

Groton Daily Independent

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Gratitude is the fairest blossom
which springs from the soul.

Henry Ward Beecher

match at 5 p.m. followed by JV and Varsity.

Noon: Senior Citizens Meet at the Groton Community Center with potluck dinner.

3:30 p.m.: 5th grade band introduction.

Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

The Pantry, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Groton Community Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 23

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

St. John's worship, 9 a.m.; Zion Lutheran worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship/confirmation for Milestones for freshmen, 9 a.m.; No Sunday School; Serve at Bethesda, 2 p.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.

UMC: Conde Worship, 8:30 a.m.; coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m. (third graders receive Bibles during worship); Sunday School after children's sermon during worship.

Monday, Oct. 24

Senior Menu: French dip sandwich, macaroni salad, seasoned cabbage, waldorf salad.

School Breakfast: Mini pancakes.

School Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, mixed vegetables.

Volleyball at Britton (rescheduled from Oct. 28). C

Groton Daily Independent

PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460

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

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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Northern State Offense Explodes Defeating Concordia-St. Paul, Wolves Remain Unbeaten at Home

Aberdeen, S.D. – With 49 points and a 29-point spread, the Northern State University football team tallied their fifth win of the 2022 season and fourth from Dacotah Bank Stadium. The Wolves are undefeated at home and scored the most points in stadium history versus Concordia-St. Paul.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 49, CSP 20

Records: NSU 5-3, CSP 0-8

Attendance: 4221

HOW IT HAPPENED

- After a handful of scoreless drives, the Wolves struck first on a 42-yard reception from Will Madler to Ben Noland
- Payton Eue and the Wolves executed an on-side kick the following drive that Eue recovered
- The play resulted in another seven points for the Wolves nearly a minute later as Michael Bonds hit Dominick Fiscelli for a 50-yard touchdown
- Concordia-St. Paul answered back to kick off the second, scoring on a 1-yard rush by Conner Cordts
- The Wolves however extended the lead, scoring back-to-back touchdowns from Isaiah Cherrier (73-yard reception) and Greg Lux (20-yard reception)
- The Golden Bears closed out the half with a receiving touchdown of their own and the two teams entered the locker room with Northern State leading 28-13
- The third quarter ticked down with neither team breaking through, until a 80-yard catch and score by Fiscelli with 1:41 left on the clock
- Max Otto opened the scoring in the fourth with the first touchdown of his career, a 37-yard reception from Madler
- CSP added their third and final touchdown of the contest at 7:49 and Isaiah Cherrier spread the icing on the cake with a 57-yard rushing score to close out the game
- Northern tallied a game high 23 first downs, 193 yards rushing, 469 yards passing, and 662 yards of total offense
- The Wolves converted 10-of-15 on third down and held the Golden Bears to 4-of-15 on third down and 2-of-5 on fourth
- Neither team secured a sack in the game and both defenses notched two interceptions
- A total of five Wolves scored in the contest with both Fiscelli and Cherrier notching two touchdowns
- Madler's single game career high of 403 yards passing and five passing touchdowns ranks in the top-5 of the Northern State single game record books
- Lynden Williams and Ar'Shon Willis led 15 Wolves with multiple tackles in the game, notching six apiece
- Brennan Kutterer, Jordan Hillesheim, and Ian Marshall combined for the team's 3.0 tackles for a loss of five yards
- Marshall also added a blocked PAT
- Willis and Trevor Johnson recorded the Wolves two interceptions in the win and Trey King tallied both a forced fumble and fumble recovery
- Eue went 7-for-7 in PATs and punted for 160 yards, averaging 40.0 yards per punt
- Luke Gunderson led the team's return front with 80 total yards, including a 34-yard long

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

- Will Madler: 403 yards passing, 5 touchdowns, 24 yards rushing
- Isaiah Cherrier: 73 yards rushing (10.4 yds/rush), 79 yards receiving, 2 touchdowns
- Dominick Fiscelli: 157 yards receiving (39.3 yds/rec), 2 touchdowns
- Ben Noland: 81 yards receiving (20.3 yds/rec), 1 touchdown
- Ar'Shon Willis: 6 tackles (5 solo), 1 interception
- Brennan Kutterer: 5 tackles, 1.5 tackles for a loss
- Trevor Johnson: 2 tackles, 1 interception, 3 break-ups

UP NEXT

Northern remains at home next Saturday, taking on MSU Moorhead. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. between the Dragons and Wolves. 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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Gaul Sets Career High in Landslide Victory for Wolves Volleyball

Aberdeen, S.D. – Three Wolves hit above .500 in Northern State volleyball's 3-0 win over Minot State on Saturday afternoon. The Wolves handed the Beavers their 22nd loss of the 2022 season and hit a season second best .528 in the process.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 3, MINOT 0

Records: NSU 14-9 (9-6 NSIC), MINOT 0-22 (0-15 NSIC)

Attendance: 1281

HOW IT HAPPENED

- Northern won the match with set scores of 25-16, 25-12, and 25-14
- The Wolves suffered just six attack errors, hitting .435 in the first set and .571 in the following two
- NSU recorded a match high 44 kills, 39 assists, 32 digs, seven aces, and three blocks
- They held Minot State to a .078 hitting percentage, forcing 18 attack errors
- Sally Gaul hit a career high .778 to lead the team, notching 15 kills and just one hitting error
- Madison Langlie and Keri Walker added a team best eight digs, while Walker dished out 34 assists

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

- Sally Gaul: 15 kills, .778 attack%, 6 digs, 2 aces
- Taylor Buckley: 14 kills, .565 attack%, 5 digs
- Hanna Thompson: 8 kills, .533 attack%
- Keri Walker: 34 assists, 8 digs, 2 kills
- Madison Langlie: 8 digs, 2 assists, 2 aces

UP NEXT

Northern State will play three matches next week versus MSU Moorhead, Minnesota Duluth, and St. Cloud State. The Wolves travel to Moorhead on Tuesday for a 6 p.m. match against the Dragons. Northern then hosts Minnesota Duluth and St. Cloud State at 6 and 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*These people are blemishes
at your love feasts, eating with
you without the slightest qualm,
shepherds who feed only
themselves. They are clouds
without rain, blown along
by the wind; autumn trees,
without fruit and uprooted,
twice dead.*

🌿 JUDE 1:12 🌿



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BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. Which mountain is associated with King David capturing the Jebusite fortress? *Zion, Nepal, Rahab, Carmel*

3. In Colossians 4, who does Paul call “our dear friend, the doctor”? *Jesus, Mark, Luke, Asa*

4. Jesus was about how much younger than John the Baptist? *12 days, 6 months, 1 year, 3 years*

5. From Mark 14, how long will poor people be around? *Always, Sometimes, Never, 40 years*

6. In Genesis 42, which Hebrew governed Egypt? *Darius, Sisera, Cornelius, Joseph*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Zion, 3) Luke, 4) 6 months, 5) Always, 6) Joseph

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson’s Casey’s latest book, “Test Your Bible Knowledge,” available in bookstores and online.

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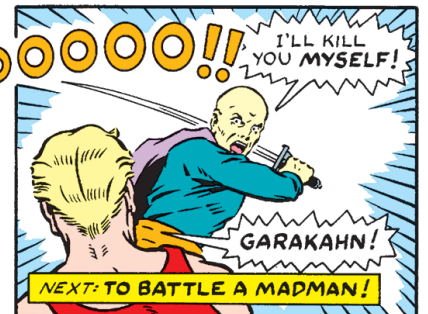
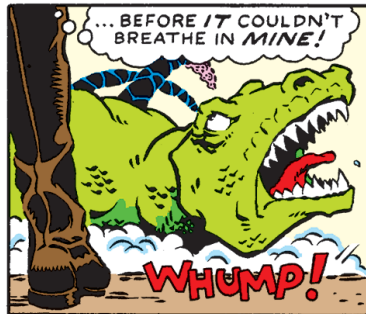
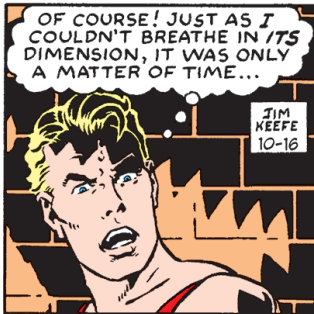
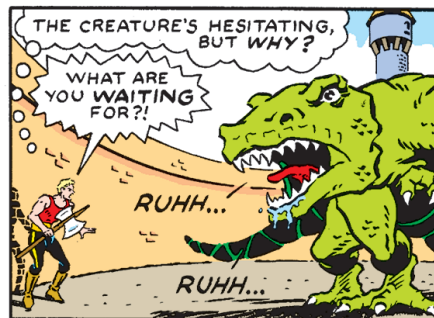
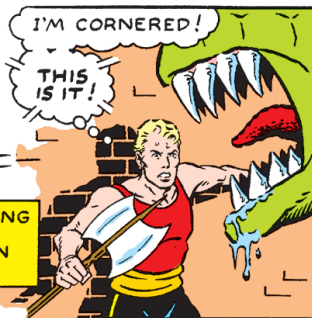
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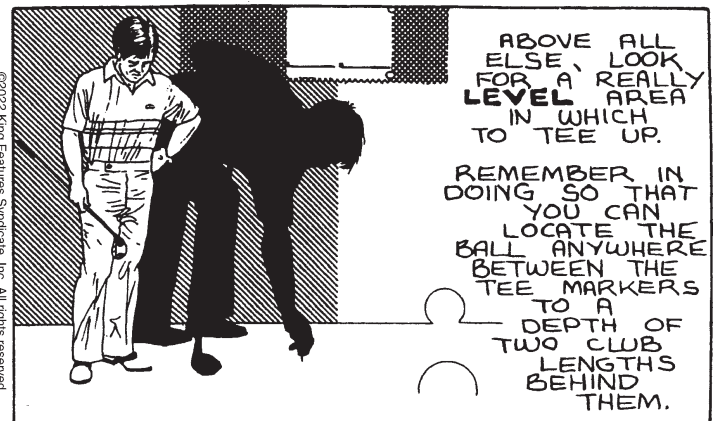
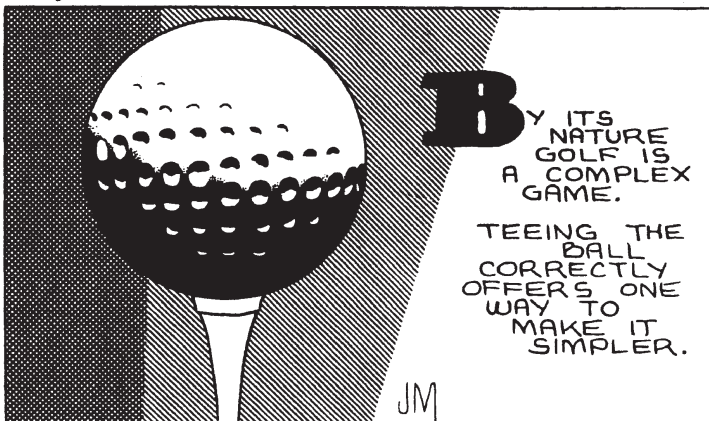
FLASH GORDON

WITH GARAKAHN'S MEN HAVING FLED, THE CREATURE ONCE AGAIN TURNS ITS ATTENTION TOWARDS FLASH!

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Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Case of Enlarged Pelvic Veins Is Not a Cause for Concern

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a 71-year-old female with no children, but I did have an ectopic pregnancy at age 43. Other than that, I have had no "female" issues. I was getting a CT scan for my spleen area, when it was discovered that I had enlarged pelvic veins in my groin. I don't have pelvic pain, nor do I have pain with sex. So, the only symptoms I do have, which may or may not be related, are bloating and some constipation.

I have seen a vascular surgeon and a urogynecologist to ask about this condition and if I need "treatment" for it. Both were rather vague, saying if I'm not experiencing pain, I should just get it imaged every year. Is that sound advice? Can the veins twist and cause blockage? Can they cause a blood clot? I can't really get any info on it. — J.F.

ANSWER: Although advanced imaging like CT and MRI scans have led physicians to be able to make more precise diagnoses than before, there is an issue of what to do with "incidental" findings. Many people have written to me about small tumors (which are far more common than we thought), but enlarged pelvic veins are another example of an incidental finding.

Some women do have a condition called "pelvic congestion syndrome," which is a cause of pelvic pain that is worsened by prolonged standing or sexual activity. This condition is found in women in the reproductive age group, especially those who have had multiple children, but is not found in menopausal women. Since you aren't in the age group and don't have symp-

congestion syndrome.

Dilated veins in the legs are simply called varicose veins, and they are often due to loss in function of the valves in our legs as we age. Pelvic vein enlargement is the same thing: Veins get bigger as we age.

There are cases of blood clots in the pelvic veins, but it is not clear whether a person like you is at increased risk. I don't see the need to repeat the imaging studies.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Why do multivitamins invariably provide some ingredients with more than 100% — and some with less than 100% — of the daily requirement? Why aren't all ingredients 100%? — D.H.

ANSWER: 100% of the recommended dietary allowance (RDA) is intended to provide the nutrient requirements for about 98% of the population. Most people will get what they need from food. Many North Americans feel that more vitamins are better or decide to take a vitamin pill as an insurance policy against an inadequate diet. Both of these have been reasonable hypotheses, but many studies have been done and have not shown any convincing benefit of taking vitamins in absence of a clear medical reason for deficiency.

Vitamin manufacturers put in large amounts mostly for marketing: People are more likely to buy the pill that has 1,000% of B12, for example, since it must be better than the one with 500%. In fact, your body will simply excrete more B12 if you take more, so the supplement with 1,000% of a water-soluble vitamin like B12 is not any better for you.

However, a few nutrients in multivitamins are dangerous at high levels: Vitamin A has a high risk of causing birth defects at high doses, and beta carotene promotes lung cancer growth in smokers, as two examples. Responsible vitamin manufacturers don't put in doses of vitamins that will be toxic if taken as directed.

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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Jake Lacy stars as Robert Berchtold in "A Friend of the Family." Courtesy of Peacock

"A Friend of the Family" (TV-MA) -- While the kidnappings of Jan Broberg have been covered in the media before (a Netflix documentary titled "Abducted in Plain Sight" was a hot topic when it was released in 2017), Peacock has decided to adapt the true story into a miniseries starring Jake Lacy and Anna Paquin. Lacy portrays the perpetrator, Robert Berchtold, who nosed his way into the Broberg family with the intent of developing intimate relationships with not only the Broberg parents, but the children as well -- specifically Jan, who was kidnapped by him two separate times in 1974 and in 1976. The series has been praised for its focus on the victims, rather than the abuser, which is no doubt influenced by Jan Broberg herself serving as executive producer for the show. Out now. (Peacock)

"Luckiest Girl Alive" (R) -- Before Ani Fanelli was a 30-year-old hotshot writer living in New York, awaiting a grandiose wedding to the love of her life, she was a young girl named Tifani, who was just trying to find a place for herself in the world. Her first taste of luxury only came after she received a scholarship to a prestigious private school, the turning point that would alter the course of her life. The dark events that took place at the school would come to follow and haunt her to the current day, and until she turns around to face her trauma in the eye, Tifani cannot truly become Ani. Mila Kunis plays the (un)luckiest girl alive in this mystery thriller film out now. (Netflix)

"Run Sweetheart Run" (R) -- From horror powerhouse Blumhouse Productions, this psychological thriller stars Ella Balinska ("Charlie's Angels") and Pilou Asbaek ("Game of Thrones"). Balinska plays Cherie, a woman usually absorbed in her work, as she gets set up on a blind date with a man named Ethan. After Ethan charms her with a wonderful night out, she's left swooning at the end of their date. Little does she know that as she accepts an invitation into his home, he has pulled her into a violent, deadly game of cat and mouse. Narrowly escaping his home, Cherie must run for her life around her city to run from Ethan, who somehow lurks at every corner. Out on Oct. 28. (Prime Video)

"Matriarch" (NR) -- As Hulu's month-long Halloween event, Huluween, continues, this original folk horror film from the streaming service might be its most terrifying release this year. Twenty years after running away from her home, an advertising executive named Laura reaches rock bottom in her struggle with alcohol and drug addiction. Upon receiving a call from her mother after Laura mysteriously survives an overdose, she decides to pay her first visit back to her mother. But right away, Laura notices that something's off about the village, where no one has aged in the last two decades, and she begins experiencing horrifying paranormal visions that make her past troubles seem miniscule. Out now. (Hulu)

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1. Who was "Sir Duke" written about?
2. Who was Boxcar Willie?
3. Which group released "Nights in White Satin"?
4. Which song was David Bowie's first U.S. No. 1 hit?
5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "I heard the weatherman predict a sunny day, He did not mean to lie, I look outside it's raining."

Answers

1. Duke Ellington. Stevie Wonder's 1977 hit was a tribute to the Duke, who had died in 1974. Other jazz greats like Louis Armstrong and Glenn Miller were also mentioned in the lyrics.

2. Boxcar Willie (born Lecil Travis Martin) was a country music singer and writer of hobo music. At the same time, he was a flight engineer in the U.S. Air Force.

3. The Moody Blues, in 1967. And yes, songwriter Justin Hayward penned the song after receiving a set of satin sheets. When it was released, the song only went to No. 103 on the charts. Four years later it climbed to No. 1 on the Top 100.

4. "Fame," in 1975.

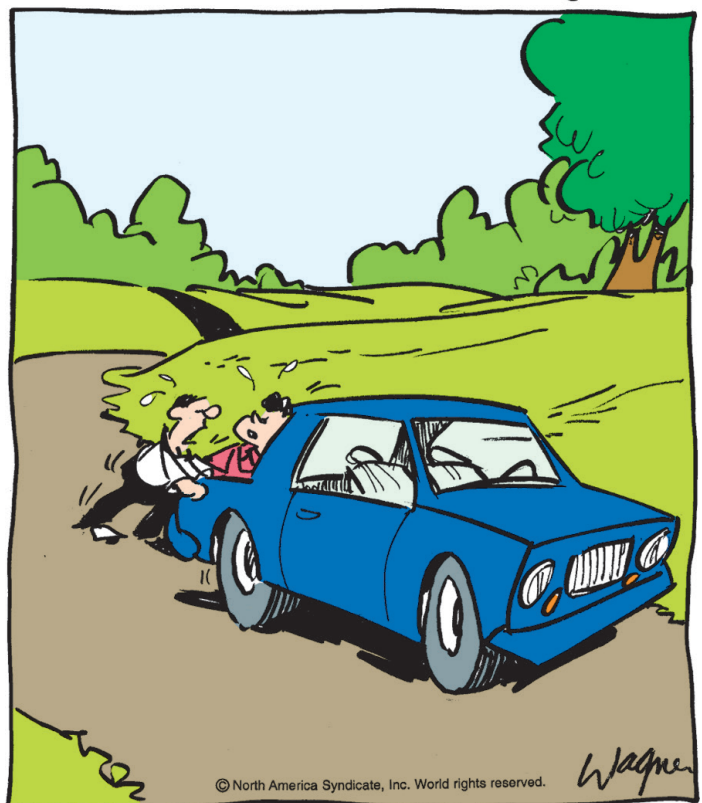
5. "This Time I'm In It For Love," by Player, in 1978. Player's version made it to the Top 10 charts, while previous versions (by Austin Roberts and Cyndi Grecco in 1976 and 1977) didn't chart at all.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



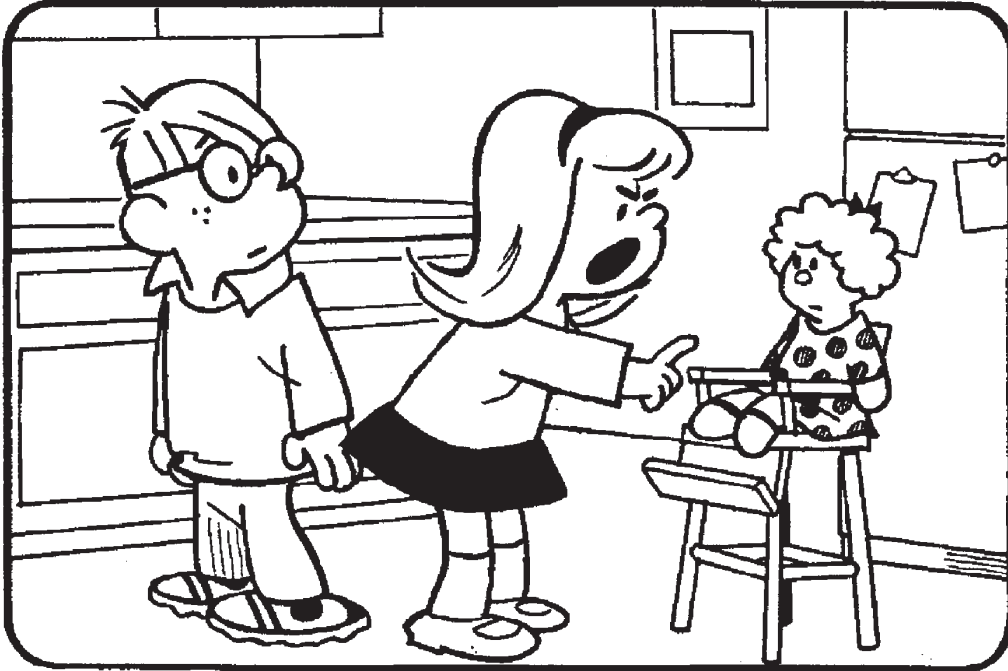
GRIN *and* BEAR IT



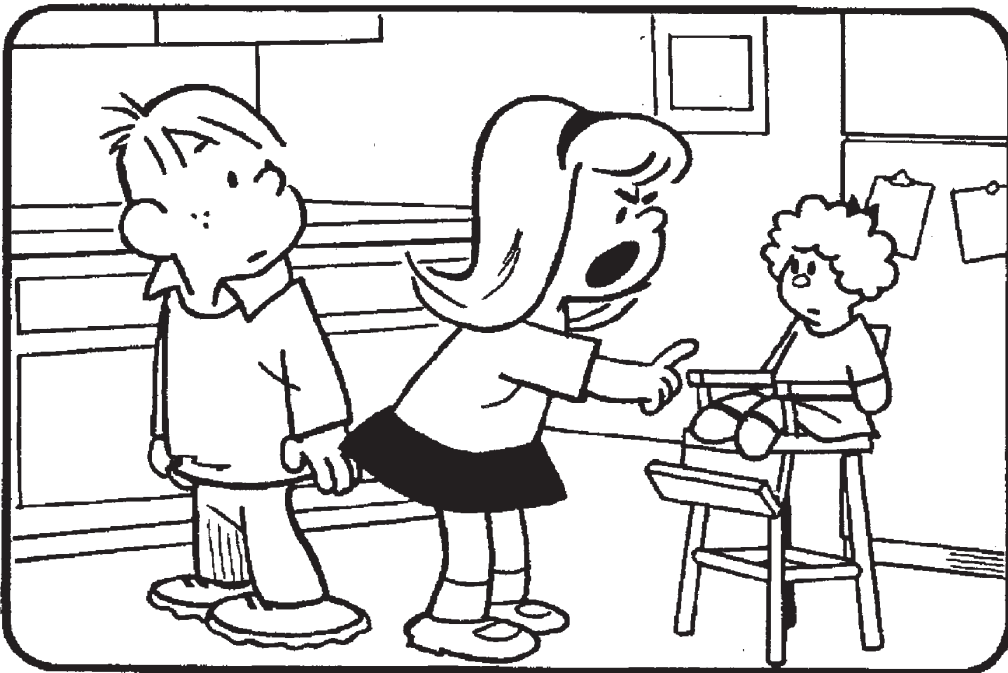
"Apparently we are the alternative fuel that they advertised!"

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Glasses are missing. 2. Sneaker is different. 3. Socks are shorter. 4. Sleeve is shorter. 5. Dress is different. 6. Memo is moved.

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by
Jo Ann
Derson

* Halloween can be a spooky good time for children and adults alike, but the cost of costumes can be downright scary. When I was a child, my brother and I dressed as a pirate and a gypsy, respectively, for several years, as they were costumes that could be put together using things you might find around the house. This week, a focus on inexpensive or FREE Halloween costumes. Happy Halloween!

* Most anyone can come up with a ghost costume (basically, a white sheet with eyes cut out and cut off at the bottom so it's not too long). How about dressing up that ghost with costume jewelry and makeup, or a mustache/beard drawn on, with a tie and carrying a briefcase labeled "Scare Corporation"? Use hats or other dress-up accessories to make Dr. Ghost or Officer Ghost. The possibilities

are endless.

* A basic scarecrow needs only a flannel shirt, a pair of jeans and socks, a floppy hat and some straw. Stuff wadded-up plastic bags into shirt or pants to fill, then use rubber bands to secure straw at the cuffs. Paint on a funny face. (Thanks J.R. in Illinois.)

* Be an over-the-top tourist: A loud Hawaiian-style shirt paired with a pair of shorts, perhaps socks with sandals? Carry a camera on a strap around your neck. Use a small carry-on bag as your treat bag, or decorate a paper sack by gluing on squares cut from a map.

* Be Static Cling! Use safety pins to pin a variety of small items to your outfit -- think socks, scarves, even a pair of undies if you dare! Tease hair until it's standing straight up, and use hairspray to keep it that way.

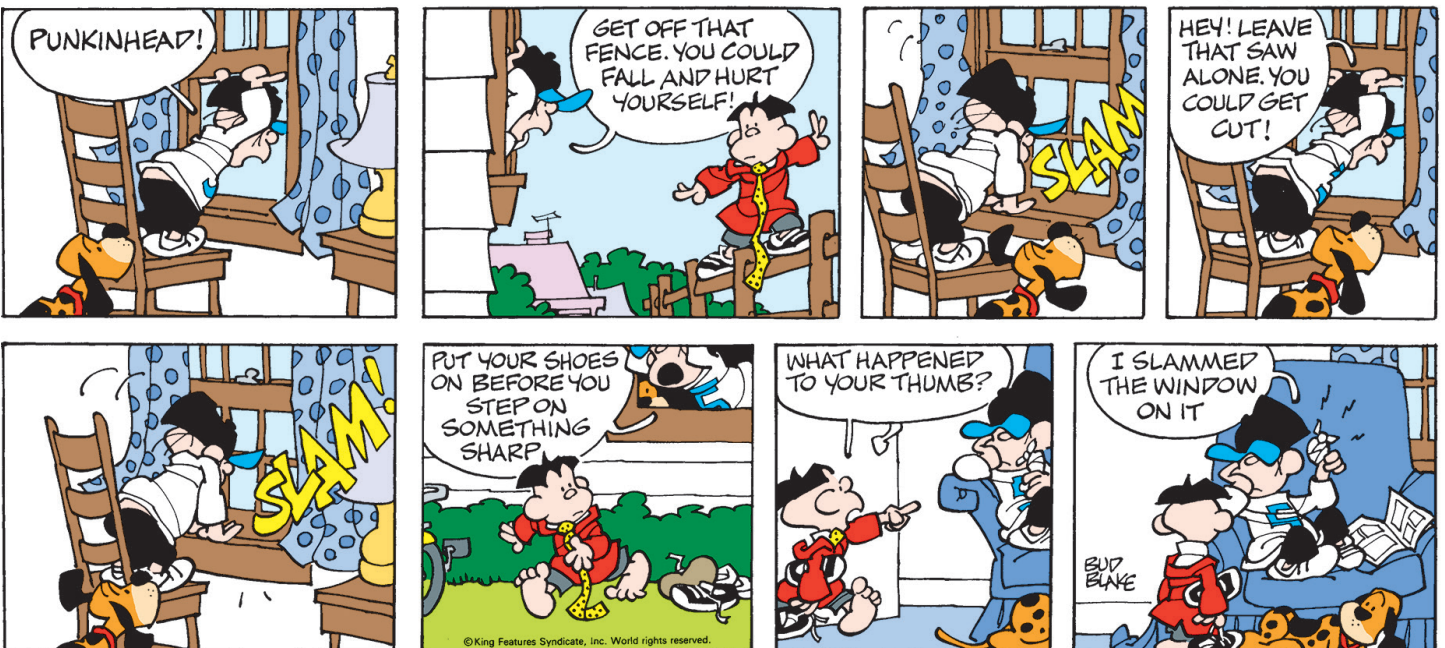
* Get your hands on a large, clear plastic bag and some small colorful balloons. Cut leg and arm holes in the bag, with the opening side up (it will be secured at your neck). Blow up the balloons and fill the bag while you're wearing it. Secure loosely at your neck with a pretty ribbon, and you're an instant Bag of Jelly Beans. Make a sign to attach across your back or front. Be careful when you sit down!

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

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 **TIGER**

by **BUD BLAKE**



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Creche trio
- 5 Sheep's cry
- 8 Espy
- 12 Optimist's credo
- 13 Steal from
- 14 Texas city
- 15 Lost traction
- 16 "Madam Secretary" memoirist Madeleine
- 18 Dutch exports
- 20 Spanning
- 21 Demolish, in Dover
- 23 Jungfrau, for one
- 24 Tirana resident
- 28 Blathers
- 31 Meadow
- 32 Seafood selection
- 34 Gangster's gun
- 35 Lincoln in-law
- 37 Tuna type
- 39 Sneaky chuckle
- 41 Son of Adam and Eve
- 42 You can count on it
- 45 Seduce
- 49 Prince of Monaco who is Grace Kelly's son

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16			17				
18				19			20					
			21			22		23				
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		39		40		41						
42	43				44		45			46	47	48
49						50			51			
52					53				54			
55					56				57			

- 51 Shark variety the like one
- 52 Check 6 MSN rival 29 Standard
- 53 Rm. coolers 7 "Waterloo" 30 Fr. holy woman
- 54 Baby carriage group 33 Social appointment
- 55 Golf stroke 8 Making spiral patterns 36 Not half bad
- 56 Belly 9 Samoan port 38 Victors
- 57 Eyelid woe 10 Phil of folk music 40 "Ben- —"
- DOWN**
- 1 Fine spray 11 Youngsters 42 Seniors' org.
- 2 Rights advocacy org. 17 — Victor 43 — cheese dressing
- 3 Author 19 Skillets 44 Male deer
- Sheehy 22 British nobles 46 Scurry
- 4 Prime Minister 24 Flight stat 47 Fine
- Gandhi 25 Zodiac cat 48 Iditarod terminus
- 5 Cabbage, broccoli and 26 Vice 50 Post-op area
- Teresa, for 27 Mother

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— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

M	A	G	I		B	A	A		S	P	O	T
I	C	A	N		R	O	B		W	A	C	O
S	L	I	D		A	L	B	R	I	G	H	T
T	U	L	I	P	S		A	C	R	O	S	S
			R	A	S	E		A	L	P		
A	L	B	A	N	I	A	N		Y	A	P	S
L	E	A		S	C	R	O	D		G	A	T
T	O	D	D		A	L	B	A	C	O	R	E
			H	E	H		S	E	T	H		
A	B	A	C	U	S		L	E	A	D	O	N
A	L	B	E	R	T	I	I		M	A	K	O
R	E	I	N		A	C	S		P	R	A	M
P	U	T	T		G	U	T		S	T	Y	E

LAFF - A - DAY



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"That reminds me, Mom — have you told Dad about your car yet?"

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



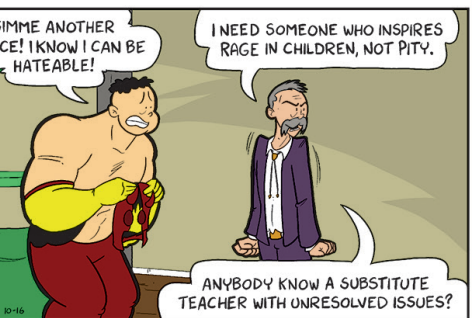
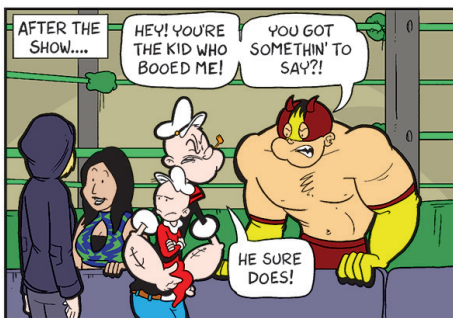
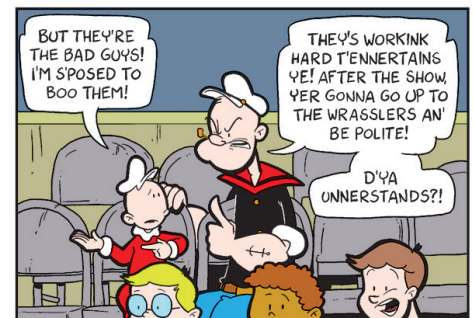
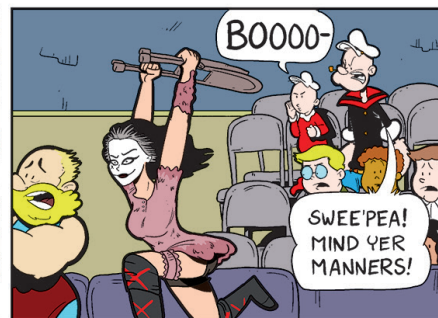
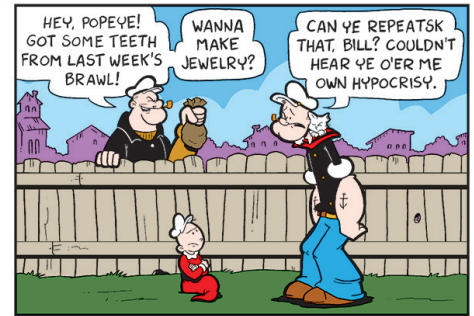
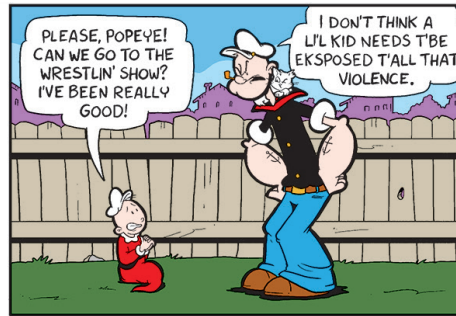
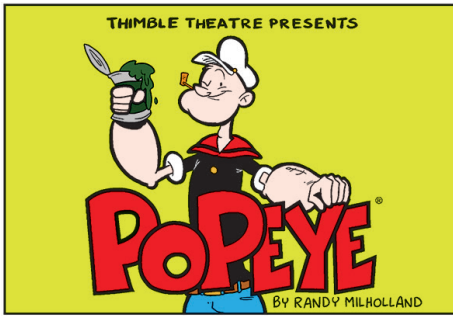
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AN AWKWARD MOMENT
FOR QUASIMODO

KOPERVAS

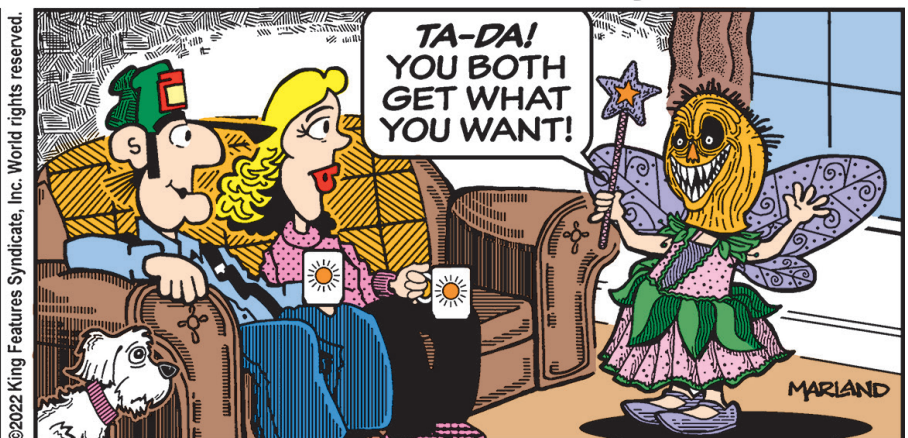
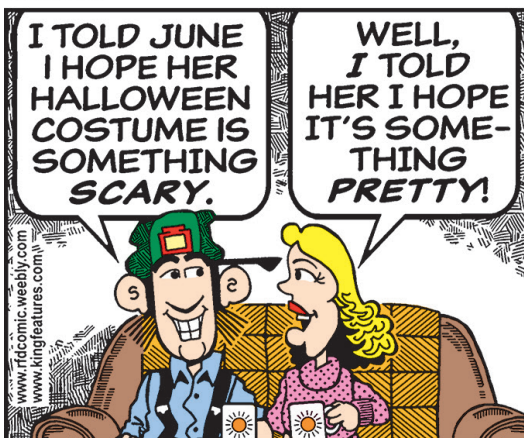
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R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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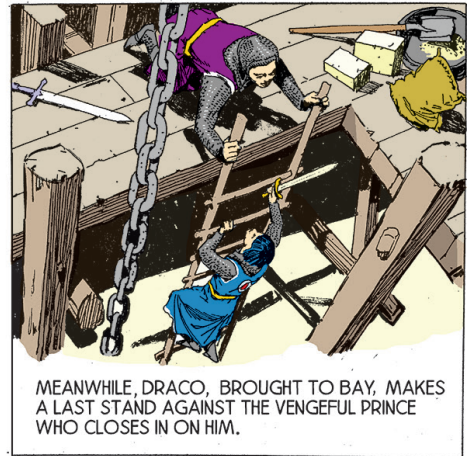
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VAL FOOTER'S BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ
Prince Valiant

MALDUBH'S POWER IS BROKEN. "HECATE! MORGANA! SAVE YOUR SERVANT FROM OUR ENEMIES!"

AS THE SKY CRACKLES, KAREN AND VALETA RECOIL. "WE UNDERESTIMATED THE POWERS PROTECTING HER!" MAEVE SHOUTS INTO THE VORTEX.



MEANWHILE, DRACO, BROUGHT TO BAY, MAKES A LAST STAND AGAINST THE VENGEFUL PRINCE WHO CLOSES IN ON HIM.

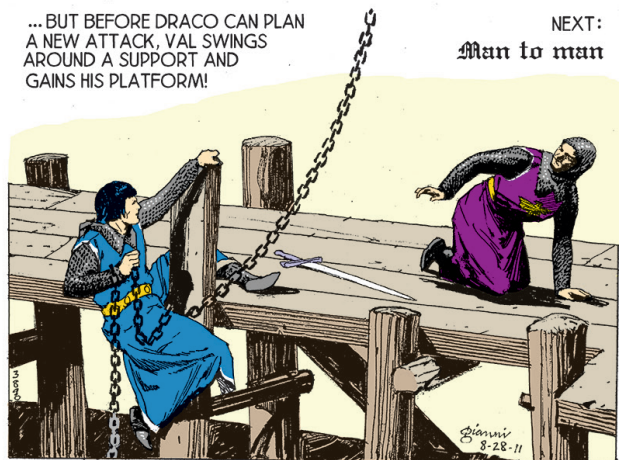


HIS METHODS MUST, BY NECESSITY, NOW BE INELEGANT AND UNGALLANT - A PUSHED LADDER IS BY FAR HIS SAFEST OPTION.



AND, AGAIN, HIS HOPES ARE DASHED BY VAL'S AGILITY. STILL, THE SINGING SWORD IS LOST...

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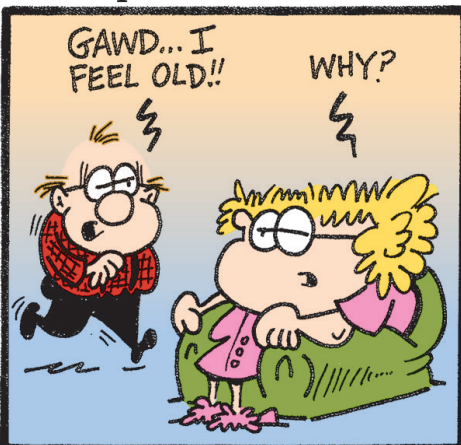
... BUT BEFORE DRACO CAN PLAN A NEW ATTACK, VAL SWINGS AROUND A SUPPORT AND GAINS HIS PLATFORM!

NEXT:
Man to man

Gianni
8-28-11

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

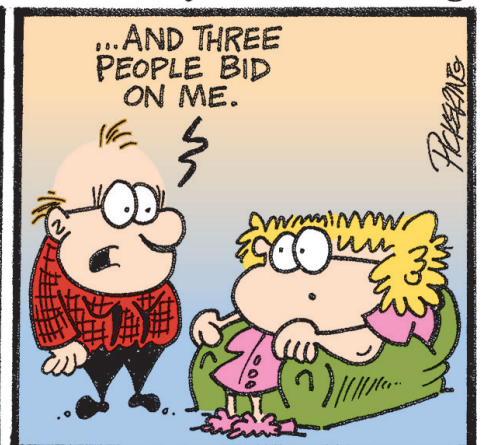


GAWD... I FEEL OLD!!

WHY?



TODAY I WENT TO AN ANTIQUE AUCTION...



...AND THREE PEOPLE BID ON ME.

PICKERING

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Workouts at the Rec Center

Two months ago the senior center commandeered a large space in the town's rec center because we had vetoed the idea of exercise classes in a too-small space at the senior center.

It was a two-month test, warned the senior center, to see if we'd actually show up. They even brought in a too-young male coach to put us through our paces. Although we were suspicious about his age, by the third week we agreed he knew his stuff.

And he himself brought in an even younger female assistant who stayed at the front of the room demonstrating the exercises while the young male coach paced around the room, expression serious, studying us, stopping us in mid-move to instruct and praising where warranted.

Two weeks ago he brought in yet another assistant and broke us into two groups across the rec center floor. He labeled us "Easy" and "Not Easy," saying that some of us needed to take things more slowly while others needed to put more effort into the workout. Try as I might to get transferred to the Easy group, he was having none of it.

He worked hard on our behalf, badgering the rec center to open up the weight room so he could give out some hand weights. He coaxed the local sporting goods store into donating some stretchy bands and yoga mats. Last week he brought in a diet handout, foods to eat to build muscle.

We discovered just this week, however, that we've all been guinea pigs, that our too-young male coach was using us as his senior fitness specialist project for college. Color us shocked! We weren't sure how we felt about that until we learned that he'd earned an "A" on the project.

The other good news is that they've hired our too-young male coach and his two assistants on a permanent basis. And we get to stay at the rec center.

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1. The "Backyard Brawl" is the nickname for the college football rivalry game between which two teams?

2. During a 1988 playoff series, New Jersey Devils head coach Jim Schoenfeld was suspended for shouting "Have another doughnut!" at what veteran NHL referee?

3. An ESPN documentary series called "The Captain" explored the life and career of what Baseball Hall of Famer?

4. How much was Portland State University graphic design student Carolyn Davidson originally paid for creating the Nike Swoosh logo in 1971?

5. What Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker was shot in the buttocks outside of a Denver bar in 2003, and later yelled "They shot me in Denver!" to motivate his teammates for a game against the Broncos?

6. Selhurst Park in London is the home ground of what English Premier League football club?

7. Name the Basketball Hall of Famer who had his No. 52 jersey retired by the UCLA Bruins and the Los Angeles Lakers.



by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. The University of Pittsburgh Panthers and the West Virginia University Mountaineers.

2. Don Koharski.

3. Derek Jeter.

4. \$35.

5. Joey Porter.

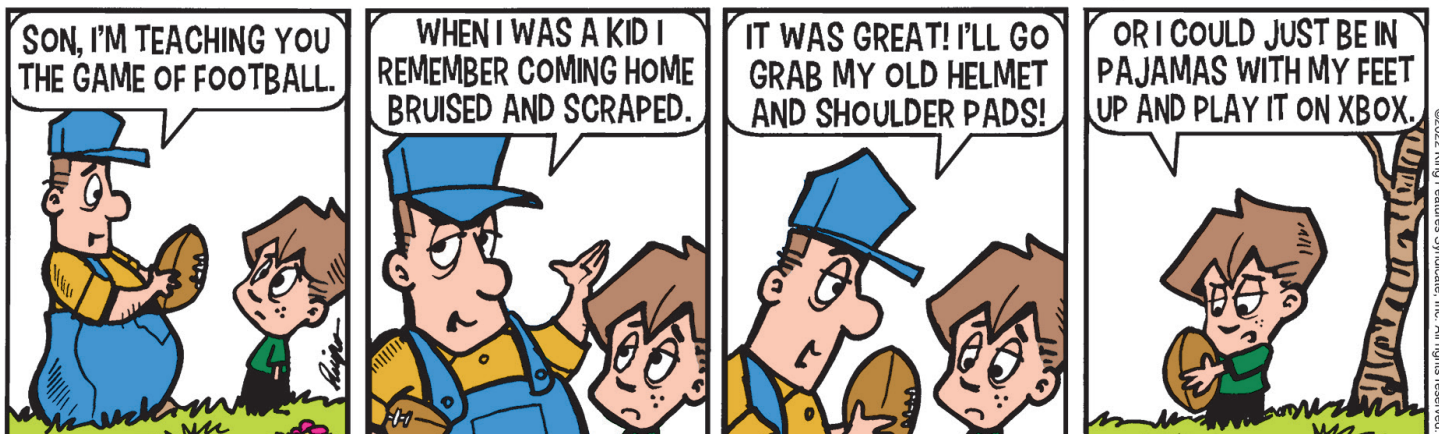
6. Crystal Palace F.C.

7. Jamaal Wilkes.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Solving a Litter Box Mystery

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I'm responding to your recent column about the kitten who won't litter train. I've had kitties for over 50 years. The only time one of my kittens had trouble using the litter box, I made sure to watch him the next time he started sniffing around. It turned out that the sides of the litter box were too high! I replaced it with a litter box that had lower sides and it solved the problem. Love your column! -- Linda P., Williamson, New York

DEAR LINDA: Thank you for the advice! Cats are experts at hiding their problems, and it can be difficult to see if a training issue is something to do with behavior, health problems or something else.

Your advice to observe the kitten closely, without interfering as it goes about its business, is perfect. If you've got time to follow a kitten around the house from a distance, that's great. Of course, many of us are busy or have to leave the house for most of the day for work. One way to get around that is to use an indoor security camera -- one of the small cameras available for purchase online like a Blink or a SimpliSafe -- and point it at the litter box. You can observe activity around the box while you're away (or in another room).

In this instance, the sides of the box were simply too high! A quick fix got the kitten back on track.

Now, what if you observe something else, like the kitten showing distress just before it pees or poops? Or interference from another kitten or cat? Contact your veterinarian for advice, a checkup if needed, and an action plan to solve the litter box mystery.

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

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

* A border collie named Saul took a leaf out of another (albeit fictional) canine's book, being praised as a "real-life Lassie" when he led two members of a search party to his owner after the man was injured on a hike.

* Nutmeg can produce a hallucinogenic effect if taken in a high enough quantity.

* It's not just trees that help provide us humans with oxygen -- about half of that in our atmosphere

is a byproduct of photosynthesis from the microscopic sea algae known as phytoplankton.

* Rhubarb grows so fast you can actually hear it!

* Legend holds that when a pope dies, it's the custom to strike him on the head three times with a silver hammer to ensure he's really deceased.

* A survey revealed that nearly half of the unmarried gents polled washed their bedsheets a mere four times a year, instead of the recommended once per week. Singletons, there may be a lesson in there.

* Less than 14% of all M&Ms candies are brown.

* May never begins or ends on the same day of the week as any other month in any given year.

* Proof that crime doesn't pay ... even in space! Earlier this year, Canada passed a law allowing prosecution of crimes committed by the country's astronauts on the moon or on their way to it.

* The greatest number of people to play a single piano simultaneously is 23.

* For a reasonable \$19.95, you too can buy alien abduction insurance from a Florida agent. Of course, to cash it in, you'll need to hand over a signature from an "authorized, on-board alien," and who knows if they can even write in English?

Thought for the Day: "Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you."
-- Walt Whitman

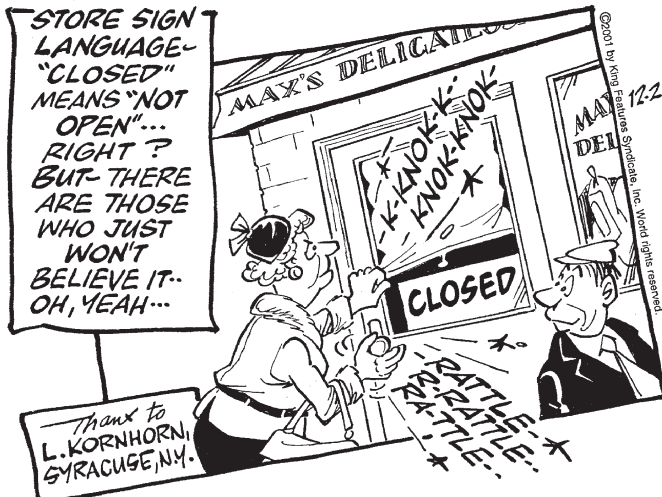
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THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



STILL ANOTHER REASON WHY PARENTS GO BONKERS- YOU BUY DAUGHTER LUPINA A DESK, STUDENT LAMP, TYPEWRITER STAND, ETC.- SO WHERE DOES SHE DO HER SCHOOL WORK?



The Garden Bug

Roasting pumpkin seeds

- Preheat oven to 300° F.
- Toss 1½ cups raw pumpkin seeds, 2 teaspoons melted butter and a pinch of salt in a bowl, mixing well.
- Spread the seeds in a single layer on a baking sheet and bake for about 45 minutes or until golden brown. - Brenda Weaver

Source: Allrecipes.com



by Freddy Groves

Changes for VA Small Businesses

If you hope to set up a business as a service-disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) or a veteran-owned small business (VOSB), your verification will no longer be done by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Instead, as of the beginning of 2023, the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be in charge.

No new applications will be accepted after Oct. 24, 2022, for either verification or reverification, due to the transition to the Small Business Administration.

If you currently have a business and wonder about your next steps, go to vetbiz.va.gov and click on "See frequently asked questions concerning this change."

The Vets First Verification Program, using the Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE), will be your go-to for all types of assistance, including working through the initial steps: Intake, Assessment, Federal Review and Decision.

The benefits are worth the trouble to become VA-verified, if only for the set asides that are at the heart of how the VA helps small businesses -- competition is limited, which helps veterans compete for federal contracts. At least 3% of those contracts are held for service-disabled veterans who own their businesses.

To be a SDVOSB or VOSB, a business must be owned 51% or more by a veteran who did not receive a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, and be controlled on a daily basis by a veteran who has the managerial experience to run the business. In addition, the veteran has to be the highest paid person in the company, working full time and holding the highest position in the company. To qualify as a service-disabled business, the veteran must meet all of the above qualifications and also have a disability rating letter from the VA confirming a service-connected disability.

If you're ready to start a business, check out www.va.gov/osdbu/verification/index.asp and scroll to the guides and forms.

If you're still at the thinking stage and need direction and help in becoming an entrepreneur, go to www.va.gov/OSDBU/entrepreneur/index.asp for information on finding financial backing, growing your business or doing business with federal agencies and more.

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Wishing Well®

3	7	6	7	4	6	2	6	4	7	3	7	3
E	R	P	O	A	R	P	O	S	A	A	D	S
2	5	6	3	5	7	6	8	7	6	3	8	7
E	B	S	E	E	B	P	A	L	E	Y	I	O
4	7	3	4	6	4	7	6	5	4	6	7	6
S	C	O	I	C	S	K	T	A	T	S	R	L
2	5	7	2	6	4	2	5	7	2	5	4	6
R	F	E	F	O	O	E	F	M	C	E	T	O
5	3	6	4	8	3	7	3	7	3	4	3	6
C	U	K	H	D	R	O	M	V	I	E	N	G
7	5	4	6	4	2	5	6	2	8	2	5	7
E	T	R	O	S	T	I	O	L	O	I	O	D
5	2	8	2	3	6	8	5	8	5	8	5	8
N	F	T	E	D	D	H	A	E	T	R	E	S

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. MYTHOLOGY: What are the Nereids in Greek mythology?
2. LITERATURE: Which 19th-century English novel has the subtitle, "The Parish Boy's Progress"?
3. ACRONYMS: In printing, what does the acronym DPI stand for?
4. GEOGRAPHY: Which city lies near the largest natural harbor in the world?
5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: How does a bat find its prey?
6. HISTORY: Who is the youngest person to win a Nobel Peace Prize?
7. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin prefix "super-" mean in English?
8. LAW: What is double jeopardy?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who founded the American Red Cross?
10. MEDICAL: What vitamin deficiency causes night blindness?

Answers

1. Sea nymphs.
2. "Oliver Twist" (Charles Dickens).
3. Dots per inch.
4. Sydney, Australia.
5. Echolocation (sending high-frequency sound waves).
6. Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan, who fights for children's rights to education, was 17 when she won the award.
7. Above, over (supervise, etc.).
8. Prosecuting a person twice for the same offense.
9. Clara Barton.
10. Vitamin A.

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South Dakota Governor

Kristi Noem



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

Economic Growth the South Dakota Way

It's no secret that costs are rising in just about every aspect of our daily lives. We've talked quite a bit about the skyrocketing cost of food and gas, and our businesses are facing these challenges, too. Rising costs can create a lack of predictability about the future. Thankfully, over the past few years, South Dakota has built an economic climate that shores up that predictability by creating steady growth.

Businesses are starting in South Dakota at a faster rate than any state in America, and the businesses that have been here for years are flourishing. That's a testament to the predictability and sustainability of our low tax environment, which enables businesses to feel comfortable making long-term investments in our state. And families are making the same choice for the long term, moving to South Dakota at such a rate that we are the no. 2 state in the country for inbound migration. This, in turn, will continue to give our old and new businesses the workforce needed to shore up their long-term growth.

When outside organizations evaluate how well a state is governed, they look at a number of factors. Primarily, they ask how a state manages in a competitive business climate. The American Legislative Exchange Council ranked me the no. 1 Governor in America because of our state's "fiscal and executive policies," meaning that they believe we have created a climate where businesses can succeed. And this ranking is validated by the fact that we are setting the pace for new business applications, leading the country in income growth for our people, and setting the bar for new housing development.

Those fiscal and executive policies are simple: we live within our means; we balance our budget; we save money wherever we can, spending \$43 million less than budgeted this past fiscal year; we pay down debt; we protect our AAA credit rating; we have the most well-funded pension system in the nation; and we invest in long-term growth, like connecting every corner of the state to high-speed broadband and developing our cyberresearch industry. These policies have inspired long-term capital investments in our South Dakota communities, helping us to build the strongest economy in the nation.

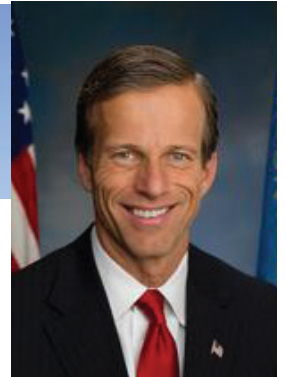
And we're just getting started. I will include in my next budget the largest tax cut in South Dakota's history – and it will be my top priority for the next legislative session. South Dakota already has some of the lowest taxes in America. We have no individual or corporate income tax, nor do we have a statewide personal property tax. This past legislative session, I eliminated additional taxes, as well.

We want to tax less in South Dakota, not more – to cut taxes, not add to them – to give people more control over their money, not less.

South Dakota will continue to build on these policies to guarantee predictable, steady growth for our future. We will guarantee that there are jobs available for our kids and grandkids. In doing so, we will continue to grow the incomes of our people and battle back against the rising inflation being driven by liberal policies in Washington, D.C.

And we will accomplish these goals by continuing to trust in the Freedom of our people.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Restoring Energy Security with America's Resources

South Dakotans are no strangers to challenging winters. Freezing temperatures are inescapable in the Great Plains, and it unfortunately looks like the frigid winter winds will bring with them record-high energy costs this year.

We are currently experiencing the longest streak of double-digit increases in utility bills in decades. Utility gas is up 33 percent, electricity bills are up 15.5 percent, and home heating costs are expected to rise 28 percent this winter. Today, it costs nearly \$1.50 more for a gallon of gas than it did when President Biden took office, and South Dakota producers and truck drivers are paying twice as much for diesel in the peak of the fall harvest.

The way out of this energy crisis is simple: unleashing American energy production. Responsibly developing our vast energy reserves, as well as leveraging homegrown biofuels, is essential to ensuring our nation's economic and national security. But from canceling the Keystone XL pipeline on his first day in office to discouraging investment in our oil and gas sector with a radical environmental agenda bent on stifling the energy production we need, President Biden has shown a hostility to American energy that puts our energy and national security at risk.

One in six households is behind on a utility bill, yet Democrats recently approved billions of dollars in new taxes and fees on conventional energy producers that will increase energy development costs and household utility bills. Then, rather than encouraging actual production of oil, President Biden has drawn down the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its lowest level since 1984, mortgaging U.S. energy security to soften painful and unpopular high gas prices right before an election.

President Biden and Democrats have made it clear they want a Green New Deal future. I have long supported alternative energy, including the abundance of wind and hydroelectric resources we have in South Dakota, but this technology has not advanced to the point where we can solely rely on it. A truly "all-of-the-above" energy strategy can leverage America's vast natural resources, from fossil fuels to wind and hydroelectric power as well as biofuels and nuclear. This approach limits our reliance on foreign sources of energy while our own energy sector evolves. The Biden administration rejects this strategy at its own peril.

We don't have to look far to where Democrats' single-minded energy agenda will take us. California's overreliance on alternative energy has resulted in an electrical grid that is incapable of sustaining the state's demand. As a result, this summer, residents were asked to ration their energy use. In New England, households are bracing for exceptionally high energy costs this winter because they have chosen to depend on foreign gas rather than build the infrastructure needed to utilize American natural resources.

We know the right solution is unleashing and encouraging domestic production of conventional energy. It's how we became energy independent three years ago – something we need to return to as soon as possible. High prices – for energy and just about everything else – have become the distinguishing feature of the Biden economy, and it is harming South Dakota families and small businesses every day. Unless the president changes course, high energy prices and dependence on foreign energy will help define his legacy.

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



A Nation That's Safe

"The key to getting a handle on drug crime is securing our southern border. The drugs might be coming across the southern border, but they're coming to a community near you," Pennington County Sheriff-Elect Brian Mueller said. These drugs are connected to violent crime at very high rates—and almost all of it is coming from the border.

We could hope that being over 1,000 miles away from where these drugs are coming from would keep us safer—our small towns are typically safe havens. A place where families can be carefree and not always worrying their kid will be in danger or get into serious trouble themselves.

But over the past couple years we have seen increases in crime rates across the country, specifically violent crime, and almost all of it is connected to drugs like meth and fentanyl that is crossing our southern border. Even though there is 1,000 miles to cover between the border and South Dakota, Sheriff-Elect Mueller said almost all drug dealers arrested in Rapid City have connections to the Mexican cartel. The "Defund the Police" movement and the Biden Administration's open border policy are enabling increased crime and drug smuggling. This is unacceptable—the Biden Administration and Congress must work towards improving public safety.

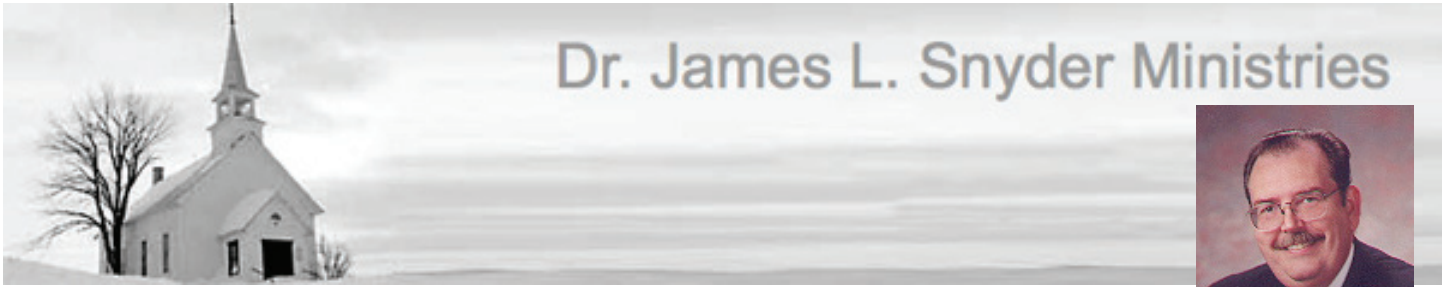
Law enforcement in small, rural, and tribal communities are sounding the alarm of the risks of low staff, slow emergency response times, lack of resources, and higher crime rates. To support these communities, I voted in favor of the Invest to Protect Act that recently passed the House and I introduced the Tribal Capital for Operations Promoting Safety (COPS) Act. Both bills will provide resources to law enforcement agencies to make our communities safer.

And it's not just causing an increase in violent crime, but we are seeing an increase of drug overdose deaths, especially in teens. In 2021, fentanyl overdoses killed over 71,000 people—that is more than 175 per day. In addition to joining House Republicans' efforts to secure the border, I cosponsored the Protecting Kids from Fentanyl Act to help prevent fentanyl overdoses by allowing schools to use unused COVID relief dollars to purchase overdose prevention drugs and provide life-saving training to faculty, staff, and students.

We all hope our communities remain safe havens for our families. To do so, we need to secure our southern border and invest in local law enforcement agencies. House Republicans and I are committed to protecting the public safety of our nation for generations to come.

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How Old is Too Old

I have never thought too much about my age. After all, you cannot choose when you will be born. Age is just a matter of thinking, and thinking is not my strong suit.

I never really thought about being old. I'm not exactly sure what the real definition of old is.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage recently asked me, "How old do you think you are?" I'm not quite sure what the incident was about.

I never know if what she is asking is rhetorical or something actually true. To question your wife is a borderline disaster.

On my last birthday, we went out to a restaurant to celebrate. As I was finishing my dessert, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me with one of her mischievous smiles and said, "Well, how old do you feel?"

Without thinking, which is my MO, I reached across the table, took hold of her arm, squeezed it, and said, "I feel old now?"

Unfortunately, she did not think it was funny, even though I was laughing.

Getting old is a natural process. You go from one birthday to the next birthday to the next birthday. I've had so many birthdays that I can't remember most of them. My question along this line is, if I can't remember how old I am, can I make up my age at my convenience?

Believe it or not, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage responded to that. I'm not allowed to share her response, for obvious reasons.

Most people think that getting old is a very negative thing. I used to think that to a certain degree. But I am beginning to discover some good advantages to getting old.

I was at a certain restaurant, and when I went up front to pay the bill, I, with a big smile on my face, asked if I could get a discount. I was just joking.

To my surprise, the person behind the counter looked at me and said, "How old are you?"

I had to think for a moment, and then I told her how old I was. When I said that, she replied, "Well, if you are that old, you qualify for a senior citizen discount."

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Up to that point, I had never heard of a senior citizen discount, but I was glad to hear about it and cheerfully accepted that discount. I heartily respond to any discount for me. Any discount is change in my pocket.

Coming home the other day, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage met me and asked if I remembered to pick up something at the store for her. Looking at her, I simply said, "Oh, my. I guess I'm getting so old I couldn't remember."

She replied with something I shall never forget, "That's okay." I only wished I had my tape recorder running when she said that.

That brought me to another benefit of getting old. All I have to say is that I'm so old I forgot and my mind isn't what it used to be, and my forgetting is forgiven.

Pondering this, I was reminded of my paternal grandfather. He was known for being so very forgetful. Everybody blamed it on his age, which he supported most heartily.

I remember talking to him one time before his passing and asking him, "Grandpa, why is it that you forget so many things?"

He looked at me, winked, and said, "Forgetting is an art.. Not too many people can do it sufficiently."

"What do you mean?" I said.

"Forgetting is a legitimate way of getting out of doing something you don't want to do." So he stopped and laughed for a moment and continued, "It takes a lot of memory to be able to forget as much as I do, and it has nothing to do with age."

I began learning a little more about my grandpa as he explained it. If he didn't want to do something, he hung it on his old age and forgetting. I don't know anybody who has built on that better than my grandfather. I was beginning to understand him now that I'm at a certain age.

Some people think getting old is a bad thing. Oh yes, there are some things I cannot do today that I could do 50 years ago. But that's not the issue. The issue is to take advantage of your age, especially if it's "old age."

"Old age" has certain advantages that did not come with being young.

When invited to go somewhere I don't want to go, it is easy for me to say, "I'd love to, but at my age I just don't have the energy." I then can flash a smile and get off going to the place I didn't want to go to in the first place.

When I was young, I took advantage of being young. I have the scars to prove that, of course. But now that I'm old, I need to take advantage of old age. And as a country boy, I plan to milk my old age as much as possible.

The Bible says some very positive things about getting old. My favorite verse on this subject is, Proverbs 16:31, "The hoary (grey) head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness."

I'm not the only one that is getting old. Everybody gets old, but the "way of righteousness" is the key.

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EARTHTALK ™

Dear EarthTalk: How will California's recent decision to require all new car sales to be electric vehicles (EVs) beginning in 2035 affect other states' timelines for adopting similarly stringent measures?

-- M. Sergis, Tampa, FL

In late August 2022, California governor Gavin Newsom and the California Air Resources Board announced the approval of the Advanced Clean Cars II rule. This act serves as a 15-year plan to put California on the road to have all car sales be for ZEV (zero emissions vehicle) by 2035. ZEVs are considered to be either EVs (electric vehicles), PHEV (plug-in hybrid electric vehicles), or hydrogen fuel cell. Gas vehicle sales will slowly be phased out, with the first checkpoint being that 35 percent of new cars sold must be a ZEV by 2026.

This piece of legislation represents an important step in actively working against the negative impacts of climate change. Reducing the number of gas-powered vehicles on the road will help cut smog producing pollution, therefore reducing the amount of health issues related to vehicle pollution. Air emission improvements will benefit all residents of the state, particularly low income and minority communities that often live near roadways. The approval of this law will increase the accessibility of ZEV to all California residents as it includes the development of investment programs for low-income residents to be able to purchase ZEVs. Furthermore, consumers will be able to save more money by switching to ZEVs as the pressure to purchase gasoline would be removed.

California is pioneering this movement, but it's likely many other states will soon follow once the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) formally approves California's law. As of now, Washington, Virginia and Massachusetts are expected to be the next three states to adopt similar mandates after approval of the rule in California. Governors in New York, Rhode Island, Oregon, Maryland and New Jersey are also considering similar legislation. These states are among the 17 other states that follow California's greenhouse gas regulations. Car manufacturers have few concerns about their ability to generate ZEVs, but better ZEV infrastructure nationwide (i.e., more vehicle charging stations) is needed.

Under the Clean Air Act, the EPA gave California the ability to enforce more stringent emissions standards than the federal government. Past evidence shows that states have followed California's example when it comes to emission standards, and experts believe that a similar trend will occur with the Advanced Clean Cars Rule. Such a movement will put unprecedented pressure on car makers to generate ZEVs, which will generate a huge and long-awaited shift in the automotive industry.

Non-California residents may be thinking of ways to support this legislation and push for its approval in their own states. Getting in touch with local Congress members, petitioning and being aware of candidates in support of legislation to reduce emissions are some of the best ways to get involved. Once legislation is passed in other states, aiming to buy a ZEV is the best way to reduce emissions while upholding the guidelines outlined in the legislation.



No matter where you live in the U.S., if you don't already drive an EV, you probably will sometime soon thanks to California's push to ban gas-powered cars by 2035.

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South Dakota COVID-19 Report

New Cases*

631
+7

Total Cases*

263,468

Currently Hospitalized

63
+1

New Hospitalizations

38

Total Hospitalized

11,872

[Click to Visit](#)

SD COVID-19 Vaccination
Coverage

New Deaths

3

Total Deaths

3,049

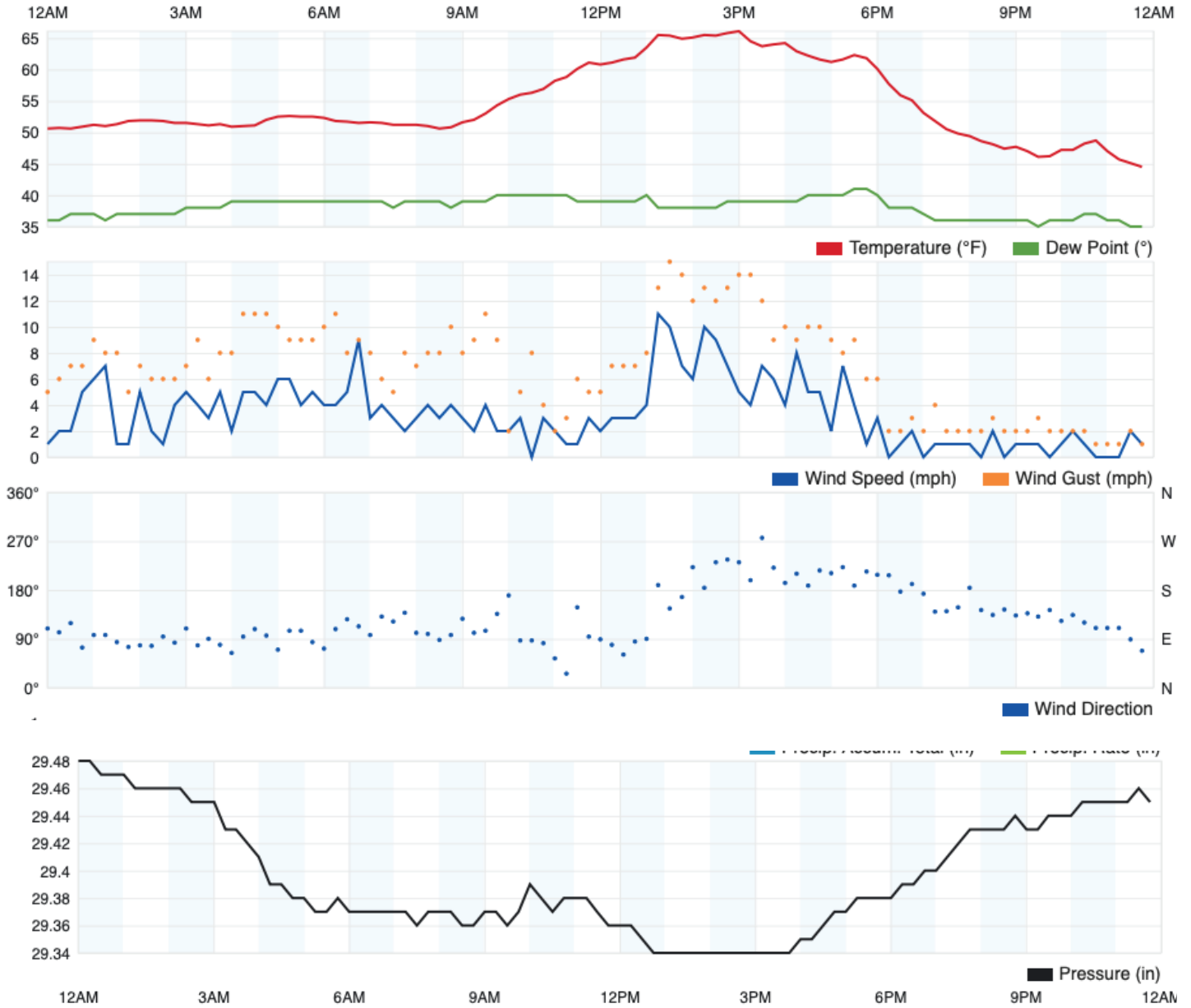
[Click to Visit](#)

COVID-19 Community
Levels

Groton Daily Independent






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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



Broton Daily Independent

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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
				
Sunny then Partly Sunny and Breezy	Chance Showers and Breezy	Chance Rain and Breezy	Decreasing Clouds	Sunny
High: 77 °F	Low: 41 °F	High: 46 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 55 °F



Another Warm and Dry Day

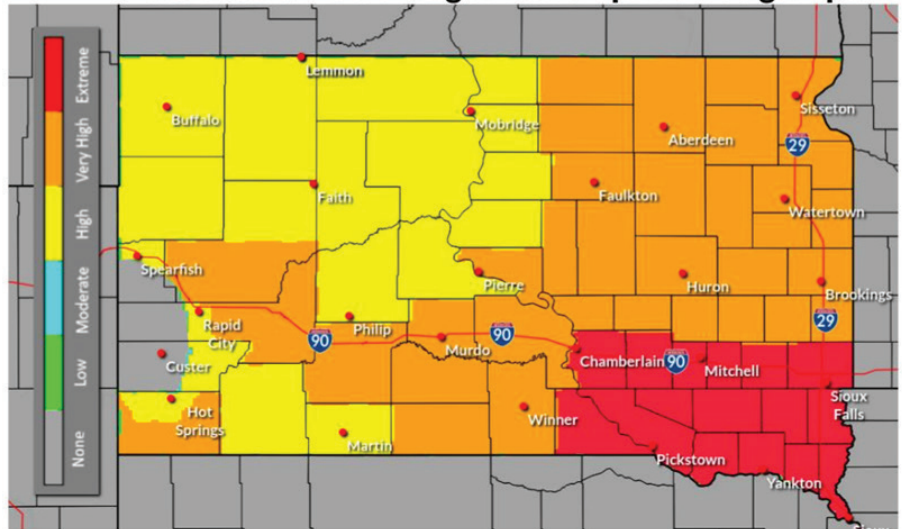
October 23, 2022
5:19 AM

Fire danger will be a concern today due to the combination of warm temperatures, increasing southeasterly winds, and low relative humidity.

Exercise care with respect to outdoor activities that could cause grass or crop fires.



Grassland Fire Danger Valid 1pm through 7pm



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

The combination of warm temperatures, dry conditions, and southeasterly wind gusts of 25 to 35 mph will cause elevated fire weather concerns today. Exercise care with respect to outdoor activities that could cause grass or crop fires.

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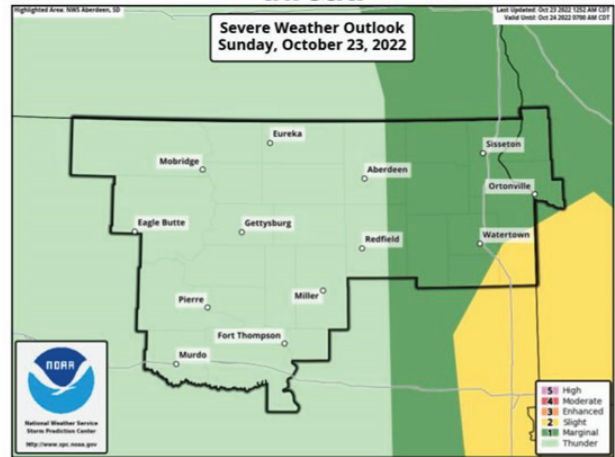
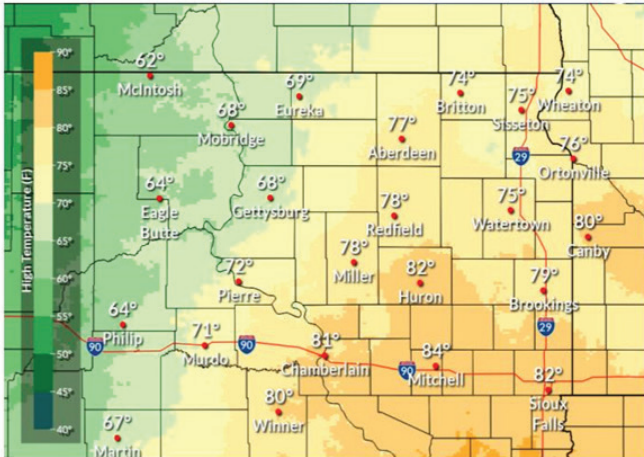
Warm Temperatures Today

October 23, 2022
5:38 AM

Isolated Severe Thunderstorms Possible this Evening

High temperatures will warm into the 60s and 70s. These temps are 10 to 25° above average for this time of year.

Marginal risk for severe storms late this afternoon and evening. Damaging winds will be the main threat.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

A strong area of low pressure will bring much above average temperatures with highs in the 60s and 70s. Southeasterly winds with 25 to 35 mph gusts and low relative humidity will cause elevated fire weather concerns this afternoon. Isolated severe thunderstorms will be possible later this evening, mainly in eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota.

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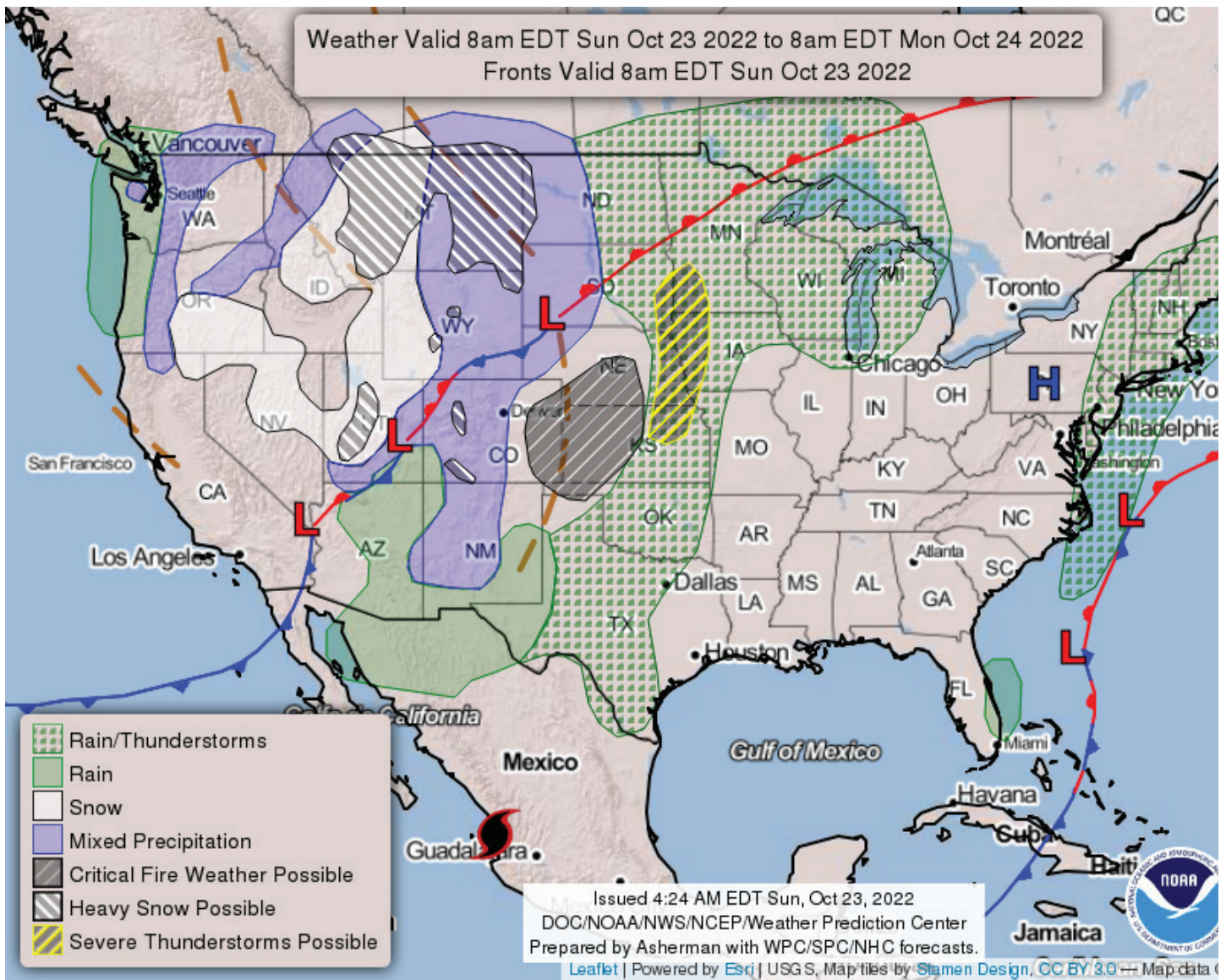
Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 66.1 °F at 3:00 PM
Low Temp: 44.5 °F at 11:45 PM
Wind: 15 mph at 1:30 PM
Precip: : 0.00

Day length: 10 hours, 36 minutes

Today's Info

Record High: 80 in 1963
Record Low: 5 in 1895
Average High: 55°F
Average Low: 30°F
Average Precip in Oct.: 1.71
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.45
Average Precip to date: 20.04
Precip Year to Date: 16.50
Sunset Tonight: 6::35:07 PM
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:59:36 AM



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Today in Weather History

October 23, 1995: A major fall storm hit Central and Northeast South Dakota and dropped from four inches to one foot of wet snow. The heavy wet snow combined with high winds gusting up to 50 mph snapped several thousand power poles and downed hundreds of miles of line in the counties of Buffalo, Hand, Spink, Roberts and Grant. In Day and Lyman Counties, a few poles were downed with some short lived power outages. Marshall County had no reports of damage or power outages. Several thousand people were left without power for several hours up to several days. Power was not restored to some people until the fourth of November. Portions of Interstate 90 and Interstate 29 were closed from the evening of the 23rd until the morning of the 24th leaving hundreds of motorists stranded. There were also numerous school delays and closings. Many trees and some crops were also damaged as a result of the weight of the snow and high winds. Some snowfall amounts included, 4 inches near Reliance, at Doland, and near Victor, 5 inches southeast of Stephan and at Sisseton, 6 inches south of Ree Heights and at Eden, eight inches at Waubay and Grenville, 9 inches at Clear Lake, 10 inches at Watertown, and 12 inches at Summit and Milbank. This storm was the third damaging storm to the rural electric cooperatives this year and has been called the worst natural disaster in the history of the rural electrics. The total damage estimated for the rural state electrics was \$9.5 million.

1091: The earliest known tornado in Britain, possibly the most severe on record, hit central London. The church at St. Mary le Bow was severely damaged. Four rafters, each 26 feet long were driven into the ground with such force that only four feet protruded above the surface. Other churches in the area were also demolished along with over 600 houses.

1878: One of the most severe hurricanes to affect eastern Virginia in the latter half of the 19th century struck on October 23, 1878. This storm moved rapidly northward from the Bahamas on October 22nd and hit the North Carolina coast late that same day moving at a forward speed of 40 to 50 mph. The storm continued northward passing through east central Virginia, Maryland and eastern Pennsylvania. The barometric pressure fell to 28.78". The five minute sustained wind reached 84 mph at Cape Henry. During the heaviest part of the gale, the wind at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina registered 100 mph. The instrument itself has finally blown away and therefore no further record was made.

1920: Famed research meteorologist Theodore Fujita, was born on this date in Kitakyushu City, Japan. Fujita, known as "Mr. Tornado" after developing the international standard for measuring tornado severity, also discovered microbursts.

1947: Fish fell from the sky in Marksville, LA. Thousands of fish fell from the sky in an area 1,000 feet long by 80 feet wide possibly due to a waterspout.

2015: On this day, Hurricane Patricia became the most powerful tropical cyclone ever measured in the Western Hemisphere as its maximum sustained winds reached an unprecedented 200 mph (320 kph) and its central pressure fell to 879 millibars (25.96 inches of mercury). Hurricane Patricia became the strongest Pacific hurricane on record shortly after midnight CDT early on Oct. 23. Air Force Hurricane Hunters had flown through the eye of Patricia and reported a sea-level pressure of 894 millibars as measured by a dropsonde inside the eye itself. Wind measurements suggested that the pressure measurement was not in the exact center of the eye and was probably not the absolute lowest pressure, prompting NHC to estimate the minimum central pressure at 892 millibars in its special 12:30 a.m. CDT advisory. Tropical cyclone strength comparisons are typically based on minimum central pressure. At 892 millibars, Patricia shattered the Eastern Pacific basin's previous record of 902 millibars set by Hurricane Linda in 1997. While a number of typhoons in the western North Pacific have been stronger, Patricia is now by far the strongest hurricane on record in any basin where the term "hurricane" applies to tropical cyclones – namely, the central and eastern North Pacific basins and the North Atlantic basin, which includes the North Atlantic Ocean itself plus the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.

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Daily Devotionals

Seeds of Hope

THE REWARDS OF ARROGANCE

“Warning: Construction work next 10 miles.”

Most of us have seen road signs that warn us of impending dangers. Wise motorists follow their warning if they want to be safe. Careless ones normally take risks to prove they make their own rules and create their own destiny. The attitude that “Rules were made to be broken” suggests that they can get away with the limits and boundaries of life.

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall” is a warning that is well worth admitting. There is little doubt that one of the most fundamental foes Christians face is pride. In fact, Solomon stated in verse five that “The Lord detests all the proud of heart!” Pride, once it invades our hearts, is often the beginning step in walking away from God. Pride will destroy us because it cancels the first rule of wisdom: “The fear of the Lord.” Pride and an attitude of humility and our complete dependence on God, cannot exist in the same heart.

It is well worth noting that the word “destruction” carries with it a picture of the shattering of a bone. When our hearts become filled with pride and we no longer see the need for God to be at the center of our lives, all of our dreams and visions will be shattered and destroyed.

A good way to understand the word “haughty” is to think of the “woozy” feelings that come with being “dizzy.” Life becomes blurred, steps uncertain and unsteady, and will eventually lead to a fall. Warning: pride is lurking in the depths of your heart! “Forewarned is forearmed.”

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to understand the subtle power of pride. May we become dependent on You to guide us, guard us, and give us an attitude of humility. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Proverbs 16:18



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
11/13/2022: Snow Queen Contest
11/19/2022: 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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The Groton Independent Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition

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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

06-07-14-15-20

(six, seven, fourteen, fifteen, twenty)

Estimated jackpot: \$116,000

Lotto America

05-19-44-49-52, Star Ball: 2, ASB: 2

(five, nineteen, forty-four, forty-nine, fifty-two; Star Ball: two; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$28,900,000

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: 45,000,000

Powerball

19-25-48-55-60, Powerball: 18, Power Play: 2

(nineteen, twenty-five, forty-eight, fifty-five, sixty; Powerball: eighteen; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$610,000,000

South Dakota erases 2-touchdown deficit, beats So. Illinois

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Shomari Lawrence and Travis Theis both ran for 100 yards and South Dakota defeated Southern Illinois 27-24 on Saturday after trailing by two touchdowns in the second quarter.

Eddie Ogamba's 44-yard field goal with 2:31 remaining in the fourth quarter gave the Coyotes their first lead of the game and the Salukis went a quick four-and-out on their only remaining possession.

South Dakota had two second half touchdowns, one a Wesley Eliodor 15-yard pass from Aidan Bouman, the other a 29-yard run by Lawrence to tie the score.

Southern Illinois built a 21-7 second-quarter lead on a short touchdown run by Javon Williams and two touchdown passes from Nic Baker.

Lawrence had 122 yards on 11 carries and Theis added 108 yards on 21 carries for South Dakota (2-5, 1-3 Missouri Valley).

Southern Illinois (5-3, 4-1) got 100 yards on the ground from Romeir Elliott but Baker averaged only 4.4 yards per pass attempt, completing 28 of 43 for 190 yards.

South Dakota State scores 35 unanswered for 7th straight win

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Mark Gronowski threw three touchdown passes and he ran for two scores, and South Dakota State dominated the second half in beating North Dakota 49-35 on Saturday for its seventh straight victory.

South Dakota State (7-1, 5-0 Missouri Valley Conference) trailed 21-7 late in the second quarter and 21-14 at halftime. Gronowski led three third-quarter touchdown drives, connecting with Jaxon Janke from 10-yards out and Zach Heins from the 2. He also had a 1-yard scramble.

Gronowski's 10-yard scoring run in the fourth made it 35 unanswered points for a 42-21 lead. He finished 15 of 20 for 197 yards and he carried it six times for 20 yards.

South Dakota State intercepted Tommy Schuster two times. Schuster was 27 of 39 for 291 yards and a touchdown for North Dakota (4-3, 3-2).

North Dakota blocked a SDSU punt and returned it 11 yards for a touchdown with 1:10 to play, but UND recovered the onside kick.

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Saturday's Scores

The Associated Press

PREP VOLLEYBALL=

East/West Tournament=

Brandon Valley def. Rapid City Central, 25-19, 25-16

Brandon Valley def. Spearfish, 25-23, 25-13

Brookings def. Rapid City Central, 25-20, 25-14

Brookings def. Spearfish, 25-10, 25-19

Harrisburg def. Douglas, 25-17, 25-11

Harrisburg def. Rapid City Stevens, 25-6, 25-20

Harrisburg def. Sturgis Brown, 25-20, 25-14

Pierre def. Aberdeen Central, 25-12, 25-19, 25-22

Rapid City Stevens def. Yankton, 25-14, 25-14

Watertown def. Rapid City Central, 25-19, 25-9

Watertown def. Spearfish, 25-19, 25-16

Yankton def. Douglas, 25-21, 25-20

Yankton def. Sturgis Brown, 25-11, 20-25, 25-23

Pilfold Round Robin=

Bellevue Christian, Colo. def. Hill City, 25-20, 17-25, 25-22

Hill City def. Alliance, Neb., 21-25, 25-22, 25-21

Hill City def. Chadron, Neb., 25-9, 12-25, 25-18

SESD Tournament=

Bon Homme def. Winner, 25-14, 25-19

Burke def. Chamberlain, 25-19, 25-18

Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Gregory, 25-17, 25-12

Parkston def. Chamberlain, 25-19, 25-20

Platte-Geddes def. Gregory, 25-17, 25-10

Platte-Geddes def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-10, 22-25, 25-23

Wagner def. Bon Homme, 25-11, 25-10

Wagner def. Winner, 25-15, 25-15

Winner def. Chamberlain, 25-22, 25-15

Championship Pool=

Burke def. Platte-Geddes, 25-23, 26-24

Wagner def. Burke, 25-8, 17-25, 25-22

Wagner def. Platte-Geddes, 25-19, 25-21

Fourth Place Pool=

Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Bon Homme, 25-19, 18-25, 25-11

Parkston def. Bon Homme, 25-14, 25-17

Parkston def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-12, 25-22

Seventh Place Pool=

Gregory def. Chamberlain, 25-18, 25-19

Gregory def. Winner, 25-22, 25-27, 25-22

Winner def. Chamberlain, 25-22, 25-15

Will South Dakota OK pot again after 1st measure reversed?

By STEPHEN GROVES Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — When it comes to marijuana, South Dakota has been a leader among its Great Plains neighbors: one of the first to legalize recreational use, the first to approve both medical and recreational

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forms on the same ballot and the only one to have its recreational measure reversed.

Legalization is back on the ballot in November, but whether the politically red state will become the first to pass it twice remains in doubt.

It's facing strong opposition from conservative groups and figures determined to pull the state back from legalizing pot. And though 54% of voters approved a constitutional amendment to legalize cannabis in 2020, that campaign may have benefited from the medical marijuana measure that appeared on the same ballot.

This time, recreational marijuana stands alone on the ballot. And it likely faces a different demographic of voters — older and perhaps less inclined toward the drug — in a midterm election rather than in a presidential year, said Matt Schweich, who organized that campaign and is doing so again this year.

"I think this is a close race," he said at a news conference to kick off a statewide voter registration tour last week. "We need our people to come out and vote."

Pot legalization advocates have found success primarily through ballot measures rather than legislatures, especially in GOP-held states. Voters in three states where Republicans control the governor's office and both legislative chambers — Arkansas, Missouri and North Dakota — are deciding on recreational marijuana this year, as is politically divided Maryland.

In South Dakota, Schweich's campaign is using the messages that won over voters in 2020: Pot prohibition wastes law enforcement resources and makes it difficult to get for medical purposes. Schweich added a third argument this year: The will of the voters was overturned.

Before the 2020 constitutional amendment could take effect, Republican Gov. Kristi Noem authorized a lawsuit arguing it violated a requirement that it address just one subject because it legalized recreational marijuana, medical marijuana and hemp. A circuit judge and the state Supreme Court agreed.

"We have done so much work to get to this point," Schweich said, recalling the 2020 campaign, ensuing legal battle and efforts to ensure the Legislature implemented a separate medical marijuana ballot measure. "To fail at the final hurdle is just an intolerable thought to me."

But Noem's successful block of recreational marijuana has inspired a more robust opposition campaign this year.

Jim Kinyon, a counselor who directs Catholic Social Services in Rapid City, said he was caught by surprise when voters decided to legalize pot in 2020.

Not this year. He's leading an organization called Protecting South Dakota Kids with the message that legalizing pot for adults would be detrimental to children. The group has run aggressive ads that feature young children's faces overlaid with the words: "Future Drug Addicts."

"This is about my families, my communities and my kids," Kinyon said.

At a campaign event for the group last week at a Sioux Falls go-kart and mini golf amusement park, roughly three dozen middle-aged people met to hear a presentation on the dangers of pot use and strategize about how to convince their friends and neighbors not to vote for legalization a second time.

"I feel like we're a picket fence on a beach and a tsunami is coming," said Ed Moses, a retired Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper who has adapted the anti-pot message he once gave to high school students to an anti-legalization message for voters.

He pointed to Colorado to argue legalization has opened a host of problems.

In the years since Colorado became the first in the nation to legalize recreational pot, it has seen an increase in traffic deaths where drivers tested positive for marijuana, according to The Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program. More people in Colorado are using pot, according to the report, but youths age 12 to 17 have actually reported decreased rates of recent marijuana use.

Schweich said the opposition campaign is running on misinformation. He said he shares the goal of keeping cannabis away from children but added that opponents "want to use a failed policy of prohibition that has not succeeded, even though we've tried it for nearly a century."

He conceded that legalizing pot for adults would not make the underground market for it instantly disappear but argued that over time, a well-regulated industry could replace it.

For now, South Dakota's legal pot industry is just getting started with medical cannabis. Since the Septem-

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ber opening of The Flower Shop Dispensary in Sioux Falls, owner Peter Dikun has seen a steady stream of customers, but not enough to make his business profitable yet.

He is hoping voters legalize recreational pot, giving him a chance to both grow his business and prove his argument that pot can be regulated like alcohol. He said he's still trying to convince some family members of that argument before the November election but they will likely vote against it.

"You're constantly swimming against the current," Dikun said.

Sunak leads in race for UK leader; Johnson yet to declare

By SYLVIA HUI Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Former British Treasury chief Rishi Sunak was frontrunner Sunday in the Conservative Party's race to replace Liz Truss as prime minister, as he garnered the public support of over 100 Tory lawmakers to forge ahead of his two main rivals — ousted former Prime Minister Boris Johnson and ex-Cabinet minister Penny Mordaunt.

But widespread uncertainty remained after British media reported that Sunak had held late-night talks with Johnson Saturday, and speculation mounted that the pair could strike a deal to unite the fractured governing party after it was left reeling from Truss' rapid downfall.

The Conservative Party hastily ordered a contest that aims to finalize nominations Monday and install a new prime minister — its third this year — within a week.

Sunak, 42, confirmed Sunday he was running in the leadership race. He has the backing of at least 124 Conservative lawmakers, according to unofficial tallies by the BBC and Sky News. That's well ahead of the 100 nominations required to qualify.

"There will be integrity, professionalism and accountability at every level of the government I lead and I will work day in and day out to get the job done," Sunak said in a statement.

Mordaunt garnered about 24 lawmakers' public support, while Johnson, who has not yet declared if he is running, has about 50 so far. Business Secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg told the BBC Sunday he spoke to Johnson and that "clearly he's going to stand" after Johnson flew back to London Saturday from his vacation in the Dominican Republic.

A possible return to power for Johnson, 58, who was forced out of office just weeks ago by a string of ethics scandals, has deeply divided the Conservatives and thrown unpredictability into the race. Supporters say he is a vote winner and has enough support from lawmakers, but many critics warn that another Johnson government would be catastrophic for the party and the country.

Northern Ireland minister Steve Baker, a former backer of Johnson and an influential politician within the Conservative Party, warned a Johnson comeback would be a "guaranteed disaster" because he still faces an investigation into whether he lied to Parliament while in office that could lead to his suspension as a lawmaker.

"This isn't the time for Boris and his style," Baker told Sky News on Sunday. "What we can't do is have him as prime minister in circumstances where he's bound to implode, taking down the whole government ... and we just can't do that again."

But Johnson won the backing of several senior Conservatives, including Nadhim Zahawi, another former Treasury chief.

"He was contrite and honest about his mistakes. He'd learned from those mistakes how he could run No 10 and the country better," Zahawi said.

Truss quit Thursday after a turbulent 45 days, conceding that she could not deliver on her botched tax-cutting economic package, which she was forced to abandon after it sparked fury within her party and weeks of turmoil in financial markets.

Sunak, who was Treasury chief from 2020 until this summer, steered Britain's slumping economy through the coronavirus pandemic. He quit in July in protest against Johnson's leadership. In the contest to replace Johnson, Sunak argued that climbing inflation must be controlled first, and called promises by Truss and other rivals to immediately slash taxes reckless "fairytale tales."

Tory voters backed Truss over Sunak, but he was proved right when Truss' unfunded tax-cutting economic

stimulus package triggered chaos in the markets in September.

Dozens among Britain's 357 Conservative lawmakers have not yet publicly declared whom they are backing to replace Truss.

Mordaunt and Johnson — if he confirms he is running — have until Monday afternoon to garner 100 nominations. If all three meet that threshold, lawmakers will vote to knock out one and then hold an indicative vote on the final two. The party's 172,000 members will then get to decide between the two finalists in an online vote. The new leader is due to be selected by Friday.

Military think tank: Russia withdraws officers from Kherson

By ANDREW MELDRUM Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russia's military leadership has withdrawn its officers in the Russian-annexed city of Kherson across the Dnieper River in anticipation of an advance of Ukrainian troops, the Institute for the Study of War think tank said Sunday.

To delay the Ukrainian counteroffensive as the Russians complete their retreat, Moscow has left newly mobilized, inexperienced forces on the other side of the wide river, it added.

The troop movements come as the Ukrainian military said its forces have continued their counteroffensives in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions.

On Saturday, Russian-installed authorities in Ukraine told all Kherson residents to leave immediately ahead of the expected action by Ukrainian troops to take back the city. Kirill Stremousov, deputy head of the Russian-backed regional administration in Kherson, said Sunday that over 20,000 civilians had evacuated to the left bank of the Dnieper River.

He said that while Ukrainian forces were trying to push their offensive on the right bank, Russian defensive lines "have been reinforced and the situation has remained stable."

Kherson has been in Russian hands since the early days of the eight-month-long war in Ukraine. The city is the capital of a region of the same name, one of four that Russian President Vladimir Putin illegally annexed last month and put under Russian martial law on Thursday.

On Friday, Ukrainian forces bombarded Russian positions across the province, targeting pro-Kremlin forces' resupply routes across the river and preparing for a final push to reclaim the city.

The ISW think tank also said Sunday that Russia's latest war strategy of targeting power plants in recent days appears to be aimed at diminishing Ukrainians' will to fight and forcing Ukraine's government to spend additional resources to protect civilians and energy infrastructure. It said the effort was unlikely to damage Ukrainian morale but would have significant economic impact.

The Russian attacks on power supplies forced the emergency suspension of fertilizer production at a major chemical plant, Rivneazot, in northwestern Ukraine. The company said Sunday the suspension is not posing an environmental risk.

The mayor of Enerhodar, home to the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, reported an attack on a hotel used by Russian occupying forces and those who collaborate with them. It's unclear if anyone was hurt.

The Ukrainian military said Sunday that Russian forces are now mostly on the defensive, but are keeping up offensive attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure and on several towns in the eastern Donbas area.

Nine regions across Ukraine, from Odesa in the southwest to Kharkiv in the northeast, saw attacks again targeting energy and other critical infrastructure over the past day, the Ukrainian general staff said. It reported a total of 25 Russian air strikes and more than 100 missile and artillery strikes around Ukraine.

Ukrainian counteroffensive forces in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions, meanwhile, targeted Russian-held facilities, notably in the town of Nova Kakhovka, and carried out 17 air strikes in the overall campaign, according to the Ukrainian general staff.

In a Telegram post Sunday, the Ukrainian military claimed to have destroyed 14 Iranian-made Russian drones over the past day.

Russian S-300 missile strikes overnight hit a residential neighborhood in the city of Mykolaiv, injuring three people, according to the Ukrainian military's southern command. Two apartment buildings, a playground and

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a warehouse were damaged or destroyed, it said in a Facebook post. Images posted on Telegram by local media and officials showed an apartment building with one side sheared off, and piles of rubble amid puddles on the adjacent ground.

Governors of two Russian regions that border northeastern Ukraine said defensive lines are being built, apparently in anticipation of cross-border attacks as Ukrainian troops advance.

Kursk Gov. Roman Starovoit said Sunday that two defensive lines in the region already have been built and a third one will be finished by Nov. 5.

Belgorod Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov said that defensive lines were also built in his region. On Saturday, he posted pictures of lines of pyramid-shaped concrete blocks intended to block the movement of armored vehicles.

Elsewhere, Ukraine's security service said Sunday it has detained the longtime chief of a major aircraft engine factory, accusing him of collaborating with Russia by supplying military equipment for Russian attack aircraft.

Viacheslav Bohuslaiev, president of the Motor Sich plant in Zaporizhzhia, and another top factory official were charged with collaboration and "assisting the aggressor state."

The Ukrainian security service SBU said in a statement that the two are accused of colluding with a Russian arms maker close to the Kremlin to supply Ukrainian-made engines and spare parts to Russian forces. The SBU described a complex scheme using intermediaries in three countries to evade sanctions against Russia.

Motor Sich is one of Ukraine's leading manufacturers and has been a key maker of aircraft engines since Soviet times. Its facilities have been repeatedly targeted by Russian strikes during the war.

Jan. 6 trial highlights missed warnings before Capitol siege

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and LINDSAY WHITEHURST Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a telephone call days after the 2020 election, Oath Keepers leader Stewart Rhodes urged followers to go to Washington and fight to keep President Donald Trump in office.

A concerned member of the extremist group began recording because, as he would later tell jurors in the current seditious conspiracy trial of Rhodes and four associates, it sounded as if they were "going to war against the United States government."

That Oath Keeper contacted the FBI, but his tip was filed away. He was only interviewed after Rhodes' followers stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

The defendants are charged with plotting to stop the transfer of presidential power, and their trial is raising more questions about intelligence failures in the days before the riot that appear to have allowed Rhodes' anti-government group and other extremists to mobilize in plain sight.

"You don't have to have been invited to a secret meeting of the Oath Keepers ... to know that the Oath Keepers presented a threat," said Mike German, a former FBI agent and fellow with the Brennan Center for Justice's Liberty & National Security Program.

It's unclear to what extent authorities were tracking Rhodes and his militia group before Jan. 6. But it has since become apparent that authorities had plenty of intelligence warning that some Trump supporters were planning an assault to stop the certification of Democrat Joe Biden's victory.

Despite that, police left unprepared on the front lines were quickly overwhelmed by the mob that engaged in hand-to-hand combat with officers, smashed windows and poured into the Capitol.

Additional details emerged this month when the House committee investigating the attack disclosed messages showing that the Secret Service was aware of plans for Jan. 6 violence.

Jurors in the Washington trial, which is expected to last several more weeks, have received a trove of evidence from prosecutors. That includes Rhodes' secretly recorded call on Nov. 9, 2020, encrypted messages and surveillance footage from the Virginia hotel where the Oath Keepers stashed weapons for a "quick reaction force" that could quickly run guns into the capital if they were needed.

Much of the evidence, however, has come in the form of statements and writings that Rhodes made publicly in the weeks before Jan. 6. They show how the former U.S. Army paratrooper and Yale Law School graduate was openly broadcasting his desire to overturn the election and threatening possible violence to

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attain that goal.

Days after the election on Nov. 3, 2020, Rhodes announced on conspiracy theorist Alex Jones' "Infowars" show that his group was already mobilizing to stop the transfer of power.

"We have men already stationed outside of D.C. as a nuclear option in case they attempt to remove the president illegally, we will step in and stop it," Rhodes said.

Jurors also watched video of a speech Rhodes gave in December 2020 in Washington, where thousands of Trump supporters came to rally behind the then-president's election lies. Rhodes urged Trump to invoke the Insurrection Act, which gives presidents wide discretion to decide when military force is necessary, to call up a militia and "drop the hammer" on the "traitors."

"He needs to know from you that you are with him, that if he does not do it now while he is commander in chief, we're going to have to do it ourselves later, in a much more desperate, much more bloody war. Let's get it on now while he is still commander in chief," Rhodes told the crowd.

That day, Rhodes attracted the attention of a U.S. Capitol Police special agent who was doing counter-surveillance monitoring and had recently read a news article about the group. Rhodes was wearing a black cowboy hat, an eyepatch and an expired congressional badge from when he was a staffer for then-U.S. Rep. Ron Paul in the late 1990s. The agent took a photo and sent it to colleagues. Rhodes was also wearing a black cowboy as he roamed the exterior of the Capitol building as Oath Keepers entered on Jan. 6.

Two weeks before the Capitol riot, Rhodes published an open letter to Trump on the Oath Keepers' website, suggesting that his followers may need to "take to arms" if Trump doesn't act over what he viewed as a stolen election.

Rhodes and his associates are the first Jan. 6 defendants to stand trial on seditious conspiracy charges. On trial with Rhodes are Thomas Caldwell of Berryville, Virginia; Kenneth Harrelson of Titusville, Florida; Jessica Watkins of Woodstock, Ohio; and Kelly Meggs of Dunnellon, Florida.

Abdullah Rasheed, the Oath Keeper member who recorded Rhodes' call on Nov. 9, 2020, told jurors that that he tried to reach out to the FBI and others to share his concerns about Rhodes' rhetoric. When asked whether anyone called him back, Rasheed responded: "Yeah, after it all happened."

An FBI agent acknowledged on the stand that the bureau first received a tip about the call in November 2020. Pressed by a defense lawyer about why the FBI didn't investigate at the time, another agent said the FBI receives thousands of tips a day. The tip wasn't ignored, but was "filed away for possible future reference," the agent said.

The Nov. 9 call appears to have been to discuss plans for a "Stop the Steal" rally in Washington that would happen days later, not the Jan. 6 insurrection. But Rhodes throughout the meeting repeatedly tells his followers to prepare for violence, instructing them at one point to make sure Trump knows they are "willing to die for this country."

Defense lawyers are not challenging many of the facts in the case, but say prosecutors have twisted the defendants' intent. The lawyers have acknowledged the group had a "quick reaction force" stationed outside of Washington, but say it was a defensive force to be used only in the event of attacks from left-wing antifa activists or if Trump invoked the Insurrection Act.

The defense team has hammered on prosecutors' lack of evidence of any specific plan to attack the Capitol before Jan. 6. Rhodes' lawyers say their client will testify that all his actions were in anticipation of Trump calling up a militia under the Insurrection Act. Trump never did that, but Rhodes' lawyers say what prosecutors have alleged is seditious conspiracy was merely lobbying a president to use a U.S. law.

Prosecutors recently showed jurors a map pointing to where Rhodes made several stops to purchase guns and other gear on his trip from Texas to Washington before the riot. He spent thousands of dollars on weapons, including a AR-rifle, ammunition, sights, mounts and other items, according to records shown to jurors.

Rhodes and the others are not charged with violating gun laws. Authorities have acknowledged there is no evidence that any of the weapons stashed at the Virginia hotel that housed the "quick reaction force" were brought into the District of Columbia.

"So the armed rebellion was unarmed?" defense lawyer James Bright asked an agent.
"The armed rebellion was not over," the agent responded.

China's Xi expands powers, promotes allies

By JOE McDONALD Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — President Xi Jinping, China's most powerful leader in decades, increased his dominance Sunday when he was named to another term as head of the ruling Communist Party in a break with tradition and promoted allies who support his vision of tighter control over society and the struggling economy.

Xi, who took power in 2012, was awarded a third five-year term as general secretary, discarding a custom under which his predecessor left after 10 years. The 69-year-old leader is expected by some to try to stay in power for life.

The party also named a seven-member Standing Committee, its inner circle of power, dominated by Xi allies after Premier Li Keqiang, the No. 2 leader and an advocate of market-style reform and private enterprise, was dropped from the leadership Saturday. That was despite Li being a year younger than the party's informal retirement age of 68.

"Power will be even more concentrated in the hands of Xi Jinping," said Jean-Pierre Cabestan, a Chinese politics expert at Hong Kong Baptist University. The new appointees are "all loyal to Xi," he said. "There is no counterweight or checks and balances in the system at all."

On Saturday, Xi's predecessor, 79-year-old Hu Jintao, abruptly left a meeting of the party Central Committee with an aide holding his arm. That prompted questions about whether Xi was flexing his powers by expelling other leaders. The official Xinhua News Agency later reported Hu was in poor health and needed to rest.

Xi and other Standing Committee members — none of them women — appeared for the first time as a group before reporters in the Great Hall of the People, the seat of China's ceremonial legislature in central Beijing.

The No. 2 leader was Li Qiang, the Shanghai party secretary. That puts Li Qiang, who is no relation to Li Keqiang, in line to become premier, the top economic official. Zhao Leji, already a member, was promoted to No. 3, likely to head the legislature. Those posts are to be assigned when the legislature meets next year.

Leadership changes were announced as the party wrapped up a twice-a-decade congress that was closely watched for initiatives to reverse an economic slump or changes in a severe "zero-COVID" strategy that has shut down cities and disrupted business. Officials disappointed investors and the Chinese public by announcing no changes.

The lineup appeared to reflect what some commentators called "Maximum Xi," valuing loyalty over ability. Some new leaders lack national-level experience as vice premier or Cabinet minister that typically is seen as a requirement for the post.

Li Qiang's promotion served as apparent confirmation, as it puts him in line to be premier with no background in national government. Li Qiang is seen as close to Xi after they worked together in Zhejiang province in the southeast in the early 2000s.

Li Keqiang was sidelined over the past decade by Xi, who put himself in charge of policymaking bodies. Li Keqiang was excluded Saturday from the list of the party's new 205-member Central Committee, from which the Standing Committee is picked.

Another departure from the Standing Committee was Wang Yang, a reform advocate suggested by some as a possible premier. Wang, 67, is below retirement age.

Other new Standing Committee members include Cai Qi, the Beijing party secretary, and Ding Xuexiang, a career party functionary who is regarded as Xi's "alter ego" or chief of staff. Wang Huning, a former law school dean who is chief of ideology, stayed on the committee. The No. 7 member is Li Xi, the party secretary of Guangdong province in the southeast, the center of China's export-oriented manufacturing industry.

The Central Committee has 11 women, or 5% of the total. Its 24-member Politburo, which has had only four female members since the 1990s, has none following the departure of Vice Premier Sun Chunlan.

Party plans call for creating a prosperous society by mid-century and restoring China to its historic role as a political, economic and cultural leader.

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Those ambitions face challenges from security-related curbs on access to Western technology, an aging workforce, and tensions with Washington, Europe and Asian neighbors over trade, security, human rights and territorial disputes.

Xi has called for the "great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation" and a revival of the party's "original mission" as social, economic and culture leader in a throwback to what he sees as a golden age after it took power in 1949.

During the congress, Xi called for faster military development, "self-reliance and strength" in technology and defense of China's interests abroad, which raises the likelihood of further conflict.

The party has tightened control over entrepreneurs who generate jobs and wealth, prompting warnings that rolling back market-oriented reforms will weigh on economic growth that sank to 2.2% in the first half of this year — less than half the official 5.5% target.

"Clearly, it's a return to a much more state-controlled type of economy," said Cabestan. "This means, for private business, they will be on an even shorter leash, with party committees everywhere."

Under a revived 1950s propaganda slogan, "common prosperity," Xi is pressing entrepreneurs to help narrow China's wealth gap by raising wages and paying for rural job creation and other initiatives.

Xi, in a report to the congress last week, called for "regulating the mechanism of wealth accumulation," suggesting entrepreneurs might face still more political pressure, but gave no details.

"I would worry if I were a very wealthy individual in China," said economist Alicia Garcia Herrero of Natixis.

In his report, Xi stressed the importance of national security and control over China's supplies of food, energy and industrial goods. He gave no indication of possible changes in policies that prompted then-President Donald Trump to launch a tariff war with Beijing in 2018 over its technology ambitions.

The party is trying to nurture Chinese creators of renewable energy, electric car, computer chip, aerospace and other technologies. Its trading partners complain Beijing improperly subsidizes and shields its suppliers from competition.

Trump's successor, Joe Biden, has kept punitive tariff hikes on Chinese goods and this month increased restrictions on China's access to U.S. chip technology.

The party has tightened control over private sector leaders, including e-commerce giant Alibaba Group. Under political pressure, they are diverting billions of dollars into chip development and other party initiatives. Their share prices on foreign exchanges have plunged due to uncertainty about their future.

The party will "step up its industrial policy" to close the "wide gap" between what Chinese tech suppliers can make and what is needed by smartphone, computer and other manufacturers, said Garcia Herrero and Gary Ng of Natixis in a report.

Abroad, Chinese efforts to assert leadership will lead to "more tension and difficulty," because "countries are not just going to follow the Chinese model," said Steve Tsang, director of the University of London's China Institute.

With potential dissenters forced out, "there is nobody in Beijing who can advise Xi Jinping that this is not the way to go," Tsang said.

Xi gave no indication Beijing will change its "zero-COVID" strategy despite public frustration with repeated city closures that has boiled over into protests in Shanghai and other areas.

Xi's priorities of security and self-sufficiency will "drag on China's productivity growth," said Julian Evans-Pritchard, Sheana Yue and Mark Williams of Capital Economics in a report. "His determination to stay in power makes a course correction unlikely."

The central bank governor, Yi Gang, and bank regulator, Guo Shuqing, also were missing from Saturday's Central Committee list, indicating they will retire next year, as expected.

Xi suspended retirement rules to keep Gen. Zhang Youxia, 72, on the Central Committee. That allows Zhang, a veteran of China's 1979 war with Vietnam, to stay as Xi's deputy chairman on the commission that controls the party's military wing, the People's Liberation Army.

The party elite agreed in the 1990s to limit the general secretary to two five-year terms in hopes of avoiding a repeat of power struggles in previous decades. That leader also becomes chairman of the military com-

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mission and takes the ceremonial title of president.

Xi has led an anti-corruption crackdown that snared thousands of officials, including a retired Standing Committee member and deputy Cabinet ministers. That broke up party factions and weakened potential challengers.

Xi is on track to become the first leader in a generation to pick his own successor but has yet to indicate possible candidates. Hu Jintao and his predecessor, Jiang Zemin, both were picked in the 1980s by then-supreme leader Deng Xiaoping.

Ahead of the congress, banners criticizing Xi and "zero COVID" were hung above a major Beijing thoroughfare in a rare protest. Photos of the event were deleted from social media. The popular WeChat messaging app shut down accounts that forwarded them.

Xi's government also faces criticism over mass detentions and other abuses against mostly Muslim ethnic groups and the jailing of government critics.

Analysis: Year post-coup, cracks in Sudan's military junta

By JACK JEFFREY Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — On his return home from the U.N. General Assembly this year, Sudan's top general descended an airplane stairway in the country's capital to a flurry of cameras.

Waiting to greet Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan with a smile and handshake was his deputy and paramilitary leader Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo. It was a choreographed moment between Sudan's most powerful men, a show of unity amid rumors of discord.

A year after the two generals launched a military coup that upended the country's short-lived transition to democracy, their struggle for individual gain threatens to further destabilize the country.

"While the fear of a civilian government brought Burhan and Hemedti together, there remain many divisions between them," said Amjad Farid, a Sudan analyst and former aid to the country's prime minister deposed in the coup, Abdullah Hamdok. He used Dagalo's nickname, by which he is widely known.

The coup, and disharmony between its leaders, has meant the future of Sudan's governance looks increasingly unsure. It has left a power vacuum that allowed the paramilitary force led by Dagalo, known as the Rapid Support Forces, to assume a growing role.

As the respective leaders of Sudan's official army and largest paramilitary force, Burhan and Dagalo were meant to have overseen the democratic transition after former President Omar al-Bashir was toppled following three decades in power in a 2019 popular uprising.

But on Oct. 25 last year, weeks before Burhan was supposed to step aside as head of the transitional council, he led a military coup, unseating the civilian half of Sudan's ruling Sovereignty Council. Dagalo backed him, his forces helping to detain dozens of civilian officials and politicians.

In the aftermath, near-weekly pro-democracy marches were ruthlessly suppressed. There has also been a resurgence of deadly tribal clashes in the country's neglected peripheries in which hundreds of people were killed in recent months. The coup has plunged Sudan's already inflation-riddled economy into deeper peril. International aid has dried up and bread and fuel shortages, caused in part by the war in Ukraine, have become routine.

Meanwhile, popular support for the military, the face of the coup, has dwindled. And in the absence of other options, the RSF, best known for its scorched-earth campaigns in the Darfur conflict, is seeking to portray itself as an alternative peacekeeper with deep pockets.

"Most Sudanese now believe that the military lacks the credibility or solutions to bring security and prosperity to Sudan," said Suliman Baldo, senior Sudan analyst and researcher with the Enough Project, a group that focuses on promoting good governance in African countries.

Dagalo is trying to rectify the public image of his forces. Across social media, the group now presents itself as a mediator of tribal disputes and a participant in development projects, though many Sudanese continue to fear the group for its violent tactics. Its forces have been implicated in the killing of more than 100 protesters when they cleared a sit-in in June 2019 in the capital. An investigation into the deaths has since failed to

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reach any conclusions.

Two Sudanese rights workers who track the paramilitary said the size of the RSF has doubled over the past three years to at least 100,000 fighters and that it has purchased high-tech weapons. The group does not publish official personnel figures. With these increased capabilities, the rights researchers say the paramilitary force has been able to cement its control over Sudan's porous western and northern borders, allowing it to profit from the smuggling of weapons, drugs and migrants as the military's reach contracted.

Both rights researchers spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal. The researchers have followed the paramilitary for years and have obtained first-hand accounts from inside its ranks. Their estimates for the force's size match other analysts' approximations.

A spokesman for the RSF did not reply to a request for comment on the body's role in the transitional period and plans for the future.

There are also questions over the paramilitary group's sources of financing, in addition to the state funds it receives. The Center for Advanced Defense Studies, a think tank, said in a June report that the group has amassed wealth through gradual acquisition of Sudanese financial institutions and gold reserves, some under the names of Dagalo's relatives. RSF forces deployed to Yemen to fight on behalf of the Saudi-led coalition at war with the Houthi rebels, a move the force is likely to have been compensated for by at least one of the coalition's members, the United Arab Emirates.

Burhan and Dagalo are both stepping out on the international stage. They have separately conducted a series of independent diplomatic meetings, in Cairo, at the Kremlin and in Abu Dhabi, but maintain they have no interest in running in future elections.

Under immense international pressure, recent talks between the military and pro-democracy forces have made some progress. But that could be overturned at any minute, as Burhan and Dagalo maintain vague yet dominant roles.

Their separate pledges to facilitate democracy have lacked detail and often conflicted on key issues. Among the uncertainties is what powers these military leaders would retain under civilian rule, and whether the RSF will merge with Burhan's military, a key condition of a 2020 peace agreement meant to end decades of fighting in Darfur.

The beginning of the power struggle lies in al-Bashir's legacy. Both generals were heavily involved in his Darfur military campaigns that killed some 300,000 people during the 2000s, rights groups estimate. Unlike al-Bashir, the International Criminal Court has not indicted Burhan or Dagalo for committing war crimes in that conflict.

Burhan, a seasoned military veteran of the Sudanese Armed Forces, trained as an officer in Egypt. Dagalo, a former Darfuri camel trader, led the notorious janjaweed militias, spearheading devastating offensives against Darfur's African rebel groups in 2003. The janjaweed stand accused of mass rape and killing of civilians by the U.N. and rights groups. In an effort to contain and better utilize the fighting force, al-Bashir eventually recruited the janjaweed into the Rapid Support Forces in 2013, legitimizing them and instating Dagalo as an independent commander.

"The root cause of the current conflict between Hemedti and Burhan is the independence of RSF," said Farid, the former aid to Sudan's prime minister.

In recent months, in an effort to check the RSF's influence, Burhan has worked to reinstate his supporters, often Islamists who held positions under al-Bashir, in government. That's according to Baldo, the analyst, and Maher al Gokh, a former employee of Sudan's State Television who was detained in the coup but later released.

For now, a direct clash might be out of the question, because neither general can muster enough resources to rule alone.

"The survival of both groups depends on Hemedti and Burhan sticking it out together," said Baldo.

Cameron Hudson, former chief of staff to the U.S. special envoy to Sudan and an associate with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the two generals are engaged in "a big zero-sum game."

Hurricane Roslyn forecast to bring dangerous surge to Mexico

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MEXICO CITY (AP) — Hurricane Roslyn was expected to deliver a treacherous storm surge to parts of Mexico Sunday after plowing over the Pacific as a powerful Category 4 storm just offshore from the resort of Puerto Vallarta.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said early Sunday that Roslyn had become “extremely dangerous” with maximum sustained winds of 130 mph (215 kph).

The storm was forecast “to bring damaging winds, a life-threatening storm surge and flooding rains to portions of west-central Mexico today,” the hurricane center said at 12 a.m. Sunday.

The center placed Roslyn’s core about 45 miles (75 kilometers) west of Cabo Corrientes — the point of land jutting into the Pacific south of Puerto Vallarta — and moving north at 12 mph (19 kph).

Forecasters said Roslyn likely would pass close to Cabo Corrientes and the Puerto Vallarta region during the night, but warned that those areas would still see high winds, heavy rains and rough surf.

A hurricane warning was in effect for Las Islas Marias and Playa Perula to Escuinapa. A hurricane watch was in effect for the area north of north of Escuinapa to Mazatlan, the center said.

The storm was expected to come ashore in Nayarit state Sunday morning. Hurricane Orlene made landfall Oct. 3 a little farther north in roughly the same region, about 45 miles (75 kilometers) southeast of the resort of Mazatlan.

Hurricane-force winds extended out 30 miles (45 kilometers) from Roslyn’s center, while tropical storm-force winds extended out to 80 miles (130 kilometers), the U.S. hurricane center said.

A hurricane warning was posted on a stretch of coast from Playa Perula south of Cabo Corrientes north to El Roblito and for the Islas Marias.

Seemingly oblivious to the approaching storm, tourists ate at beachside eateries Saturday around Puerto Vallarta and smaller resorts farther north on the Nayarit coast where the storm likely was headed.

“We’re fine. Everything is calm, it’s all normal,” said Jaime Cantón, a receptionist at the Casa Maria hotel in Puerto Vallarta. He said that if winds picked up, the hotel would gather up outside furniture “so nothing will go flying.”

While skies began to cloud up, waves remained normal, and few people appeared to be rushing to take precautions. Swimmers were still in the sea at Puerto Vallarta

“The place is full of tourists,” said Patricia Morales, a receptionist at the Punta Guayabitas hotel in the laid-back beach town of the same name, farther up the coast.

Asked what precautions were being taken, Morales said, “They (authorities) haven’t told us anything.”

The Nayarit state government said the hurricane was expected to make landfall around the fishing village of San Blas, about 90 miles (150 kilometers) north of Puerto Vallarta.

The head of the state civil defense office, Pedro Núñez, said, “Right now we are carrying out patrols through the towns, to alert people so that they can keep their possession safe and keep themselves safe in safer areas.”

In the neighboring state of Jalisco, Gov. Enrique Alfaro wrote that 270 people had been evacuated in a town near the hurricane’s expected path and that five emergency shelters had been set up in Puerto Vallarta.

The National Water Commission said rains from Roslyn could cause mudslides and flooding. and the U.S. hurricane center warned of dangerous storm surge along the coast, as well as 4 to 6 inches (10 to 15 centimeters) of rain.

Fears over Russian threat to Norway’s energy infrastructure

By MARK LEWIS Associated Press

STAVANGER, Norway (AP) — Norwegian oil and gas workers normally don’t see anything more threatening than North Sea waves crashing against the steel legs of their offshore platforms. But lately they have noticed a more troubling sight: unidentified drones buzzing in the skies overhead.

With Norway replacing Russia as Europe’s main source of natural gas, military experts suspect the unmanned aircraft are Moscow’s doings. They list espionage, sabotage and intimidation as possible motives for the drone flights.

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The Norwegian government has sent warships, coastguard vessels and fighter jets to patrol around the offshore facilities. Norway's national guard stationed soldiers around onshore refineries that also were buzzed by drones.

Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre has invited the navies of NATO allies Britain, France and Germany to help address what could be more than a Norwegian problem.

Precious little of the offshore oil that provides vast income for Norway is used by the country's 5.4 million inhabitants. Instead, it powers much of Europe. Natural gas is another commodity of continental significance.

"The value of Norwegian gas to Europe has never been higher," Ståle Ulriksen, a researcher at the Royal Norwegian Naval Academy, said. "As a strategic target for sabotage, Norwegian gas pipelines are probably the highest value target in Europe."

Closures of airports, and evacuations of an oil refinery and a gas terminal last week due to drone sightings caused huge disruptions. But with winter approaching in Europe, there is worry the drones may portend a bigger threat to the 9,000 kilometers (5,600 miles) of gas pipelines that spider from Norway's sea platforms to terminals in Britain and mainland Europe.

Since the start of the war in Ukraine in late February, European Union countries have scrambled to replace their Russian gas imports with shipments from Norway. The suspected sabotage of the Nordstream I and II pipelines in the Baltic Sea last month happened a day before Norway opened a new Baltic pipeline to Poland.

Amund Revheim, who heads the North Sea and environment group for Norway's South West Police force, said his team interviewed more than 70 offshore workers who have spotted drones near their facilities.

"The working thesis is that they are controlled from vessels or submarines nearby," Revheim said.

Winged drones have a longer range, but investigators considered credible a sighting of a helicopter-style bladed model near the Sleipner platform, located in a North Sea gas field 250 kilometers (150 miles) from the coast.

Norwegian police have worked closely with military investigators who are analyzing marine traffic. Some platform operators have reported seeing Russian-flagged research vessels in close vicinity. Revheim said no pattern has been established from legal marine traffic and he is concerned about causing unnecessary, disruptive worry for workers.

But Ulriksen, of the naval academy, said the distinction between Russian civilian and military ships is narrow and the reported research vessels could fairly be described as "spy ships."

The arrest of at least seven Russian nationals caught either carrying or illegally flying drones over Norwegian territory has raised tensions. On Wednesday, the same day a drone sighting grounded planes in Bergen, Norway's second-biggest city, the Norwegian Police Security Service took over the case from local officers.

"We have taken over the investigation because it is our job to investigate espionage and enforce sanction rules against Russia," Martin Bernsen, an official with the service known by the Norwegian acronym PST. He said the "sabotage or possible mapping" of energy infrastructure was an ongoing concern.

Støre, the prime minister, warned that Norway would take action against foreign intelligence agencies. "It is not acceptable for foreign intelligence to fly drones over Norwegian airports. Russians are not allowed to fly drones in Norway," he said.

Russia's Embassy in Oslo hit back Thursday, claiming that Norway was experiencing a form of "psychosis" causing "paranoia."

Naval academy researcher thinks that is probably part of the plan.

"Several of the drones have been flown with their lights on," he said. "They are supposed to be observed. I think it is an attempt to intimidate Norway and the West."

The wider concern is that they are part of a hybrid strategy to both intimidate and gather information on vital infrastructure, which could later be targeted for sabotage in a potential strike against the West.

"I do not believe we are heading for a conventional war with Russia," Ulriksen said. "But a hybrid war ... I think we are already in it."

Ukrainian woman's quest to retrieve body of prisoner of war

By HANNA ARHIROVA and SUSIE BLANN Associated Press

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CHUBYNSKE, Ukraine (AP) — In the last, brief conversations Viktoria Skliar had with her detained boyfriend, the Ukrainian prisoner of war was making tentative plans for life after his release in an upcoming exchange with Russia.

The next time Skliar saw Oleksii Kisilishin, he was dead — one of several bodies in a photo of people local authorities said were killed when blasts ripped through a prison in a part of Ukraine's Donetsk region controlled by Moscow-backed separatists.

For months, Skliar had held out hope she would reunite with her partner, who had been one of the defenders of the Azovstal steel plant, the last redoubt of Ukrainian fighters in the besieged city of Mariupol.

Now, she has retrained her focus on getting his body back. Against enormous odds, Ukraine has now received the remains of dozens of prisoners who were held at the prison in Olenivka. But with experts still needing months to identify all the bodies — and no guarantee Kisilishin is among them — Skliar's quest is far from over.

That she even knows her boyfriend is dead is remarkable. She recognized his tattoos in a photo shared on social media following the July 29 blasts. It showed him laid out, semi-naked, on the ground in a line with eight other bodies.

"When I saw the photo, my eyes did not go beyond Oleksii's body," Skliar told The Associated Press. "I didn't have time to cry. I cried all my tears when they were in Azovstal. My first thought was to get the body back somehow."

Skliar said she contacted representatives with the International Committee of the Red Cross, told them about the photo and gave them his name in the hopes that they'd be able to arrange for him to be brought home. The humanitarian organization couldn't tell her much — the group had to wait for official lists of prisoners and agreements from politicians before it could help repatriate any bodies.

While she waited for word, Skliar feared her loved one would end up in a mass grave.

Kisilishin, who died at 26, was called back to the Azov Regiment, part of the Ukrainian National Guard, where he'd served until 2016, two weeks before Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February. The animal caregiver and activist had chosen to return to defend his hometown of Mariupol, rather than stay in Kyiv, where he'd met Skliar at an equestrian club a year before.

When Kisilishin was holed up at the Azovstal steel mill during a three-month siege of the city, they spoke every day until Russian forces encircled the plant.

In May, he was captured when the last Azovstal defenders were told by Ukraine's military to turn themselves over to Russian forces.

From captivity, Skliar continued to have phone calls from him, though they never lasted longer than a minute. Her boyfriend said little about himself, responding only "it's OK" or "bearable" when she asked him how he was.

Then, Skliar said she received a call from Kisilishin — and his voice was cheerful. "He said that they will be taken somewhere. He hoped for an exchange," she said.

She believes he was taken to Olenivka that day or soon after. Later, she said she heard from the Red Cross that he would be part of an upcoming prisoner exchange. But three weeks after that, he was dead.

Authorities at the prison and Russian officials have said 53 Ukrainian POWs died in the blasts and another 75 were wounded. On a list of the victims released by Moscow and published in Russian media, Kisilishin was number 43.

What exactly happened in Olenivka remains unknown.

Russia claims Ukraine's military hit the prison with rockets. The Ukrainian military denied launching any strikes and accused Russia of mining it. Kyiv alleges that the Kremlin's forces tortured prisoners held in Olenivka — and that the blasts were meant to cover up any evidence of those crimes.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights raised concerns recently about reports that prisoners in Olenivka and elsewhere were subjected to beatings, electrocution and other abuse.

The Russian Defense Ministry did not respond to a request for comment on Ukrainian allegations of what happened in Olenivka.

Russia and Ukraine agreed in August to a U.N. fact-finding mission, but U.N. deputy spokesman Farhan Haq said just over a week ago that the "appropriate security guarantees" were not in place for the work to start.

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When other Ukrainian POWs returned in September, the photos showed emaciated but smiling faces. Skliar believes Kislilishin was supposed to be among them.

Instead, he probably returned to Ukraine in a bag labeled "Olenivka" — with 62 other bodies that were exchanged on Oct. 11. Relatives of soldiers have given DNA samples, and experts are now working to identify the remains, said the representative of the Patronage Service of the Azov Regiment, Natalia Bahrii.

It's not clear why there were more than 60 bodies in the exchange, even though authorities put the death toll from the blasts at just over 50.

Kislilishin's father, Oleksandr — who himself was captured as a POW and released — has given a sample. To honor his son, the father, working with the NGO UAnimals, plans to arrange grants for animal shelters — continuing the work that Kislilishin devoted his life to.

The older Kislilishin and Skliar don't talk much about their loved one. "We can't have him back anyway," Skliar recounted the father once said to her.

Still, Skliar hopes she will one day be able to bury him.

"He fought for the free people of a free country; he defended his city, Mariupol," Viktoria said. "He is a warrior. And he has the right to be buried in the land he defended."

Alaska asylum seekers are Indigenous Siberians from Russia

By MARK THIESSEN Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Two Russian Indigenous Siberians were so scared of having to fight the war in Ukraine, they chanced everything to take a small boat across the treacherous Bering Sea to reach American soil, Alaska's senior U.S. senator said after talking with the two.

The two, identified as males by a resident, landed earlier this month near Gambell, on Alaska's St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Strait, where they asked for asylum.

"They feared for their lives because of Russia, who is targeting minority populations, for conscription into service in Ukraine," Republican U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski said Saturday during a candidate forum at the Alaska Federation of Natives conference in Anchorage.

"It is very clear to me that these individuals were in fear, so much in fear of their own government that they risked their lives and took a 15-foot skiff across those open waters," Murkowski said when answering a question about Arctic policy.

"It is clear that (Russian President Vladimir) Putin is focused on a military conquest at the expense of his own people," Murkowski said. "He's got one hand on Ukraine and he's got the other on the Arctic, so we have to be eyes wide open on the Arctic."

Murkowski said she met with the two Siberians recently but didn't provide more details about exactly when or where the meeting took place or where their asylum process stood. She was not available after the forum for follow-up questions.

Murkowski's office on Oct. 6 announced their request for asylum, saying the men reportedly fled one of the coastal communities on Russia's east coast.

A village elder in Gambell, 87-year-old Bruce Boolowon, is believed to be the last living Alaska National Guard member who helped rescue 11 U.S. Navy men who were in a plane that was shot down by Russian MIGs over the Bering Sea in 1955. The plane crash-landed on St. Lawrence Island.

Gambell, an Alaska Native community of about 600 people, is about 36 miles (58 kilometers) from Russia's Chukotka Peninsula in Siberia.

Even though one of the Russians spoke English pretty well, two Russian-born women from Gambell were brought in to translate. Both women married local men and became naturalized U.S. citizens, said Boolowon, who is Siberian Yupik.

Russians landing in Gambell during the Cold War was commonplace, but the visits were not nefarious, Boolowon said. Since St. Lawrence Island is so close to Russia, people routinely traveled back and forth to visit relatives.

But these two men seeking asylum were unknown to the people of Gambell.

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"They were foreigners and didn't have any passports, so they put them in jail," he told The Associated Press last week.

The two men spent the night in the jailhouse, but townspeople in Gambell brought them food, both Alaska Native dishes and items bought at a grocery store.

"They were pretty full; they ate a lot," Boolowon said.

"The next day, a Coast Guard C-130 with some officials came and picked them up," he said, adding that was the last he heard about the Russians.

Since then, officials have been tight-lipped.

"The individuals were transported to Anchorage for inspection, which includes a screening and vetting process, and then subsequently processed in accordance with applicable U.S. immigration laws under the Immigration and Nationality Act," was all a Department of Homeland Security spokesman said in an email this past week when asked for an update on the asylum process and if and where the men were being held.

Margaret Stock, an immigration attorney in Anchorage, said it's very unlikely information about the Russians will ever be released.

"The U.S. government is supposed to keep all of this confidential, so I don't know why they would be telling anybody anything," she told the AP.

Instead, it would be up to the two Russians to publicize their situation, which could put their families in Russia at risk. "I don't know why they would want to do that," Stock said.

Thousands of Russian men fled the country after Putin in September announced a mobilization to call up about 300,000 men with past military experience to bolster forces in Ukraine.

Messages sent last week and again on Saturday to the Russian consular office in San Francisco were not returned.

Phillies hit 4 homers, rally past Padres 10-6, lead NLCS 3-1

By DAN GELSTON AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Bryce Harper stood on second base after a go-ahead double and ran his hands across the script "Phillies" on his jersey as Citizens Bank Park shook in ecstasy over a World Series that suddenly seemed oh-so-close.

Harper punched his fists toward the ground and blurted a cuss-filled exclamation sure to be printed on T-shirts everywhere in Philly:

"This is my (expletive) house!"

With one more win, it will be a home for the World Series.

Rhys Hoskins homered twice, Kyle Schwarber hit a solo shot into shrubbery and Harper doubled to put Philadelphia ahead for good in a wild 10-6 win over the San Diego Padres on Saturday night for a 3-1 lead in the NL Championship Series.

"I believe our team is built for October, I really do," Harper said.

Harper — who signed a 13-year, \$330 million free-agent deal in 2019 — had made Philly both his home and a championship contender with a postseason already among the greatest in franchise history. He's hit in nine straight games, reached base in 10 straight games, is hitting .410 in the postseason and already told his team they weren't losing in the postseason.

"It's just a lot of fun to be able to be part of this group," Harper said. "It's a lot of fun to be able to come to the park every day knowing our fans are going to show out each night."

J.T. Realmuto also homered for the big-hitting Phillies, who are trying to become the first third-place team to reach the Fall Classic.

The Phillies send ace Zack Wheeler to the mound in Game 5 Sunday at Citizens Bank Park to try and clinch their first National League pennant since 2009. They haven't won the World Series since 2008.

"Yeah, you can't write it better," Hoskins said. "I can't imagine what tomorrow is going to be like."

Get the champagne ready, just in case.

No matter the outcome, Game 4 was one to remember for the Phillies and their fans.

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The Phillies trailed 4-0 in the first and then chipped away, slugged away and finally put away the Padres. The clincher came in a four-run fifth inning against reliever Sean Manaea. Trailing 6-4, Schwarber walked to start the rally. Hoskins then ripped his second homer of the game -- no bat spike, but just as dramatic -- for the tying shot. Realmuto walked to set the stage for Harper.

The 2021 NL MVP lined the go-ahead double that rolled to the left-center wall for a 7-6 lead as the Philly crowd absolutely exploded. Harper then told the fans exactly where he lived — and his house is their home, too.

The Phillies fans refused to sit -- and they had no reason to the rest of the game. Nick Castellanos singled in Harper to complete the scoring in the fifth.

Schwarber smashed the ball into the shrubs in dead center in the sixth for his third homer of this series and Realmuto punctuated the scoring with a solo shot in the seventh.

The Phillies 1-5 hitters went 9-for-18 with four homers, three doubles, nine RBIs and 10 runs scored. Whew!

"You get the one big hit, it gets louder, and that's where you can really snowball things," Hoskins said. "We're not new to scoring runs in bunches, but in the playoffs when things are so much tighter and more intense, the crowd is one way to kind of let that snowball happen, and we saw it twice tonight."

The Padres and Phillies had already nearly stuffed nine innings worth of commotion into 48 minutes of a frenzied first.

Phillies manager Rob Thomson picked Bailey Falter to start Game 4 after a 17-day layoff and hoped the lefty could at least go once through the order. He couldn't do much beyond retire the first two batters. Manny Machado rocked a homer to left and answered the chants of "Manny Sucks!" by cupping his right hand to his ear as he rounded the bases.

Falter let the next two runners reach and Brandon Drury lined a two-RBI double off the right field wall for a 3-0 lead. That was it for Falter. Reliever Connor Brogdon allowed an RBI single to Ha-Seong Kim to make it 4-0.

Bad outing for Falter? Absolutely.

The worst for a starting pitcher? Nope.

Mike Clevinger allowed a leadoff single in the bottom of the first and then Hoskins' first homer of the game that cut the lead to 4-2. He walked Realmuto and Harper hit an RBI double to make it 4-3. Harper stood on second and ran his hands along the "Phillies" on his jersey as the crowd and Citizens Bank Park began to shake.

So much for Clevinger, out of the game without recording an out.

By the time No. 5 hitter Castellanos batted, there had been four total pitchers and three total outs. The combined first inning totals saw seven runs, seven hits, two homers, two doubles -- oh, and the fun was just getting started.

Brogdon and Padres reliever Nick Martinez actually steadied the game, as they combined to retire 16 straight over 5 1/3 shutout innings.

"I wouldn't bet against us. I have a lot of confidence in my guys," Martinez said. "We're not going to give in. We're going to keep coming."

That was the lone stretch of normalcy in this one. Not even the red rally towels frantically waved by another sellout crowd of 45,467 got as much of a workout as both bullpens.

Bryson Stott lined an opposite-field single to left in the fourth that tied the game 4-all and gave the Phillies new life.

Well, for a few pitches, at least.

Because the much-maligned Brad Hand, the fourth pitcher of the game, coughed up the lead in the fifth. He issued a one-out walk and then Juan Soto lined a two-run homer to right, his first of the postseason and first since Oct. 1 against the White Sox.

It was 6-4 Padres.

And it was the beginning of the end.

"We only need to win one to get home," manager Bob Melvin said.

UP NEXT

Wheeler faces Padres RHP Yu Darvish (2-1, 2.84 ERA in the postseason).

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Major Hurricane Roslyn heads for hit on Mexico's coast

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Hurricane Roslyn grew to Category 4 force on Saturday as it headed for a collision with Mexico's Pacific coast, likely north of the resort of Puerto Vallarta.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Roslyn's maximum sustained winds remained at 130 mph (215 kph) late Saturday.

The storm was centered about 65 miles (105 kilometers) west-southwest of Cabo Corrientes — the point of land jutting into the Pacific south of Puerto Vallarta — and moving north at 12 mph (19 kph).

The forecast put Roslyn on a path that could take it close to Cabo Corrientes and the Puerto Vallarta region during the night before making landfall in Nayarit state on Sunday.

Hurricane Orlene made landfall Oct. 3 a little farther north in roughly the same region, about 45 miles (75 kilometers) southeast of the resort of Mazatlan.

Hurricane-force winds extended out 30 miles (45 kilometers) from Roslyn's core, while tropical storm-force winds extended out to 80 miles (130 kilometers), the U.S. hurricane center said.

Mexico issued a hurricane warning covering a stretch of coast from Playa Perula south of Cabo Corrientes north to El Roblito and for the Islas Marias.

Seemingly oblivious to the danger just hours away, tourists ate at beachside eateries around Puerto Vallarta and smaller resorts farther north on the Nayarit coast, where Roslyn was expected to hit.

"We're fine. Everything is calm, it's all normal," said Jaime Cantón, a receptionist at the Casa Maria hotel in Puerto Vallarta. He said that if winds picked up, the hotel would gather up outside furniture "so nothing will go flying."

While skies began to cloud up, waves remained normal, and few people appeared to be rushing to take precautions; swimmers were still in the sea at Puerto Vallarta

"The place is full of tourists," said Patricia Morales, a receptionist at the Punta Guayabitas hotel in the laid-back beach town of the same name, farther up the coast.

Asked what precautions were being taken, Morales said, "They (authorities) haven't told us anything."

The Nayarit state government said the hurricane was expected to make landfall Sunday around the fishing village of San Blas, about 90 miles (150 kilometers) north of Puerto Vallarta.

The head of the state civil defense office, Pedro Núñez, said, "Right now we are carrying out patrols through the towns, to alert people so that they can keep their possession safe and keep themselves safe in safer areas."

In the neighboring state of Jalisco, Gov. Enrique Alfaro wrote that 270 people had been evacuated in a town near the hurricane's expected path and that five emergency shelters had been set up in Puerto Vallarta.

Alfaro said on Twitter that any school activities in the region would be cancelled Saturday and he urged people to avoid touristic activities at beaches and in mountainous areas over the weekend.

The National Water Commission said rains from Roslyn could cause mudslides and flooding, and the U.S. hurricane center warned of dangerous storm surge along the coast, as well as 4 to 6 inches (10 to 15 centimeters) of rain.

Javier, Astros romp 5-0 over Yanks, Cole, take 3-0 ALCS lead

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Cristian Javier and the Houston Astros aren't just beating the Yankees, they're chomping them up. And now Dusty Baker's team is on the verge of an astonishing four-game sweep.

Javier and Houston's bullpen combined on a three-hitter, Chas McCormick followed a dropped flyball with an early two-run homer and the Astros beat Gerrit Cole and the Yankees 5-0 on Saturday night to take a 3-0 AL Championship Series lead.

"We're not going to come out any slower than we did today," McCormick said after setting off another round of the Chas Chomp celebration in Houston's dugout. "We're going to be ready to play tomorrow and go for the sweep."

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Trying for their second straight AL pennant, the 106-win Astros improved to 6-0 this postseason and need one win for their fourth World Series trip in six years. Houston aims to close out the series on Sunday night when Lance McCullers Jr. starts against Nestor Cortes.

Only one of 39 teams has recovered from a 3-0 postseason series deficit to win, Boston against the Yankees in the 2004 ALCS. Thirty teams completed sweeps.

McCormick, the No. 9 hitter, launched his second home run of the series for a 2-0 second-inning lead after Gold Glove center fielder Harrison Bader let Christian Vázquez's flyball bounce out of his green glove for an error.

"It's a loud atmosphere. ... Calling it until the very end and we both got a little spooked," Bader said. "He's like 9 feet tall, so you don't want to get anybody hurt."

Aaron Judge had sprinted over from right and cut in front of him.

"At the last second I hear him. I'm trying to get out of the way," Judge said. "I definitely messed him up on that play."

McCormick drove a fastball 335 feet to the opposite field, and the ball hit the right-field short porch and bounced into the seats.

"It was a couple inches a little more over the plate than we wanted to and obviously the bounce went his way," Cole said.

It would not have been a homer at any other major league ballpark, according to Statcast.

"That's what the game's about," Baker said. "Even though it may not be, you have to kind of fool yourself that it is a break. And it's amazing whatever you think can happen usually does happen. That was huge."

Houston players responded to the homer with exaggerated clapping, arms spread wide. The gesture appeared to be initiated by Astros fan Scott Agruso, who attends games at Minute Maid Park wearing an alligator suit.

"It's cool. I like how my teammates are into it now. Around the bases I see them always chomping," McCormick said. "It fires me up, and I said before in case I hit a home run, I'm going to round third base, hit the chomp a couple of times to my teammates."

Houston loaded the bases in the sixth and chased Cole. Trey Mancini followed with a sacrifice fly off Lou Trivino and Vázquez added a two-run single.

Javier pitched seven innings during the Astros' combined no-hitter at Yankee Stadium on June 25. Making his first start since Oct. 1, the 25-year-old right-hander gave up one hit, struck out five and walked three in 5 1/3 innings. He didn't allow a ball out of the infield until Giancarlo Stanton's one-out double in the fourth.

Héctor Neris, Ryan Stanek, Hunter Brown and Rafael Montero followed with hitless relief, and Bryan Abreu gave up a pair of two-out singles in the ninth.

New York, which last reached the World Series when it won in 2009, is on the precipice of elimination against Houston for the fourth time in eight seasons. After sprinting to a 61-23 record in early July, the Yankees spiraled to a 38-40 mark the rest of the way and have sputtered in the playoffs.

Judge, who set an AL record with 62 home runs during the season, went 0 for 4 and dropped to .156 with 14 strikeouts and three RBIs in the playoffs, including 1 for 12 against the Astros.

"Obviously, he's the biggest force and key in our lineup, so we need to get something from him," manager Aaron Boone said.

New York is hitting .128 in the ALCS with 41 strikeouts and has lost eight of 10 to Houston this year, throwing just 13 pitches with a lead.

Bader was caught stealing second by Vázquez after a leadoff walk in the fifth.

"We shut down the momentum from them," Vázquez said. "It was awesome."

Cole, baseball's highest paid pitcher with a \$324 million, nine-year deal, allowed a home run for the 11th consecutive start. He walked off the mound stone faced when Boone removed him in the sixth.

"About as frustrated as you can get," Cole said.

Some Yankees fans, already angry after two losses in Houston, booed Judge after a pair of strikeouts and jeered Boone during pregame introductions.

"I understand why there's boos and why there's yelling at times," Judge said. "We've got to pick it up as a

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team.”

FINALLY

Jose Altuve hit an opposite-field double to right in the fifth for his first hit after an 0-for-25 postseason start, the longest in postseason history.

“It’s been obviously hard personally,” Altuve said. “but it’s been a lot easier too because we’ve been winning.”

DUSTY

Baker got his 46th postseason win as a manager, moving past Dave Roberts for fourth behind Joe Torre (84), Tony La Russa (71) and Bobby Cox (67).

DROPPED

Josh Donaldson was dropped as seventh in the batting order for first time since April 16, 2013. Stanton played the spacious left field at Yankee Stadium for the first time in three years.

UP NEXT

Cortes starts after winning Game 5 of the AL Division Series on short rest and McCullers takes the mound for the Astros in his first appearance since Oct. 15 against Seattle in the Division Series. His elbow was bruised by a champagne bottle during the celebration after the 18-inning win.

Dynamic Daniels, LSU, roar back on No. 7 Ole Miss, 45-20

By BRETT MARTEL AP Sports Writer

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — LSU quarterback Jayden Daniels’ dynamism has bamboozled defenses in back-to-back games.

Daniels ran for three touchdowns and passed for two scores, and LSU roared back from an early two-touchdown deficit to hand No. 7 Mississippi its first loss this season, 45-20 on Saturday.

The performance gave Daniels the LSU record for touchdowns rushing in a season by a quarterback with nine. Daniels also has accounted for 11 TDs rushing or passing combined in the span of two games. He had three of each in a 45-35 victory at Florida last weekend.

“I expected that,” Daniels said of his newly established school record and his prolific two-game stretch. “I know what I’m capable of doing.”

Reveling in the resounding triumph over a historical and highly-ranked rival, LSU fans stormed the field as the game ended. Now LSU (6-2, 4-1 SEC) is back in the race to win the SEC West — if the Tigers can beat No. 6 Alabama.

“We’re executing at a high level. We’re exerting our will,” first-year LSU coach Brian Kelly said. “Our best players are now starting to play their best football.”

After being outgained 200-80 in the first quarter and falling behind 17-3 on Jonathan Cruz’s field goal to start the second quarter, LSU outscored Ole Miss (7-1, 3-1) 42-3 the remainder of the game.

“You can see the resilience in this team,” Daniels said. “Once we get going, we’re hard to stop.”

Ole Miss was trying to start 8-0 for the first time since 1962, but coach Lane Kiffin was left to lament his team’s collapse after a strong start.

“I said all week they had elite players and it will be difficult to win against these guys,” Kiffin said of the Tigers. “We got pushed around. ... They did a really good job and we didn’t do a lot right defensively. It obviously wasn’t a good feeling at the end.”

The Tigers finished with 500 total yards to 404 for Kiffin’s vaunted Mississippi offense. LSU rushed for 252 yards and finished with 35 first downs.

Daniels passed for 258 yards and ran for 121. His scoring passes went for 34 yards to Jaray Jenkins and 1 yard to tight end Mason Taylor. He ran for touchdowns of 3, 11 and 17 yards, the longest all but salting the game away in the fourth quarter.

Josh Williams ran 1 yard for the Tigers’ final TD late in the fourth quarter.

Nearly everything went right for LSU in the second half. Even linebacker Harold Perkins’ unsportsmanlike conduct penalty after a third-down stop at the Rebels’ 15-yard line early in the fourth quarter couldn’t turn

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the tide in the Rebels' favor. Down 11 points at the time, Ole Miss wound up having to punt anyway minutes later.

Daniels then drove the Tigers 75 yards for a touchdown to make it 38-20.

"The offensive line was outstanding and put the game away at the end," Kelly said.

LSU's defense battered Ole Miss QB Jaxson Dart in the second half. The Rebels QB finished 19 of 34 for 284 yards. With Ole Miss driving for a potential go-ahead TD in the third quarter, Dart was intercepted in the LSU end zone by Joe Foucha on a pass thrown under pressure from linebacker Micah Baskerville.

"Sometimes you don't expect to get hit when you are throwing it," Dart said. "I just wasn't able to get enough on it."

After first-quarter touchdown runs of 3 and 6 yards by Quinshon Judkins, Ole Miss was threatening to go ahead 21-3 when LSU's stuffed Dart's keeper on third-and-5 from the LSU 13, limiting the Rebels to a field goal.

The Tigers then rallied to tie it before Cruz's 48-yard field goal gave Mississippi a 20-17 lead that stood until halftime.

PERKINS' PRESENCE

Kiffin and Dart both noted how LSU's Perkins, a true freshman who had a sack, two QB hurries and a pass break-up, affected the game.

"He isn't like anyone else out there," Kiffin said.

Added Dart, "Coming out of high school he was the best linebacker in the country so he is very talented. They kind of set him up as a spy and a rusher and he made some good plays."

THE TAKEAWAY

Mississippi: Oddsmakers apparently had been unimpressed with Ole Miss' schedule through its first seven games. Mississippi was listed as a slight underdog at Tiger Stadium and LSU covered by more than three touchdowns.

LSU: Kelly has the Tigers playing their best football on the heels of what could have been a demoralizing 40-13 loss at home to No. 3 Tennessee. LSU also won for the third time this year after trailing by 13 or more.

UP NEXT

Mississippi: Visits Texas A&M on Oct. 29.

LSU is off next weekend before hosting No. 6 Alabama on Nov. 5.

Illegal border crossings to US from Mexico hit annual high

By ELLIOT SPAGAT Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A surge in migration from Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua in September brought the number of illegal crossings to the highest level ever recorded in a fiscal year, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The year-end numbers reflect deteriorating economic and political conditions in some countries, the relative strength of the U.S. economy and uneven enforcement of Trump-era asylum restrictions.

Migrants were stopped 227,547 times in September at the U.S. border with Mexico, the third-highest month of Joe Biden's presidency. It was up 11.5% from 204,087 times in August and 18.5% from 192,001 times in September 2021.

In the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, migrants were stopped 2.38 million times, up 37% from 1.73 million times the year before, according to figures released late Friday night. The annual total surpassed 2 million for the first time in August and is more than twice the highest level during Donald Trump's presidency in 2019.

Nearly 78,000 migrants from Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua were stopped in September, compared to about 58,000 from Mexico and three countries of northern Central America that have historically accounted for most of the flow.

The remarkable geographic shift is at least partly a result of Title 42, a public health rule that suspends rights to see asylum under U.S. and international law on grounds of preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Due to strained diplomatic relations, the U.S. cannot expel migrants to Venezuela, Cuba or Nicaragua. As a result, they are largely released in the United States to pursue their immigration cases.

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Title 42 authority has been applied 2.4 million times since it began in March 2020 but has fallen disproportionately on migrants from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

U.S. officials say Venezuelan migration to the United States has plunged more than 85% since Oct. 12, when the U.S. began expelling Venezuelans to Mexico under Title 42. At the same time, the Biden administration pledged to admit up to 24,000 Venezuelans to the United States on humanitarian parole if they apply online with a financial sponsor and enter through an airport, similar to how tens of thousands of Ukrainians have come since Russia invaded their country.

The first four Venezuelans paroled into the United States arrived Saturday — two from Mexico, one from Guatemala, one from Peru — and hundreds more have been approved to fly, the Homeland Security Department said.

“While this early data is not reflected in the (September) report, it confirms what we’ve said all along: When there is a lawful and orderly way to enter the country, individuals will be less likely to put their lives in the hands of smugglers and try to cross the border unlawfully,” said CBP Commissioner Chris Magnus.

The expansion of Title 42 for Venezuelans to be expelled to Mexico came despite the administration’s attempt to end the public health authority in May, which was blocked by a federal judge.

Venezuelans represented the second-largest nationality at the border after Mexicans for the second straight month, being stopped 33,804 times in September, up 33% from 25,361 times in August.

Cubans, who are participating in the largest exodus from the Caribbean island to the United States since 1980, were stopped 26,178 times at the border in September, up 37% from 19,060 in August.

Nicaraguans were stopped 18,199 times in September, up 55% from 7,298 times in August.

The report is the last monthly reading of migration flows before U.S. midterm elections, an issue that many Republicans have emphasized in campaigns to capture control of the House and Senate. Republicans on the House Homeland Security Committee released a one-sentence statement Saturday in response to the numbers: “You’ve got to be kidding.”

Red Bull Formula One owner Dietrich Mateschitz dies at 78

By JIM VERTUNO AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Austrian billionaire Dietrich Mateschitz, the co-founder of energy drink company Red Bull and founder and owner of the Red Bull Formula One racing team, has died. He was 78.

Officials with the Red Bull racing team at the United States Grand Prix in Austin, Texas, announced Mateschitz’s death Saturday. There was no immediate word where he died, or a cause of death.

Mohammed Ben Sulayem, president of motor sports governing body FIA, said Mateschitz was “a towering figure in motor sport.”

“The thoughts of all the FIA family are with his loved ones at this time and he will be greatly missed.”

Mateschitz gained fame as the public face of Red Bull, an Austrian-Thai conglomerate that says it sold nearly 10 billion cans of its caffeine and taurine-based drink in 172 countries worldwide last year.

Mateschitz not only helped the energy drink become popular around the world, but also built up a sports, media, real estate and gastronomy empire around the brand.

With the growing success of Red Bull, he significantly expanded his investments in sports, specifically motorsports and extreme sports, and Red Bull now operates football clubs, ice hockey teams and F1 racing teams. Red Bull also has contracts with hundreds of athletes in various sports and a deep driver development program to get racers to the top level.

“It’s been hard news for everyone — what he has meant for Red Bull, and of course the sport, and especially for me,” said Max Verstappen, who wrapped up his second consecutive F1 title two weeks ago.

Verstappen on Sunday at Circuit of the Americas will try to tie Michael Schumacher and Sebastian Vettel with an F1-record 13 victories in a season, and he’ll also attempt to clinch the constructors championship for Red Bull.

“What he has done for me, my career so far, and in general my life, it’s really tough, it’s a really tough day,” Verstappen said. “There’s still a race ahead and we’re going to try to make him proud tomorrow.”

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Mateschitz and Thai investor Chaleo Yoovidhya founded the company in 1984 after Mateschitz recognized the potential in marketing Krating Daeng – another energy drink created by Chaleo – for a western audience. Red Bull says Mateschitz worked on the formula for three years before the modified drink was launched under its new name in his native Austria in 1987.

Under Mateschitz' stewardship, Red Bull quickly increased its market share, first in Europe, then in the United States, helped by marketing campaigns promoting the drink's claimed stimulating properties and extensive sponsorship agreements in motorsports, soccer, extreme sports and the music industry.

The Red Bull Racing team has enjoyed success in Formula 1, winning the constructors' championship in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, while German driver Vettel won four drivers' championships in row while signed to the team.

Verstappen started in Red Bull's driver development program and became the youngest driver in F1 history to start a grand prix when he started with the junior Toro Rosso team at age 17 in 2015. The Dutchman is now the most dominant driver in the sport.

"So many of us have to be so grateful to him for the opportunities he's provided and the vision he had, the strength of character, and never being afraid to follow dreams, and chase dreams. That's what he did here in F1, proving that you can make a difference," Red Bull team principal Christian Horner told Sky Sports F1.

"We're just incredibly grateful for him, everything that he's done, everything that he's supported us with over the years," Horner added. "So many drivers, so many team members, so many people in this pit lane owe him so much. He was incredibly proud of the team, incredibly proud of everything we've done and have been achieving, and he's been a passionate supporter and the backbone of everything that we do."

Red Bull operates soccer teams in top divisions across Austria, Germany, Brazil and the United States. The company started by buying Austrian club SV Austria Salzburg in 2005 and rebranding it in the company colors under the name Red Bull Salzburg.

It repeated the move in Germany, where it bought fifth-tier club SSV Markranstädt in 2009, rebranded it as RasenBallSport Leipzig, and financed its steady progress through the league system till it was promoted to the Bundesliga in 2016. German league regulations prevented the company from naming the team Red Bull Leipzig – its name in German, RasenBallSport, means "grass ball sport Leipzig" but the club just refers to itself as RB Leipzig.

Mateschitz also made headlines for his populist views. He previously criticized German chancellor Angela Merkel for her handling of the refugee crisis over 2015-16. The Austrian Servus TV station, owned by Red Bull Media House GmbH, is known for promoting right-wing provocative views.

Mateschitz bought the Jaguar Racing team from previous owner Ford at the end of 2004 and rebranded it as Red Bull for the 2005 season. Later that year, he then also bought Minardi and renamed it Toro Rosso, astutely using it as a feeder team for Red Bull.

Iran protests trigger solidarity rallies in US, Europe

By FARNOUSH AMIRI and MICHAEL BLOOD Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chanting crowds marched in the streets of Berlin, Washington DC and Los Angeles on Saturday in a show of international support for demonstrators facing a violent government crackdown in Iran, sparked by the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in the custody of that country's morality police.

On the U.S. National Mall, thousands of women and men of all ages — wearing green, white and red, the colors of the Iran flag — shouted in rhythm. "Be scared. Be scared. We are one in this," demonstrators yelled, before marching to the White House. "Say her name! Mahsa!"

The demonstrations, put together by grassroots organizers from around the United States, drew Iranians from across the Washington D.C. area, with some travelling down from Toronto to join the crowd.

In Los Angeles, home to the biggest population of Iranians outside of Iran, a throng of protesters formed a slow-moving procession along blocks of a closed downtown street. They chanted for the fall of Iran's government and waved hundreds of Iranian flags that turned the horizon into a undulating wave of red, white and green.

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"We want freedom," they thundered.

Shooka Scharm, an attorney who was born in the U.S. after her parents fled the Iranian revolution, was wearing a T-shirt with the slogan "Women, Life, Freedom" in English and Farsi. In Iran "women are like a second-class citizen and they are sick of it," Scharm said.

Iran's nationwide antigovernment protest movement first focused on the country's mandatory hijab covering for women following Amiri's death on Sept. 16. The demonstrations there have since transformed into the greatest challenge to the Islamic Republic since the 2009 Green Movement over disputed elections. In Tehran on Saturday, more antigovernment protests took place at several universities.

Iran's security forces have dispersed gatherings in that country with live ammunition and tear gas, killing over 200 people, including teenage girls, according to rights groups.

The Biden administration has said it condemns the brutality and repression against the citizens of Iran and that it will look for ways to impose more sanctions against the Iranian government if the violence continues.

Between chants, protesters in D.C. broke into song, singing traditional Persian music about life and freedom — all written after the revolution in 1979 brought religious fundamentalists to power in Iran. They sang one in particular in unison — "Baraye," meaning because of, which has become the unofficial anthem of the Iran protests. The artist of that song, Shervin Hajipour, was arrested shortly after posting the song to his Instagram in late September. It accrued more than 40 million views.

"Because of women, life, freedom," protesters sang, echoing a popular protest chant: "Azadi" — Freedom.

The movement in Iran is rooted in the same issues as in the U.S. and around the globe, said protester Samin Aayanifard, 28, who left Iran three years ago. "It's forced hijab in Iran and here in America, after 50 years, women's bodies are under control," said Aayanifard, who drove from East Lansing, Michigan to join the D.C. march. She referred to rollbacks of abortion laws in the United States. "It's about control over women's bodies."

Several weeks of Saturday solidarity rallies in the U.S. capital have drawn growing crowds.

In Berlin, a crowd estimated by German police at several tens of thousands turned out to show solidarity for the women and activists leading the movement for the past few weeks in Iran. The protests in Germany's capital, organized by the Woman(asterisk) Life Freedom Collective, began at the Victory Column in Berlin's Tiergarten park and continued as a march through central Berlin.

Some demonstrators there said they had come from elsewhere in Germany and other European countries to show their support.

"It is so important for us to be here, to be the voice of the people of Iran, who are killed on the streets," said Shakib Lolo, who is from Iran but lives in the Netherlands. "And this is not a protest anymore, this is a revolution, in Iran. And the people of the world have to see it."

Biden juggling long list of issues to please Dem coalition

By JOSH BOAK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden wants to tame inflation. He wants Congress to protect access to abortions. He wants to tackle voting rights. And he's taking on China, promoting construction of new factories, addressing climate change, forgiving student debt, pardoning federal marijuana convictions, cutting the deficit, working to lower prescription drug prices and funneling aid to Ukraine.

Biden is trying to be everything to everyone. But that's making it hard for him to say he's focused on any single issue above all others as he tries to counter Republican momentum going into the Nov. 8 elections.

"There's no one thing," Biden said Wednesday when questioned about his top priority. "There's multiple, multiple, multiple issues, and they're all important. ... We ought to be able to walk and chew gum at the same time. You know, that old expression."

Biden's exhaustive to-do list is a recognition that the coalition of Democratic voters he needs to turn out Election Day is diverse in terms of race, age, education and geography. This pool of voters has an expansive list of overlapping and competing interests on crime, civil rights, climate change, the federal budget and other issues.

The Republican candidates trying to end Democratic control of Congress have a far more uniform base of

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voters, allowing them to more narrowly direct messaging on the economy, crime and immigration toward white voters, older voters, those without a college degree and those who identify as Christian.

In the 2020 election, AP VoteCast suggests, Biden drew disproportionate support from women, Black voters, voters younger than 45, college graduates and city dwellers and suburbanites. That gave Biden a broader base of support than Republican Donald Trump and it also is a potential long-term advantage for Democrats as the country is getting more diverse and better educated.

But in midterm elections that normally favor the party not holding the White House, it requires Biden to appeal to all those constituencies.

"Coherence and cohesion have always been a challenge for the modern Democratic Party that relies on a coalition that crosses racial, ethnic, religious and class lines," said Daniel Cox, a senior fellow in polling and public opinion at the conservative American Enterprise Institute. "It takes considerable political talent to maintain a coalition with diverse interests and backgrounds. Barack Obama managed to do it, but subsequent Democrats have struggled."

Biden devoted his public remarks this past Tuesday to abortion, Wednesday to gasoline prices, Thursday to infrastructure and Friday to deficit reduction, student debt forgiveness and historically Black colleges and universities. In most of his public speeches, Biden says he understands the pain caused by consumer prices rising 8.2% from a year ago and that he's working to lower costs.

Cox said there are signs that Biden's 2020 coalition is fracturing, with younger liberal voters not that enamored with him, and he does not appear to have done much to shore up Hispanic support.

But compared with 2016, when Trump won the presidency, Biden made relative progress with one prominent bloc that generally favors Republicans: white voters without a college degree, as he won 33% of their votes compared with 28% who supported Hillary Clinton in 2016, according to a 2021 analysis by the Pew Research Center.

Keeping those voters in the Democratic coalition could be essential for maintaining control of the Senate.

Biden has traveled repeatedly to Pennsylvania, campaigning on Thursday for Senate nominee John Fetterman with the goal of picking up a seat in the state. Fetterman, with his sweatshirts and shorts, exudes a blue-collar image, a contrast with the Republican nominee, Dr. Mehmet Oz, who rose to fame as a TV show host.

"Democrats need to hold on to as much of that bloc as possible, especially in key whiter states like Pennsylvania, Ohio and Wisconsin," said William Frey, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

The test for Democrats is how to address broader concerns about the economy and inflation that affect everyone, while also highlighting the specific issues that could energize various segments of their base.

That can involve trade-offs.

As Republicans have made crime a national issue, Biden's message that he backs the police could help with those white voters. But it could also turn off younger voters in Senate races in Georgia and Florida who believe the police are part of the problem on civil rights, said Alvin Tillery Jr., a professor at Northwestern University and director of its Center for the Study of Diversity and Democracy.

Tillery said he doesn't know how the president can bridge those differences, though Biden could be in a better position to focus on the policing overhaul that Democrats tried to negotiate with Republicans — only to be unable to reach a consensus that would be able to clear a GOP filibuster.

"Maybe they've blunted some Republican attacks, but they've also softened support for people who turned out for them in the 2020 election," Tillery said. "I don't know how they solve for that, except to say they need to be more vigorous in saying the things they wanted to achieve were blocked in the Senate."

Tillery added the overarching challenge might be that people view inflation as a domestic phenomenon, rather than a global one. Republicans are blaming high prices on Biden's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief from 2021, whereas recent months have also shown that inflation is a worldwide trend driven in part by the aftermath of the pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, causing prices for energy and food to rise.

"The reality is -- like all presidents -- he is a victim of things beyond his control," Tillery said. "Inflation is a problem globally. It's much worse in other parts of the world, but he can't message that way."

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ESPN and F1 announce new US broadcast deal through 2025

By JIM VERTUNO AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — With Formula's One popularity and viewership booming in the United States, ESPN and the global motorsports series announced a new broadcast deal Saturday through 2025.

ESPN has broadcast F1 in the U.S. since 2018 and the new deal will keep commercial-free, live telecasts for all races on ESPN, ESPN2 or ABC, all owned by the Walt Disney Co. ESPN Deportes will continue as the Spanish-language home of F1 in the U.S.

The deal comes ahead of Sunday's U.S. Grand Prix, which will air on ABC. Financial terms were not disclosed. ESPN did not pay any rights fees in 2018 when NBC Sports Group dropped F1 after five seasons, leaving the series without a U.S. home. ESPN has paid \$5 million per year from 2019-22, and the series has only seen growth since then.

"To continue to build and grow and push behind the tremendous momentum that exists with Formula One in the United States for another few seasons is really exciting for us," ESPN President Burke Magnus said. "We're not going to let up. We're just going to continue to push hard because it's spectacular content and spectacular competition."

And shortly after the ESPN announcement, the Williams team revealed that reserve driver Logan Sargeant will likely earn a seat in 2023, making him the first American driver in F1 since 2015. American fans and sponsors have aimed for an American driver to push interest even higher.

Under the new deal, at least 16 races will be on ABC or ESPN and all race weekends will include live coverage of practice and qualifying.

Magnus said ESPN has been pleased with its partnership with Sky Sports, which allows ESPN to use the Britain-based broadcaster's race and practice productions.

"The next step for us is to build around their great production of the races," Magnus said. "Having a more consistent presence on site, having more highlights on Sports Center, having more editorial coverage.

"The Sky production of the race is world class, I'm not sure we can replicate that ourselves without a lot of time, effort and expense."

The network said the new deal also expands its direct-to-consumer rights, with details for more content on digital platforms to be announced later.

ESPN has been the U.S. rights holder in a boom time for F1, and the series will expand its calendar to a record 24 races in 2023. That includes three in the U.S. in Austin, Miami and Las Vegas. Only the Texas race was on the calendar when ESPN took over broadcast rights four years ago.

Last season had an average of 949,000 viewers, the network said. That has increased to more than 1.2 million tuning in on average over the first 18 races this season.

"They (ESPN) were really the first to believe on us here in America," said Stefano Domenicali, president and chief executive officer of F1. "Now it seems easy because we seen the booming of the market. But we will not take it for granted. What ESPN did for the American fans is really special and is a reason why we are renewing this collaboration for the next three years."

The inaugural Miami Grand Prix on ABC generated an average viewership of 2.6 million, the largest U.S. audience on record for a live F1 race.

Domenicali said the continued growth of the U.S. audience remains critical for F1.

"They (ESPN) know how to connect with the American audience," Domenicali said. "They know what the American audience wants to hear."

Russian authorities advise civilians to leave Ukraine region

By ANDREW MELDRUM and JOANNA KOZLOWSKA Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russian-installed authorities in Ukraine told all residents of the city of Kherson to leave "immediately" Saturday ahead of an expected advance by Ukrainian troops waging a counteroffensive to recapture one of the first urban areas Russia took after invading the country.

In a post on the Telegram messaging service, the pro-Kremlin regional administration strongly urged civilians

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to use boat crossings over a major river to move deeper into Russian-held territory, citing a tense situation on the front and the threat of shelling and alleged plans for "terror attacks" by Kyiv.

Kherson has been in Russian hands since the early days of the nearly 8-month-long war in Ukraine. The city is the capital of a region of the same name, one of four that Russian President Vladimir Putin illegally annexed last month and put under Russian martial law on Thursday.

On Friday, Ukrainian forces bombarded Russian positions across the province, targeting pro-Kremlin forces' resupply routes across the Dnieper River and preparing for a final push to reclaim the city.

The Ukrainian military has reclaimed broad areas in the north of the region since launching a counteroffensive in late August. It reported new successes Saturday, saying that Russian troops were forced to retreat from the villages of Charivne and Chkalove in the Beryslav district.

Russian-installed officials were reported as trying desperately to turn Kherson city — a prime objective for both sides because of its key industries and ports — into a fortress while attempting to relocate tens of thousands of residents.

The Kremlin poured as many as 2,000 draftees into the surrounding region to replenish losses and strengthen front-line units, according to the Ukrainian army's general staff.

The wide Dnieper River figures as a major factor in the fighting, making it hard for Russia to supply its troops defending the city of Kherson and nearby areas on the west bank after relentless Ukrainian strikes rendered the main crossings unusable.

Taking control of Kherson has allowed Russia to resume fresh water supplies from the Dnieper to Crimea, which were cut by Ukraine after Moscow's annexation of the Black Sea peninsula. A big hydroelectric power plant upstream from Kherson city is a key source of energy for the southern region. Ukraine and Russia accused each other of trying to blow it up to flood the mostly flat region.

Kherson's Kremlin-backed authorities previously announced plans to evacuate all Russia-appointed officials and as many as 60,000 civilians across the river, in what local leader Vladimir Saldo said would be an "organized, gradual displacement."

Another Russia-installed official estimated Saturday that around 25,000 people from across the region had made their way over the Dnieper. In a Telegram post, Kirill Stremousov claimed that civilians were relocating willingly.

"People are actively moving because today the priority is life. We do not drag anyone anywhere," he said, adding that some residents could be waiting for the Ukrainian army to reclaim the city.

Ukrainian and Western officials have expressed concern about potential forced transfers of residents to Russia or Russian-occupied territory.

Ukrainian officials urged Kherson residents to resist attempts to relocate them, with one local official alleging that Moscow wanted to take civilians hostage and use them as human shields.

Elsewhere in the invaded country, hundreds of thousands of people in central and western Ukraine woke up on Saturday to power outages and periodic bursts of gunfire. In its latest war tactic, Russia has intensified strikes on power stations, water supply systems and other key infrastructure across the country.

Ukraine's air force said in a statement Saturday that Russia had launched "a massive missile attack" targeting "critical infrastructure," adding that it had downed 18 out of 33 cruise missiles launched from the air and sea.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy later said that Russia launched 36 missiles, most of which were shot down.

"Those treacherous blows on critically important facilities are characteristic tactics of terrorists," Zelenskyy said. "The world can and must stop this terror."

Air raid sirens blared across Ukraine twice by early afternoon, sending residents scurrying into shelters as Ukrainian air defense tried to shoot down explosive drones and incoming missiles.

"Several rockets" targeting Ukraine's capital were shot down Saturday morning, Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said on the Telegram messaging service.

The president's office said in its morning update that five suicide drones were downed in the central Cherkasy region southeast of Kyiv. Similar reports came from the governors of six western and central provinces, as

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well as of the southern Odesa region on the Black Sea.

Ukraine's top diplomat said the day's attacks proved Ukraine needed new Western-reinforced air defense systems "without a minute of delay."

"Air defense saves lives," Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba wrote on Twitter.

Kyrylo Tymoshenko, the deputy head of Ukraine's presidential office, said on Telegram that almost 1.4 million households lost power as a result of the strikes. He said some 672,000 homes in the western Khmelnytskyi region were affected and another 242,000 suffered outages in the Cherkasy region.

Most of the western city of Khmelnytskyi, which straddles the Bug River and had a pre-war population of 275,000, was left with no electricity, shortly after local media reported several loud explosions.

In a social media post on Saturday, the city council urged local residents to store water "in case it's also gone within an hour."

The mayor of Lutsk, a city of 215,000 in far western Ukraine, made a similar appeal, saying that power in the city was partially knocked out after Russian missiles slammed into local energy facilities and damaged one power plant beyond repair.

The central city of Uman, a key pilgrimage center for Hasidic Jews with about 100,000 residents before the war, also was plunged into darkness after a rocket hit a nearby power plant.

Ukraine's state energy company, Ukrenergo, responded to the strikes by announcing that rolling blackouts would be imposed in Kyiv and 10 Ukrainian regions to stabilize the situation.

In a Facebook post on Saturday, the company accused Russia of attacking "energy facilities within the principal networks of the western regions of Ukraine." It claimed the scale of destruction was comparable to the fallout earlier this month from Moscow's first coordinated attack on the Ukrainian energy grid.

Both Ukrenergo and officials in Kyiv have urged Ukrainians to conserve energy. Earlier this week, Zelenskyy called on consumers to curb their power use between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. and to avoid using energy-guzzling appliances such as electric heaters.

Zelenskyy said earlier in the week that 30% of Ukraine's power stations have been destroyed since Russia launched the first wave of targeted infrastructure strikes on Oct. 10.

In a separate development, Russian officials said two people were killed and 12 others were wounded by Ukrainian shelling of the town of Shebekino in the Belgorod region near the border.

Joanna Simon, acclaimed singer, TV correspondent, dies at 85

By The Associated Press undefined

NEW YORK (AP) — Joanna Simon, an acclaimed mezzo-soprano, Emmy-winning TV correspondent and one of the three singing Simon sisters who include pop star Carly, has died at age 85.

Simon, the eldest of four, died Wednesday, just a day before her sister Lucy died, according to Lucy's daughter, Julie Simon. Their brother Peter, a photographer, died in 2018 at 71. All three had cancer.

"In the last 2 days, I've been by the side of both my mother and my aunt, Joanna, and watched them pass into the next world. I can't truly comprehend this," Julie wrote on Facebook.

Joanna Simon, who died of thyroid cancer, rose to fame in the opera world and as a concert performer in the 1960s. She was a frequent guest on TV talk shows. After her retirement from singing, she became an arts correspondent for PBS's "MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour," where she won an Emmy in 1991 for a report on mental illness and creativity.

"I am filled with sorrow to speak about the passing of Joanna and Lucy Simon. Their loss will be long and haunting. As sad as this day is, it's impossible to mourn them without celebrating their incredible lives that they lived," Carly Simon said in a statement Saturday.

She added: "We were three sisters who not only took turns blazing trails and marking courses for one another. We were each other's secret shares. The co-keepers of each other's memories."

Joanna Simon was married to novelist and journalist Gerald Walker from 1976 until his death in 2004. She was the companion of Walter Cronkite from 2005 until his death in 2009.

On stage, she made her professional debut in 1962 as Cherubino in Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" at New

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York City Opera. That year, she won the Marian Anderson Award for promising young singers. Simon took on a range of material. As a concert performer, she leaned into classic and contemporary songs of her time.

The siblings were born to publishing giant Richard Simon and his wife, Andrea. Carly and Lucy once performed as the Simon Sisters, opening for other acts in Greenwich Village folk clubs.

"I have no words to explain the feeling of suddenly being the only remaining direct offspring of Richard and Andrea Simon," Carly Simon said. "They touched everyone they knew and those of us they've left behind will be lucky and honored to carry their memories forward."

East Iran city, scene of bloody crackdown, sees new protests

The Associated Press undefined

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — A southeastern city in Iran that was the scene of a bloody crackdown last month awoke to new destruction on Saturday, state TV showed, after tensions erupted the day before.

Meanwhile, witnesses said antigovernment protests erupted at several universities in Tehran amid heavy security on Saturday, the latest unrest in the nationwide movement first sparked by the Sept. 16 death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in the custody of the country's morality police.

Tens of thousands of people gathered in Germany's capital to show solidarity with the anti-government protesters in Iran. Berlin police estimated that 37,000 people had joined the German demonstration by late afternoon.

Although the protests across Iran first focused on the country's mandatory hijab, they have transformed into the greatest challenge to the Islamic Republic since the 2009 Green Movement over disputed elections. Security forces have dispersed gatherings with live ammunition and tear gas, leaving over 200 people dead, according to rights groups.

In Zahedan, a southeastern city with an ethnic Baluch population, protests after Friday prayers left the city battered. Shops gaped open to the street, their windows smashed. Sidewalks were littered with broken glass. ATMs were damaged. Cleaning crews came out, sweeping debris from vandalized stores.

Iran's deputy interior minister for security, Majid Mirahmadi, told the state-run IRNA news agency the unrest in Zahedan had subsided on Saturday.

Violence first broke out in the restive city of Zahedan on Sept. 30 — a day that activists describe as the deadliest since the nationwide protests began. Outrage spread after allegations that a Baluch teenager had been raped by a police officer, fueling deep tensions in the underdeveloped region home to minority Sunni Muslims in the Shiite theocracy.

Rights groups say dozens of people were killed in what residents refer to as "Bloody Friday," as security forces opened fire on the crowds. The Oslo-based group Iran Human Rights puts the death toll at more than 90. Iranian authorities have described the Zahedan violence as involving unnamed separatists, without providing details or evidence.

With anger simmering over the deadly crackdown, unrest in the city flared again Friday, according to video footage that purportedly showed crowds gathering after noon prayers in Zahedan chanting "I will kill the one who killed my brother!" The scale of the clashes remained unclear, but Iranian state TV aired footage of the aftermath, blaming 150 "rioters" for the trail of destruction.

IRNA said protesters shouted slogans, hurled stones at motorists and damaged banks and other private property. Authorities said they arrested 57 demonstrators, among the estimated thousands who have landed in jail over the protests. The provincial police commander, Ahmad Taheri, said security forces were searching for more culprits.

More unrest loomed across the country five weeks after the protests first erupted. Security was exceptionally tight on the streets of Tehran on Saturday. Riot police and members of the Basij militia, armed with batons, were out in force near Tehran University and at major intersections in the capital.

Students gathered to chant against the government at universities across the city, according to witnesses who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. Similar demonstrations took place Saturday in the cities of Tabriz, Shiraz, Yazd and Mashhad, according to videos on social media. At Yazd University of Art

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and Architecture in the central city, footage purportedly showed students chanting around a red-dyed pool to protest the authorities' bloody crackdown.

A teachers' union in Iran also called for a nationwide strike on Sunday and Monday in protest over the deaths and detention of students in the country, according to the association's statement on Telegram.

"We know very well that the military and security forces are invading the sanctity of schools and educational spaces," the association said. "They have taken the lives of a number of students and children in the most cruel way."

Iranian officials have repeatedly blamed the protests on foreign interference, without offering evidence. On Saturday, Iran's deputy judiciary chief, Kazem Gharibabadi, vowed Iran would file a case in Tehran court against the United States government and London-based Farsi language media outlets over their alleged role in fomenting unrest.

"Due to the direct involvement and meddling of America in the recent disturbances, it was decided to open a legal case to assess the damages and issue a verdict," Gharibabadi told judiciary news website Mizan.news.

It's unlikely such a lawsuit, like a raft of previous Iranian cases against the U.S. over years of enmity, would gain traction; there are no American assets to confiscate in the Islamic Republic.

Protest against Iranian regime draws thousands in Berlin

BERLIN (AP) — Tens of thousands of people gathered in Germany's capital Saturday to show solidarity with antigovernment protesters in Iran, where a movement sparked by the death of a woman in the custody of morality police has evolved into a challenge to the Islamic Republic.

Berlin police estimated that 37,000 people had joined the German demonstration by late afternoon. Participants held up Iranian flags and signs criticizing Iran's leaders, many with the tagline "Women, Life, Freedom" in both English and German.

The demonstration, organized by the Woman(a) Life Freedom Collective, began at the Victory Column in Berlin's Tiergarten park and continued as a march through central Berlin.

Some demonstrators said they had come from elsewhere in Germany and other European countries to show their support.

"It is so important for us to be here, to be the voice of the people of Iran, who are killed on the streets," said Shakib Lolo, who is from Iran but lives in the Netherlands. "And this is not a protest anymore, this is a revolution, in Iran. And the people of the world have to see it."

Other issues were the focus of demonstrations in Berlin as well, including one calling for social solidarity in the wake of a potential energy crisis and another advocating a speed limit on German highways.

In Tehran, more antigovernment protests took place Saturday at several universities. The nationwide movement in Iran first focused on the country's mandatory hijab following the Sept. 16 death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini while in the custody of the morality police.

Security forces have dispersed gatherings with live ammunition and tear gas, leaving over 200 people dead, according to rights groups.

The government in Tehran also has been in the spotlight in European capitals due to allegations that Iran has supplied explosive drones that Russian troops are using in Ukraine.

Alex Jones seeks new trial after \$1B Sandy Hook verdict

By DAVE COLLINS Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Conspiracy theorist Alex Jones has asked a Connecticut judge to throw out a nearly \$1 billion verdict against him and order a new trial in a lawsuit by Sandy Hook families, who say they were subjected to harassment and threats from Jones' lies about the 2012 Newtown school shooting.

Jones filed the requests Friday, saying Judge Barbara Bellis' pretrial rulings resulted in an unfair trial and "a substantial miscarriage of justice."

"Additionally, the amount of the compensatory damages award exceeds any rational relationship to the evidence offered at trial," Jones' lawyers, Norm Pattis and Kevin Smith, wrote in the motion.

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Christopher Mattei, a lawyer for the 15 plaintiffs in the lawsuit against Jones, declined to comment on the filing Saturday, but said he and other attorneys for the Sandy Hook families will be filing a brief opposing Jones' request.

Twenty first graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School died in the attack on Dec. 14, 2012. An FBI agent who responded to the shooting and relatives of eight children and adults killed in the massacre sued Jones for defamation and infliction of emotional distress over his pushing the bogus narrative that the shooting was a hoax staged by "crisis actors" to impose more gun control.

Six jurors in Waterbury, Connecticut, ordered Jones and his company, Free Speech Systems, on Oct. 12 to pay \$965 million in compensatory damages to the plaintiffs and said punitive damages also should be awarded. Bellis has scheduled hearings for early next month to determine the amount of the punitive damages.

During the trial, victims' relatives said in often-emotional testimony that they were threatened and harassed for years by people who believed the lies told on Jones' show. Strangers showed up at the families' homes to record them and confronted them in public. People hurled abusive comments on social media. Relatives said they received death and rape threats.

The verdicts came after another jury in Texas in August ordered Jones and his company to pay nearly \$50 million in damages to the parents of another slain Sandy Hook child. A third trial over the hoax claims, involving two more Sandy Hook parents, is expected to be held near the end of the year in Texas.

Jones, who has acknowledged in recent years that the shooting did occur, has blasted the lawsuits and trials on his Austin, Texas-based Infowars show, calling them unfair and a violation of his free speech rights.

But he lost his right to present those defenses when the judges in Connecticut and Texas found him liable for damages by default without trials, for what they called Jones' repeated failures to turn over some evidence including financial documents and website analytics to the Sandy Hook lawyers.

With liability already established, the trials in both states focused only on how much Jones should pay in damages.

Pattis, Jones' lawyer, wrote in the motions filed Friday that there was a lack of evidence directly connecting Jones with the people who harassed and threatened the Sandy Hook families. Pattis said the trial resembled a "memorial service, not a trial."

"Yes, the families in this case suffered horribly as a result of the murder of their children," Pattis wrote, adding that Jones did not send people to harass and threaten the families.

"There was no competent evidence offered at this trial that he ever did," he wrote. "Instead, there was a shocking abuse of a disciplinary default and its transformation into a series of half-truths that misled a jury and resulted in substantial injustice."

City where George Floyd was killed struggles to recruit cops

By TRISHA AHMED Associated Press/Report for America

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Inside the Minneapolis Police Academy's sprawling campus on the city's north side, six people sat soberly and listened to a handful of officers and city officials make their pitch about joining an understaffed department that is synonymous with the murder of George Floyd.

Officers would live in a bustling, vibrant metro area with a high quality of life, they said, working in a large department where they could choose a wide variety of career paths with comprehensive benefits.

But those who take the oath must understand it is a dangerous job and that they would be expected to protect the sanctity of human life — even if it means reining in a fellow officer. And everything they do must be aimed at rebuilding trust in a city left in tatters by the killing of Floyd and other Black men.

"There's still people who still value us," Sgt. Vanessa Anderson told the potential recruits. "The community still values us. I really do think that."

Crime rose in Minneapolis during the pandemic, as in many American cities. Homicide offenses nearly doubled from 2019 to 2021, aggravated assaults jumped by one-third, and car-jackings — which the city only began tracking in fall 2020 — exploded. And the city's crime problem has been compounded by a mass exodus of officers who cited post-traumatic stress after Floyd was killed, gutting the department of roughly

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one-third of its personnel.

Some residents say the city can feel lawless at times. On July 4, police appeared unable to cope when troublemakers shot fireworks at other people, buildings and cars. That night sparked more than 1,300 911 calls. One witness described a firework being shot at one of the few police cars that responded.

"Our city needs more police officers," Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey said in August, while presenting a proposal to boost police funding in a push to increase officer numbers to more than 800 by 2025. Adding to the pressure: a court ruled in favor of residents who sued the city for not having the minimum number of officers required under the city's charter.

One of the six who attended the late summer presentation at the Minneapolis Police Academy was 36-year-old Cyrus Collins of suburban Lino Lakes, who identifies as mixed race.

Collins sports a facial tattoo of an obscenity against police. He told The Associated Press that it is directed at the "evil ones," such as those who killed Floyd and Breonna Taylor, who was shot to death by officers serving a search warrant in Louisville, Kentucky. The department said it has no policy governing tattoos.

"I don't want people of color to be against cops," said Collins, who works as a pizza cook and a FedEx package distributor. "What other career would be doper to send that message than to be a Minneapolis police officer?"

Also at the meeting was William Howard, a 29-year-old Black man who said he installs office furniture, writes stories for video games, and has only lived in Minneapolis for a few months. Howard said he has studied meditation and that he thinks it would be a useful skill when de-escalation is required.

"I feel like I can bring more heart into the police force. Heart isn't about power and control, it's about courage and protecting people and serving people," Howard said.

But he was on the fence about applying. He has a 1-year-old son and worried about work-life balance and the dangers of the job.

Frey's proposed funding would cover an officer recruitment marketing campaign, an internship program for high school students, and four classes of police recruits each year, among other measures.

Police spokesman Garrett Parten said the city is aware of the recruitment challenges it faces. Each class can accommodate up to 40 recruits, but only six were in the class that graduated in September. Only 57 people applied in 2022, down from 292 applicants in 2019.

"You can scream as loud as you want, 'Hire more people!' but if fewer people are applying, then it's not going to change the outcome much," Parten said. "Across the country, recruitment has become an issue. There's just fewer people that are applying for the job."

Statistics bear that out. Among 184 police agencies surveyed in the U.S. and Canada, the nonprofit Police Executive Research Forum found that resignations jumped by 43% from 2019 through 2021, and retirements jumped 24%. In the face of those departures, overall hiring fell by 4%.

At an informational session for aspiring cadets in March, Matthew Hobbs, a training officer, thanked the attendees for simply being there.

"In Minneapolis, with what we've been through for the last couple years, for you to be here and have an interest in law enforcement ... I'm impressed with every one of you that's here," he said.

Hobbs talked of how he felt the day after Floyd's killing, when he and other officers were ordered to leave the precinct that protesters quickly took over and burned.

"It was the worst day of my career. But even after that, I still love my job," Hobbs said, urging attendees to apply. "It's an incredible career."

Howard — the potential recruit with reservations — said later that he applied but did not make it past the oral exam. And Collins, who had talked about being a bridge between people of color and the police, said a last-minute trip forced him to miss a necessary oral exam. He plans to apply again later, he said.

"I want to do something that I take pride in and give all my compassion to it," Collins said. "I can't figure out any other career — right now, in 2022, with all this stuff going on — than to be a cop."

Today in History: October 23, Beirut bombing kills Marines

By The Associated Press undefined

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Today in History

Today is Sunday, Oct. 23, the 296th day of 2022. There are 69 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 23, 1983, 241 U.S. service members, most of them Marines, were killed in a suicide truck-bombing at Beirut International Airport in Lebanon; a near-simultaneous attack on French forces killed 58 paratroopers.

On this date:

In 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain, created by the Acts of Union between England and Scotland, held its first meeting.

In 1910, Blanche S. Scott became the first woman to make a public solo airplane flight, reaching an altitude of 12 feet at a park in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

In 1915, tens of thousands of women paraded up Fifth Avenue in New York City, demanding the right to vote.

In 1942, during World War II, Britain launched a major offensive against Axis forces at El Alamein (el ah-lah-MAYN') in Egypt, resulting in an Allied victory.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of Leyte (LAY'-tee) Gulf began, resulting in a major Allied victory against Japanese forces.

In 1956, a student-sparked revolt against Hungary's Communist rule began; as the revolution spread, Soviet forces started entering the country, and the uprising was put down within weeks.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon agreed to turn over White House tape recordings subpoenaed by the Watergate special prosecutor to Judge John J. Sirica.

In 1987, the U.S. Senate rejected, 58-42, the Supreme Court nomination of Robert H. Bork.

In 1989, 23 people were killed in an explosion at Phillips Petroleum Co.'s chemical complex in Pasadena, Texas.

In 1995, a jury in Houston convicted Yolanda Saldivar of murdering Tejano singing star Selena. (Saldivar is serving a life prison sentence.)

In 2009, President Barack Obama declared the swine flu outbreak a national emergency, giving his health chief the power to let hospitals move emergency rooms offsite to speed treatment and protect non-infected patients.

In 2014, officials announced that an emergency room doctor who'd recently returned to New York City after treating Ebola patients in West Africa tested positive for the virus, becoming the first case in the city and the fourth in the nation. (Dr. Craig Spencer later recovered.)

Ten years ago: During a debate with Democratic rival Joe Donnelly, Indiana Republican Senate candidate Richard Mourdock said that when a woman becomes pregnant during rape, "it is something that God intended to happen." (Other Republican candidates moved to distance themselves from Mourdock, who went on to lose the November election to Donnelly.)

Five years ago: New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced a civil rights investigation into the Weinstein Co., amid sexual harassment and assault allegations against its founder, Harvey Weinstein. As Republicans searched for ways to finance tax cuts, President Donald Trump promised that the popular 401(k) retirement savings program would not be touched. Sen. John McCain said he didn't consider Donald Trump to be a draft-dodger, but told ABC's "The View" that the system that allowed Trump and other wealthy Americans to use medical deferments to avoid military service during the Vietnam War was wrong.

One year ago: A three-run homer by Eddie Rosario helped send the Atlanta Braves to the World Series for the first time since 1999 with a 4-2 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers in Game 6 of the NLCS. A driver lost control during a Texas drag racing event on an airport runway and slammed into a crowd of spectators, killing two children and injuring eight other people.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Philip Kaufman is 86. Soccer great Pele (pay-lay) is 82. R&B singer Barbara Ann Hawkins (The Dixie Cups) is 79. Former ABC News investigative reporter Brian Ross is 74. Actor Michael Rupert is 71. Movie director Ang Lee is 68. Jazz singer Dianne Reeves is 66. Country singer Dwight Yoakam is 66. Community activist Martin Luther King III is 65. Movie director Sam Raimi is 63. Parodist "Weird Al" Yankovic

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is 63. Rock musician Robert Trujillo (Metallica) is 58. Christian/jazz singer David Thomas (Take 6) is 56. Rock musician Brian Nevin (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 56. Actor Jon Huertas is 53. Movie director Chris Weitz is 53. CNN medical reporter Dr. Sanjay Gupta is 53. Bluegrass musician Eric Gibson (The Gibson Brothers) is 52. Country singer Jimmy Wayne is 50. Actor Vivian Bang is 49. Rock musician Eric Bass (Shinedown) is 48. TV personality and host Cat Deeley is 46. Actor Ryan Reynolds is 46. Actor Saycon Sengbloh is 45. Rock singer Matthew Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 39. TV personality Meghan McCain is 38. R&B singer Miguel is 37. Actor Masiela Lusha (MAH'-see-el-la loo-SHA') is 37. Actor Emilia Clarke is 36. Actor Briana Evigan is 36. Actor Inbar Lavi is 36. Actor Jessica Stroup is 36. Neo-soul musician Allen Branstetter (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 32. Actor Taylor Spreitler is 29. Actor Margaret Qualley is 28. Actor Amandla Stenberg is 24.