interrogation.

Russian shelling hit cities and towns across a wide stretch of Ukraine during the night, officials said Sunday, while the British defense ministry warned that Russia is likely to increase its attacks on civilian targets as it suffers battlefield defeats.

"In the last seven days, Russia has increased its targeting of civilian infrastructure even where it probably perceives no immediate military effect," the ministry said in an online briefing. "As it faces setbacks on the front lines, Russia has likely extended the locations it is prepared to strike in an attempt to directly undermine the morale of the Ukrainian people and government."

Russian fire killed four medics attempting to evacuate a psychiatric hospital in the Kharkiv region on Saturday, said governor Oleh Syniehubov. Two patients were wounded in the attack in the village of Strlecha, he said.

Overnight shelling also hit a hospital in the city of Mykolaiv, a significant Black Sea port, regional governor Vitaliy Kim said. He said there was also shelling in other parts of the region, and two people were wounded.

Three people were wounded in nighttime shelling of the city of Nikopol, which is across the river from Europe's largest nuclear power station, said regional governor Valentyn Reznichenko.

The six-reactor Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant was captured by Russian forces in March, but is operated by Ukrainian engineers. Its last reactor was switched off a week ago after repeated power failures because shelling put crucial safety systems at risk.

Near the city of Zaporizhzhia, Vatican Almoner Cardinal Konrad Krajewski and his convoy came under fire on Saturday, the Vatican news service reported, forcing them to seek cover while unloading supplies.

"For the first time in my life, I didn't know where to run. Because it is not enough to run, you have to know where to go," said the Polish-born cardinal, whose position makes charitable contributions in the name of the pope.

Five people have died over the past day in Russian attacks in the Donetsk region, one of two Ukrainian regions that Russia recognizes as sovereign states, governor Pavlo Kyrylenko said.

The separatist forces that control much of Donetsk on Sunday claimed that Ukrainian shelling of a prisoner-of-war colony in Olenivka killed one prisoner and injured four.

More than 50 POWs were reported killed in a July attack on the Olenivka prison that Russian and Ukrainian authorities blame on each other.

A Washington-based think tank, the Institute for the Study of War, said Russian forces in Donetsk continue to conduct "meaningless operations" on villages as opposed to reinforcing the front line.

Follow AP's coverage of the war at <https://apnews.com/hub/russia-ukraine>

Once McCain's party, Arizona GOP returns to far-right roots

By JONATHAN J. COOPER Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Simmering discontent among a segment of Arizona Republicans over John McCain's famous penchant for bucking his party boiled over in the winter of 2014 with the censure of the longtime U.S. senator.

McCain's allies responded with an all-out push to reassert control over the Arizona Republican Party.

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Censure proponents were ousted or diminished, and McCain went on to defeat his far-right challenger in a blowout during the 2016 primary.

Less than a decade later, the right wing forces that McCain marginalized within the Arizona GOP are now in full control, with profound implications for one of the nation's most closely matched battlegrounds. Arizona Republicans have traded McCain for Donald Trump.

"We drove a stake in the heart of the McCain machine," Kari Lake, making a dramatic stabbing gesture, said in a speech days after she won the Republican primary for governor in early August.

Lake, a well-known former television news anchor, has delighted segments of the state's GOP base that have long been at odds with their party's establishment and want their leaders to confront Democrats, not compromise with them.

She draws large, enthusiastic crowds that are unusually energized for a midterm election. Her fans erupt in rapturous applause when she takes a shot at the media or pledges to repel the "invasion" at the southern border.

"She's for border control. She's a MAGA person. She is fighting the establishment. And that, to me, is enough," said Bob Hunt, a Republican in Tucson who attended a Lake rally this summer.

McCain, who died in 2018, never lost a race in his home state. But his maverick brand of Republicanism is in retreat after election-denying allies of the former president swept GOP primaries this month from governor and U.S. Senate down to the state Legislature.

Kelli Ward, the primary challenger McCain trounced in his last re-election campaign, was elected state GOP chair in 2019. She broke with precedent for party leaders and campaigned openly for Trump's slate of candidates ahead of the primary this year.

It is in some ways a return to roots for Republicans in Arizona, a state with a long history as a crucible for emerging strands of conservatism.

Barry Goldwater, an Arizona senator from the 1950s through the 1980s, pushed the GOP in a new direction, laying the groundwork for conservative and libertarian movements. He gave voice to anti-elite grievances and racial anxieties that have contributed to Trump's appeal.

McCain replaced Goldwater in the Senate, representing an Arizona reshaped by decades of migration. Young families flocked to affordable neighborhoods in and around Phoenix, and retirees escaping the snow settled in new golf communities attracting seniors.

McCain eventually built a national profile as a fiscal conservative unafraid — even eager — to buck GOP leadership. He helped pass campaign finance reform legislation and worked on unsuccessful immigration reform and climate change legislation. In one of his last defiant decisions, he gave a dramatic thumbs down vote to kill legislation that would have repealed former President Barack Obama's health care law.

McCain won over independents and some Democrats to overwhelmingly win reelection. But the apostasies that appealed to more moderate voters made him a pariah to many within his own party.

Democrats think this year's slate of Trump-backed nominees gives them a fighting chance to win some of the top offices on the ballot. If the Republicans win, officials who refuse to accept Trump's defeat in the 2020 election will hold the levers of power with the ability to set election laws and certify results in a state that plays an important role in determining control of Congress and the presidency.

Ideological factions are always at tension within political parties, and Arizona Republicans have long hosted a particularly raucous tug-of-war. Pro-business, limited government conservatives — such as McCain, former Sen. Jeff Flake and termed-out Gov. Doug Ducey — are derided as "Republicans in name only" by a base eager to fight culture war battles.

Still, a large chunk of Republican voters like the establishment brand. Lake had a tough primary race against Karrin Taylor Robson, a conservative businesswoman and longtime donor to mainstream candidates from both parties. Lake, Finchem and the other successful Trump allies all won their primaries with less than 50% of the vote in multi-candidate fields.

"The people we put up are not conservative," said Kathy Petsas, a Republican activist who backed mainstream Republicans in the primary. "There's nothing conservative about lying about the results of the 2020 election. When we undermine our democratic institutions, there's nothing conservative about that."

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But rarely have the insurgents been as dominant as they are now in Arizona. The GOP nominees for nearly all statewide offices push lies about the 2020 election.

Lake incessantly went after Ducey, McCain, Flake and others she labeled "Republicans in name only" on her way to winning the GOP nomination for governor. She joined with Mark Finchem, who won the primary for secretary of state, in a lawsuit seeking to require hand-counting of ballots; they lost, but filed an appeal this week.

U.S. Rep. Paul Gosar was censured by the House and lost his committee assignments for posting a video depicting violence against Democratic Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

The primary winners represent those who control the Arizona Republican Party today and are fiercely loyal to Trump, who was just the second Republican since the 1940s to lose Arizona.

Last year, the party censured McCain's widow, Cindy McCain, for endorsing Joe Biden's presidential campaign, along with Flake and Ducey. Flake decided not to run for re-election in 2018 after his criticism of Trump infuriated the base and promised a fierce primary battle.

"Unfortunately, all these election deniers were successful here in Arizona, in a swing state," said Bill Gates, the Republican chairman of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, which has faced vitriolic backlash for defending the 2020 election against Trump's false claims of fraud. "So we'll see if those folks are able to win in the general election. I think that will give us a feel on where this party is headed in the future."

Gates was censured by Legislative District 3 Republicans last month for saying election-denying GOP candidates may have to lose for the party to find its way.

Rusty Bowers, the staunchly conservative speaker of the state House, also has found himself ostracized by his party for taking a stand against Trump's lies. He lost the primary in his bid to move to the state Senate.

Bowers last month said Trump has "thrashed our party" and that the Arizona GOP faces a "hard reckoning" if it continues to bully those who don't fall in line with the former president's demands.

For now, the far-right wing of the party is ascendant and sees no need to moderate.

Days after Lake won the primary for governor, her campaign shared a video of Goldwater's speech accepting the 1964 Republican nomination for president.

"I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice," he said. "And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

The crowd erupted. Goldwater went on to win just six states in the second most lopsided defeat in a presidential race in U.S. history, but he remained a hero to many in his home state.

Lake's official campaign Twitter account said a united party would bring "a Conservative revival" to the state in the general election: "The Party of Goldwater has risen like a Phoenix."

Associated Press writer Ali Swenson in New York contributed to this report.

World leaders head to London for Queen Elizabeth II funeral

By MIKE CORDER, JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Thousands of police, hundreds of troops and an army of officials made final preparations Sunday for the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II — a spectacular display of national mourning that will also be the biggest gathering of world leaders for years.

U.S. President Joe Biden and other dignitaries are arriving in London for the funeral, to which around 500 royals, heads of state and heads of government from around the globe have been invited.

Thousands of people continued to line up around the clock to file past the queen's coffin as it lies in state at Parliament's Westminster Hall, braving chilly overnight temperatures and waits of up to 17 hours. The queen's eight grandchildren, led by heir to the throne Prince William, circled the coffin and stood with heads bowed during a silent vigil on Saturday evening.

The miles-long queue is expected to be closed to new arrivals later Sunday so that everyone in line can file past the coffin before Monday morning, when it will be borne on a gun carriage to Westminster Abbey for the queen's funeral.

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Among the foreign leaders in London was New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, who told the BBC she was humbled to represent her nation at the funeral and to witness the national outpouring of grief and respect for the late queen.

"The thing that I will take away from this period is just the beauty of the public's response, the kindness that you see from members of the public, the patience, the camaraderie, that has been, for me, the most moving tribute of all, has been the public response of the British people," she said.

People across the U.K. are due to pause Sunday evening for a nationwide minute of silence to remember the queen, who died Sept. 8 at the age of 96 after 70 years on the throne. Monday has been declared a public holiday, and the funeral will be broadcast to a huge television audience and screened to crowds in parks and public spaces across the country.

Thousands of police officers from around the country will be on duty as part of the biggest one-day policing operation in London's history.

Crowds also gathered Sunday near Windsor Castle, where the queen will be laid to rest at a private family ceremony on Monday evening.

"I think it's been amazing," said Anna Pettigrew, a 55-year-old teacher. "It's been very emotional, and I think it's been a very fitting tribute to a wonderful queen."

Camilla, the new queen consort, paid tribute to the queen in a video message, saying the monarch "carved her own role" as a "solitary woman" on a world stage dominated by men.

"I will always remember her smile. That smile is unforgettable," said Camilla, who is married to King Charles III.

A tide of people continued to stream into Parliament's Westminster Hall, where the queen's coffin is lying in state, draped in the Royal Standard and capped with a diamond-studded crown. The number of mourners has grown steadily since the public was first admitted on Wednesday, with a queue that stretches for at least five miles (eight kilometers) along the River Thames and into Southwark Park in the city's southeast.

Honoring their patience, Charles and William made an unannounced visit Saturday to greet people in the line, shaking hands and thanking mourners in the queue near Lambeth Bridge.

Later, all the queen's grandchildren stood by her coffin. William and Prince Harry, Charles' sons, were joined by Princess Anne's children, Zara Tindall and Peter Philips; Prince Andrew's daughters, Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie; and the two children of Prince Edward — Lady Louise Windsor and James, Viscount Severn.

William stood with his head bowed at the head of the coffin and Harry at the foot. Both princes, who are military veterans, were in uniform. Mourners continued to file past in silence.

"You could see that they were thinking hard about their grandmother, the queen," said Ian Mockett, a civil engineer from Oxford in southern England. "It was good to see them all together as a set of grandchildren given the things that have happened over the last few years."

Before the vigil, Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie issued a statement praising their "beloved grannie."

"We, like many, thought you'd be here forever. And we all miss you terribly. You were our matriarch, our guide, our loving hand on our backs leading us through this world. You taught us so much and we will cherish those lessons and memories forever," the sisters wrote.

The queen's four children — Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward — held a similar vigil around the coffin on Friday.

The silence in the hall was briefly broken Friday when a man lunged at the coffin. London police said Sunday that a 28-year-old London man, Muhammad Khan, has been charged with behavior intended to "cause alarm, harassment or distress." He will appear in court on Monday.

The lying-in-state continues until early Monday morning, when the queen's coffin will be moved on a gun carriage pulled by 142 Royal Navy ratings to nearby Westminster Abbey for the funeral, the finale of 10 days of national mourning for Britain's longest-reigning monarch.

After the service Monday at the abbey, the late queen's coffin will be transported through the historic heart of London on the state gun carriage. It will then be taken in a hearse to Windsor, where the queen will be interred alongside her late husband, Prince Philip, who died last year.

Follow AP coverage of Queen Elizabeth II at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

Strong Taiwan earthquake traps people, derails train

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A strong earthquake shook much of Taiwan on Sunday, toppling a three-story building and temporarily trapping four people inside, stranding about 400 tourists on a mountainside, and knocking part of a passenger train off its tracks.

The magnitude 6.8 quake was the largest among dozens that have rattled the island's southeastern coast since Saturday evening, when a 6.4 quake struck the same area. There were no immediate reports of serious injuries.

Most of the damage appeared to be north of the epicenter, which Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau said was in the town of Chishang at the relatively shallow depth of 7 kilometers (4 miles).

The three-story building, which had a 7-11 convenience store on the ground floor and residences on the upper ones, collapsed in nearby Yuli town, the island's Central News Agency said.

The 70-year-old owner of the building and his wife were rescued first, but it took longer to get to a 39-year-old woman and her 5-year-old daughter.

A photo released by the Hualien city government showed the girl lying on a blanket and being handed down a metal ladder from the top of the debris by helmeted rescue workers in orange uniforms.

The top two stories of the building were left sprawled across a small street and onto the other side, with electricity wires pulled down by the fallen structure.

More than 7,000 households were reported without power in Yuli, and water pipes were also damaged.

Police and firefighters rushed to a bridge collapse on a two-lane road in what appeared to be a rural part of the same town where three people and one or more vehicles may have fallen off, according to media reports.

Also in Yuli, a landslide trapped nearly 400 tourists on a mountain famous for the orange day lilies that blanket its slopes this time of year, the Central News Agency said. They had no electricity and a weak cellphone signal.

Debris from a falling canopy on a platform at Dongli station in Fuli town, which is between Yuli and the epicenter at Chishang, hit a passing train, derailing six cars, the Central News Agency said, citing the railway administration. None of the 20 passengers were injured.

The shaking was felt at the north end of the island in the capital, Taipei. In Taoyuan city, west of Taipei and 210 kilometers (130 miles) north of the epicenter, a man was injured by a ceiling collapse on the 5th floor of a sports center.

The Japan Meteorological Agency issued a tsunami advisory for several southern Japanese islands near Taiwan, but later lifted it.

Powerful typhoon pounds southern Japan; thousands evacuated

By MARI YAMAGUCHI Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A powerful typhoon slammed ashore in southern Japan on Sunday as it pounded the region with strong winds and heavy rain, causing blackouts, paralyzing ground and air transportation and prompting the evacuation of thousands of people.

The Japan Meteorological Agency said Typhoon Nanmadol was heading north after making landfall in Kagoshima city on Japan's southern main island of Kyushu. It was packing maximum winds of 162 kilometers (101 miles) per hour, and is forecast to reach Tokyo on Tuesday.

The weather agency predicted as much as 50 centimeters (20 inches) of rainfall by Monday evening and warned of flooding and landslides. It also alerted residents in the affected areas of "unprecedented" levels of powerful winds and waves, urging them to evacuate early.

Storm and high wave warnings were in effect in Kagoshima, where residents were told to stay inside

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stable buildings on second floor or higher, if it's deemed a safer option than going to evacuation centers.

More than 12,000 people took shelter at evacuation centers. In neighboring Miyazaki prefecture, about 8,000 people left their homes.

Local officials said several people had been injured. In Kushima city in Miyazaki, a woman was slightly hurt by shards of glass when winds broke windows at a gymnasium. NHK national television said 15 people had been injured, citing its own tally.

Power outages were expanded across the Kyushu region as the typhoon damaged more power lines and facilities while moving north. By Sunday night, 216,450 homes were without electricity, according to Kyushu Electric Power Co.

Footage on NHK television showed a pachinko pinball parlor with part of its glass wall shattered by the gust in Kanoya city in Kagoshima. Elsewhere in the prefecture, an elderly woman in suffered a minor injury after falling, NHK said.

Hundreds of domestic flights have been canceled and more are planned to be grounded in western Japan through Tuesday as the typhoon headed northeast, according to Japan Airlines and All Nippon Airways.

Public transportation including trains and buses in many areas on the Kyushu island were suspended throughout Sunday. Railway operators said bullet trains on Kyushu island also have been suspended, and more stoppages are expected in greater areas in the southwest Monday.

Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II is huge security challenge

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The funeral of the only monarch most Britons have known involves the biggest security operation London has ever seen.

Mayor Sadiq Khan says Monday's state funeral for Queen Elizabeth II is an "unprecedented" security challenge, with hundreds of thousands of people packing central London and a funeral guest list of 500 emperors, kings, queens, presidents, prime ministers and other leaders from around the world.

"It's been decades since this many world leaders were in one place," said Khan. "This is unprecedented ... in relation to the various things that we're juggling."

"There could be bad people wanting to cause damage to individuals or to some of our world leaders," Khan told The Associated Press. "So we are working incredibly hard — the police, the security services and many, many others — to make sure this state funeral is as successful as it can be."

Metropolitan Police Deputy Assistant Commissioner Stuart Cundy said the "hugely complex" policing operation is the biggest in the London force's history, surpassing the London 2012 Olympics.

More than 10,000 police officers will be on duty Monday, with London bobbies supplemented by reinforcements from all of Britain's 43 police forces. Hundreds of volunteer marshals and members of the armed forces will also act as stewards along the processional route.

They are just the most visible part of a security operation that is being run from a high-tech control center near Lambeth Bridge, not far from Parliament.

Street drains and garbage bins are being searched and sealed. On Monday there will be police spotters on rooftops, sniffer dogs on the streets, marine officers on the River Thames and mounted police on horseback.

Flying drones over central London has been temporarily banned, and Heathrow Airport is grounding scores of flights so that aircraft noise does not disturb the funeral service.

Authorities face the challenge of keeping 500 world leaders safe, without ruffling too many diplomatic feathers. Presidents, prime ministers and royalty will gather offsite before being taken by bus to the abbey — though an exception is being made for U.S. President Joe Biden, who is expected to arrive in his armored limousine, known as The Beast.

Another challenge is the sheer size of the crowds expected to gather around Westminster Abbey and along the route the coffin will travel after the funeral, past Buckingham Palace to Hyde Park. From there it will be taken by hearse about 20 miles (32 kilometers) to Windsor, where another 2,000 police officers

will be on duty.

The queen is due to be interred in St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle alongside her husband Prince Philip, who died last year aged 99.

Police are deploying more than 22 miles (36 kilometers) of barriers in central London to control the crowds, and transit bosses are preparing for jam-packed stations, buses and subway trains as 1 million people flood the ceremonial heart of London. Subways will run later than normal and train companies are adding extra services to help get people home.

While many will be mourning the queen, support for the monarchy is far from universal. Police have already drawn criticism for arresting several people who staged peaceful protests during events related to the queen's death and the accession of King Charles III.

Cundy said it had been made clear to officers that "people have a right to protest."

"Our response here in London will be proportionate, it will be balanced, and officers will only be taking action where it is absolutely necessary," he said.

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mark Rowley said the goal was to keep the event safe, "and try to do it in as unobtrusive a way as possible, because this is obviously a solemn occasion."

Dean of Westminster David Hoyle, who will conduct the funeral service in the 900-year-old abbey, said preparations were going smoothly — despite the occasional security-related glitch.

"There was a wonderful moment when I had flower arrangers waiting in the abbey, and no flowers, because, quite properly, the police didn't recognize what the van was and the flowers were sent back," he said.

Follow AP coverage of Queen Elizabeth II at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

By the numbers: Facts and figures about the queen's funeral

By The Associated Press undefined

LONDON (AP) — Events surrounding Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral on Monday cap 10 days of national mourning and are expected to be watched by hundreds of thousands of people packed onto the streets of London and millions around the world. Those are just a few of the staggering array of numbers generated by the death of the 96-year-old monarch after a 70-year-reign.

Here are some figures that have swirled around London and the rest of the United Kingdom in the aftermath of death on Sept. 8 at her summer retreat in Scotland of the only monarch most Britons have ever known.

— 2,000: Dignitaries and guests in Westminster Abbey for the the state funeral, ranging from King Charles III and other royals to world leaders including U.S. President Joe Biden to members of the British public who helped battle the COVID-19 pandemic.

— 800: Guests at a committal service later in the day at St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle.

— 5,949: Military personnel deployed throughout the meticulously choreographed operation that began with the queen's death on Sept. 8 at her Balmoral Estate in the Scottish Highlands. That number comprises 4,416 from the army, 847 from the navy and 686 from the air force. In addition, around 175 armed forces personnel from Commonwealth nations have been involved.

— 1,650: At least that number of military personnel will be involved in the pomp-filled procession of the queen's coffin from Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch after her funeral. A further 1,000 will line the streets along the procession route. When the coffin reaches Windsor, 410 military personnel will take part in the procession, 480 will line streets, 150 will be in a guard of honor and line steps and 130 more will fulfil other ceremonial duties.

— 142: Royal Navy ratings who will pull the state gun carriage carrying the queen's coffin on Monday when it leaves the Houses of Parliament for her funeral.

— More than 10,000: Police officers. Metropolitan Police Deputy Assistant Commissioner Stuart Cundy

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said the "hugely complex" policing operation is the biggest in the London force's history, surpassing the London 2012 Olympics which saw up to 10,000 police officers on duty per day.

— 22: Miles (36 kilometers) of barriers erected in central London alone to control crowds and keep key areas around the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace secure.

— 1 million: The number of people London transport authorities expect to visit the capital on Monday. Around 250 extra rail services will run to move people in and out of the city.

— 5: Miles (8 kilometers) of people lining up to file past the queen's coffin in Westminster Hall. The mammoth queue stretched back from the Houses of Parliament along the south bank of the River Thames to Southwark Park. The number of people in the queue is unlikely to be known until after the lying-in-state closes early on Monday.

— 125: Movie theaters that will open their doors to broadcast Monday's funeral live.

— 2,868: Diamonds, along with 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, 269 pearls, and 4 rubies, sparkle in the Imperial State Crown that rested on the queen's coffin as it lay in state.

— 2: Minutes of silence at the end of the funeral at Westminster Abbey.

— 1: Coffin. The silent eye in the days-long storm of pomp, pageantry and protection is a single, flag-draped oak coffin carrying the only monarch most Britons have ever known.

Follow AP coverage of Queen Elizabeth II at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

Live updates: London prepares for 1M visitors for funeral

By The Associated Press undefined

LONDON — London's transport authority says it is preparing for around 1 million people to visit the British capital Monday for Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral.

Transport for London chief Andy Byford said Sunday the capital has seen "huge numbers of additional passengers" since the queen died on Sept. 8. But he said demand will "reach a climax" on Monday.

Across the country some 250 extra train services will run, including some overnight trains. Peter Hendy, chairman of Network Rail, said Monday will see the "biggest public transport operation since the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games."

More than 100 Heathrow Airport flights will be canceled to prevent aircraft noise disturbing the funeral at Westminster Abbey Monday morning and the queen's committal service at Windsor Castle afterward.

The west London airport said 15% of its 1,200 flights due to take off or land on Monday will be disrupted.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS:

— World leaders head to London for Queen Elizabeth II funeral

— Royal lying in state rituals endure despite changing times

— Queen paved the way for transition to Charles in final years

— Chinese factory churns out British flags after queen's death

— Find more AP coverage here

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS:

LONDON — The wife of King Charles III is paying tribute to the late Queen Elizabeth II and her strength as a woman in a world dominated by male leaders for much of her 70-year reign.

In a video message being broadcast Sunday night, Queen Consort Camilla says: "It must have been so difficult for her being a solitary woman."

She adds: "There weren't women prime ministers or presidents. She was the only one, so I think she carved her own role."

The late queen, who died Sept. 8 aged 96, ended years of debate about Camilla's title when she said on the eve of her Platinum Jubilee earlier this year that it was her "sincere wish" that Camilla, then the Duchess of Cornwall, be known as queen consort when her eldest son became king.

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In a personal reflection on her time with the queen, Camilla says: "She's got those wonderful blue eyes, that when she smiles they light up her whole face."

LONDON — London Police say they have charged a man who is accused of lunging at Queen Elizabeth II's coffin as it lay in state at the Houses of Parliament with a public order offense.

The Metropolitan Police say in a statement that Muhammad Khan, a 28-year-old from east London, is charged with behavior intended to "cause alarm, harassment or distress."

Tracey Holland told Sky News that her 7-year-old niece was pushed out of the way by a man who tried to "run up to the coffin, lift up the standard and try to do I don't know what." She said police detained the man in "two seconds."

Khan is set to appear at Westminster Magistrates' Court on Monday – the day of the queen's state funeral.

EU proposes to suspend billions in funds to Hungary

By LORNE COOK Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union's executive branch recommended Sunday that the bloc suspend around 7.5 billion euros (dollars) in funding to Hungary over concerns about democratic backsliding and the possible mismanagement of EU money.

The European Commission, which proposes the bloc's laws and ensures that they are respected, said it was acting "to ensure the protection of the EU budget and the financial interests of the EU against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary."

EU Budget Commissioner Johannes Hahn said that despite measures Hungary has proposed to address the deficiencies, the commission is recommending the suspension of funds "amounting to an estimated amount of 7.5 billion euros."

The money would come from "cohesion funds" granted to Hungary. This envelope of money, one of the biggest slices of the bloc's budget, helps countries to bring their economies and infrastructure up to EU standards.

EU countries pay around 1% of their gross national income into the budget. Hungary is slated to receive at least 50 billion euros in all from the 2021-27 budget, according to commission estimates.

Any action to suspend the funds must be approved by the EU member countries, and this requires a "qualified majority," which amounts to 55% of the 27 members representing at least 65% of the total EU population.

They have one month to decide whether to freeze Hungary's funds, but can in exceptional circumstances extend that period to two months. The commission is recommending that the member countries take until Nov. 19 to allow Hungary more time to address the concerns.

The commission has for nearly a decade accused Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban of dismantling democratic institutions, taking control of the media and infringing on minority rights. Orban, who has been in office since 2010, denies the accusations.

Speaking after a meeting of EU commissioners in Brussels, which unanimously endorsed the move, Hahn welcomed Hungary's offer to fix the problem, saying that its proposed remedial action goes "in the right direction."

He said the measures could address some of the commission's concerns if they are followed up, and properly acted upon. But he said that "a risk for the budget at this stage remains, therefore we cannot conclude that the EU budget is sufficiently protected."

The commission's fears focus on public procurement — purchases by the state of goods and services or for the execution of projects using EU funds. Critics say the awarding of such contracts have allowed Orban's government to channel large sums of EU money into the businesses of politically connected insiders.

A senior EU official pointed to "systematic and systemic irregularities, deficiencies and weaknesses in public procurement related to very high rates of single bidding." Officials estimate that around half of Hungary's public tenders are granted after single bidder processes.

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The commission also has "serious concerns regarding the detection, prevention and correction of conflicts of interest," as well as about a number of public interest trusts which manage significant funds, and notably in the area of education.

Hungarian media has reported that Orban's nationalist government is set to announce new legislation as soon as Monday. EU lawmakers expressed concern last week that this may just be a ploy to gain time.

In a resolution on Thursday, the lawmakers said that Hungary's nationalist government is deliberately trying to undermine the bloc's democratic values.

They said that the government in Budapest — which Orban characterizes as an "illiberal democracy" — has become "a hybrid regime of electoral autocracy." In part, they blame EU member countries for this, for turning a blind eye to possible abuses.

The French Greens parliamentarian who chaperoned the resolution through the assembly, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, said that "for the first time, an EU institution is stating the sad truth, that Hungary is no longer a democracy."

The case, launched by the commission against Hungary in April, is a fresh step in the use of a new mechanism allowing the EU to take action to protect its budget. It does not target member countries for general breaches of EU law.

The mechanism is seen as the EU's most potent weapon to prevent a worsening anti-democratic drift in some countries. Commission officials have said that Hungary has consistently failed to implement EU recommendations for more than 10 years.

Queen paved the way for transition to Charles in final years

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — In retrospect, it seems as if she was preparing us all along.

Whether it was due to age, ill health or a sense that the end was near, Queen Elizabeth II spent much of the last two years tying up loose ends, trying to make sure the family firm would keep ticking along after her death.

The transition began slowly, with the queen turning over more public duties to her son and heir, now King Charles III, as she entered her twilight years. But it moved into overdrive in 2022 as Elizabeth celebrated 70 years on the throne. First she expressed her wish that Charles' wife, Camilla, be known as queen consort after her death, and then the future king took center stage during four days of Platinum Jubilee festivities.

"Elizabeth II was preparing the ground for the succession," historian Ed Owens said. "We saw a lot more of Charles in the last 10 years stepping in for his mother in a number of key situations at key public events. And that, I think, was partly intentional in that the monarch ... wanted her son to sort of gravitate naturally into the limelight, to make this seem as best as possible as though it was a seamless transition."

Charles' increased role began gradually when the queen began cutting back on long-haul flights, resulting in the then Prince of Wales taking her place at a 2013 Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Sri Lanka.

The queen became head of the Commonwealth, a grouping of 54 independent countries with links to the former British Empire, when she ascended the throne and championed its role in world affairs throughout her reign.

In 2018, Elizabeth expressed her "sincere wish" that Charles would follow her as head of the Commonwealth and its leaders agreed.

The previous year, Charles represented the queen at the annual Remembrance Day ceremony honoring the nation's war dead, laying the monarch's wreath at the foot of the Cenotaph in London. It was the first time the queen hadn't performed the solemn ritual, marked by columns of aging veterans marching past the monument, other than when she was pregnant or out of the country.

But what had been a subtle shift became more obvious after the coronavirus pandemic led Elizabeth to take refuge at Windsor Castle outside London and the death of her husband, Prince Philip, reminded the nation of the queen's mortality.

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That was underscored by the image of Elizabeth, her face hidden behind a black mask, sitting alone in St. George's Chapel as she mourned the loss of the man who had been her "strength and stay" for over 73 years.

On the anniversary of her accession to the throne in February, the queen moved to end the long-running controversy over the status of Charles' wife.

Camilla has been a divisive figure in Britain because her long-term relationship with Charles was blamed for the breakdown of his first marriage to the widely beloved Princess Diana. The mother of Princes William and Harry died in a Paris car crash in 1997, five years after her messy split with Charles.

When Charles married Camilla in 2005, he made it known that he wanted his wife to become queen when he ascended the throne. Diana's fans objected, saying it would dishonor the princess.

But the public attitude toward Camilla, 75, has warmed in recent years as she took on roles at more than 100 charities, focusing on issues ranging from literacy to domestic violence. Her down-to-earth style and sense of humor have softened Charles' stuffy image and made him appear more relaxed.

When the queen weighed in on Feb. 6., she obliquely recognized that her reign would come to an end. "When, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes king, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the same support that you have given me," she said. "And it is my sincere wish that, when that time comes, Camilla will be known as queen consort as she continues her own loyal service."

Late last year, Elizabeth was seen using a walking stick for the first time, and in April she revealed that a bout with COVID-19 had left her feeling "very tired and exhausted."

In May, the queen delegated one of her most important public duties to Charles, asking him to preside over the state opening of Parliament and deliver the annual Queen's Speech laying out the government's legislative program.

The event is a symbol of the monarch's constitutional role as head of state and is accompanied by centuries of tradition designed to demonstrate the strength of Britain's political institutions.

When it came time for the Platinum Jubilee, the palace let it be known that the queen's ongoing "mobility issues" would limit her role.

Instead, Charles took center stage.

He donned full military uniform to review the troops during the queen's ceremonial birthday parade, sat in the position of honor at the front of St. Paul's Cathedral for a service celebrating her reign and led salutes to his mother at a gala concert, appearing with Camilla by his side.

After her death, Charles and Camilla were greeted warmly by crowds of mourners outside Buckingham Palace, with the new monarch shaking hands and chatting with well-wishers who broke into a chorus of "God Save the King."

The reaction, and Charles' first days in his new role, suggest that the public is, at least for now, on board, former BBC royal correspondent Michael Cole said this week outside the palace.

"Look at the thousands of people who have come here of their own accord," he said, waving a hand at the crowds. "They're not being bused in. They're not being ordered to be here. They're not being given little flags to wave. This is not North Korea. This is not a parade for Putin in Red Square. These people have come to express their respect for the dead queen and show, a very big word, affection."

Follow AP's coverage of Queen Elizabeth II and other stories on the British monarch at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

UN: Exclusion of Afghan girls from high schools 'shameful'

By RAHIM FAIEZ Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The United Nations on Sunday called for Afghanistan's Taliban rulers to reopen schools to girls in grades 7-12, calling the anniversary of their exclusion from high school "shameful."

The U.N. said it is increasingly concerned that the policy, together with other restrictions on basic freedoms, will contribute to a deepening of the country's economic crisis in the form of greater insecurity,

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poverty and isolation.

"This is a tragic, shameful, and entirely avoidable anniversary," said Markus Potzel, acting head of the U.N. mission in Afghanistan.

A year after the Taliban took power in Afghanistan, hard-liners appear to hold sway in the Taliban-led government. Teenage girls are still barred from school and women are required to cover themselves from head to toe in public, with only their eyes showing. The religious group has failed to deliver on various promises to enable girls' return to the classroom. The ban targets grades 7-12, primarily impacting girls age 12 to 18.

The Taliban re-opened high schools to boys while instructing girls to remain at home. The U.N. estimates that more than a million girls have been barred from attending high school over the past year.

"The ongoing exclusion of girls from high school has no credible justification and has no parallel anywhere in the world. It is profoundly damaging to a generation of girls and to the future of Afghanistan itself," said Potzel, who is also the U.N. secretary-general's deputy special representative for Afghanistan.

To mark the Sunday anniversary, 50 girls sent a letter entitled "A Year of Darkness: A Letter from Afghan girls to heads of Muslim countries and other world leaders." The girls hail from the capital Kabul, eastern Nangarhar province and northern Parwan province.

"The past year, we have been denied human rights, such as the right to attain an education, the privilege to work, the liberty to live with dignity, freedom, mobility and speech, and the right to determine and decide for ourselves," Azadi, an 18-year-old 11th-grade student from Kabul, said in the letter. The girls named in the letter gave only their first names.

The U.N. said the denial of education violates the most fundamental rights of girls and women. The world body said it increases the risk of marginalization, violence, exploitation and abuse against girls and is part of a broader range of discriminatory policies and practices targeting women and girls since the de facto authorities assumed power in the summer of 2021.

The U.N. again called upon the Taliban to reverse the slew of measures they have introduced restricting Afghan women and girls' enjoyment of their basic rights and freedoms.

Since taking power, the Taliban have struggled to govern and remain internationally isolated. An economic downturn has driven millions more Afghans into poverty and hunger as the flow of foreign aid has slowed to a trickle.

Prospect of far-right female premier divides Italian women

By FRANCES D'EMILIO Associated Press

ROME (AP) — If Italy elects the nation's first female premier, will its women be delighted or dismayed? Should opinion polls prove on the mark, Giorgia Meloni and the far-right Brothers of Italy party she co-founded less than a decade ago will triumph in the Sept. 25 election. Meloni might then be asked by Italy's president to try to form a viable coalition government with right-wing allies.

For many female voters, it's a question of gender versus agenda.

Some worry that Meloni, who exalts motherhood, might seek to erode women's rights, including abortion access.

For her supporters, what matters is her conservative, "God, homeland and family" platform, not her sex.

Brothers of Italy has roots in a neo-fascist movement that hailed the legacy of Benito Mussolini, who bestowed prizes on women who had many children. The party took around 4% of votes in the last election, in 2018, but according to some pollsters it could win nearly 25% in this one.

Licia Donati, as a young Communist activist in the 1960s, fought for the legalization of divorce, which came in 1970. She also mobilized so Italian courts would recognize that wives have the same right to justice as husbands in a country where, until 1981, laws sanctioned leniency for men who murdered women to preserve "family honor."

If Meloni does become Italy's first female premier, it would be "a rupture (with the past) in the sense she is a woman, but it would be going backward in terms of the conservative women's culture," said Donati,

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84, a Tuscan native who lives in Rome.

Donati said that if she could speak to the politician, she would say: "What battle did you wage for women, what did you do? Nothing."

Meloni, 45, is the only main party leader who didn't join Premier Mario Draghi's pandemic national unity government in 2021. After populist forces, including two of Meloni's campaign allies, yanked support for Draghi in July, the former European Central Bank chief's coalition collapsed, prompting an early election.

Oria Gargano, whose BeFree organization in Rome helps women who have suffered domestic violence, noted with dismay that a Brothers of Italy politician has pushed for cemeteries where aborted fetuses can be buried, and to post the names of women who aborted even without their permission.

Recently, Meloni angered women by retweeting a video of a woman being raped in a street — "for the simple fact that it was an immigrant who raped her," Gargano said.

Meloni has derided most of the migrants — overwhelmingly men — who sail toward Italy's shores on smugglers' boats as freeloaders who don't deserve refugee status.

Meloni has generally refrained from pitching for women's votes simply because she is a woman. But she has snapped back at contentions that it wouldn't be a victory for women if she becomes premier.

"I challenge anyone to say that that would not mean breaking the glass ceiling," the Italian news agency ANSA quoted her as saying when she came to the Monza track for a Formula 1 race.

"I am a woman, so saying that you're not a woman if you say the things I say, frankly, makes me laugh." According to pollsters, Meloni attracts slightly more male than female voters.

As a young woman, Sen. Emma Bonino, leader of the tiny +Europe party, which is allied in the campaign with Meloni's rival, Democratic Party chief Enrico Letta, pushed to make divorce and abortion legal.

During this election campaign, Meloni has been pressed to say whether she will uphold Italy's law legalizing abortion through the first 12 weeks of pregnancy or later if a woman's health or life is endangered. She insists she'll respect the law, but wants it implemented in a way to provide help for women who decide to give birth.

"She'll be shrewd — no big debate, simply 'we won't apply' the law, Bonino said.

Several political rivals have cited a shortage of physicians willing to perform abortions in some parts of Italy, including the Marche region, governed by Meloni's party. Under the 1978 law, personnel in Italy's public health system can declare themselves "conscientious objectors" to avoid performing the procedure.

At Meloni's first campaign rally last month in Ancona, a city in Marche, about 1,000 wildly cheering supporters far outnumbered the couple of dozen protesters, most of them women, on a side street.

"You ooze hate and you don't represent me," read one protesting woman's placard.

Meloni, who has a young child with her male companion, decries what she calls LGBTQ "lobbies," scoffs at the concept of gender fluidity and supports Italy's ban on adoption by single people.

"Traditional" families for her are the bedrock of society.

Her conservative views are off-putting to some women, including Alice Riboli, who at 18 can vote for the first time.

"It would be better to see a woman in politics hold a role of that kind (like premier), but perhaps not her. Maybe someone with ideas a little more open, more current," said Riboli, from Aosta, northern Italy.

But other women back Meloni's agenda.

Lavinia Mercante, 25, from Rome, said she backs her "as a politician, not as a woman." Mercante wants to see the political right come to power.

Still others are indifferent to female empowerment as a campaign theme — they just want a government with staying power. Since 2018, Italy has had three different ruling, oft-squabbling coalitions, from across the political spectrum.

"I think I don't care if the right or the left wins," said Caterina Bazzani, 52, a financial consultant from Agrate Brianza in northern Italy. "I want a government, voted for by Italians, that will last five years and accomplish its program."

As for Meloni, "some people say she should get into office because she's a woman, but I'm not thinking that way. It's enough for me that she is capable. Man or woman, it's the same to me."

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Sabrina Sergi contributed to this report.

Penix helps Washington beat No. 11 Michigan State 39-28

By The Associated Press undefined

SEATTLE (AP) — Michael Penix Jr. threw for 397 yards and four touchdowns, and Washington emphatically stated its case as a contender in the Pac-12 with a 39-28 win over No. 11 Michigan State on Saturday night.

Penix was spectacular for three quarters in a primetime national showcase that showed Kalen DeBoer's rebuild of the Huskies (3-0) is progressing faster than expected. Washington led 29-8 at halftime and 36-14 after three quarters.

Having a star quarterback certainly helps.

Penix completed 24 of 40 passes and just missed posting the eighth 400-yard passing game in Washington history. He was at his best in the first half, making 18 of 24 attempts for 278 yards and leading Washington to touchdowns on four of its five possessions.

Ja'Lynn Polk had six catches for a career-high 153 yards and three TDs.

Payton Thorne threw for 323 yards and three TDs, and led a pair of quick fourth-quarter scoring drives for Michigan State (2-1) that caused some nerves for the Huskies. But the rally was too late for the Spartans, who were stymied in the run game and saw their pass defense get exposed.

It was Washington's first win over a ranked Power Five nonconference opponent at home since beating Michigan to open the 2001 season.

NO. 1 GEORGIA 48, SOUTH CAROLINA 7

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Stetson Bennett went 16 for 23 for 284 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another score as No. 1 Georgia routed South Carolina 48-7 on Saturday.

The Bulldogs (3-0) nearly had a second shutout of the season in their Southeastern Conference opener, but the backups allowed a touchdown pass with 53 seconds to go.

Georgia has allowed just 10 points this season and the garbage-time score was the first offensive touchdown it gave up in its past five regular-season games.

South Carolina (1-2) started 0-2 in the SEC for the fourth straight year.

NO. 2 ALABAMA 63, LOUISIANA-MONROE 7

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — Bryce Young passed for three touchdowns and rushed for a fourth, Will Anderson Jr. scored on an interception return and Alabama easily beat Louisiana-Monroe.

The Crimson Tide (3-0) scored on offense, defense and special teams in the first six minutes and raced to a 28-0 first-quarter lead. It was a whirlwind start against the 49 1/2-point underdog Warhawks (1-2) a week after a much closer-than-expected victory over Texas cost Alabama the No. 1 ranking.

Young completed 13 of 18 passes for 236 yards but also threw his first two interceptions of the season. He did run for a 7-yard score, where he spun near the goal line and dove across.

Chandler Rogers completed 11 of 21 passes 96 yards for Louisiana-Monroe and was intercepted once. The Tide outgained Louisiana-Monroe 509-169.

NO. 3 OHIO STATE 77, TOLEDO 21

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — C.J. Stroud threw five touchdown passes and Ohio State rolled up 762 yards on the way to a runaway victory over Toledo.

The Buckeyes (3-0) scored on all six of their first-half possessions, with Stroud completing 18 of 20 passes for 297 yards and a pair of touchdown passes each to Marvin Harrison Jr. and Julian Fleming on the way to a 42-14 lead.

Stroud completed 22 of 27 passes for 367 yards before yielding to backups late in the third quarter.

The Buckeyes' offensive output was the most since they gained 776 yards in a 77-10 win over another Mid-American Conference team, Bowling Green, in 2016.

NO. 4 MICHIGAN 59, CONNECTICUT 0

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Blake Corum rushed for a career-high four touchdowns in the first half and

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added a fifth score in the third quarter to match a school record, helping Michigan rout Connecticut.

The Wolverines (3-0) led 38-0 at halftime before coasting in the second half. The Huskies (1-3) had just 64 yards of offense in the first half, had a punt blocked and gave up a punt return for a touchdown over the opening 30 minutes.

J.J. McCarthy was 15 of 18 for 214 yards, a week after coach Jim Harbaugh said he had won the quarterback competition.

Cade McNamara entered late in the first half and was roughed up. He was sacked on the first snap, was hit hard just after completing his only pass attempt and didn't play in the second half due to a leg injury.

Without the senior available in the lopsided game, Harbaugh gave several reserve quarterbacks a chance to play.

NO. 5 CLEMSON 48, LOUISIANA TECH 20

CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) — Will Shipley ran for a career-high 139 yards and two touchdowns as Clemson took control in the second half to beat Louisiana Tech for its ninth straight win.

The Tigers, who started 3-0 for the seventh time in eight seasons, shook off a sluggish first half to put away the Bulldogs (1-2) of Conference USA and win its 35th in a row at home.

Clemson, up just 13-6 at the break, took advantage of two Parker McNeil interceptions and fourth-down stop on Louisiana Tech's desperate gamble to stay in contention — all leading to touchdowns.

Clemson linebacker Jeremiah Trotter Jr. picked off McNeil on the Tech 32 and Shipley took the next snap into the end zone. Tigers cornerback Malcolm Greene intercepted McNeil on the next series after the Bulldogs reached the red zone.

DJ Uiagalelei moved Clemson 90 yards in 14 plays, ending on Phil Mafah's 4-yard TD run.

NO. 6 OKLAHOMA 49, NEBRASKA 14

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Dillon Gabriel threw for two touchdowns and ran for another, and Oklahoma hammered Nebraska in the Cornhuskers' first game following the firing of Scott Frost.

The game was put on the schedule 10 years ago as the back end of a home-and-home series intended to celebrate what once was among college football's greatest rivalries. Instead, it was further confirmation the Cornhuskers are just a shell of the program that decades ago battled the Sooners for conference titles year-in and year-out.

OU (3-0) posted its most lopsided victory over Nebraska (1-3) since a 45-10 win in 1990. The Sooners have won seven of eight against the Huskers.

NO. 7 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 45, FRESNO STATE 17

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Caleb Williams threw for 284 yards and two touchdowns and ran for two more scores, Travis Dye and Austin Jones each ran for more than 100 yards and Southern California beat Fresno State.

Williams completed 25 of 37 passes for the Trojans, who have scored at least 45 points in each of the first three games under Lincoln Riley. Dye had his second straight 100-yard game with 102 yards on 11 carries and a touchdown while Jones had 12 carries for 110 yards and a score.

It is the first time since 2018 that USC (3-0) has had a pair of running backs reach the century mark in a game.

The Bulldogs (1-2) suffered a bigger loss though than the game. Quarterback Jake Haener was carted off in the third quarter with what coach Jeff Tedford said was high ankle sprain. The Mountain West Preseason Player of the Year had his right leg bend awkwardly while being sacked by Solomon Byrd.

NO. 8 OKLAHOMA STATE 63, ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF 7

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — Spencer Sanders threw four touchdown passes in just over one quarter of action, and Oklahoma State rolled over Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

Sanders matched his career high for touchdown passes in a game in the game's first 16 minutes. He completed 13 of 16 passes for 242 yards for the Cowboys (3-0) in their final nonconference game before entering Big 12 play.

Braydon Johnson caught two touchdown passes, making him one of five Oklahoma State players to catch

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at least one. The Cowboys gained 538 total yards.

Skyler Perry threw a 15-yard scoring pass to Raequan Prince for Pine Bluff's only touchdown. The Golden Lions (2-1), an FCS program, managed just 13 first downs.

NO. 9 KENTUCKY 31, YOUNGSTOWN STATE 0

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Will Levis accounted for three touchdowns, Kavosiey Smoke ran for a score and Kentucky shook off a slow start to shut out Youngstown State.

Boosted by their first top-10 ranking since October 2007, the Wildcats (3-0) followed up last week's Southeastern Conference win at Florida by physically dominating the FCS Penguins (2-1) in their inaugural meeting.

Kentucky outgained YSU 480-192 on the way to its first shutout since beating Miami (Ohio) 42-0 on Sept. 5, 2009. The Wildcats gave coach Mark Stoops a victory over his hometown school.

NO. 10 ARKANSAS 38, MISSOURI STATE 27

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Rocket Sanders and Bryce Stephens had long scoring plays in a 2:22 span of the fourth quarter to help Arkansas beat Missouri State and former Razorbacks coach Bobby Petrino.

Sanders caught a shovel pass for a 73-yard touchdown scamper with 11:38 left and Stephens returned Missouri State's ensuing punt 82 yards to give Arkansas (3-0) its first lead of the game at 31-27.

Petrino coached Arkansas from 2008 to 2011 before being fired in spring of 2012 after a motorcycle wreck and proceeding scandal.

Arkansas rallied after Missouri State (2-1), took a 17-0 lead, tying it at 17 in the third quarter. Back-to-back scores late in the third quarter gave the Bears a 10-point edge with 12:04 left before Sanders and Stephens scored.

Sanders ran for a career-high 167 yards on 22 carries and scored two touchdowns. KJ Jefferson threw for a career-high 385 yards, with two touchdowns and an interception. Jefferson's 1-yard touchdown run with 1:39 left provided the final score.

NO. 25 OREGON 41, NO. 12 BYU 20

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Bo Nix threw for two touchdowns and ran for three more to lead Oregon over BYU and extend the Ducks' home winning streak to 21 games — third-longest in the nation.

Nix, a transfer from Auburn, completed 13 of 18 passes for 222 yards and ran for 35 yards on nine carries. Terrance Ferguson caught both of Nix's touchdown passes and finished with 24 yards receiving.

Jaren Hall threw for 305 yards and two scores for BYU (2-1), which was coming off a big win at home over then-No. 9 Baylor that moved the Cougars up nine spots in the AP Top 25. They struggled on the ground against the Ducks (2-1), mustering just 61 rushing yards.

NO. 24 TEXAS A&M 17, NO. 13 MIAMI 9

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Max Johnson threw for 140 yards and a touchdown in his first start for Texas A&M, which beat Miami.

Johnson replaced Haynes King, who coach Jimbo Fisher benched after his subpar performance in Texas A&M's stunning loss to Appalachian State last week.

Miami (2-1) was down by 8 and had to punt after two holding calls stalled a drive with about three minutes left. The Hurricanes had a shot to get the ball back when Ainius Smith fumbled the punt on the 12. But he pounced on the ball before Miami could get to it to allow A&M to keep the ball.

The Hurricanes got the ball back again after that, but Brashard Smith dropped a pass on fourth-and-4 with about 30 seconds left to allow the Aggies (2-1) to run out the clock for the victory.

NO. 14 UTAH 35, SAN DIEGO STATE 7

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Cam Rising threw for 224 yards and a career-high four touchdowns in three quarters to help Utah rout San Diego State.

Rising is the first Utah quarterback since 2017 to pass for 200 or more yards in the first three games of the season. The Utes (2-1) forced a pair of turnovers and scored touchdowns following both takeaways.

San Diego State (1-2) lost starting quarterback Braxton Burmeister to an injury in the first quarter and never got on track offensively. The Aztecs failed to convert a third down until midway through the third

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quarter and did not surpass 100 total yards of offense until the final minute of the quarter.

NO. 15 TENNESSEE 63, AKRON 6

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Jalin Hyatt caught five passes for 166 yards and two touchdowns to lead Tennessee over Akron.

Hyatt had scoring passes of 57 and 48 yards in the first half as the Volunteers (3-0) jumped to a 35-0 lead over the Zips (1-2).

Tennessee quarterback Hendon Hooker threw for 251 yards and two scores in the first 30 minutes and finished with 298 yards.

Akron's best chance for a TD in the first half came with second-and-goal on the 5 when Daniel George fumbled on an end around.

NO. 16 N.C. STATE 27, TEXAS TECH 14

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Aydan White returned one of his two interceptions 84 yards for a touchdown to lead a strong defensive effort that carried North Carolina State past Texas Tech.

Facing the Bowl Subdivision's top passing offense, N.C. State's veteran defense harassed quarterback Donovan Smith and shut down any ground game the Red Raiders tried to muster. The highlight was White's fourth-down pick of Smith's overthrown second-quarter ball.

White also had a sack on a cornerback blitz, one of four for the Wolfpack (3-0). Jakeen Harris came up with a fourth-down interception near midfield with 8:38 left as Texas Tech (2-1) tried to make a late push.

NO. 17 BAYLOR 42, TEXAS STATE 7

WACO, Texas (AP) — Baylor quarterback Blake Shapen faked a handoff and took off untouched for a 35-yard touchdown run just before halftime, when Texas State thought it had a fourth-down stop, and the Bears went on to win.

True freshman Richard Reese ran 19 times for 156 yards and three touchdowns for the Bears (2-1). Shapen completed 15 of 26 passes for 184 yards with a 28-yard TD to Gavin Holmes.

As defenders tackled Reese in the backfield on fourth-and-1, Shapen raced past a blitzing safety to cap a nine-play, 96-yard drive for a 21-7 lead. That came immediately after Texas State (1-2) had pulled within one score with 1:59 left in the half and the Bears were backed up to their own 4 after Craig Williams muffed the ensuing kickoff.

NO. 18 FLORIDA 31, SOUTH FLORIDA 28

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Trevor Etienne's 3-yard touchdown run with 5 minutes remaining helped Florida rally to beat South Florida.

Spencer Shrader missed a 48-yard field goal with 23 seconds left for South Florida (1-2) that likely would have sent the game into overtime. Shrader had little chance at making the kick after Andrew Beardall dropped the snap while trying to get the ball down.

Florida quarterback Anthony Richardson was off for the second straight week. He completed 10 of 18 passes for 112 yards and two interceptions. The second one came in the end zone on a head-scratching play call by coach Billy Napier. Instead of potentially taking the lead, Florida trailed 28-24.

Tre'Vez Johnson intercepted Gerry Bohanon's third-down pass on the ensuing possession and gave Florida the ball back with a short field. and Etienne carried the ball four straight times, the last one into the end zone to put Florida (2-1) back in front.

NO. 19 WAKE FOREST 37, LIBERTY 36

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) — Liberty scored with about a minute left but Wake Forest stopped CJ Yarbrough's two-point conversion attempt several yards short of the goal line for a tight home win.

The Demon Deacons' ground game was ineffective — 21 rushing yards on 26 attempts — so they turned to defense and a passing game, with quarterback Sam Hartman throwing for 325 yards and three touchdowns. Wake Forest remains unbeaten at 3-0.

Liberty (2-1) had pulled within a single point on that late 18-yard, fourth-down touchdown grab by Demario Douglas, who jumped high and took the ball away from two Wake defenders in the end zone.

The second half turned out to be a shootout, pitting Hartman against elusive Liberty quarterback Kaidon Salter, a former Tennessee recruit. But Matthew Dennis made the extra point after a 1-yard touchdown

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run from Justice Ellison with 3:39 left.

NO. 20 MISSISSIPPI 42, GEORGIA TECH 0

ATLANTA (AP) — Ole Miss shrugged off its uncertainty at quarterback by running right through Georgia Tech, with Zach Evans and Quinshon Judkins leading a 316-yard pummeling on the ground.

Jaxson Dart returned as the starting quarterback for Mississippi (3-0), but the plan to make it a running game was apparent from the first possession. On third-and-7 from the Georgia Tech 17, Judkins ran for the first down. The freshman then rumbled to the end zone on third-and-goal from the 7.

Ole Miss ran for all six of its touchdowns, averaging 5.1 yards on 62 carries. Evans had scoring runs of 3 and 26 yards while rushing for 134 yards. Judkins gained 98 yards and also scored twice.

The Rebels held Georgia Tech (1-2) to 214 yards total offense while sacking quarterback Jeff Sims seven times.

NO. 21 TEXAS 41, UTSA 20

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Bijan Robinson ran for 183 yards and three touchdowns and Jahdae Barron returned an interception 44 yards for a score in the third quarter in Texas' win over UTSA.

Texas trailed 17-7 in the second quarter then rallied to tie it by halftime. Robinson's 78-yard touchdown run gave Texas the lead, and Barron's interception return put the Longhorns up by 11 to snuff the Roadrunners' bid for an upset that would have been the biggest win in the history of a program that has only been playing football since 2011.

Hudson Card got the start at quarterback for Texas (2-1) in place of the injured Quinn Ewers and finished with 161 yards passing.

Texas found itself quickly down by 10 as UTSA (1-2) followed a surprise onside kick with a trick play touchdown pass to Zakhari Franklin.

NO. 22 PENN STATE 41, AUBURN 12

AUBURN, Ala. (AP) — Nicholas Singleton and Kaytron Allen combined for 176 rushing yards and four touchdowns as Penn State cruised past Auburn.

The Nittany Lions' freshman running backs were instrumental in the red zone. Penn State (3-0) scored touchdowns on each of its first four trips inside the 20-yard line. Quarterback Sean Clifford passed for 178 yards.

The Penn State defense forced four turnovers by Auburn (2-1) and also held Tigers star running back Tank Bigsby to 39 rushing yards.

Penn State led by one point late in the second quarter before Allen scored his first of two touchdowns. After Auburn opened the third quarter with a three-and-out, Singleton broke a 54-yard run and found the end zone two plays later.

NO. 23 PITT 34, WESTERN MICHIGAN 13

KALAMAZOO, Mich. (AP) — Pitt junior running back Israel Abanikanda carried the ball 31 times for 131 yards and a touchdown to lead the Panthers over Western Michigan.

Pitt (2-1) was without its top two quarterbacks for the nonconference contest, but third-string signal caller Nate Yarnell was efficient under center, going 9-for-12 passing for 179 yards and a touchdown.

Western Michigan (1-2) had its opportunities, with a 31-yard double pass from receiver Anthony Sambucci to receiver A.J. Abbott for a touchdown that cut Pitt's lead to 20-13 heading into the fourth quarter.

Pitt responded on its next drive when Yarnell found sophomore receiver Konata Mumpfield for a 6-yard touchdown reception to give the Panthers a two-score cushion.

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Royal lying in state rituals endure despite changing times

By SYLVIA HUI Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — When Queen Elizabeth II's grandfather, King George V, died 86 years ago, many homes

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in Britain had little or no electricity and large parts of the population still lived in slums.

Life in 1936 is unrecognizable to Britons today. But despite almost a century of change, the images from the queen's lying in state this week are almost exact copies of those from when George V lay in state.

Both used the same vast, medieval Westminster Hall with the coffin resting on a royal purple platform in the middle. A brass cross is at one end of the coffin, the royal standard is draped on top, and tall candlesticks and scarlet and gold-clad ceremonial guards are carefully placed around it.

Historians say maintaining such traditions consistently through time is crucial to preserving reverence for the monarchy.

"When you look at the photographs, it's like spot the difference isn't it?" said historian Tracy Borman, author of "Crown and Sceptre: 1000 years of Kings and Queens."

"People want to see a crown and scepter, they like to see these ceremonies played out the same way," she added. "People derive some sort of comfort and security from that unchanging nature. It seems to be what people value about the monarchy: nothing changing."

The queen, Britain's longest-reigning monarch who ruled for 70 years, was the constant rock of stability in British life before she died on Sept. 8 in Scotland. Even in death, the pomp and pageantry to mark her passing evokes elaborate mourning rituals that seem to be frozen in time.

Before the queen, five British kings and queens have lain in state at Westminster Hall, a 900-year-old building at the center of British politics and power for centuries. The hall hosted numerous medieval coronation banquets, as well as the trials of Guy Fawkes and Charles I in the 17th century.

The tradition of lying in state stretches back to the time of the Stuarts — who reigned from 1603 to 1714 — when sovereigns lay in state for a number of days. But Edward VII was the monarch who set the modern tradition of lying in state in Westminster Hall in 1910. Archival footage showed that just like today, crowds formed huge lines snaking through central London for a chance to file past their sovereign's coffin.

Historian Ed Owens believes it was a canny move by Edward VII to strengthen the bond between the crown and its subjects.

"He saw the lying in state as a key moment that would bring him as monarch into close contact with his subjects, a final opportunity for them to bid farewell," said Owens, author of "The Family Firm: Monarchy, Mass Media and the British Public, 1932-1953."

"This was a moment that would be captured by the new technologies of photography and film," Owens added. "And it was a way of saying to the wider country and the wider world, that monarch and people were in a kind of spiritual communion."

Other royals who lay in state at Westminster Hall were King George VI, Elizabeth's father, in 1952, and Queen Mary, Elizabeth's grandmother, in 1953. George VI's wife Queen Elizabeth, known in later years as the Queen Mother after her daughter became monarch, was the last person to lie in state in Britain. Each time, the occasions drew tens of thousands of people.

Two former prime ministers — William Gladstone in 1898 and Winston Churchill in 1965 — also lay in state at Westminster Hall. Churchill also had a state funeral — the last one staged in Britain until Monday, when the state funeral for the queen takes place.

Such pageantry continues to fascinate because it seems to play into an enduring craving for ritual, Borman said.

The monarchy holds "a kind of magnetism" because "you're staring history in the face, they represent that ancient line stretching back," she said.

That appeal suits the royals just fine — and indeed, she pointed out that the royal household has been "absolutely dedicated" to upholding the unchanging nature of such ceremonies.

"That is very deliberate, I think," Borman said. "I guess the heart of that is to stop people getting rid of the monarchy."

Follow AP's coverage of Queen Elizabeth II at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

China values UN relationship despite human rights criticism

By KEN MORITSUGU and JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — As world leaders gather in New York at the annual U.N. General Assembly, rising super-power China is also focusing on another United Nations body that is meeting across the Atlantic Ocean in Geneva.

Chinese diplomats are speaking out and lobbying others at an ongoing session of the Human Rights Council to thwart a possible call for further scrutiny of what it calls its anti-extremism campaign in Xinjiang, following a United Nations report on abuses against Uyghurs and other largely Muslim ethnic groups in the western China border region.

The concurrent meetings illustrate China's divided approach to the United Nations and its growing global influence. Beijing looks to the U.N., where it can count on support from countries it has befriended and in many cases assisted financially, as a counterweight to U.S.-led blocs such as the Group of Seven, which have grown increasingly hostile toward China.

"China sees the U.N. as an important forum that it can use to further its strategic interests and goals, and to reform the global order," said Helena Legarda from the Mercator Institute for China Studies in Berlin.

While holding up the United Nations as a model of multilateralism, China rejects criticism or decisions that the ruling Communist Party sees as counter to its interests. Its diplomats struck back at the report published last month by the U.N. human rights office raising concerns about possible "crimes against humanity" in Xinjiang — vowing to suspend cooperation with the office and blasting what it described as a Western plot to undermine China's rise.

China had pushed hard to block the report on Xinjiang, delaying its release for more than a year. In the end, the information did come out — but just minutes before embattled U.N. human rights chief Michelle Bachelet left office.

Like the United States, China feels a certain freedom to ignore U.N. institutions when it wants: The Trump administration pulled the U.S. out of the Human Rights Council in 2018, accusing it of anti-Israel bias. The Biden administration jumped back in this year, and has made a priority of defending Israel in the 47-member-state body.

Also like the United States, China leverages its influence to get its way — effectively stymieing an investigation by the U.N.'s World Health Organization into whether China was the birthplace of the coronavirus pandemic.

Ken Roth, the former executive director of Human Rights Watch, said Chinese President Xi Jinping is trying to redefine what human rights are, in part by casting economic development as a key criterion. China, Roth said, "more than any government in the past, is trying to undermine the U.N. human rights system" — by pressuring U.N. officials, retaliating against witnesses and trying to bribe governments.

"One of their top priorities right now — maybe after Taiwan — is to avoid condemnation by the Human Rights Council," Roth said. The self-governing island of Taiwan is claimed by China as its sovereign territory, an issue that the Beijing government is vociferous about internationally.

Shi Yinhong, an international relations expert at Renmin University in China, said advocating for the U.N.'s role in maintaining the international order doesn't mean that China agrees with every U.N. body, citing the COVID-19 origins study and the recent Xinjiang report.

"When the U.N. high commissioner for human rights issues such a report, in the eyes of China, it is the same as all organizations in the world, no matter official or private, that defames China," Shi said.

But China doesn't want its pique toward the rights office, which falls under U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, to spill over to its deepening relationship with other parts of the world body that deal with refugees, climate, the internet, satellites, world hunger, atomic weapons, energy and much more.

China wields power as one of the five veto-holding members of the Security Council, helping it build relationships with the United States and others who needed China's support for past resolutions on Iran and North Korea.

That influence has diminished somewhat with the overall deterioration of U.S.-China ties, Shi said. Subsequently, both China and Russia vetoed a U.S.-backed resolution in May to impose new sanctions on

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North Korea.

Under Xi, who came to power 10 years ago, China has expanded its U.N. involvement from primarily international development early on to political, peace and security issues, Legarda said.

She noted how China has had its concepts and language worked into U.N. resolutions and used the U.N. system to promote a "Global Development Initiative" proposed by Xi in a video address to last year's General Assembly.

"This is a reflection of China's more assertive and ambitious foreign policy under Xi," Legarda said.

China has stepped into a diplomatic void created by a lack of U.S. leadership, said Daniel Warner, a Geneva-based political analyst. Former President Donald Trump shunned many international institutions, Warner said, and successor Joe Biden has been preoccupied with domestic issues.

Chinese hold the top jobs at three of the U.N.'s 18 specialized agencies: the Food and Agricultural Organization, the Industrial Development Organization and the International Telecommunications Union, where the United States has put up a candidate to succeed outgoing chief Houlin Zhao. A Chinese official headed the International Civil Aviation Organization until last year.

For China, it's a matter of prestige as well as influence, Warner said.

"The United States and the Western countries were very much involved in the initial United Nations," he said. "China doesn't want to have that kind of leadership. They're not talking about liberal values, but they want to make sure that their interests are defended in the U.N. system."

Chinese diplomats spearheaded a joint statement — which it said was backed by 30 countries including Russia, North Korea, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela — that blasted "disinformation" behind the U.N. report on Xinjiang and the "erroneous conclusions" drawn in it. And China's ambassador in Geneva said Beijing could no longer cooperate with the human rights office — without specifying how.

Sarah Brooks, a China expert at the International Society for Human Rights advocacy group in Geneva, said China could hold up its funding for the office — which lately has come in at \$800,000 a year, far less than Western countries that give tens of millions.

Still, Brooks said it would be a "huge blow" if funding from China were to stop, in part because many countries appreciate and support the causes that Beijing helps pay for.

"The optics of it are really damaging," she said. "You have a country that says, 'Hi, I want to be responsible, but I'm so thin-skinned ... I'm still going to lash out at the organization that drafted it.'"

Keaten reported from Geneva. Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed to this report.

Storm battering western Alaska causes widespread flooding

By MARK THIESSEN and JOCELYN GECKER Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A powerful storm sweeping north through the Bering Strait on Saturday caused widespread flooding in several western Alaska coastal communities, knocking out power and sending residents fleeing for higher ground.

The force of the water moved some homes off their foundations, and one house in Nome floated down a river until it got caught at a bridge.

The potent storm — what remains of Typhoon Merbok — has been influencing weather patterns as far away as California, where strong winds and a rare late-summer rainstorm were expected.

In Alaska, no injuries or deaths were immediately reported, said Jeremy Zidek, spokesperson for the Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Officials had warned some places could see their worst flooding in 50 years and that the high waters could take up to 14 hours to recede.

Gov. Mike Dunleavy issued a disaster declaration during the day.

The nearly 1,000-mile (1,609-kilometer) storm front has damaged roads and potentially other infrastructure, Dunleavy said at a Saturday evening news conference. Officials will evaluate any effects on water and sewer systems, seawalls, fuel storage areas, airports, and ports.

Federal Emergency Management Agency representatives were already in Alaska before the storm, and Dunleavy said they will stay to help assess damage.

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"Our goal is to get the assessments done as soon as possible," he said. "We're going to move as quickly as we can to provide relief, provide recovery, provide the essentials that people need."

Among the hardest hit communities was Golovin, a village of 170 or so residents who mostly sought shelter at a school or in three buildings on a hillside. Winds in the village gusted over 60 mph (95 kph) and the water rose 11 feet (3.3 meters) above the normal high tide line and was expected to rise another 2 feet (60 centimeters) Saturday before cresting.

"Most of the lower part of the community is all flooded with structures and buildings inundated," said Ed Plumb, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Fairbanks.

Clarabelle Lewis, the facility manager for the tribal government, the Chinik Eskimo Community, was among those who sought refuge on the hill overlooking Golovin. She and others were riding out the storm in the tribal office after securing items at their homes from the high winds and helping neighbors do the same.

"The winds were howling; it was noisy," she said.

Most communities experienced wind gusts ranging from 41 mph (66 kph) to 67 mph (108 kph), but Cape Romanzof had peak winds of 91 mph (146 kph), the weather service said.

Lewis has never experienced a storm like this in 20 years living in Golovin.

"We've had flooding in the past a few times, but it was never this severe," she said. "We've never had homes moved from their foundations."

There were also reports of flooding in Hooper Bay, St. Michael's, Unalakleet and Shaktoolik, where waves crashed over the berm in front of the community, Plumb said.

In Hooper Bay, more than 250 people took shelter inside the school, Bethel public radio station KYUK reported. The village is one of the largest along the coast with nearly 1,400 residents.

The school's vice principal, Brittany Taraba, said three homes were knocked off their foundations and large parts of the village were flooded.

Residents are supporting each other, including donating recently caught and processed moose to feed those sheltering at the school.

"It's really amazing to watch this community," Taraba told KYUK.

Plumb said the storm would track through the Bering Strait on Saturday and then head into the Chukchi Sea.

"And then it's going to kind of park and weaken just west of Point Hope," he said of the community on Alaska's northwest coast.

He said there would be high water in the vicinity of the northern Bering Sea through Saturday night before levels start to subside through Sunday. Rising water levels farther north, in the Chukchi Sea and Kotzebue Sound areas, were expected into Sunday.

In Northern California, wind gusts up to 40 mph (64 kph) were forecast overnight Saturday and into Sunday morning along coastal areas from Sonoma County down to Santa Cruz and at higher elevations in the Sierra Nevada, the weather service said.

Winds that strong can blow down branches and drought-stressed trees and cause power outages, said weather service meteorologist Ryan Walbrun.

Storms were expected to start Sunday morning and dump up to 3 inches (7.6 centimeters) of rain in coastal areas of Sonoma County and a bit less as rains move southward to the San Francisco area and into the Santa Cruz mountains, Walbrun said.

"It's a pretty significant rain for this early in the season," he said, adding that the storms are forecast to continue on and off through at least Monday, making commutes to work wet with slick roads.

In the Sierra Nevada foothills northeast of the state capital of Sacramento, fire crews have been fighting what has become the largest wildfire in that state so far this year. While rain is needed, the winds were a concern for crews battling the Mosquito Fire, which was 21% contained as of Saturday morning.

"The winds will definitely cause erratic fire behavior" that could ignite new hot spots despite the welcome moisture, said Cal Fire spokesman Scott McLean. "The rain is not going to put out the fire but it will help."

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Gecker reported from San Francisco.

Hurricane threat as Tropical Storm Fiona aims at Puerto Rico

By DÁNICA COTO Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Puerto Ricans braced for severe wind and extreme rain as Tropical Storm Fiona bore down amid expectations it would grow into a hurricane before striking the U.S. territory's southern coast Sunday afternoon.

Forecasters said "historic" levels of rain were expected to produce landslides and heavy flooding, with up to 20 inches forecast in isolated areas.

"It's time to take action and be concerned," said Nino Correa, Puerto Rico's emergency management commissioner.

Fiona was centered 150 miles (240 kilometers) southeast of Ponce, Puerto Rico, late Saturday. It had maximum sustained winds of 60 mph (95 kph) and was moving west-northwest at 8 mph (13 kph).

The storm was forecast to pummel cities and towns along Puerto Rico's southern coast that are still recovering from a string of strong earthquakes that hit the region starting in late 2019, with several schools still shuttered and debris to be removed.

More than 100 people had sought shelter across the island by Saturday night, the majority of them in the southern coastal city of Guayanilla.

With Fiona due just two days before the anniversary of Hurricane Maria, a deadly Category 4 storm that hit on Sept. 20, 2017, anxiety levels ran high across the island. People boarded up windows and stocked up on food and water.

"I think all of us Puerto Ricans who lived through Maria have that post-traumatic stress of, 'What is going to happen, how long is it going to last and what needs might we face?'" said Danny Hernández, who works in the capital of San Juan but planned to weather the storm with his parents and family in the western town of Mayaguez.

He said the atmosphere was gloomy at the supermarket as he and others made sure they were well-stocked before the storm hit.

"After Maria, we all experienced scarcity to some extent," he said.

Many Puerto Ricans also were concerned about blackouts, with Luma, the company that operates power transmission and distribution, warning of "widespread service interruptions."

Puerto Rico's power grid was razed by Hurricane Maria and remains frail, with reconstruction starting only recently. Outages are a daily occurrence, and fires at power plants have occurred in recent months.

Puerto Rico's governor, Pedro Pierluisi, said he was ready to declare a state of emergency if needed and activated the National Guard as the Atlantic hurricane season's sixth named storm approached.

"What worries me most is the rain," said forecaster Ernesto Morales with the National Weather Service in San Juan.

Fiona was predicted to drop 5 to 10 inches (13 to 25 centimeters) of rain over eastern and southern Puerto Rico, with as much as 20 inches (51 centimeters) in isolated spots.

It was forecast to swipe past the Dominican Republic on Monday and then northern Haiti and the Turks and Caicos Islands with the threat of heavy rain. It could threaten the far southern end of the Bahamas on Tuesday.

A hurricane warning was posted for the Dominican Republic's eastern coast from Cabo Caucedo to Cabo Frances Viejo.

Fiona previously battered the eastern Caribbean, killing one man in the French territory of Guadeloupe when floods washed his home away, officials said. The storm also damaged roads, uprooted trees and destroyed at least one bridge.

In the eastern Pacific, Tropical Storm Lester dissipated Saturday afternoon after making landfall to the south of Acapulco on Mexico's southwestern coast.

Tropical Storm Madeline formed farther out in the Pacific, but forecasters predicted it would not pose

any threat to land as it moved away from Mexico.

Puerto Rico girds for possible hurricane as TS Fiona nears

By DÁNICA COTO Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Tropical Storm Fiona headed for Puerto Rico on Saturday night, with forecasters warning it likely would grow into a hurricane before hitting on Sunday with extremely heavy rains with the potential to cause landslides, severe flooding and power outages.

The storm already lashed several eastern Caribbean islands, with one death reported in the French territory of Guadeloupe. More than 20 other people were rescued amid heavy wind and rain that left 13,000 customers without power, with the storm tearing up roads, downing trees and destroying at least one bridge.

Fiona was centered 150 miles (240 kilometers) southeast of Ponce, Puerto Rico, late Saturday and had maximum sustained winds of 60 mph (95 kph). It was moving west-northwest at 8 mph (13 kph) on a path forecast to pass near or over Puerto Rico on Sunday. Fiona was expected to become a hurricane before reaching Puerto Rico's southern coast.

"We are already starting to feel its effects," Puerto Rico Gov. Pedro Pierluisi said at a news conference in which the lights briefly went out as he spoke, prompting groans and laughs across the island. "We should not underestimate this storm."

Officials said the heavy rains anticipated would be dangerous because the island's soil is already saturated.

"We're not saying that the winds aren't dangerous, but we are preparing for a historic event in terms of rain," said Ernesto Morales, a forecaster with the National Weather Service in San Juan.

Many Puerto Ricans worried about serious power outages since the reconstruction of the island's power grid razed by Hurricane Maria in 2017 only recently began. The grid remains fragile and power outages occur daily.

Luma, the company that operates the transmission and distribution of power on the island, said it flew in an extra 100 lineworkers ahead of the storm but warned of "significant" outages over the weekend.

Fiona was forecast to swipe past the Dominican Republic on Monday as a potential hurricane and then Haiti and the Turks and Caicos Islands with the threat of extreme rain. Forecasters posted a hurricane warning for the coast of the Dominican Republic from Cabo Caucedo to Cabo Frances Viejo.

In Puerto Rico, authorities opened shelters and closed public beaches, casinos, theaters and museums as they urged people to remain indoors. Officials also transferred hundreds of endangered Puerto Rican parrots to their shelter.

"It's time to activate your emergency plan and contact and help your relatives, especially elderly adults who live alone," said Dr. Gloria Amador, who runs a nonprofit health organization in central Puerto Rico.

The governor said an elderly man died shortly after arriving at a shelter in the tiny island of Culebra that lies just east of Puerto Rico. He said that the man was living in squalid conditions and that the mayor had been trying to relocate him, calling it "quite an unfortunate incident."

Pierluisi said \$550 million in emergency funds were available to deal with the storm's aftermath along with enough food to feed 200,000 people for 20 days three times a day.

At least one cruise ship visit and several flights to the island were canceled, while authorities in the eastern Caribbean islands canceled school and prohibited people from practicing aquatic sports as Fiona battered the region.

On Guadeloupe, authorities said they recorded wind gusts of up to 74 mph (120 kph). They also said 9 inches (23 centimeters) of rain fell in three hours in the Gros Morne area.

Fiona, which is the Atlantic hurricane season's sixth named storm, was predicted to bring 5 to 10 inches (13 to 25 centimeters) of rain in eastern and southern Puerto Rico, with as much as 20 inches (51 centimeters) in isolated spots. Rains of 4 to 8 inches (10 to 20 centimeters) were forecast for the Dominican Republic, with up to 12 inches (30 centimeters) in places. Life-threatening surf also was possible from Fiona's winds, forecasters said.

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Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Lester in the eastern Pacific dissipated Saturday afternoon after making landfall to the south of Acapulco on Mexico's southwestern coast.

The hurricane center said Lester's remnants could still drop from 8 to 12 inches (20 to 31 centimeters) of rain on the coasts of upper Guerrero state and Michoacan state, with isolated areas getting 16 inches (41 centimeters).

Tropical Storm Madeline formed deeper in the Pacific, but forecasters predicted it would not pose any threat to land as it moved farther out to sea.

Henry Silva, known for many tough-guy roles, dies at 95

NEW YORK (AP) — Henry Silva, a prolific character actor best known for playing villains and tough guys in "The Manchurian Candidate," "Ocean's Eleven" and other films, has died at age 95.

Silva's son Scott Silva told Variety that his father died Wednesday of natural causes at the Motion Picture and Television Country House and Hospital in Woodland Hills, California.

Silva was a New York City native who dropped out of school as a teenager, in the 1940s. He was accepted the following decade into the Actors Studio, where fellow students included Shelley Winters and Ben Gazzara. He went on to have a long and busy career in film and television, with hundreds of credits before retiring from acting in 2001.

He had a breakthrough role on stage and screen in the 1950s as a drug dealer in "A Hatful of Rain" and supporting parts in two of Frank Sinatra's best known movies, both from the early 1960s: "Ocean's Eleven," the Las Vegas heist film that was a showcase for Sinatra, Dean Martin and other "Rat Pack" members; and "The Manchurian Candidate," the Cold War thriller about brainwashing and the attempted assassination of a presidential nominee that starred Sinatra, Laurence Harvey and Janet Leigh. (In his last film appearance, Silva was cast in the "Ocean's Eleven" remake from 2000 that starred George Clooney and Brad Pitt).

"Our hearts are broken at the loss of our dear friend Henry Silva, one of the nicest, kindest and most talented men I've had the pleasure of calling my friend," Dean Martin's daughter, Deana Martin, tweeted. "He was the last surviving star of the original Oceans 11 Movie."

Silva was also seen on such television series as "Wagon Train" and "The F.B.I.," and in such films as Warren Beatty's "Dick Tracy," Jerry Lewis' "Cinderfella" and "Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai," in which he played a mobster in the 1999 release directed by one of his admirers, Jim Jarmusch.

The story has been corrected to show the plot of "The Manchurian candidate" involved the attempted assassination of a presidential nominee, not the assassination of a president.

On the Colorado River, growing concern for trout and chub

By BRITTANY PETERSON Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — To guide fishing trips for a year or two, that's what brought Terry Gunn to the red canyons of northern Arizona. The chance to hike, raft and fly fish drew Wendy Hanvold, a retired ski bum, who took a job there waiting tables at an anglers lodge. She heard rumors of the intrepid fishing guide who had just returned from an Alaska trip, and one day when he came in approached his table to take his order.

"You fly fish, right?" she said. "I've always wanted to learn."

It was a match made in Marble Canyon.

Since then, the couple opened an anglers shop, guide service, purchased a lodge, and raised their son. They take pride in showing tourists the best spots to catch and release prized rainbow trout beneath craggy cliffs carved by the Colorado River.

But it could all soon change as warmer water temperatures threaten fish survival and the Gunn's livelihood.

Key Colorado River reservoirs Lake Powell and Lake Mead are both only about one-quarter full. The continued drop, due to overuse and an increasingly arid climate, is threatening the fish and the economies built around them.

"We're in totally uncharted territory," said Gunn, who began guiding in Marble Canyon in 1983. That

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year, Glen Canyon Dam began to release water on an emergency basis after record snowmelt produced a powerful spring runoff, resulting in near failure of the dam. In all these years, the river has usually been cold, with typical summer temperatures in the 50s.

But since late August, the water temperature at Lees Ferry — the site of a world-famous trout fishery — has risen above 70 degrees seven times. That might be idyllic for a summer dip under the blazing Arizona summer sun, Gunn said, but approaches peril for the beloved sport fish. A few degrees higher can be lethal.

To make matters worse, when temperatures rise, the amount of oxygen dissolved in the water falls, making it tough for fish to even breathe.

As the reservoir drops, it sends warmer water with less oxygen into the river below the dam. Should that water reach 73 degrees, Gunn said his family's guide service could start calling off afternoon trips.

Recently, a small reprieve of cooler temperatures has taken the edge off the fear at Lees Ferry, but uncertainty still taints the air.

"Mother Nature holds a handful of trump cards and if she decides to play one, there's not a damn thing you can do about it," Gunn said.

Seven states, Mexico, and tribal nations depend on the stressed Colorado River. They have undergone voluntary and mandatory cuts and are grappling with how to further reduce their reliance on the river by about 15 to 30 percent, per a recent mandate by the Department of the Interior.

Struggling aquatic life further complicates the already delicate river management and increases the cost.

Just a few miles north of Lees Ferry and its trout fishery there's another threat — nonnative predatory smallmouth bass. They're supposed to be contained in Lake Powell. But this summer they were found in the river below the dam. Smallmouth bass already wreaked havoc on native fish way upriver where the government spends millions of dollars each year to control the predators. They were held at bay in Lake Powell because Glen Canyon Dam has served as a barrier for them for years — until now. The reservoir's recent sharp decline is enabling these introduced fish to shoot through the dam and edge closer to the Grand Canyon, where the biggest groups of humpback chub, an ancient, threatened, native fish, remain.

The National Park Service is going so far as to apply chemicals Saturday to kill these predatory fish. The infested area is sealed off from the river with a vinyl barrier, desirable fish are moved to the main channel, and the substance is applied to just that area, said National Park Service fisheries biologist Jeff Arnold. A second treatment is likely later this fall. The Bureau of Reclamation has said it will contribute \$30,000 for the second treatment, and is exploring additional funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act for longer-term solutions such as barriers that would prevent fish from even approaching the dam.

A mid-term solution could involve a technique that lets cold water from deeper in the lake flow into the river below. Although this would mean forgoing hydropower, the cool water would disrupt spawning of predatory fish. It's been successful in other rivers and could help protect both native fish and rainbow trout.

Several hundred miles downstream, at the site of another fish threat, one hatchery has completely shut down. Lake Mead Fish Hatchery, which used to breed endangered razorback sucker and bonytail chub, ceased operations earlier this year when the lake dipped below the point where the hatchery drew its water.

Last month, the state of Nevada and the Bureau of Reclamation announced they're kicking in nearly \$12 million on a project to pull water from deeper in the lake into the hatchery. The new line will source water from a third straw that the Southern Nevada Water Authority built following a severe drop in lake levels in the early 2000s. As Lake Mead plummeted this year, the agency had to begin using it to rescue Las Vegas, and soon, the hatchery.

Walking into a silent hatchery, normally abuzz with flowing water and air compressors, is a challenge, said Nevada Department of Wildlife supervising fish biologist Brandon Singer.

"At first you feel kind of lost, your purpose is gone," Singer said. But it's been an opportunity for repair work and for his team to work on species in other parts of the state while they await their return to fish-rearing.

Maintaining native fish populations is a legal obligation the bureau has under the Endangered Species

Act. It could face a lawsuit if it fails to meet that obligation, even as it juggles other pressing demands on the river.

Back upstream near Lake Powell, the introduced rainbow trout don't have the same protection. Losing them would be heartbreaking but feels inevitable, said Terry Gunn, who checks water temperature religiously. "It's like watching a family member grow old or die — it's gonna happen."

Wendy Gunn says if the trout fishery is lost and smallmouth bass take over, she could imagine Lees Ferry transitioning to a haven for warm water fish. It would be tragic in many ways, with the beloved rainbow trout gone and the likelihood that native fish downstream could be next, she said, but people would still come to cast lines.

"Everybody's just gonna have to adapt," Wendy said. "You either roll with it and change or you go away."

The Associated Press receives support from the Walton Family Foundation for coverage of water and environmental policy. The AP is solely responsible for all content. For all of AP's environmental coverage, visit <https://apnews.com/hub/climate-and-environment>

For Russia's Putin, military and diplomatic pressures mount

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops pushed their counteroffensive Saturday to advance farther into Ukraine's partly recaptured northeast.

Western officials and analysts said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine's northeast after the counteroffensive punched through the previous one, allowing Kyiv's soldiers to recapture large swaths of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

Putin, at a high-level summit in Uzbekistan this week, vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite the recent military setbacks but also faced concerns by India and China over the drawn-out conflict.

"I know that today's era is not of war," Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as they met Friday in Uzbekistan. "We discussed this with you on the phone several times, that democracy and dialogue touch the entire world."

At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China's unspecified "questions and concerns" about the war in Ukraine while thanking President Xi Jinping for Beijing's "balanced position" on the conflict.

The hurried retreat of Russian troops this month from parts of a northeast region they occupied early in the war, together with the rare public reservations expressed by key allies, underscored the challenges that Putin faces on all fronts. Both China and India have maintained strong ties with Russia and had sought to remain neutral on Ukraine.

Xi, in a statement, expressed support for Russia's "core interests" but also wanted to work together to "inject stability" into world affairs. Modi said he wanted to discuss "how we can move forward on the path of peace," adding that the biggest concerns facing the world are the problems of food security, fuel security and fertilizers.

"We must find some way out and you too must contribute to that," Modi stressed in a rare public rebuke.

The comments cast a shadow over a summit that Putin had hoped would burnish his diplomatic status and show he was not so internationally isolated.

On the battlefield, Britain's Defense Ministry said the new front line likely was between the Oskil River and Svatove, 150 kilometers (90 miles) southeast of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city.

After Russian troops retreated from the city of Iziom, Ukrainian authorities discovered a mass grave site, one of the largest found so far.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that there were more than 440 graves at the location containing the bodies of hundreds of civilian adults and children, as well as soldiers, and that some had been tortured, shot or killed by artillery shelling. He cited evidence of atrocities, such as a body with a rope around its neck and broken arms.

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"Torture was a widespread practice in the occupied territory. That's what the Nazis did. That's what (the Russians) do," Zelenskyy said Saturday in his nightly video address. "We will establish the identity of all those who tortured, who mocked, who brought this atrocity from Russia here to Ukrainian soil."

Ukrainian forces, in the meantime, were crossing the Oskil River in the Kharkiv region and have placed artillery there, the Washington-based Institute for the Study of War said Saturday. The river, which flows south from Russia into Ukraine, had been a natural break in the newly emerged front lines since Ukraine launched its counteroffensive about a week ago.

"Russian forces are likely too weak to prevent further Ukrainian advances along the entire Oskil River," the institute said.

Videos circulating online indicated that Ukrainian forces were continuing to retake land in the country's embattled east, although their veracity could not be independently verified.

One showed a Ukrainian soldier walking past a damaged building and then pointing at a colleague hanging the blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flag over a mobile phone tower. The soldier identified the seized village as Dibrova, just northeast of the city of Sloviansk in Ukraine's Donetsk region.

Another video showed two Ukrainian soldiers in what appeared to be a bell tower, with one saying they had retaken the village of Shchurove, also northeast of Sloviansk.

The Ukrainian military and Russia did not comment on the two villages.

Elsewhere, Russian forces continued pounding cities and villages with missile strikes and shelling.

A Russian missile attack early Saturday started a fire in Kharkiv's industrial area, regional Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said. Firefighters extinguished the blaze.

Syniehubov said remnants suggested the Russians fired S-300 surface-to-air missiles at the city. The S-300 is designed for striking missiles or aircraft in the sky, not targets on the ground. Analysts say Russia's use of the missiles suggest they may be running out of some precision munitions.

Shelling of the nearby city of Chuhuiv later in the day killed an 11-year-old girl, Syniehubov reported.

In the southern Zaporizhzhia region, a large part of which is occupied by Russian forces, one person was wounded in shelling of the city of Orikhiv, the region's Ukrainian governor, Oleksandr Starukh, reported on Telegram. He said Russian troops also shelled two villages in the region, destroying several civilian facilities.

Explosions were also reported in Russian-occupied parts of Zaporizhzhia. Russian-installed official Vladimir Rogov said on Telegram that at least five blasts were heard in the city of Melitopol. The city's Ukrainian mayor, Ivan Fedorov, said they were in a village south of the city, where the Russian troops had relocated some military equipment.

Ukraine's central Dnipropetrovsk region also came under Russian fire overnight, according to its governor, Valentyn Reznichenko. "The enemy attacked six times and launched more than 90 deadly projectiles on peaceful cities and villages," he said.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's atomic energy operator, Energoatom, said a convoy of 25 trucks had brought diesel and other critical supplies to the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant — Europe's largest — which was shut down a week ago amid fears that nearby fighting could result in a radiation disaster.

The trucks were allowed through Russian checkpoints Friday to deliver spare parts for repairs of damaged power lines, chemicals for the operation of the plant and additional fuel for backup diesel generators, Energoatom said.

The six-reactor plant was captured by Russian forces in March but is operated by Ukrainian engineers. Its last reactor was switched off Sunday after repeated power failures due to shelling put crucial safety systems at risk.

The International Atomic Energy Agency reported Saturday that one of the nuclear plant's four main external power lines had been repaired.

The Russian military accused Ukraine of renewed artillery shelling of the power plant. Ukrainian authorities did not immediately address the claim.

In Russia, one person was killed and two others wounded Saturday by shelling, according to Vyacheslav Gladkov, governor of the Russian border region of Belgorod. Gladkov blamed Ukraine. The claim could

not be verified.

Karl Ritter in Kyiv contributed to this report.

Follow AP war coverage at <https://apnews.com/hub/russia-ukraine>

Queen's 8 grandchildren hold silent vigil beside her coffin

By JILL LAWLESS, DANICA KIRKA and MIKE CORDER Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — All eight of Queen Elizabeth II's grandchildren stood in silent vigil beside her coffin Saturday, capping another huge day in which thousands came to pay their respects. Mourners huddled in a line that snaked across London, enduring the city's coldest night in months and waits that stretched up to 16 hours.

Authorities warned that more chilly weather was expected Saturday night. "Tonight's forecast is cold. Warm clothing is recommended," the ministry in charge of the line tweeted.

As U.S. President Joe Biden and other world leaders and dignitaries flew into London ahead of the queen's state funeral on Monday, a tide of people wanting to say goodbye streamed into Parliament's Westminster Hall for another day Saturday. That's where the queen's coffin is lying in state, draped in her Royal Standard and capped with a diamond-studded crown.

The numbers of mourners have grown steadily since the public was first admitted on Wednesday, with a queue that snakes around Southwark Park and stretches for at least 5 miles (8 kilometers).

Honoring their patience, King Charles III and his eldest son Prince William made an unannounced visit Saturday to greet people waiting to file past Elizabeth's coffin, shaking hands and thanking mourners in the queue near Lambeth Bridge.

Later, all the queen's grandchildren stood by her coffin. William and Prince Harry, Charles' sons, were joined by Princess Anne's children, Zara Tindall and Peter Philips; Prince Andrew's daughters, Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie; and the two children of Prince Edward – Lady Louise Windsor and James, Viscount Severn.

William, now the heir to the throne, stood, his head bowed, at the head of the coffin and Harry at the foot. Both princes, who are military veterans, were in uniform. Mourners continued to file past in silence.

Harry, who served in Afghanistan as a British army officer, wore civilian clothes earlier in the week as the queen's coffin left Buckingham Palace because he is no longer a working member of the royal family. He and his wife Meghan quit royal duties and moved to the United States in 2020. The king, however, requested that both William and Harry wear their military uniforms at the Westminster Hall vigil.

Before the vigil, Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie issued a statement praising their "beloved grannie."

"We, like many, thought you'd be here forever. And we all miss you terribly. You were our matriarch, our guide, our loving hand on our backs leading us through this world. You taught us so much and we will cherish those lessons and memories forever," the sisters wrote.

People queuing to see the queen have been of all ages and come from all walks of life. Many bowed before the coffin or made a sign of the cross. Several veterans, their medals shining, offered sharp salutes. Some people wept. Others blew kisses. Many hugged one another as they stepped away, proud to have spent hours in line to offer a tribute, even if it lasted only a few moments.

Overnight, volunteers distributed blankets and cups of tea to people in line as temperatures fell to 6 degrees Celsius (43 degrees Fahrenheit). Despite the weather, mourners described the warmth of a shared experience.

"It was cold overnight, but we had wonderful companions, met new friends. The camaraderie was wonderful," Chris Harman of London said. "It was worth it. I would do it again and again and again. I would walk to the end of the earth for my queen."

People had many reasons for coming, from affection for the queen to a desire to be part of a historic moment. Simon Hopkins, who traveled from his home in central England, likened it to "a pilgrimage."

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"(It) is a bit strange, because that kind of goes against my grain," he said. "I've been kind of drawn into it." Saturday's vigil followed one on Friday in which the queen's four children — Charles, Anne, Andrew and Edward — stood vigil at the coffin.

Edward said the royal family was "overwhelmed by the tide of emotion that has engulfed us and the sheer number of people who have gone out of their way to express their own love, admiration and respect (for) our dear mama."

On Saturday, the new king was holding audiences with incoming prime ministers, governor generals of the realms and military leaders.

The Metropolitan Police arrested a man Friday night during the viewing for a suspected public order offense. Parliamentary authorities said someone got out of the queue and tried to approach the coffin.

Tracey Holland told Sky News that her 7-year-old niece Darcy Holland was pushed out of the way by a man who tried to "run up to the coffin, lift up the standard and try to do I don't know what." She said police detained the man in "two seconds."

The lying-in-state continues until early Monday morning, when the queen's coffin will be borne to nearby Westminster Abbey for a state funeral, the finale of 10 days of national mourning for Britain's longest-reigning monarch. Elizabeth, 96, died at her Balmoral Estate in Scotland on Sept. 8 after 70 years on the throne.

After the service Monday at the abbey, the late queen's coffin will be transported through the historic heart of London on a horse-drawn gun carriage. It will then be taken in a hearse to Windsor, where the queen will be interred alongside her late husband, Prince Philip, who died last year.

Late Saturday, the government revealed details of where the public can watch the day's services and processions.

In addition to a number of viewing areas along the route, mourners will be able to watch on screens set up in Hyde Park, close to Buckingham Palace. There also will be screening sites at several towns and cities across the U.K and about 125 cinemas will open to screen the funeral.

Hundreds of troops from the British army, air force and navy held an early-morning rehearsal Saturday for the final procession. As troops lined the picturesque path leading to Windsor Castle, the thumping of drums echoed in the air as marching bands walked ahead of a hearse.

London police say the funeral will be the largest single policing event the force has ever handled, surpassing even the 2012 Summer Olympics and the Platinum Jubilee in June celebrating the queen's 70-year reign.

Follow AP coverage of Queen Elizabeth II at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

US-UK relations enter new chapter as new PM, king settle in

By AAMER MADHANI and DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — President Joe Biden arrived in London to pay his respects to Queen Elizabeth II at a time of transition in U.S.-U.K. relations, as both a new monarch and a new prime minister are settling in.

The hawkish approach of Prime Minister Liz Truss to Russia and China puts her on the same page as Biden. But the rise of Truss, 47, who once called the relationship "special but not exclusive," could mark a decidedly new chapter in the trans-Atlantic partnership on trade and more.

Of high concern for Biden officials in the early going of Truss's premiership is her backing of legislation that would shred parts of the post-Brexit trading arrangements in Northern Ireland. Analysts say the move could cause deep strain between the U.K. and the European Union, and undermine peace in Northern Ireland. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the move "would not create a conducive environment" for crafting a long-awaited U.S.-UK trade deal coveted by Truss and her Conservative Party.

"She's signaled that she's willing to go to the mattresses on this and that's going to cause a rift not just between the U.K. and EU, but the UK and the U.S.," said Max Bergmann, director of the Europe program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington and a former senior State Department official in the Obama administration. "It's one that's going to keep the White House up at night."

Biden arrived in London late Saturday and had been set to meet with Truss on Sunday, but the prime

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minister's office said Saturday they would skip the weekend hello, opting instead for a meeting in New York at the U.N. General Assembly on Wednesday, though Truss still planned to gather with other world leaders converging on London for the royal funeral. The White House confirmed the U.N. meeting just as the president boarded Air Force One.

The two close allies now find themselves in a period of political uncertainty on both sides of the Atlantic. Not unlike his fellow septuagenarian Biden, King Charles III faces questions from the public about whether his age will limit his ability to faithfully carry out the duties of the monarch.

Charles, 73, and Biden, 79, discussed global cooperation on the climate crisis last year while both attended a summit in Glasgow, Scotland. They also met at Buckingham Palace in June 2021 at a reception the queen hosted before a world leaders' summit in Cornwall.

Truss finds herself, as Biden does, facing questions about whether she has what it takes to lift a country battered by stubborn inflation borne out of the coronavirus pandemic and exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine unleashing chaos on the global energy market.

All the while, Britain — and the rest of Europe — is carefully watching to see what the upcoming U.S. midterm elections will bring for the Democratic American president after he vowed upon taking office that "America is back" to being a full partner in the international community after four years of Republican Donald Trump pushing his "America First" worldview.

"It certainly is a time of change and transformation in the U.K.," said Barbara A. Perry, presidential studies director at the University of Virginia's Miller Center. She added, "We don't know what will happen in our midterms. We don't know what will happen in 2024."

Truss, a former accountant who was first elected to Parliament in 2010, hasn't had much interaction with Biden. The U.S. president called her earlier this month to congratulate her. Truss, as foreign secretary, accompanied her predecessor, Boris Johnson, on a White House visit last year.

It's been more than 75 years since Winston Churchill declared there was a "special relationship" between the two nations, a notion that leaders on both sides have repeatedly affirmed. Still, there have been bumps along the way.

Tony Blair was derisively branded by the British tabloids as George W. Bush's "poodle" for backing the 2003 American-led invasion of Iraq. David Cameron and Barack Obama had a "bromance," but Obama also had his frustrations with the Brits over defense spending and the U.K.'s handling of Libya following the 2011 ouster of Muammar Gaddafi.

Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan forged a close alliance in the midst of the Cold War, with the prime minister once telling students that the Republican president's "really good sense of humor" helped their relationship. But there were difficulties too, such as when Thatcher and members of her Cabinet bristled at the Reagan administration's initial neutrality in the Falklands War.

The White House wasn't expecting Truss's announcement in May, when she was foreign secretary, that the government would move forward with legislation that would rewrite parts of the Northern Ireland Protocol. The agreement was part of the U.K.'s 2020 Brexit withdrawal from the EU that was designed to avoid a hard north-south border with Ireland that might upset Northern Ireland's fragile peace.

Now, in the first weeks of Truss's premiership, Biden administration officials are carefully taking the measure of the new British leader. Analysts say there is some trepidation in the administration that undercutting the Northern Ireland protocol could plunge Europe into trade turmoil at a moment when Biden is working mightily to keep the West unified in confronting Russia over its aggression against Ukraine.

"Brexit could once again become the issue — the issue that can make it difficult for all of Europe to work together at a time when it is critical for Europe to work together," Bergmann said. "If you're the Biden administration, this is not the time for the two of your closest partners getting into fights."

To be certain, there were areas of friction between Biden and Johnson, who had a warm rapport with former President Donald Trump.

Biden staunchly opposed Brexit as a candidate and had expressed great concern over the future of Northern Ireland. Biden once even derided Johnson as a "physical and emotional clone" of Trump.

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Johnson worked hard to overcome that impression, stressing his common ground with Biden on climate change, support for international institutions and most notably by making certain Britain was an early and generous member of the U.S.-led alliance providing economic and military assistance to Ukraine in the aftermath of the Russian invasion.

The former prime minister also unsuccessfully pressed Biden starting days into his administration to begin negotiations on a new U.S.-U.K. trade deal just as the U.K. regained control over its national trade policy weeks before Biden took office and following the end of a post-Brexit transition period.

But Biden largely kept focus on his domestic to-do list in the early going of his presidency— passing trillions in spending on coronavirus relief, infrastructure, and more — and put negotiations on trade deals on the back burner.

Elliot Abrams, chairman of the conservative foreign policy group Vandenberg Coalition, said that Truss needs Biden to make a new U.S.-U.K. trade deal a priority. Queen Elizabeth's funeral won't be the setting for tough bilateral conversations, but it still marks a moment for the two leaders to begin taking stock of each other.

Truss, who succeeded Johnson after he was forced to resign in the face of a string of scandals, has lagged in the opinion polls. She also won her election with a smaller margin than her recent predecessors and is looking for an early win.

"I think if I were (Truss), I want recognition of the leading role Britain's played, far more than any other country outside the United States in supporting Ukraine," said Abrams, who served in senior national security and foreign policy roles in the Trump, George W. Bush and Reagan administrations. "And I think I'd want some positive economic message to give the British people, which could be that the free trade agreement negotiations are starting."

Madhani reported from Washington.

Ukraine pays tribute to Russian woman who fought on its side

By INNA VARENYTSIA Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — An honor guard fired a three-gun salute toward cloudy skies as friends and comrades-in-arms gathered in Kyiv to bid farewell to a Russian woman who was killed while fighting on Ukraine's side in the war with her native country.

Olga Simonova, 34, was remembered for her courage and kindness at a funeral in the Ukrainian capital on Friday.

Simonova's coffin was draped in the blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flag, with a cuddly toy lion on top. Her nom de guerre was "Simba," like the main character in the Disney cartoon "The Lion King."

Just a few days before Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, Simonova spoke to The Associated Press in a trench in the Donbas region, where she had served for years alongside Ukrainian soldiers fighting against Russian-backed separatists.

Born in the Russian city of Chelyabinsk, Simonova had a keen interest in sports and excelled in both mountain climbing and karate. She said she was always proud to compete for Russia.

But she started feeling uncomfortable about her native country after reading about Russia's war in Chechnya and its actions in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region and Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014.

Filled with doubts that she "would ever be able to raise the flag of my country, my homeland" again, Simonova made a life-changing decision. She travelled to Ukraine to join the conflict in the Donbas on the Ukrainian side, first as a volunteer fighter, then a paramedic and ultimately as an enlisted member of the Armed Forces.

"I had this internal feeling that I could handle it and that what I was doing was right and necessary, because I can't turn a blind eye to the situation," she said. "I just had to buy a one-way ticket. I bought it and I left."

Simonova said she never hid her Russian origin from her colleagues and gained their trust by showing

her commitment to Ukraine on the battlefield. In 2017 she received Ukrainian citizenship.

She became a sergeant and was given command of both infantry and artillery units.

Friends and colleagues said Simonova, who was unmarried and had no children, had recently redeployed from the east to the southern Kherson region, where Ukraine has launched a counteroffensive against Russian forces. They said she died on Sept. 13, after her vehicle hit a land mine.

"She was respected not only as a commander, but as a person," said Dmytro Karabinovskyi, her former commander and friend.

Virginia governor seeks new transgender student policies

By SARAH RANKIN Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin's administration has rewritten Virginia's model policies for the treatment of transgender students, issuing guidance for school divisions that would roll back some accommodations and tighten parental notification requirements.

The new model policies from the Virginia Department of Education, which were posted online Friday, say students' participation in certain school programming and use of school facilities like bathrooms or locker rooms should be based on their biological sex, with modifications offered only to the extent required under federal law. The policies also say that students who are minors must be referred to by the name and pronouns in their official records, unless a parent approves the use of something else.

Regarding parental notification, the guidelines say school divisions may not encourage teachers to conceal information about a student's gender from his or her parents. And they say parents must be given an opportunity to object before counseling services pertaining to gender are offered.

The guidance is subject to a 30-day public comment period that opens later this month. Then, in accordance with a 2020 state law, local school boards must adopt policies that are "consistent with" the department's but may be "more comprehensive," the document says.

Macaulay Porter, a spokesperson for Youngkin, said in a statement that the updated policy "delivers on the governor's commitment to preserving parental rights and upholding the dignity and respect of all public school students."

The revisions mark a sharp departure to guidance that was first issued in 2021 during Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam's administration. Those guidelines said schools should let students use names and gender pronouns that reflect their gender identity without "any substantiating evidence." They also said students could participate in programming and access facilities in a manner consistent with their gender identity and urged schools to weigh sharing information about students' gender identity with parents on a "case-by-case" basis, considering the health and safety of students.

The updated guidelines say school divisions must ensure no student is discriminated against or harassed on the basis of his or her sex and should "attempt to accommodate students with distinctive needs, including any student with a persistent and sincere belief that his or her gender differs from his or her sex."

Single-user bathrooms and facilities should be made available in accessible areas and provided with appropriate signage, indicating accessibility for all students, the guidelines say.

Conservative lawmakers and advocacy groups welcomed the changes.

"We are thrilled to see Governor Youngkin leading our schools toward respecting the privacy and dignity of all students and the preeminent role of parents in the lives of their children," said Victoria Cobb, president of The Family Foundation.

Democrats, the Virginia Education Association and LGBTQ advocacy groups, meanwhile, criticized Youngkin, saying the changes would harm vulnerable children.

The new policy "calls for the misgendering and outing of children in schools where they're supposed to be safe. Absolutely shameful," tweeted Democratic Del. Mike Mullin. Senate Democrats, in a collective statement, called the move "an outright violation of Virginians' civil rights" and said it perpetuated "the national MAGA playbook of obliterating any inference of diversity, equity, or inclusion in our communities."

Some LGBTQ advocates suggested the changes could be contested in court. The ACLU of Virginia said it was "appalled" by the overhaul, was reviewing the proposal and would have "more to say in the days

to come.”

Virginia’s initial guidance was developed in accordance with a bipartisan 2020 law, which required the Department of Education to craft the policies concerning the treatment of transgender students in public schools and make them available to local school boards. The school boards were then directed to adopt policies “consistent with” the state’s model policies.

But many school boards never complied, according to a recent analysis by Equality Virginia, an LGBTQ advocacy group. A Department of Education spokesman told the Virginia Mercury last year the agency was not even tracking which divisions were meeting the standards.

25 years after Kentucky school shooting, a chance at parole

By TRAVIS LOLLER Associated Press

When 14-year-old Michael Carneal opened fire on his fellow students during a before-school prayer meeting in 1997, school shootings were not yet a part of the national consciousness. The carnage that left three students dead and five more injured at Heath High School, near Paducah, Kentucky, ended when Carneal put down his weapon and the principal walked him to the school office — a scene that seems unimaginable today.

Also stretching today’s imagination — Carneal’s life sentence guaranteed an opportunity for parole after 25 years, the maximum sentence permissible at the time given his age.

A quarter century later, Carneal is 39 with a parole hearing next week that comes at a very different time in American life — after Sandy Hook, after Uvalde. Today police officers and metal detectors are an accepted presence in many schools, and even kindergartners are drilled to prepare for active shooters.

“Twenty-five years seemed like so long, so far away,” Missy Jenkins Smith recalls thinking at the time of the sentencing. Jenkins Smith was 15 when she was shot by Carneal, someone she considered a friend. The bullet left her paralyzed, and she uses a wheelchair to get around. Over the years, she has counted down the time until Carneal would be eligible for parole.

“I would think, ‘It’s been 10 years. How many more years?’ At the 20-year anniversary memorial, I thought, ‘It’s coming up.’”

Ron Avi Astor, a professor of social welfare and education at the University of California, Los Angeles, who has studied school violence, said public opinion around school shootings and juvenile punishment has changed a lot over the last 25 years. In the 1980s and 1990s, Astor provided therapy to children who had committed very serious crimes, including murder, but were rehabilitated and not jailed.

“Today all of them would have been locked up,” he said. “But the majority went on to do good things.”

Jenkins Smith knows first-hand that troubled children can be helped. She worked for years as a counselor for at-risk youth, where her wheelchair served as a stark visual reminder of what violence can do, she said.

“Kids who would threaten school shootings, terroristic threatening, were sent to me,” she said. Some are now adults. “It’s great to see what they’ve accomplished and how they’ve changed their lives around. They’ve learned from their bad decisions.”

But that doesn’t mean she thinks Carneal should be set free. For one thing, she worries that he is not equipped to handle life outside of prison and could still harm others. She also doesn’t think it would be right for him to walk free when the people he injured are still suffering.

“For him to have a chance at 39. People get married at 39. They have children,” she said. “It’s not right for him to possibly have a normal life that those three girls he killed will never have.”

Killed in the shooting were 14-year-old Nicole Hadley, 17-year-old Jessica James, and 15-year-old Kayce Steger.

Astor said that when it comes to the worst crimes, like many people, he struggles with the question of what age children should be held strictly accountable for their actions. As a class exercise, he has his students consider the appropriate punishment for a perpetrator at different ages. Should a 16-year-old be treated the same as a 12-year-old? Should a 12-year-old be treated the same as a 40-year-old?

Without any national consensus, you end up with a patchwork of laws and policies that sometimes result

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in very different punishments for nearly identical crimes, he said.

The shooting at Heath High School took place on Dec. 1, 1997, the Monday after Thanksgiving break. Less than four months later, 11-year-old Andrew Golden and 13-year-old Mitchell Johnson shot and killed four classmates and a teacher at Westside Middle School near Jonesboro, Arkansas. They wounded another nine children and one adult. The pair were tried as juveniles and released on their 21st birthdays.

Two decades later, in 2018, 19-year-old Nikolas Cruz killed 17 students and staff members at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. At the same time Carneal is being considered for possible release, a Florida jury is deciding whether to sentence Cruz to death.

Jenkins Smith has tried for years to understand why Carneal opened fire on his fellow students that day. She was in the marching band with Carneal, and, before the shooting, "I loved being around him because he made a boring day fun," she said.

She met with Carneal in prison in 2007 and had a long conversation with him. He apologized to her, and she said she has forgiven him.

"A lot of people think that exonerates him from consequences, but I don't think so," she said.

Carneal's parole hearing is scheduled to start on Monday with testimony from those injured in the shooting and close relatives of those who were killed. Jenkins Smith said she knows of only one victim who supports some form of supervised release for Carneal — less confining than prison but not unrestricted freedom. On Tuesday, Carneal will make his case from the Kentucky State Reformatory in La Grange. If the board rules against release, they can decide how long Carneal should wait before his next opportunity for parole.

The parole hearing will be conducted by videoconference, but Jenkins Smith said she will position her camera to show her full body so the parole board can see her wheelchair. It will be, she said, "a reminder that everyone who experienced that impact 25 years ago is still dealing with it, for the rest of their lives."

News Researcher Jennifer Farrar contributed to this report from New York City.

Pelosi, other US lawmakers visit Armenia as cease-fire holds

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) — A U.S. congressional delegation headed by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi arrived Saturday in Armenia, where a cease-fire has held for three days after an outburst of fighting with neighboring Azerbaijan that killed more than 200 troops from both sides.

The U.S. Embassy said the visit will include a meeting with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.

On Friday, Pelosi told reporters in Berlin that the trip "is all about human rights and the respecting the dignity and worth of every person."

Other members of the U.S. delegation include Rep. Frank Pallone, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and congresswomen Jackie Speier and Anna Eshoo.

A cease-fire took effect on Wednesday evening following two days of heavy fighting that marked the largest outbreak of hostilities in nearly two years.

Armenia and Azerbaijan traded blame for the shelling, with Armenian authorities accusing Baku of unprovoked aggression and Azerbaijani officials saying their country was responding to Armenian attacks.

Pashinyan said at least 135 Armenian troops were killed in the fighting. Azerbaijan's Defense Ministry said Friday it had lost 77.

The two ex-Soviet countries have been locked in a decades-old conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, which is part of Azerbaijan but has been under the control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since a separatist war there ended in 1994.

During a six-week war in 2020, Azerbaijan reclaimed broad swaths of Nagorno-Karabakh and adjacent territories held by Armenian forces. More than 6,700 people died in the fighting, which ended with a Russia-brokered peace agreement. Moscow deployed about 2,000 troops to the region to serve as peacekeepers.

Belgrade police clash with hooligans during Pride march

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By DUSAN STOJANOVIC Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Riot police clashed Saturday with soccer hooligans in downtown Belgrade, where a pan-European Pride march was held despite threats from anti-gay groups and an official earlier ban on the march in the traditionally conservative Balkan state.

Tensions were high in the Serbian capital as ultranationalist fans hurled stun grenades, stones and flares at a police cordon, which repelled the attack with batons and riot shields. Hundreds of Pride march supporters, meanwhile, gathered a few kilometers (miles) away in the pouring rain, dancing and singing their march was held on shortened route.

“We need justice and freedom,” said Goran Miletic, one of the Pride event organizers.

Although several Pride marches have been held in Serbia in the past years, the Slavic nation that is formally seeking European Union membership appears to be sliding toward Russia and its conservative traditions.

Holding rainbow flags, hundreds of LGBTQ activists and their supporters marched through a central Belgrade area that was sealed off by police who put up metal fences and stood in cordons in full riot gear.

U.S. Ambassador Christopher Hill was among the participants. Hill told N1 regional television that “we are all brothers and sisters and God’s children.”

“It’s an important day for equality and an important day for this country as well,” he said.

As the column passed by a church in central Belgrade, bells constantly tolled, reflecting the Serbian Orthodox Church’s staunch opposition to the Pride events. Participants of the march then headed to a concert.

Earlier, Serbian activists said the main reason for the march is the fight for more rights for the beleaguered LGBTQ community in Serbia, including laws that would regulate the rights of same-sex partnerships, such as inheritance, property and other issues.

Serbian police this week banned the parade, citing the risk of clashes with the far-right activists. But organizers on Saturday said they received guarantees from Serbian Prime Minister Ana Brnabic, who is a lesbian, that the event could go ahead.

Brnabic said she was proud that during “this entire week, with more than 130 (LGBTQ) events, there wasn’t a one single incident. And that really is the right image of Belgrade and Serbia.”

Brnabic said 5,200 police officers were deployed on Belgrade streets during the Pride march, 64 people were detained and 10 policemen sustained sight injuries.

A far-right party leader said Brnabic should have been arrested and charged with treason for allowing the march to be held.

The European Pride Organizers Association chose Serbia’s capital three years ago to host the annual event, hoping it would represent a major breakthrough for a Slavic country that is traditionally conservative and strongly influenced by the Orthodox Church.

EU and other Western officials, as well as rights groups, had urged populist Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic to allow the Pride march but Vucic had claimed that police can’t cope with possible riots by right-wing groups amid the energy crisis brought on by the war in Ukraine.

AP writer Jovana Gec contributed to this story.

Queen’s death both challenge and reprieve for new UK leader

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Liz Truss took office less than two weeks ago, impatient to set her stamp on government and facing an overflowing inbox of crises: soaring inflation, a plummeting national currency and skyrocketing energy bills.

Then the death of 96-year-old Queen Elizabeth II ripped up Truss’ carefully laid plans.

The epochal event has been both a challenge and a reprieve for the U.K.’s untested new leader. The monarch’s demise has put everyday politics in the U.K. on hold as the country plunged into an emotional mourning period.

“It’s given her space to think with the media off her, to plan,” said political historian Anthony Seldon.

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"The one thing (a) prime minister most lacks is time to think."

Truss won a Conservative Party leadership contest on Sept. 5 and was appointed prime minister by the queen at Balmoral Castle the next day, in one of Elizabeth's final acts.

Truss was informed that the queen was gravely ill as she announced an emergency energy package in the House of Commons on Sept. 8 that was designed to ease the impact of steep fuel bill increases driven by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The monarch's death was announced a few hours later, leaving many questions about the support package unanswered as Parliament was suspended during 10 days of official mourning.

The prime minister's appearances since then have been largely ceremonial. She has traveled to memorial services for the queen in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and attended the accession ceremony of King Charles III. On Monday, Truss will join hundreds of political leaders and dignitaries from around the world in the 2,000-strong congregation for the queen's funeral in Westminster Abbey.

After that, politics will return with a vengeance and Truss will try to make up for lost time. She will launch herself onto the world stage, travelling to New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly next week.

Even before the funeral, Truss is quietly getting to know other world leaders. She is holding private meetings this weekend with key allies, including the prime ministers of Canada, Australia and New Zealand, Irish leader Micheal Martin and President Andrzej Duda of Poland, whose country is in the front line of support for Ukraine.

A planned weekend meeting with U.S. President Joe Biden will now be held Wednesday at the U.N. in New York, Truss' office said Saturday.

"The fact that so many leaders from around the world ... are flooding to London gives the new prime minister ample time for soft diplomacy, those quiet conversations before and after the funeral, which will help her achieve her objective -- if it is achievable -- of 'global Britain,'" Seldon said.

Truss wants to reassure allies that she will continue the strong political and military support for Ukraine begun under her predecessor, Boris Johnson. At the U.N., she is also likely to urge the world's democracies to work more closely together in what she has labeled a "network of liberty."

But Truss also has some bridge-building to do, especially with Biden. The U.S. leader has expressed concerns about the impact of Britain's departure from the European Union on the delicate peace in Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland shares a border with EU member Ireland, and Brexit has brought new checks on goods that have spiraled into a political crisis in Belfast. British Unionist politicians are refusing to form a power-sharing government with Irish nationalists, saying the Brexit border checks undermine Northern Ireland's place in the U.K.

Johnson's government announced plans to suspend the checks and rip up part of its Brexit treaty with the EU — a move that angered the bloc and alarmed Washington. Biden has warned that no side should do anything to undermine the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, cornerstone of Northern Ireland's peace process, which the U.S. was instrumental in negotiating.

Truss says she wants to reach an agreement with the EU, but will push ahead with Johnson's plan to rewrite the rules if that fails. It's unclear whether U.K.-EU relations, which hit rock bottom during Johnson's turbulent tenure, will improve under Truss. She ruffled French feathers last month when she said the "jury is out" on whether French President Emmanuel Macron is a friend or a foe.

At home, Truss — a small-state, free-market conservative — has been forced to leave her political comfort zone and spend billions capping energy prices for homes and businesses that had been facing an 80% increase next month as Russia's war in Ukraine sends energy prices surging.

The government will reveal more details of its energy package — and face sharp questions from the opposition — when lawmakers return to Parliament on Wednesday.

Then on Friday, Truss-appointed Treasury chief Kwasi Kwarteng is due to make an emergency budget statement to address the U.K.'s deteriorating economic picture. Inflation eased slightly in August but re-

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mains at 9.9%, the highest in four decades, while the pound is at a 37-year low against the dollar. The Bank of England has forecast a long recession to start later this year.

Kwarteng is likely to announce cuts to personal or corporate tax — or both — in hopes that will spur economic growth, though critics say such measures help the well-off more than the poorest.

Newspapers report that Kwarteng also wants to remove a cap on bankers' bonuses imposed after the 2008 global financial crisis. That would be highly contentious, and would abruptly end the political truce that has followed the queen's death.

"We're beginning to see ... the signs of what the new economics of Liz Truss is all about," opposition Labour Party lawmaker Margaret Hodge told the BBC. "Thinking about bankers at this stage is obscene."

Follow AP coverage of Queen Elizabeth II at <https://apnews.com/hub/queen-elizabeth-ii>

EXPLAINER: What to know about the UN General Assembly

By MALLIKA SEN Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — After two years of virtual and hybrid summits, the world's leaders will reconvene on the river's edge in New York this coming week at the U.N. General Assembly, an exercise in multilateralism born from the hope for lasting peace that followed World War II.

The opening of the 77th session comes as the planet is beset with crises on nearly every front. Russia's war in Ukraine, inflation and economic instability, terrorism and ideological extremism, environmental degradation and devastating floods, droughts and fires and the ongoing pandemic are just a few of the rampant perils.

The high-level meeting opens Monday with a summit on education, whose thorough disruption during the coronavirus pandemic will reverberate for decades to come. Speeches from the scores of attending leaders begin Tuesday and run through Monday, Sept. 26.

While this year is billed as something of a return to the way things were, certain concessions to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic have been made. In addition to basic health protocols, few side events will take place on the U.N.'s midtown Manhattan campus.

Here's what to know about this year's U.N. General Assembly, which will be presided over by Hungary's Csaba Kőrösi:

WILL EVERYONE COME TO NEW YORK THIS YEAR?

Yes, mostly. In order to speak at this year's gathering, leaders or their high-level designees must show up in person — with one notable exception. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has not left the country since war broke out in late February. The General Assembly voted Friday to allow him to submit a prerecorded speech, expected to air during the latter half of Wednesday's session.

WHAT IS THE REAL POINT OF ATTENDING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY?

While the effectiveness of the United Nations has been questioned for as long as it has existed, the benefits of attendance are undeniable. From the dais, countries broadcast their agendas, grievances and calls to action to the entire world and a permanent record. This week is a key chance for countries often drowned out by what they decry as a hegemonic world order to grab the attention of a larger audience. It's also a chance for leaders — especially those from countries with tensions — to engage in meetings on the sidelines in neutral territory. Those meetings are often called bilaterals, or "bilats."

HOW LONG ARE SPEECHES ALLOWED TO BE?

They're supposed to be 15 minutes. Delegates are "kindly reminded" of that on the U.N.'s website, but speeches notoriously tend to run longer. The longest speech made to the General Assembly clocked in at 269 minutes — nearly 18 times that recommendation. It was delivered by Cuba's Fidel Castro in 1960.

HOW IS THE ORDER OF SPEECHES DETERMINED?

Up first, as a rule: Brazil. It's tradition. Early on, Brazil volunteered when no other country wanted to speak first. So now the South American country is enshrined as the first speaker. The United States, as the host country, typically speaks second, but President Joe Biden's attendance of Queen Elizabeth II's

funeral will push his speech to Wednesday this year.

After that, the order is determined by whom a country is sending — heads of state before heads of government before ministers and other representatives — and other criteria, like country preference and geographic balance.

IT'S CALLED A DEBATE, BUT A SUCCESSION OF SPEECHES DOESN'T SOUND VERY LIVELY. WHERE'S THE DRAMA?

The structure of the General Debate doesn't lend itself to obvious fireworks — no booing or interruptions or immediate rebuttals — but that doesn't mean intrigue and drama are absent.

First, the speeches can be a font of evocative language and barbs — take Zelenskyy's speech last year, delivered roughly five months before the war began, in which he castigated the U.N. itself as a "retired superhero" and wryly quoted Russian President Vladimir Putin. Sometimes the message is veiled: While since-ousted Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan called India's Hindu nationalist government "fascist" last year, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi targeted both Pakistan and China without mentioning either by name.

Member states are also allowed to exercise the right of reply, in which they can rebut criticism voiced during the General Debate. These are often fiery exchanges but aren't typically delivered by prominent members of a country's delegation. India and Pakistan's longstanding enmity practically guarantees they'll be using the right of reply.

ARE MEMBER STATES THE ONLY ONES ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY?

No. The State of Palestine, Holy See (the Vatican) and the European Union are all permanent observers on the docket this year.

ARE THERE ANY NOTABLE SPEAKERS TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THIS YEAR?

Plenty. In addition to heavy hitters like Biden and Zelenskyy, expect addresses from new British Prime Minister Liz Truss, French President Emmanuel Macron, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi and new Kenyan President William Ruto, among many others.

Russia is sending its foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, whose U.S. entry visa was in doubt for some time despite an agreement between the U.N. and the United States that requires the approval of visas "irrespective of the relations existing between the governments of the persons referred to" and the U.S. government.

Associated Press chief U.N. correspondent Edith M. Lederer contributed to this report. Follow Mallika Sen on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/mallikavsen>. For more AP coverage of the U.N. General Assembly, visit <https://apnews.com/hub/united-nations-general-assembly>.

Sarah Sanders released from hospital after cancer surgery

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Former White House press secretary Sarah Sanders, a Republican who is running for governor in Arkansas, was released from a hospital Saturday after undergoing surgery for thyroid cancer.

"Following successful surgery on Friday to remove her thyroid and surrounding lymph nodes and in consultation with her physician, Sarah was discharged from an Arkansas hospital—cancer free," said Sanders spokesperson Judd Deere. "She will spend the remaining portion of her recovery at home."

Deere told The Associated Press that Sanders, 40, plans to resume campaigning "soon," but it was not known precisely when she would return.

Sanders said Friday when announcing the surgery that a biopsy earlier this month revealed she had thyroid cancer.

Dr. John R. Sims, a surgeon at CARTI Cancer Center in Little Rock who is one of Sanders' doctors, said Sanders' cancer was a stage 1 papillary thyroid carcinoma, the most common type of thyroid cancer and said she has an "excellent" prognosis.

Sims said Sanders will need adjuvant treatment with radioactive iodine and long-term continuing care.

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Sanders, who served as former President Donald Trump's spokeswoman until 2019, is running against Democratic nominee Chris Jones. She is the daughter of former Gov. Mike Huckabee.

Jones and his wife, Jerrilyn, on Friday issued a statement saying their family was thinking of Sanders and praying for her.

Sanders is heavily favored in the predominantly Republican state of Arkansas to win the office currently held by Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who is leaving office in January due to term limits.

She's run primarily on national issues in the Arkansas race, promising to use the governor's office to fight President Joe Biden and the "radical left."

WHO raises alarm on disease in flood-hit areas of Pakistan

By ZARAR KHAN Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The World Health Organization raised the alarm Saturday about a "second disaster" in the wake of the deadly floods in Pakistan this summer, as doctors and medical workers on the ground race to battle outbreaks of waterborne and other diseases.

The floodwaters started receding this week in the worst-hit provinces but many of the displaced — now living in tents and makeshift camps — increasingly face the threat of gastrointestinal infections, dengue fever and malaria, which are on the rise. The dirty and stagnant waters have become breeding grounds for mosquitos.

The unprecedented monsoon rains since mid-June, which many experts link to climate change, and subsequent flooding have killed 1,545 people across Pakistan, inundated millions of acres of land and affected 33 million people. As many as 552 children have also been killed in the floods.

"I am deeply concerned about the potential for a second disaster in Pakistan: a wave of disease and death following this catastrophe, linked to climate change, that has severely impacted vital health systems leaving millions vulnerable," WHO's director-general, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said in a statement.

"The water supply is disrupted, forcing people to drink unsafe water," he said. "But if we act quickly to protect health and deliver essential health services, we can significantly reduce the impact of this impending crisis."

The WHO chief also said that nearly 2,000 health facilities have been fully or partially damaged in Pakistan and urged donors to continue to respond generously so that more lives can be saved.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif left for New York on Saturday to attend the first fully in-person gathering of world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly since the coronavirus pandemic. Sharif will appeal for more help from the international community to tackle the disaster.

Before his departure, Sharif urged philanthropists and aid agencies to donate baby food for children, along with blankets, clothes and other food items for the flood victims, saying they were desperately waiting for aid.

The southern Sindh and southwestern Baluchistan provinces have been the worst hit — hundreds of thousands in Sindh live now in makeshift homes and authorities say it will take months to completely drain the water in the province.

Nationwide, floods have damaged 1.8 million homes, washed away roads and destroyed nearly 400 bridges, according to the National Disaster Management Authority.

Imran Baluch, head of a government-run district hospital in Jafferabad, in the district of Dera Allah Yar in Baluchistan, said that out of 300 people tested daily, nearly 70% are positive for malaria.

After malaria, typhoid fever and skin infections are most commonly seen among the displaced, living for weeks in unhygienic conditions, Baluch told The Associated Press.

Pediatrician Sultan Mustafa said he treated some 600 patients at a field clinic established by the Dua Foundation charity in the Jhuddo area in Sindh, mostly women and children with gastrointestinal infections, scabies, malaria or dengue.

Khalid Mushtaq, heading a team of doctors from the Alkhidmat Foundation and the Pakistan Islamic Medical Association, said they are treating more than 2,000 patients a day and were also providing kits

containing a month's supply of water-purification tablets, soaps and other items.

On Friday, the representative of the U.N. children's agency in Pakistan, Abdullah Fadil, said after visiting Sindh's flood-hit areas that an estimated 16 million children had been impacted by the floods. He said UNICEF was doing everything it can "to support children and families affected and protect them from the ongoing dangers of water-borne diseases."

Associated Press writer Geir Moulson in Berlin contributed to this report.

Yeshiva University halts clubs amid high court LGBTQ ruling

Associated Press undefined

NEW YORK (AP) — Yeshiva University has abruptly suspended student club activity in the wake of a U.S. Supreme Court decision earlier this week that ordered the school to recognize — for now — an LGBTQ student group.

In an email to students, university officials on Friday said that it "hold off on all undergraduate club activities while it immediately takes steps to follow the roadmap provided by the U.S. Supreme Court to protect YU's religious freedom."

On Wednesday, the high court cleared the way for the LGBTQ group, YU Pride Alliance, to gain official recognition from the Jewish university in New York.

The undergraduate group describes itself as "a supportive space for all students, of all sexual orientations and gender identities, to feel respected, visible, and represented."

Spokespeople for the university did not immediately respond to emails seeking comment on Saturday.

By a 5-4 vote Wednesday, the justices lifted a temporary hold on a court order that requires Yeshiva University to recognize the group, even as a legal fight continues in New York courts. Two conservatives, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Brett Kavanaugh, sided with the court's three liberal justices to form a majority.

The disagreement among the justices appears to be mostly about procedure, with the majority writing in a brief unsigned order that Yeshiva should return to state court to seek quick review and temporary relief while the case continues. If it gets neither from state courts, the school can return to the Supreme Court, the majority wrote.

The case was being closely watched by other faith-based institutions.

Following the ruling, the president of the university, Rabbi Ari Berman, said that faith-based universities have the right to establish clubs within its understanding of the Torah.

"Yeshiva University simply seeks that same right of self-determination," he said. "The Supreme Court has laid out the roadmap for us to find expedited relief and we will follow their instructions."

Berman also said the university's "commitment and love for our LGBTQ students are unshakeable."

Nevertheless, a lawyer for the students said the university's action Friday was divisive and "shameful."

"The Pride Alliance seeks a safe space on campus, nothing more. By shutting down all club activities, the YU administration attempts to divide the student body, and pit students against their LGBT peers," said the lawyer, Katie Rosenfeld.

The university's tactic, she said, "is a throwback to 50 years ago when the city of Jackson, Mississippi closed all public swimming pools rather than comply with court orders to desegregate."

The university, an Orthodox Jewish institution in New York, argued that granting recognition to the Pride Alliance, "would violate its sincere religious beliefs."

The club argued that Yeshiva's plea to the Supreme Court was premature, also noting the university already has recognized a gay pride club at its law school.

A New York state court sided with the student group and ordered the university to recognize the club immediately. The matter remains on appeal in the state court system, but judges there refused to put the order on hold in the meantime.

Family recalls woman killed by neighbor amid target practice

By JAMES POLLARD Associated Press/Report for America

GAFFNEY, S.C. (AP) — Nicholas Skylar Lucas' gunfire typically hit the bullet-riddled rusty trash can or fallen satellite dish in his backyard, much to some residents' discontent.

But on Saturday, Aug. 27, bullets from the intoxicated 30-year-old man's .45-caliber handgun fatally struck Kesha Luwan Lucille Tate, his 42-year-old neighbor and parent to nine children, according to local authorities.

Lucas now faces a murder charge after crime scene technicians said they disproved his initial claim that the shots ricocheted off the dish. The "pristine" bullet could not have deflected off the target before reaching Tate's chest, officials determined. The only way she could have been struck, according to the local sheriff's office, is if the shooter turned in her direction and intentionally fired.

Over the past two weeks, Tate's family has navigated the sudden reality of life without the mother, niece and sister they say held them together. They are seeking legal changes without the woman they described as their strongest fighter. And they don't want to see Tate join the long list of forgotten gun violence victims.

Songbird Lane lies nearly 6 miles (9.6 kilometers) north of downtown Gaffney, a 12,700-person upstate city whose status as South Carolina's "peach capital" is marked by a 135-foot (41 meter) water tower resembling the pitted fruit. Farm fields line parts of the drive into town. Most trailers sit on property whose boundaries lack fencing. By neighbors' accounts, Songbird Lane was a quiet country street where the mobile homes' residents mostly kept to themselves.

At the bond hearing, Lucas said the shooting was a "complete accident." He denied intentionally killing Tate.

"I'm really confused about this whole situation," Lucas said. "I've done all kinds of yard work for this lady and everything."

Tate's own children described a grislier scene inside the trailer.

Their mother had been cooking dinner that summer evening while Lucas and his friends were shooting at targets in his backyard, according to family members who heard her children's account. Standing at her backdoor, less than 50 feet (15 meters) from the fallen satellite dish, Tate asked her neighbor to stop firing his gun.

Tate pulled back the curtain a few minutes later when Lucas began shooting again.

"When she looked out the window she yelled," said Terry Manning, her brother-in-law, who relayed the children's account to The Associated Press. She'd been shot.

One week later, children's bicycles remained in the front yard. Window panes on the back door were shattered. Manning and Denise Tate, Kesha's sister, cleaned stains off the wall but said they could not rid the carpet of blood.

"If that man got to know my sister he would've never killed her," Denise said. "She would've gave him a place to stay, foot to eat, clothes, all of that. Anything he needed, even for his family, she would've helped."

Beyond seeking a guilty charge, the family said gun laws need to change. South Carolina had the country's ninth highest firearm mortality rate in 2020, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They are pushing for a "Kesha Tate Target Law" that would make it illegal to shoot a firearm in a residential neighborhood.

Cherokee County Sheriff Steve Mueller said his office received no reports of Lucas firing his weapon at that property over the past year. Even if neighbors had complained about the regular gun shots, Mueller said no ordinance exists outlining Lucas' behavior as illegal. The local sheriff's office has been collecting court records from other jurisdictions to determine whether he could legally own a firearm.

Court records show Lucas had previously been convicted in North Carolina of assault and theft. South Carolina state law bars handgun ownership for anyone convicted in any state of burglary, robbery or "assault with intent to commit any offense punishable by imprisonment for more than one year," among other such "crimes of violence."

The family is also seeking therapy for themselves and the children, who are taking a break from school.

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Kesha's 4-year-old daughter can't comprehend the tragedy, but Denise said she knows she hasn't seen her mother lately.

Interviews with family, friends and acquaintances revealed a woman committed to her community. She would "give you the shirt off her back," said neighbor Latosha McFadden. She was a "social butterfly" who would "make sure you have a good time," said Manning. She "could make anyone laugh," said Beverly Wray.

Wray — Kesha's aunt who was known as her mother — recalled her own most recent birthday in February. Kesha bought her a dress, told her to put on her heels and took her out to eat, where she'd planned a surprise party. "That's how she is," Wray said.

For Denise, she was the family's concrete.

Denise recalled trips as a pre-teen with her sister to Brannon's Seafood, which "had the best peach cobbler in the world." After school, Kesha would buy each of them a slice.

"She always made sure I was taken care of. Even as an adult she was always there. She was my backbone," Denise said. "So I gotta keep it together and stay strong for these kids and her grandson."

The family all echoed that sentiment: Kesha's commitment to them must be passed forward in caring for her nine surviving children, several of whom have lost their fathers.

Family members emphasized that they want to raise the children between themselves. They don't want them separated in the foster care system. Traleekia Tate, Kesha's oldest daughter, organized a GoFundMe that has raised more than \$11,000. Growing up, she said her mother instilled in her that the family would always take care of each other.

"I miss her," she said. "I just feel like she built me for this."

James Pollard is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues.

Abrams' strategy to boost turnout: Early voting commitments

By BILL BARROW Associated Press

DECATUR, Ga. (AP) — Stacey Abrams, Georgia Democrats' nominee for governor, is launching an intensive effort to get out the vote by urging potential supporters to cast in-person ballots the first week of early voting as she tries to navigate the state's new election laws.

The strategy, outlined to The Associated Press by Abrams' top aides, is a shift from 2018, when she spent generously in her first gubernatorial bid to encourage voters to use mail ballots. It also moves away from Democrats' pandemic-era emphasis on mail voting, a push that delivered Georgia's electoral votes to President Joe Biden and helped Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff win concurrent U.S. Senate runoffs to give Democrats control of Capitol Hill.

Republicans, including Abrams' opponent, Gov. Brian Kemp, answered in 2021 with sweeping election changes that, among other provisions, dramatically curtailed drop boxes for mail ballots, added wrinkles to mail ballot applications and ballot return forms, and made it easier to challenge an individual voter's eligibility. But it also expanded in-person voting.

"It's self-evident we have to have a big early vote in-person," said Abrams campaign manager Lauren Groh-Wargo, arguing the new mail ballot procedures make it risky for Democrats to rely too heavily on that option. "What's not self-evident," Groh-Wargo continued, "is how the hell you do that."

Primary elections this midterm season have suggested a national decline in mail balloting, which spiked in 2020 because of COVID-19. Still, Abrams' approach, which is shared by some liberal voting rights activists, represents a pivot from Democrats' pre-COVID tactics and demonstrates how the left intends to try to maximize their votes in jurisdictions where Republicans remain in control of election procedures.

Abrams' push, timed to begin a month before early voting begins, comes with some polls suggesting she trails Kemp slightly after losing their first matchup by about 55,000 votes out of 4 million.

Beginning Sunday, the Democrat's campaign will ask supporters to commit to vote at in-person polling sites during the first week of early voting, which opens Oct. 17. The campaign will send digital commit-

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ment cards to targeted supporters via email and texts, with direct mail to follow. Field workers will ask voters to fill out commitment cards, with 2 million households slated for in-person visits. And the Abrams campaign will make pledge cards a standard part of its campaign events.

The week-one commitment, with a voter going beyond simply committing to cast a ballot before early voting ends on Nov. 4, is intentional. After adding an individual's commitment to their profile in the campaign's voter database, Abrams' team will use publicly available turnout data to identify anyone who hasn't followed through or had trouble casting a ballot. Anyone denied early ballot access will be routed to Georgia Democrats' voter protection operation.

"If they're not able to successfully vote there's plenty of time left to still ensure that their vote can be cast," said Esosa Osa, a senior adviser to the campaign. "That gets much harder when we're talking about Election Day voting."

Groh-Wargo said that's better than having mail ballots rejected or waiting until Election Day and, under new laws, not getting a provisional ballot until late on Nov. 8, with no other recourse.

Georgia Democrats aren't abandoning mail voting altogether. The state party and Abrams campaign together have targeted 500,000 reliable Democratic voters to cast mail ballots. They were identified based on their long history of using that method, rather than anything they did from 2018 forward when Democrats ratcheted up an emphasis on a mail and absentee process that Georgia Republicans had dominated previously.

In her first campaign against Kemp, Abrams took the unusual step of sending nearly completed mail ballot applications to 1.6 million Georgians her campaign identified as sporadic but Democratic-aligned voters — a tactic that exceeded even the most ambitious one-time mailers sent by earlier Democratic presidential campaigns. With a cost approaching seven figures, Abrams knew it would be inefficient; such applications generally coax participation from less than 10% of participants.

But the campaign identified tens of thousands of new voters from the effort. Abrams ended up outpacing Kemp in mail support by 53,709 votes, though she lost the early in-person vote by 19,895 and the Election Day vote by nearly 94,000. She won about two-thirds of 10,000-plus provisional ballots. She ended up about 19,000 votes short of forcing a runoff, since Georgia law requires a majority to win statewide offices.

Republicans 2021 voting overhaul prohibits the kind of mailer that Abrams sent, allowing only blank state-issued forms. Those now require voter ID — a state ID number or photocopy of the ID — and a voter's birthday. Much of the information must be repeated with the returned ballot, creating the possibility of more mismatches that could result in the ballot being tossed out.

Groh-Wargo wouldn't offer a specific early voting turnout goal. But she said Abrams' 2018 early in-person support — 930,131 of her 1.92 million votes — fell short of internal targets. Yet Abrams' overall total, even in defeat, exceeded any Democrat in Georgia history at the time. It was eclipsed by Biden, Warnock and Ossoff as the overall electorate continued to grow.

"All of that makes early voting that much more important," said Nsé Ufot, who now leads the New Georgia Project, a voting rights group Abrams founded when she was a young state lawmaker.

Ufot said her outlet and others like it are pressing early in-person voting in their outreach efforts. New Georgia Project, she said, has registered 30,000 new voters and knocked on 1.3 million doors since the 2021 Senate runoffs, with 1 million more planned before Nov. 8.

Redesigning voter turnout plans, Groh-Wargo said, doesn't change Democrats' underlying necessity to expand the electorate if they hope to win in a historically conservative-leaning state like Georgia. That means many of the 1.6 million households who got Abrams' mail ballot application in 2018 and didn't vote will still be getting a visit about early in-person voting.

That expansion strategy, Ufot said, still runs into skepticism among some Democratic donors. "It's so clear that people have no idea how 2020 happened or 2018 for that matter," Ufot said.

Behind-the-scenes pressure has intensified, Ufot said, with polls conducted since the beginning of July suggesting a tight race or narrow Kemp lead. Groh-Wargo said she hears the narrative of Abrams "struggling." She acknowledged a "nasty environment" for Democrats given global inflation and Biden being less popular in Georgia than when he won the state. But the worry, she said, remains rooted in misun-

derstanding Abrams' path.

"A lot of our constituencies are 'persuasion voters,'" Groh-Wargo said. That doesn't mean swing voters, she said, because they're not choosing between Abrams and Kemp — they're deciding whether to back Abrams or not vote at all.

Still, Ufot said, the dynamics put enormous pressure on Abrams and her campaign to succeed so the left's donor base doesn't start short-changing voter turnout networks she said are necessary to tap diverse electorates in traditionally Republican states.

"This is going to be a game of inches," she said. "We just have to widen the aperture to see what's at play here."

Follow AP for full coverage of the midterms at <https://apnews.com/hub/2022-midterm-elections> and on Twitter, https://twitter.com/ap_politics.

In Yemen, Queen's death recalls memories of colonial past

By ALAA NOMAN and SAMY MAGDY Associated Press

ADEN, Yemen (AP) — In 1954, large crowds turned out for a historic visit by Queen Elizabeth II to Aden. At the time, this city on the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula was a colony of the British Empire and was one of the busiest and most important ports in the world.

Now the queen's death after a 70-year reign has prompted some Yemenis to remember a part of history not often evoked.

Her death has brought waves of grief and sympathy from around the globe. But it has also raised calls for a re-examination of the death and deprivation inflicted by Britain's colonial rule in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

In Aden, now the second largest city in Yemen, many remember colonial rule as a time of oppression that entrenched some of the problems still plaguing the city and the country, which has been devastated by civil war since 2014.

Some today still remember Elizabeth's visit with admiration and credit British rule with advances in the country. Hassan al-Awaidi, a university student, knows his grandfather was among those waving from the street when the queen and her husband, Prince Phillip, passed by.

But al-Awadi says his generation now knows better.

"In the context of the 21st century, such practices are seen as a reflection of contemporary global issues like racism, inequality and white supremacy," he said.

"They cracked down on people who wanted to end the colonial occupation of this land. Thousands of people were killed in the struggle to root out colonialism. They should be prosecuted and pay for their crimes."

Aden was the only Arab territory to have been a British colony. Other British outposts in the Middle East like Egypt, Palestine and in the Persian Gulf were mandates or protectorates, not outright colonies.

Aden was first occupied by the British in 1839. Britain went on to seize surrounding parts of southern Yemen as protectorates, clashing with the other colonizers of the peninsula, the Ottomans.

Finally, the two established a border splitting north and south Yemen — a division that has endured throughout the country's modern history and has flared again in the current civil war.

Aden was officially declared a Crown Colony in 1937. Positioned just outside the Red Sea, the city was a vital refueling and commercial port between Europe and Asia, particularly Britain's colony of India.

Elizabeth stopped by on the way back from Australia, part of her first tour of the Commonwealth two years after ascending to the throne.

Photos of the visit on the website of the British-Yemeni Society, a U.K. charity, show British officers, dignitaries and Yemeni leaders greeting the young queen and her husband.

Large numbers of Yemenis met them wherever they went. A ceremony was held for the queen to award a knighthood to local leader Sayyid Abubakr bin Shaikh al-Kaff. To receive it, al-Kaff knelt on a chair in

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what was explained as a refusal to bow before the queen because of his Muslim faith.

The royals also watched a military parade featuring British and local Yemeni forces.

But not long after the visit, an uprising emerged, fueled by pan-Arab nationalism and backed by Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser, an archfoe of colonial powers in 1950s and 1960s. After years of fighting, the British were finally forced to withdraw.

When the last batch of British troops left Aden in late November 1967, the People's Republic of South Yemen was born, with Aden its capital. It would be the only Marxist country to ever exist in the Arab world, lasting until unification with the north in 1990.

Some in Aden recall British rule as bringing order and development.

Bilal Gulamhussein, a writer and researcher of the modern history of Aden, said many "long for the past they lived during the days of British rule, because everything was going in order, as if you were living in Britain exactly."

He said that much of the beginnings of infrastructure and basic services, including health and education, date to the colonial time.

"Britain laid the foundations of the civil administration in Aden from the first beginnings of the occupation," he said.

A few small reminders remain.

A statue of Queen Victoria stands in a main square, nicked by bullets that grazed it during crossfires in the current civil war. A clocktower resembling London's Big Ben overlooks the city from a hilltop. A plaque commemorates Queen Elizabeth's laying of the founding stone of a main hospital.

The current civil war has torn Yemen into a north, run by Houthi rebels, and a south, led by the internationally recognized government and a host of allied militias. Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab countries have intervened to back the government, seeing the Houthis as a proxy for Iran. The fighting has thrown Yemen into one of the world's worst humanitarian crisis, pushing it into deeper poverty and near famine.

Salem al Yamani, a schoolteacher in the southern province of Abyan, said that even amid the current chaos, nostalgia for colonial times sparked by Elizabeth's death is misplaced.

"The idea of having good roads and services does not mean they (the colonizers) were good. They were occupiers who served their own interest at the first place," he said.

"That the situation now is dire doesn't mean we want them back again," he said. "This is our own problem, and it will be resolved if foreign powers stopped meddling in our affairs."

Recovering addicts work to help others in 'Project Recover'

By DENISE LAVOIE AP Legal Affairs Writer

CHESTERFIELD, Va. (AP) — Wearing a black T-shirt emblazoned with the word "PEER," Joy Bogese approaches people struggling with drug addiction the way a teacher might approach a reluctant student — gently, calmly and armed with experience in a subject that has stymied each of them.

Bogese, a recovering heroin addict, breaks the ice by telling them a bit about herself.

"I've been homeless, I did time in jail. I remember thinking, there's no hope. I'm always going to be a junkie," she tells a homeless man while standing next to a uniformed police officer. "I made it and you can, too," she quickly adds.

Bogese is one of four peer recovery specialists who have been working in central Virginia this year as part of "Project Recover." The specialists are embedded with ambulance crews and police officers so they can offer guidance and resources to victims during one of the most difficult times of their lives — immediately following an overdose.

The program began after Courtney Nunnally, a recovering addict who founded a nonprofit organization to help get people into treatment, partnered with the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Virginia. For its first year, the project received a \$302,000 federal grant to hire peer recovery specialists who have turned their lives around after waging long battles with addiction. The program's supporters are currently searching for funding for a second year.

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Most days, Bogese and Nunnally are out on patrol with police in Richmond and Chesterfield. They respond to 911 overdose calls and also patrol areas around abandoned buildings, cheap motels and parking lots, looking for the signs of addiction.

On a recent Monday, Bogese spots Adam Hall, a homeless man she first met two weeks earlier, in the parking lot of a shuttered shopping plaza. She and Chesterfield Patrol Officer Travis Adams reintroduce themselves and ask him how he's been.

Hall, 49, tells her he was shaken recently after a young man who stayed at the same campsite he stays at died of a drug overdose.

"Did you think about what we talked about?" Bogese asks, reminding him about some treatment options she suggested during their first meeting.

"It's not something I'm into yet, but I'm definitely thinking about it," Hall says.

Bogese says she respects his honesty and hands him some naloxone nasal spray, a prescription medicine used to treat opioid overdose emergencies.

"He has those ideas and options we talked about, and those seeds are planted," she says as she walks away.

On this particular day, Adams and Bogese are not called to the scene of any overdoses during several hours of patrol. But they know it probably won't be long before they will. Like many communities around the country, Chesterfield County has struggled with the opioid addiction crisis.

In 2021, police here responded to 308 calls for overdoses of heroin, fentanyl or a combination of both; 77 of those calls involved fatal overdoses. So far this year, they've responded to 161 overdoses; 27 of them have been fatal, said Lt. Edward Pierpont.

The use of peer recovery specialists gained popularity in the late 1990s, when the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration began to fund grant programs specifically focused on peer recovery support services.

During the opioid crisis over the last decade, peer recovery specialists have become even more prevalent. In 2015, a police chief in Massachusetts announced that opiate addicts who walked into the police station for help would not be charged with a crime. Former Gloucester Police Chief Leonard Campanello's Facebook post received national attention and led to the creation of the Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative, a nonprofit that helps law enforcement agencies create early diversion and other "non-arrest" programs to reduce overdose deaths and expand access to treatment.

Since its inception seven years ago, the initiative has grown to a national network of nearly 700 police departments in 34 states.

Some departments encourage people to self-report to police stations, while others, like Project Recover, focus on outreach to addicts.

"The goal is to get people into a treatment program rather than arrest their way out of the problem," said Zoe Grover, PAARI's executive director.

In Berea, Ohio, a city of about 20,000 just outside Cleveland, the police department created Safe Passages, a program that encourages people to walk in the front door of the police station. There, they meet with an officer and then a peer support specialist who helps determine placement for detox or treatment services. The program also helps participants with issues that can often hinder their ability to get treatment, including transportation, insurance and child care.

From 2016 to 2020, about 150 people reported to the police station and sought help, said Sgt. Patrick Greenhill. Another 13 area police departments also participated, providing services to hundreds more.

"People didn't believe it at first — that they wouldn't get arrested — but then people started bringing their friends to us for help," Greenhill said.

In Chesterfield, Adams says having Bogese with him on patrol sometimes eases the fear and distrust people struggling with addiction have of police.

"It's important for them to be able to see that she's been through what they have," he said.

Bogese grew up wanting to be a police officer and got her bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal

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justice. But she struggled with alcohol and prescription drugs for two decades and then became addicted to heroin.

After nine months of increasing heroin use, Bogese was arrested, an event she said saved her life. During more than four years in jail, she trained to become a certified peer recovery specialist and began working for Project Recover in April. She's been clean for seven years.

"I was so focused on myself before, and the emptiness of feeling, 'Why am I here? What's my purpose?'" she said. "I definitely (still) have struggles and challenges, but having that meaning and purpose of helping people gives me that sense of direction so I don't feel lost."

Today in History: September 18, Ruth Bader Ginsburg died

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Sept. 18, the 261st day of 2022. There are 104 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 18, 2020, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a towering women's rights champion who became the court's second female justice, died at her home in Washington at the age of 87 of complications from pancreatic cancer; her death set off a battle over whether President Donald Trump should nominate a successor, or the seat should remain vacant until the outcome of the election six weeks away. (Trump would nominate Amy Coney Barrett, who was confirmed by the Republican-led Senate days before the election.)

On this date:

In A.D. 14, the Roman Senate officially confirmed Tiberius as the second emperor of the Roman Empire, succeeding the late Augustus.

In 1793, President George Washington laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol.

In 1850, Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act, which created a force of federal commissioners charged with returning escaped slaves to their owners.

In 1851, the first edition of The New York Times was published.

In 1947, the National Security Act, which created a National Military Establishment and the position of Secretary of Defense, went into effect.

In 1961, United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld (dahg HAWM'-ahr-shoold) was killed in a plane crash in northern Rhodesia.

In 1970, rock star Jimi Hendrix died in London at age 27.

In 1975, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst was captured by the FBI in San Francisco, 19 months after being kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.

In 1987, the psychological thriller "Fatal Attraction," starring Michael Douglas and Glenn Close, was released by Paramount Pictures.

In 2001, a week after the Sept. 11 attack, President George W. Bush said he hoped to "rally the world" in the battle against terrorism and predicted that all "people who love freedom" would join. Letters postmarked Trenton, N.J., that later tested positive for anthrax were sent to the New York Post and NBC anchorman Tom Brokaw.

In 2005, "Everybody Loves Raymond" won the Emmy for best comedy in its final season; first-year hit "Lost" was named best drama.

In 2014, voters in Scotland rejected independence, opting to remain part of the United Kingdom in a historic referendum. The Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St. Andrews, Scotland, ended years of male-only exclusivity as its members voted overwhelmingly in favor of inviting women to join.

Ten years ago: Chicago teachers voted to suspend their strike and return to the classroom after more than a week on picket lines, ending a combative stalemate with Mayor Rahm Emanuel over evaluations and job security.

Five years ago: Hurricane Maria intensified into a dangerous Category 5 storm, surging into the eastern

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Caribbean on a path that would take it near many of the islands recently devastated by Hurricane Irma. Toys R Us, the pioneering big box toy retailer, announced that it was filing for bankruptcy protection, but that it would continue its normal business operations. (The company announced in March of 2018 that it would be liquidating its U.S. business.)

One year ago: Police were deployed in large numbers outside the U.S. Capitol over concerns that a rally in support of jailed Jan. 6 rioters would turn violent; the crowd for the rally was sparse, and there were few incidents. Four space tourists safely ended their trailblazing three-day flight to orbit with a splashdown in the Atlantic, off the Florida coast; the all-amateur crew – a billionaire and his three guests - aboard the SpaceX capsule was the first to circle the world without a professional astronaut.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Blake is 89. Gospel singer Bobby Jones is 84. Singer Frankie Avalon is 82. Actor Beth Grant is 73. Rock musician Kerry Livgren is 73. Actor Anna Deavere Smith is 72. Former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson, is 71. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Rick Pitino is 70. Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-Ala., is 68. College Football Hall of Famer and retired NFL player Billy Sims is 67. Movie director Mark Romanek is 63. Baseball Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg is 63. Alt-country-rock musician Mark Olson is 61. Singer Joanne Catherall (Human League) is 60. Actor Holly Robinson Peete is 58. R&B singer Ricky Bell (Bell Biv Devoe and New Edition) is 55. Actor Aisha Tyler is 52. Former racing cyclist Lance Armstrong is 51. Opera singer Anna Netrebko is 51. Actor Jada Pinkett Smith is 51. Actor James Marsden is 49. Actor Emily Rutherford is 48. Actor Travis Schuldt is 48. Rapper Xzibit is 48. Comedian-actor Jason Sudeikis is 47. Actor Sophina Brown is 46. Actor Barrett Foa is 45. Talk show host Sara Haines (TV: "GMA3: Strahan, Sara & Keke") is 45. Actor/comedian Billy Eichner is 44. Actor Alison Lohman is 43. Designer Brandon Maxwell is 38. Congressman and former NFL player Anthony Gonzalez, R-Ohio, is 38. Actors Brandon and Taylor Porter are 29. Actor Patrick Schwarzenegger is 29. Country singer Tae Kerr (Maddie and Tae) is 27. Actor C.J. Sanders is 26.