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Election: Biden pushes closer to victory

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrat Joe Biden was pushing closer to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to carry the White House, securing victories in the “blue wall” battlegrounds of Wisconsin and Michigan and narrowing President Donald Trump’s path.

With just a handful of states still up for grabs, Trump tried to press his case in court in some key swing states. It was unclear if any of his campaign’s legal maneuvering over balloting would succeed in shifting the race in his favor.

Two days after Election Day, neither candidate had amassed the votes needed to win the White House. But Biden’s victories in the Great Lakes states left him at 264, meaning he was one battleground state away — any would do — from becoming president-elect.

Trump, with 214 electoral votes, faced a much higher hur-

dle. To reach 270, he needed to claim all four remaining battlegrounds: Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia and Nevada.

With millions of votes yet to be tabulated, Biden already had received more than 71 million votes, the most in history. At an afternoon news conference Wednesday, the former vice president said he expected to win the presidency but stopped short of outright declaring victory.

“I will govern as an American president,” Biden said. “There will be no red states and blue states when we win. Just the United States of America.”

Trump, in contrast, was escalating his efforts to sow doubt about the outcome of the race. A day after falsely claimed that he had won the election, he voiced support Thursday for ceasing the tallying of legally-cast votes in a tweet, saying, “STOP THE COUNT!” He later falsely asserted that ballots received after

Election Day “will not be counted,” a move that if implemented would affect military ballots, as his campaign propagated baseless allegations of fraud.

Elections are run by individual state, county and local governments and Trump’s public comments have no impact on the tallying of votes across the country.

Trump’s campaign engaged in a flurry of legal activity to try to improve the Republican president’s chances and cast doubt on the election results, requesting a recount in Wisconsin and filing lawsuits in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia. Statewide recounts in Wisconsin have historically changed the vote tally by only a few hundred votes; Biden led by more than 20,000 ballots out of nearly 3.3 million counted.

Biden has an edge over Trump after victories in Wisconsin and Michigan, two key Midwestern battleground states. Contests in

Georgia, Pennsylvania, Nevada and North Carolina were tight with votes still being tabulated.

The Trump campaign said it was confident the president would ultimately pull out a victory in Arizona, where votes were also still being counted, including in Maricopa County, the state’s most populous area. The AP has declared Biden the winner in Arizona and said Thursday that it was monitoring the vote count as it proceeds.

“The Associated Press continues to watch and analyze vote count results from Arizona as they come in,” said Sally Buzbee, AP’s executive editor. “We will follow the facts in all cases.”

For four years, Democrats have been haunted by the crumbling of the blue wall, the trio of Great Lakes states — Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania — that their candidates had been able to count on every four years. But Trump’s populist appeal

struck a chord with white working-class voters and he captured all three in 2016 by a combined total of just 77,000 votes.

The candidates waged a fierce fight for the states this year, with Biden’s everyman political persona resonating in blue-collar towns while his campaign also pushed to increase turnout among Black voters in cities like Detroit and Milwaukee.

It was unclear when a national winner would be determined after a long, bitter campaign dominated by the coronavirus and its effects on Americans and the national economy. But even as Biden’s prospects improved, the U.S. on Wednesday set another record for daily confirmed coronavirus cases as several states posted all-time highs. The pandemic has killed more than 233,000 people in the United States.

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Contributed Photo

The Elliott State Forest, which has been proposed to become a research forest managed by Oregon State University.

Elliott State Forest forum set for today

THE WORLD

The Oregon Department of State Lands and Oregon State University will be hosting a public forum Thursday about the university’s proposal to turn the Elliott State Forest into a research forest, according to the department.

Members of the public are invited to attend the session via

Zoom at 5:30 p.m. to hear from university and state leaders about the proposal, as well as ask questions about the draft proposal and contribute feedback. Registration information is available on the department’s website.

The forum is the second and last such event during the department’s discussions of what to do with the forest. Another “drop-

in” session will be held Friday, according to the department.

In 2018, state leaders proposed the idea of turning over the more than 90,000 acres of forest land to the university, and separating the land from Oregon’s education funding system. The university has been working since then to draft a proposal for the use of the land.

OSU’s draft proposal says the

plan would allow for research on forestry management practices on a much larger scale than the university’s other research forests, and would include some timber sales to keep the forest self-sufficient.

The State Land Board will meet on Dec. 8 to formally hear the university’s proposal, the board says.

Trump files election lawsuits in three states

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Democrat Joe Biden inched closer to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House, President Donald Trump’s campaign put into action the legal strategy the president had signaled for weeks: attacking the integrity of the voting process in states where the result could mean his defeat.

Democrats scoffed at the legal challenges the president’s campaign filed Wednesday in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia. In spite of the aggressive move, the flurry of court action did not seem obviously destined to impact the election’s outcome.

The new filings, joining existing Republican legal challenges in Pennsylvania and Nevada, demand better access for campaign observers to locations where ballots are being processed and

counted, and raised absentee ballot concerns, the campaign said.

The Associated Press called Michigan for Democrat Joe Biden on Wednesday. The AP has not called Nevada, Pennsylvania or Georgia.

The Trump campaign also is seeking to intervene in a Pennsylvania case at the Supreme Court that deals with whether ballots received up to three days after the election can be counted, deputy campaign manager Justin Clark said.

Trump’s campaign also announced that it would ask for a recount in Wisconsin, a state the AP called for Biden on Wednesday afternoon. Campaign manager Bill Stepien cited “irregularities in several Wisconsin counties,” without providing specifics.

Biden said Wednesday the count should continue in all

states, adding, “No one’s going to take our democracy away from us — not now, not ever.”

Campaign spokesman Andrew Bates said legal challenges were not the behavior of a winning campaign.

“What makes these charades especially pathetic is that while Trump is demanding recounts in places he has already lost, he’s simultaneously engaged in fruitless attempts to halt the counting of votes in other states in which he’s on the road to defeat,” Bates said in a statement.

Vote counting, meanwhile, stretched into Thursday. Every election, results reported on election night are unofficial and ballot counting extends past Election Day. But this year, unlike in previous years, states were contending with an avalanche of mail ballots driven by

fears of voting in person during a pandemic.

Mail ballots normally take more time to verify and count. This year, because of the large numbers of mail ballots and a close race, results were expected to take longer.

The lawsuits the Trump campaign filed in Michigan and Pennsylvania on Wednesday called for a temporary halt in the counting until it is given “meaningful” access in numerous locations and allowed to review ballots that already have been opened and processed.

The AP’s Michigan call for Biden came after the suit was filed. The president is ahead in Pennsylvania, but his margin is shrinking as more mailed ballots are counted.

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COVID-19 Cases US sets daily record

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. have climbed to an all-time high of more than 86,000 per day on average, in a glimpse of the worsening crisis that lies ahead for the winner of the presidential election.

Cases and hospitalizations are setting records all around the country just as the holidays and winter approach, demonstrating the challenge that either President Donald Trump or former Vice President Joe Biden will face in the coming months.

Daily new confirmed coronavirus cases in the U.S. have surged 45% over the past two weeks, to a record 7-day average of 86,352, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Deaths are also on the rise, up 15 percent to an average of 846 deaths every day.

The total U.S. death toll is already more than 232,000, and total confirmed U.S. cases have surpassed 9 million. Those are the highest totals in the world, and new infections are increasing in nearly every state.

Several states on Wednesday reported grim numbers that are fueling the national trends. Texas reported 9,048 new cases and 126 deaths, and the number of coronavirus patients in Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma hospitals set records. About a third of the new cases in Texas happened in hard-hit El Paso, where a top health officials said hospitals are at a “breaking point.”

Public health experts fear potentially dire consequences, at least in the short term.

Trump’s current term doesn’t end until Jan. 20. In the 86 days until then, 100,000 more Americans will likely die from the virus if the nation doesn’t shift course, said Dr. Robert Murphy, executive director of the Institute for Global Health at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, echoing estimates from other public health experts.

“Where we are is in an extremely dire place as a country. Every metric that we have is trending in the wrong direction. This is a virus that will continue to escalate at an accelerated speed and that is not going to stop on its own,” said Dr. Leana Wen, a public health expert at George Washington University.

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Oregon again reports nearly 600 new cases

Oregon Health Authority reports another weekly high

THE WORLD

PORTLAND — Oregon again was just under 600 new confirmed and presumptive cases of COVID-19, the Oregon Health Authority reported Tuesday.

The state had 597 new cases as of 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, extending the total since the pandemic began to 47,049.

In addition, COVID-19 claimed four more lives, bringing the state's death toll to 705.

The new cases were in the following counties: : Baker (7), Benton (2), Clackamas (54), Clatsop (4), Columbia (5), Coos (2), Crook (9), Deschutes (17), Douglas (12), Grant (2), Harney (1), Hood River (2), Jackson (52), Jefferson (5), Josephine (1), Klamath (3), Lake (1), Lane (24), Linn (11), Malheur (11), Marion (83), Morrow (2), Multnomah (172), Polk (13), Tillamook (2), Umatilla (23), Union (3), Wallowa (3), Wasco (1), Washington (57), and Yamhill (13).

Oregon's 702nd COVID-19 death is a 90-year-old woman in Washington County who tested positive on Oct. 13 and died on Nov. 2, at OHSU. Presence of underlying conditions is being confirmed.

Oregon's 703rd COVID-19 death is an 80-year-old woman in Marion County who tested positive on Oct. 28 and died on Nov. 2, at Legacy Meridian Park Medical Center. She had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 704th COVID-19 death is a 98-year-old man in Washington County who tested positive on Oct. 6 and died on Nov. 2, in his residence. He had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 705th COVID-19 death is a 69-year-old woman in Jackson County who tested positive on Oct. 27 and died on Nov. 2, at Providence Medford Medical Center. She had underlying conditions.

COVID-19 outbreak at Fred Meyer Distribution Center

An COVID-19 outbreak of 39 cases has been reported at the Fred Meyer Distribution Center in Clackamas County. The

case count includes all persons linked to the outbreak, which may include household members and other close contacts to an employee.

The outbreak investigation started on Oct. 22, but the initial case count was below the reporting threshold. State and county public health officials are working with the company to address the outbreak and protect the health of workers.

Weekly update

The Oregon Health Authority reported 34% spike in cases for the week in its weekly report Wednesday.

"These are troubling numbers, and we know that each and every one of the new cases means a fellow Oregonian is now facing a stressful and potentially very serious health situation," OHA officials said.

This is the second consecutive week that daily case counts set a record high for the pandemic.

As COVID-19 cases continue to surge, OHA reminds people to:

- Wear a face covering.
- Keep physically distant.
- Maintain good hand hygiene.

"We're in this together, and we can get through this — together," officials said.

Fact: Cold weather does not kill COVID-19

Pulling out sweaters and rain jackets is a good marker of the change in seasons. This year, as the weather starts to change, you might need to switch up your routines a little more.

Here are some reminders for leaving the house in colder weather:

- Grab an umbrella or rain jacket with a protective hood on the way out the door.
- Bring an extra mask in case you get caught in the rain. Letting your face covering get wet may decrease its effectiveness and make it difficult to breathe.
- Wear enough warm clothing. You may not be able to find an open café or library to duck in to warm up or dry off.
- Remember that the cold doesn't kill COVID-19 so you need still need to take the usual precautions to stay safe.

For more facts about COVID-19, see the World Health Organization's COVID-19 Mythbusters.

Ditch work planned on Coos River Highway in Eastside on Friday

THE WORLD

The City of Coos Bay will be conducting roadside ditch work on the Coos River Highway on Friday, Nov. 6, from the D Street junction to 16th Avenue.

Work will begin at 7 a.m. and continue until about 3:30 p.m. Lane closures controlled by flaggers will be required during the work.

Drivers are advised to

use caution in the work zone and when following equipment.

For more information, contact Public Works and Community Development Operations Administrator Randy Dixon at 541-269-1181 ext. 2201 or by email at rdixon@coosbay.org.

Storm drain repair closes lane near Mingus Park Pool

One lane on North 10th Street and the entrance to the Mingus Pool will have traffic control Thursday and Friday as contractors repair a storm line, according to the city.

Access to Mingus Pool will remain open, and the work is expected to last two days. Drivers and pedestrians in the area are advised to exercise caution in the construction zone.

Questions about the project can be directed to the Engineering Division at 541-269-8918.

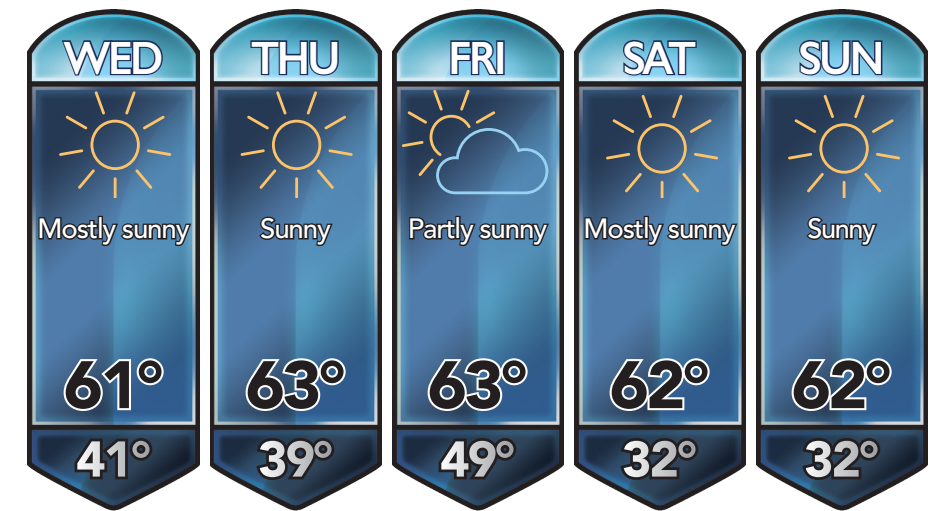
Reedsport crews working to repair water line break, services interrupted

THE WORLD

REEDSPORT — City water crews are responding to a water break Thursday morning, according to a

release from the city.

The break is in the area of North 20th Street and Hawthorn Avenue. Water services in the surrounding area will be interrupted until the repair



BLM pulls docks out for winter at North Spit ramp

THE WORLD

NORTH BEND — The Bureau of Land Management was planning to remove the docks at the North Spit boat ramp from the water on Thursday, Nov. 5.

While the docks will be unavailable during the winter months, the other facilities at the site will remain open.

BLM stores the docks on dry ground during the winter months to prevent stormy conditions and strong currents in the bay from damaging the docks. They are put back in the water each spring to



World File Photo
BLM's docks at the boat ramp on the North Spit, here shown in a 2008 photo, are removed each winter to protect them from storms.

provide access for boating, fishing, crabbing, clamming and other recreational opportunities.

For more information, contact BLM's Coos Bay District Office at 541-756-0100.

Virus

From Page 1

Dr. Susan Bailey, president of the American Medical Association, said there are things Americans can do now to help change the trajectory.

"Regardless of the outcome of the election, everyone in America needs to buckle down," Bailey said.

"A lot of us have gotten kind of relaxed about physically distancing, not washing our hands quite as often as we used to, maybe not wearing our masks quite as faithfully. We all need to realize that things are escalating and we've got to be more careful than ever," she said.

Polls showed the public health crisis and the economy were top concerns for many Americans.

They are competing issues that Trump and Biden view through drastically different lenses.

Trump has ignored the advice of his top health advisors, who have issued increasingly urgent warnings in recent days about the need for preventive measures, instead holding rallies where face coverings were rare and falsely suggesting that the pandemic is waning.

By contrast, Biden has rarely been seen in public without a mask and made public health a key issue.

Whether his voice will carry much influence if Trump is declared the winner is uncertain.

"President Trump has already made clear what his strategy is for COVID-19, which is to pretend that there is not a contagious virus all around us," Wen said. Trump has been touting treatments and vaccines, which won't be widely available to all Americans until at least mid-2021, she noted.

"There's a lot of suffering that is going to happen before then, which could have been prevented," Wen said.

Federal health officials have said they believe a vaccine could get emergency use authorization before the end of the year. The first limited supplies of doses would then be immediately distributed to the most vulnerable populations, which is likely to include front-line health care workers. Doses would then gradually become more widely available.

The timeline hinges on having a vaccine that's shown to be safe and effective, which experts note is not yet a certainty. "The vaccine has to move at the speed of science," said Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, vice dean for public health practice at Johns Hopkins University and former Maryland state health department chief.

On the treatment front, the makers of two experimental antibody drugs have asked the Food and Drug Administration to allow emergency use of them for people with mild to moderate COVID-19, and Trump, who received one when he was sickened last month, has said he wanted them available right away.

So far, the FDA has granted full approval to only one drug — the antiviral remdesivir — for hospitalized patients. Dexamethasone or similar steroids are recommended for certain severely ill patients under federal treatment guidelines.

The government continues to sponsor many studies testing other treatments alone and in combination with remdesivir.

But the development of treatments could be affected if Trump makes good on threats to fire Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government's top infectious disease doctor, or other top health officials Trump has clashed with.

Most Americans support mandating mask-wearing in public and think preventing the virus from spreading is a higher priority than protecting the economy, according to AP VoteCast, a nationwide survey of over 133,000 voters and nonvoters conducted for The Associated Press by NORC at the University of Chicago.

NORTHWEST STOCKS									
Closing and 8:30 a.m. quotes									
Stock	Close	8:30							
Intel	45.69	45.75	NW Natural	44.20	44.98	Levi Strauss	15.64	15.90	
Kroger	32.10	32.41	Skywest	28.76	30.83	Dow Jones closed at 27,852.27			
Microsoft	216.62	222.75	Starbucks	89.79	90.76	NASDAQ closed at 11,588.10			
Nike	127.45	129.41	Umpqua Hldgs	12.30	12.78	S&P 500 closed at 3,443.53			
			Weyerhaeuser	28.49	29.14	Provided by Coos Bay Edward Jones			
			Xerox	18.25	18.97				

LOTTERY			
MegaMillions	Powerball	Megabucks	Win For Life
Nov. 3	Nov. 4	Nov. 4	Nov. 4
7-31-44-45-55	23-32-33-45-49	14-32-37-38-39-44	4-31-38-59
Megaball: 19	Powerball: 14	Jackpot: \$4.1 Million	
Multiplier: x3	Multiplier: x2		
Jackpot: \$142 million	Jackpot: \$149 million		

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Election demonstrators arrested in Portland, Seattle

PORTLAND (AP) — Police in Seattle and Portland, Oregon arrested more than a dozen people as hundreds took to the streets to demand a full count of all presidential election votes and a halt to President Donald Trump’s court challenges to stop counts in some key battleground states, officials said.

Seven people were arrested on Capitol Hill in Seattle and one person who was being arrested for allegedly damaging property was taken to a hospital after “experiencing a medical episode,” police said in a statement early Thursday. Others were arrested on suspicion of obstruction, pedestrian interference, property damage, resisting arrest and assaulting an officer.

Police said it was unclear whether the person’s medical issue was related to the arrest. The person was initially hospitalized in critical condition but later upgraded to seirous condition,

Harborview Medical Center spokeswoman Susan Gregg said Thursday morning.

In Portland, protesters smashed windows at businesses, hurled objects including fire-works at officers and police made at least 10 arrests, according to a statement from the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office.

Officers seized multiple fire-arms, ammunition, a knife, fire-works, body armor and gas masks from people who were arrested, a sheriff’s office statement said.

One of the people who was arrested had a rifle with a magazine of ammunition, fireworks, a knife and was wearing a ballistics vest, the sheriff’s office said.

Gov. Kate Brown had activated the use of the state National Guard to help local law enforcement manage unrest related to the election, the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office said.

Brown said previously she would keep state troopers, sher-

iff’s deputies and police officers under a unified command into Friday in Portland to handle protests amid uncertainty over the the U.S. presidential election outcome.

The Oregon National Guard had been on standby before the election. Brown’s order put law enforcement agencies under the joint command of the Oregon State Police and Multnomah County Sheriff’s Department, which allows those agencies to use tear gas if necessary to quell unrest.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, who is also the city’s police commissioner, banned the use of tear gas by Portland police earlier this fall after concerns about an overly aggressive response to the unrest.

Portland has been roiled by five months of near-nightly racial injustice protests since the police killing of George Floyd, and several hundred people marched in the city on Election Day. Law enforcement made no arrests that

day and the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office thanked demonstrators for remaining peaceful.

On Wednesday, demonstrators in Portland held signs saying, “Count Every Vote,” and “Keeping Hope Alive.” Suzanne Thornton, 79, said she was motivated to attend a protest for the first time because of Trump’s court challenges.

“Our president seems to be making such a big deal about it and we need to clarify what the vote count is for. He doesn’t seem to get it,” Thornton said. “I don’t have a lot of patience with him because he is such a baby and I don’t see how so many people in this country see him as a leader.”

Gerry Foote, a 69-year-old former high school teacher, waved a sign that read “Teacher against tyranny. No hate.” Foote, who protested against the Vietnam War as a college student, said it was critical to prevent Trump

from stopping the vote count.

Protesters in Seattle said they are also trying to make sure the Black Lives Matter movement and other social justice causes remain in the spotlight.

Some carried signs saying, “Stop Trump’s Racist Voter Suppression,” “Black Lives Matter,” and “Don’t Steal the Election.”

On Thursday, Democrat Joe Biden was pushing closer to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House after securing victories in the battlegrounds of Wisconsin and Michigan and narrowing President Donald Trump’s path.

Brown said in a statement that “it’s important to trust the process, and the system that has ensured free and fair elections in this country through the decades, even in times of great crisis.”

She added: “We are all in this together — so let’s work together to keep our fellow Oregonians safe.”

Trump, allies spread falsehoods to cast doubt in election

ASSOCIATED PRESS

While much of America was sleeping Wednesday morning, President Donald Trump’s leads in crucial battleground states began slipping — and that’s when online falsehoods about the election started surging.

More than 100,000 votes that Democratic nominee Joe Biden picked up in Wisconsin were evidence of “outright corruption,” one Twitter user surmised. The ballots were “MAGICAL-LY” found, claimed another.

In fact, Biden’s early morning comeback in the closely watched Midwestern state was simply the result of absentee and early votes being counted.

With the outcome of the U.S. presidential race still in limbo, Trump and his supporters seized on — and spread — online mis-

information about legally cast absentee and mail-in votes in battleground states. They used it as fodder to support the president’s baseless declaration on live television early Wednesday that Democrats were trying to “steal the election” from him.

“They are finding Biden votes all over the place — in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan. So bad for our Country!” Trump wrote in a tweet hours later. Trump’s campaign filed lawsuits Wednesday in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia, paving the way for him to contest the election’s outcome.

It’s standard practice in the United States to continue counting votes after Election Day.

Social media companies kept busy trying to counter the deluge of online mis-

information, but experts say it is hard to completely blunt the impact.

Researchers at the Election Integrity Partnership, a group of some of the world’s top misinformation researchers, found that mentions of voter fraud rose dramatically immediately following Trump’s early morning remarks.

The unfounded allegations exploited public confusion over how elections are managed at a time when many voters were looking for help interpreting the unfolding results, said Kate Starbird, a University of Washington professor and online misinformation expert who is part of the group.

Many voters may have gone to sleep Tuesday assuming Trump’s leads in states like Wisconsin would hold, only to see Biden

take the lead overnight.

“You’ve got this post-election uncertainty,” Starbird said. “We’ve seen a lot of things that were looking good for Trump in the night shift to blue, and we’re seeing attempts to delegitimize these shifts.”

On social media, the misinformation was rooted in allegations that the election had been stolen from Trump.

More than 221,000 retweets on Twitter mentioned stealing the election in a 24-hour period starting on Election Day, compared to just 10,000 tweets about the topic on Monday, according to an analysis from VineSight, a tech company that tracks online misinformation.

Terms like #StopTheSteal were mentioned nearly 120,000 times on websites and social media platforms throughout the day Tuesday. Philadelphia and Pennsylvania were referenced more than any other city or state, according to a similar analysis from media intelligence firm Zignal Labs.

Pennsylvania was a hot spot for election misinformation Tuesday. There were misleading claims about discarded Trump ballots and voting machines being shut down at polling locations circulating across Facebook and Twitter.

Misinformation continued to swirl about the state into Wednesday as the state remained undecided, including vague claims on social media that ballots had just been “found” in the state and shouldn’t be counted.

Others jumped on a data error in a map of Michigan that showed Biden getting a huge spike in votes in an update of results, with tweets shared thousands of times that said it showed “fraud.” Decision Desk HQ, which tacks election results and published the map, confirmed it was an error that was corrected.

And fake images garnering tens of thousands of Facebook interactions included memes featuring cardboard boxes labeled “Emergency Democrat Votes” and a stock photograph of a woman with

the caption, “Hang on, we found more votes!” People falsely claimed on social networks that counting mail-in ballots amounted to corruption.

When Milwaukee election officials finished counting the city’s roughly 169,000 absentee ballots and uploaded the results around 3 a.m. Wednesday, pro-Trump social media accounts suggested it was a fraudulent “ballot dump.” Trump won Wisconsin in 2016 but Biden picked it up on Wednesday.

The count of the absentee ballots was live streamed on YouTube for anyone to watch and when it was finished, Milwaukee police escorted the city’s elections director from a central counting location to the county courthouse to deliver thumb drives with the data. Wisconsin law requires the results of those absentee ballots be reported all at once, Wisconsin Elections Commission Administrator Meagan Wolfe explained Wednesday.

“There are no dark corners or locked doors in elections,” Wolfe said.

Election

From Page 1

Trump spent much of Wednesday in the White House residence, huddling with advisers and fuming at media coverage showing his Democratic rival picking up battlegrounds. Trump used his Twitter feed to falsely claim victory in several key states and amplify unsubstantiated conspiracy theories about Democratic gains as absentee and early votes were tabulated.

Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien said the president would formally request a Wisconsin recount, citing “irregularities” in several counties. And the campaign said it was filing suit in Michigan and Pennsylvania to halt ballot counting on grounds that it wasn’t given proper access to observe. Still more legal action was launched in Georgia.

At the same time, hundreds of thousands of votes were still to be counted in Pennsylvania, and Trump’s campaign said it was moving to intervene in existing Supreme Court litigation over counting mail-in ballots there.

In other closely watched races, Trump picked up Florida, the largest of the

swing states, and held onto Texas and Ohio while Biden kept New Hampshire and Minnesota.

Beyond the presidency, Democrats had hoped the election would allow the party to reclaim the Senate and pad its majority in the House. But while the voting scrambled seats in the House and Senate, it ultimately left Congress much like it began — deeply divided.

The candidates spent months pressing dramatically different visions for the nation’s future, including on racial justice, and voters responded in huge numbers, with more than 100 million people casting votes ahead of Election Day.

Trump, in an extraordinary move from the White House, issued premature claims of victory and said he would take the election to the Supreme Court to stop the counting.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell dis-counted the president’s quick claim of victory, saying it would take a while for states to conduct their vote counts. The Kentucky Republican said that “claiming you’ve won the election is different from finishing the counting.”

Vote tabulations routinely continue beyond Election Day, and states

largely set the rules for when the count has to end. In presidential elections, a key point is the date in December when presidential electors meet. That’s set by federal law.

Dozens of Trump supporters chanting “Stop the count!” descended on a ballot-tallying center in Detroit, while thousands of anti-Trump protesters demanding a complete vote count took to the streets in cities across the U.S.

Protests — sometimes about the election, sometimes about racial inequality — took place Wednesday in at least a half-dozen cities, including Los Angeles, Seattle, Houston, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis and San Diego.

Several states allow mailed-in votes to be accepted after Election Day as long as they were postmarked by Tuesday. That includes Pennsylvania, where ballots postmarked by Nov. 3 can be accepted if they arrive up to three days later.

Trump appeared to suggest that those ballots should not be counted and that he would fight for that outcome at the high court. But legal experts were dubious of Trump’s declaration. Trump has appointed three of the high court’s nine justices including, most recently Amy Coney Barrett.

Lawsuits

From Page 1

The state had 3.1 million mail-in ballots that take time to count and an order allows them to be received and counted up until Friday if they are postmarked by Nov. 3.

Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, a Democrat, said in a CNN interview the Trump campaign’s lawsuit was “more a political document than a legal document.”

“There is transparency in this process. The counting has been going

on. There are observers observing this counting, and the counting will continue,” he said.

The Michigan lawsuit claims Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, a Democrat, was allowing absentee ballots to be counted without teams of bipartisan observers as well as challengers. Michigan Democrats said the suit was a longshot. Poll watchers from both sides were plentiful Wednesday at one major polling place in question — the TCF Center in Detroit, the AP observed.

The Georgia lawsuit filed in Chatham County essen-

tially asks a judge to ensure the state laws are being followed on absentee ballots. Campaign officials said they were considering peppering a dozen other counties around the state with similar claims around absentee ballots.

Trump, addressing supporters at the White House early Wednesday, talked about taking the undecided race to the Supreme Court. Though it was unclear what he meant, his comments evoked a reprise of the court’s intervention in the 2000 presidential election that ended with a decision effectively handing the presidency to George W. Bush.

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren

WOMAN WONDERS WHY SON DIDN'T REVEAL PARTNER'S MISCARRIAGE

DEAR ABBY: I thought my son and I were close. Recently, I learned that his girlfriend had a miscarriage. I learned about it from an email his girlfriend sent me, and I have also learned he told another relative he’s close to about the miscarriage. I called his girlfriend after receiving her email and expressed my sympathy, inquired about her health and told her that I would keep her and my son in my prayers.

My feelings are hurt because I didn’t hear about the pregnancy/miscarriage from my son, and he disclosed it to another relative instead. I thought we could discuss anything -- even though we disagree on some things. I want to ask why he didn’t tell me and let him know my feelings are hurt because children are family treasures. Should I express how I feel and ask why he felt he couldn’t share with me? -- OVERLOOKED IN FLORIDA

DEAR OVERLOOKED: Resist the urge to personalize this the way you have. If you are smart, you will think long and hard -- a few months, perhaps -- before asking your son that question because if there is a problem in your relationship, this will only make it worse. Take this opportunity to work on the things that aren’t right in your relationship with your son. He may have had other things besides his mother on his mind when this happened, and may not have wanted or needed to be reminded that children are “family treasures.”

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together for almost 10 years. He’s my dreamboat, everything I ever wanted in a man. Although he doesn’t have a history of cheating, he is flirtatious.

My husband fixes computers. Last year, when my best friend’s computer wouldn’t turn on, he was happy to help. I just found a naked picture of her on his computer. When I confronted him, he confessed he stole it while he was

fixing her computer. When I told my friend, she kind of blew it off. (“Men do stupid stuff ...”) I don’t know if I can trust him again and I feel beaten down. I have been hurt several times before in prior relationships. Abby, what do I do? -- SHOCKED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR SHOCKED: Your best friend’s reaction was unusual. Most women would be mortified over this scenario. Your husband’s behavior was shameful. He should delete the photo he stole and apologize to you and your friend for the “stupid stuff” he did. And, because this has damaged your ability to trust your husband, insist on some sessions with a marriage and family therapist to see if the damage to your relationship with him can be repaired.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law has a disgusting habit: Whenever I’m starting to cook something with raw hamburger, she grabs a mouthful. I have tried explaining how dangerous it is, but she won’t listen to reason. She says she’s been doing it since she was a kid (she’s 80 now). I’ve tried pointing out that the meat supply is not the same as it was then, but her response is “it hasn’t hurt me yet!” Please advise. -- CAREFUL COOK IN CAROLINA

DEAR COOK: I’ll try. Go to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration website (fda.gov) and search on “eating raw ground beef.” When you do, you will find printable information about the dangers of E. coli, which is most prevalent in raw hamburger and especially dangerous to young children and people over the age of 65. Then give the printout to your mother-in-law and pray she’s capable of changing her ways.-----

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Trump backers converge on vote centers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dozens of angry supporters of President Donald Trump converged on vote-counting centers in Detroit and Phoenix as the returns went against him Wednesday in the two key states, while thousands of anti-Trump protesters demanding a complete tally of the ballots in the still-un-decided election took to the streets in cities across the U.S. “Stop the count!” the Trump supporters chanted in Detroit. “Stop the steal!” they said in Phoenix.

The protests came as the president insisted without evidence that there were major problems with the voting and the ballot counting, especially with mail-in votes, and as Republicans filed suit in various states over the election.

Wearing Trump gear, the Phoenix protesters filled much of the parking lot at the Maricopa County election center, and members of the crowd chanted, “Fox News sucks!” in anger over the network declaring Joe Biden the winner in Arizona.

Rep. Paul Gosar, an Arizona Republican and staunch Trump supporter, joined the crowd, declaring: “We’re not going to let this election be stolen. Period.”

However, observers from both major political parties were inside the election center as ballots were processed and counted, and the procedure was live-streamed online at all times.

Several sheriff’s deputies blocked the entrance to the building. And the vote-counting went on into the night, Maricopa County Elections Department spokeswoman Megan Gilbertson said.

Two top county officials — one a Democrat, the other a Republican — issued a statement expressing concern about how misinformation had spread about the integrity of the election process.

“Everyone should want all the votes to be counted, whether they were mailed or cast in person,” said the statement signed by Clint Hickman, the GOP chair of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, and Democratic Supervisor Steve Gallardo. “An

accurate vote takes time. ... This is evidence of democracy, not fraud.”

Meanwhile, from New York City to Seattle, thousands of demonstrators turned out to demand that every vote be tallied.

In Portland, Oregon, which has been a scene of regular protests for months, Gov. Kate Brown called out the National Guard as demonstrators engaged in what authorities said was widespread violence downtown, including smashing windows. Protesters in Portland were demonstrating about a range of issues, including police brutality and the counting of the vote.

“It’s important to trust the process, and the system that has ensured free and fair elections in this country through the decades, even in times of great crisis,” Brown said in a statement. “We are all in this together.”

Richard March came to an anti-Trump demonstration in Portland despite a heart condition that makes him vulnerable to COVID-19.

“To cast doubt on this election has terrible consequences for our

democracy,” he said. “I think we are a very polarized society now — and I’m worried about what’s going to come in the next days and weeks and months.”

In New York, hundreds of people paraded past boarded-up luxury stores on Manhattan’s Fifth Avenue, and in Chicago, demonstrators marched through downtown and along a street across the river from Trump Tower.

Similar protests — sometimes about the election, sometimes about racial inequality — took place in at least a half-dozen cities, including Los Angeles, Houston, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis and San Diego.

The confrontation in Detroit started shortly before The Associated Press declared that Biden had won Michigan.

Video shot by local media showed angry people gathered outside the TCF Center and inside the lobby, with police officers lined up to keep them from entering the vote-counting area. They chanted, “Stop the count!” and “Stop the vote!”

Earlier, the Republican cam-

paign filed suit in a bid to halt the count, demanding Michigan’s Democratic secretary of state allow in more inspectors.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, a Democrat, insisted both parties and the public had been given access to the tallying, “using a robust system of checks and balances to ensure that all ballots are counted fairly and accurately.”

Michigan has been on edge for months over fears of political violence. Anti-government protesters openly carried guns into the state Capitol during protests over coronavirus restrictions in the spring, and six men were arrested last month on charges of plotting to kidnap Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer

On Election Night, scattered protests broke after voting ended, stretching from Washington, D.C., to Seattle, but there was no widespread unrest or significant violence.

The prolonged task of counting this year’s deluge of mail-in votes raised fears that the lack of clarity in the presidential race could spark unrest.

Congress still split after election

Republicans gain seats in House and keep Senate control

WASHINGTON (AP) — The election scrambled seats in the House and Senate but ultimately left Congress much like it began, deeply split as voters resisted big changes despite the heated race at the top of the ticket for the White House.

It’s an outcome that dampens Democratic demands for a bold new agenda, emboldens Republicans and almost ensures partisan gridlock regardless of who wins the presidency. Or perhaps, as some say, it provides a rare opening for modest across-the-aisle cooperation. Speaker Nancy Pelosi was on track to keep control of the Democratic House, but saw her majority shrinking and her leadership called into question. Control of the Senate tilted Republicans’ way as they fended off an onslaught of energized challengers, though a few races remained undecided Wednesday.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Wednesday he’s confident “no matter who ends up running the government” they’ll be “trying to overcome all that and get results.”

One certainty is the upended projections will force a rethinking of polling, fundraising and the very messages the parties use to reach voters in the Trump era and beyond.

By evening, Pelosi had all but declared Democrat Joe Biden the winner, saying House Democrats “will now have the opportunity to deliver extraordinary progress” on party priorities — lowering health care costs, providing jobs through new infrastructure and others.

But the dismal outcome for congressional Democrats put in ques-

tion the ambitious plans for legislative overhauls pushed by the party, eager for a sweep of Washington government.

Even if Democrats capture the White House and a narrowly split Senate, Pelosi’s leverage to force deal-making on her terms will be diminished by her House losses.

If Donald Trump wins another term, his Republican allies particularly in the Senate will likely feel more comfortable sticking with him after escaping an electoral wipeout, though they have yet to outline a GOP agenda.

Scott Jennings, a Republican strategist close to McConnell, said win or lose Trump “reorganized the political parties,” turning Republicans, not Democrats, into the party of “working-class” America.

“Democrats have a lot to think about when it comes to those voters,” Jennings said. “And Republicans have a lot to think about enacting policies germane to those voters.”

Democrats countered that with Biden on the brink of victory, the mandate for solutions to the coronavirus crisis, faltering economy and other big issues was as strong as ever.

“We’re going to get back to the business of governing,” said Zac Petkanas, a Democratic strategist. “Republicans are going to have a choice — whether they’re going to be helpful or stand in way.”

Most immediately, a COVID relief bill remains within reach, as the pandemic blazes through the states. McConnell said he would also like to negotiate a big spending bill to keep the government running past a mid-December deadline.

House Republicans picked up five seats, so far, deflating Pelosi’s plans to reach deep into Trump country by making rare gains with women and minority candidates.

Republicans defeated several Democratic freshmen who delivered

the House majority in 2018 in a backlash against Trump, by linking them to their most liberal members, including Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and inaccurately branding them all as “socialist.”

“We expanded this party that reflects America, that looks like America,” said House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., in a conference call with reporters.

A handful of new progressives will be coming to Washington to join House Democrats, while Republicans will see new right-flank members, including Marjorie Taylor Greene, who has espoused unfounded QAnon conspiracy theories and won a vacant seat in northwest Georgia. Trump has called Greene a “future Republican star.”

While Democrats picked up must-win Senate seats in Colorado and Arizona, they suffered a setback in Alabama, and Republicans held their own in one race after another — in South Carolina, Maine, Iowa, Texas, Kansas and Montana, dramatically limiting Democrats’ hopes of making inroads.

“I know folks are anxious,” Democratic Sen. Chris Murphy told followers on a live Twitter video. “We need to count the votes.”

Democrats halted a Republican push for John James, a Black businessman trying to unseat Democratic Sen. Gary Peters, who won reelection late Wednesday.

The races attracted an unprecedented outpouring of small-dollar donations for Democrats from Americans apparently voting with their pocketbooks to propel long-shot Senate campaigns.

“You wasted a lot of money,” said White House ally Sen. Lindsey Graham in Columbia, South Carolina, after defeating Jamie Harrison, despite the Democrat’s stunning \$100 million haul for his upstart campaign.

Still, Republican strategist

Steven Law, president of the Senate Leadership Fund, which supports GOP senators, said future candidates are going to have to step up their own fundraising.

McConnell also warned of the continued problems Republicans face in the Trump era as voters turn away from the GOP.

“We need to win back the suburbs,” McConnell said. “We had a better election than most people thought we’d have, but we have improvements we need to make.”

Republicans believe Democrats erred by focusing almost exclusively on the COVID crisis and the risks to Americans’ health care as Trump and the GOP try to unravel the Obama-era Affordable Care Act.

Voters care almost as much about the economy, they said.

According to AP VoteCast, a national survey of the electorate, voters ranked the pandemic and the economy as top concerns.

“It’s time for a different approach,” said Democrat John Hickenlooper, a former governor who unseated Republican Sen. Cory Gardner in Colorado.

Yet voters, for the most part, stuck with the status quo.

Securing the Senate majority will be vital for the winner of the presidency. Senators confirm administration nominees, including for the Cabinet, and can propel or stall the White House agenda. With Republicans now controlling the chamber, 53-47, three or four seats will determine party control, depending on who wins the presidency because the vice president can break a tie in the Senate.

The final breakdown awaited the outcome of races in Alaska, Georgia and North Carolina, where Republican Sen. Thom Tillis has struggled against Democrat Cal Cunningham, despite the married challenger’s sexting scandal with a public relations strategist.

LGBTQ candidates get milestone victories

NEW YORK (AP) — Across the nation, LGBTQ candidates achieved milestone victories in Tuesday’s election, including the first transgender person elected to a state Senate, and the first openly gay Black men to win seats in Congress.

The landmark wins came not in only blue but also red states such as Tennessee, where Republican Eddie Mannis, who is gay, and Democrat Torrey Harris, who identifies as bisexual, won seats in the state House to become the first openly LGBTQ members of that legislature.

According to the LGBTQ Victory Fund, which recruits and supports LGBTQ candidates, that leaves only Alaska, Louisiana and Mississippi as states that have never elected an LGBTQ legislator.

“Torrey and Eddie sent a clear message that LGBTQ candidates can win in a deep red state while being their authentic selves,” said the Victory Fund’s president, former Houston Mayor Annise Parker. “Their presence in the state legislature can dilute the most toxic anti-LGBTQ voices and lead to more inclusive legislation.”

In New York, attorney Mondaire Jones won in a district of New York City suburbs and Ritchie Torres, a member of the New York City Council, won in the Bronx to make history as the first gay Black men elected to the U.S. House. Both are Democrats; Torres identifies as Afro Latino.

The two “will bring unique perspectives based on lived experiences never before represented in the U.S. Congress,” Parker said.

With the addition of Jones and Torres, there will be nine openly LGBTQ members of the House as of January. The seven incumbents all won their races.

In Delaware, Democrat Sarah McBride won her state Senate race with more than 70% of the vote and will become the first openly transgender state senator in the country.

“It is my hope that a young LGBTQ kid here in Delaware or really anywhere in this country can look at the results and know that our democracy is big enough for them, too,” McBride said as her victory was confirmed Tuesday night.

McBride interned at the White House under President Barack Obama and in 2016 became the first openly transgender person to give a speech at a major party convention.

Two other Democrats became the first openly transgender people to win seats in their states’ Houses: Taylor Small in Vermont and Stephanie Byers in Kansas.

Byers, a retired high school band teacher, expressed hope that her victory would encourage other transgender people in conservative Kansas.

“It helps those people who are transgender to reinforce that they are people who matter, they are people who are important and they’re people who can be successful in their lives,” she told The Wichita Eagle.

Before Tuesday’s election, there were four other transgender lawmakers in state legislatures nationwide, according to the Victory Fund.

Ride-hailing and delivery giants win fight against labor law

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — App-based companies like Uber, Lyft and Doordash have dodged a potentially devastating blow to their industry by carving out an exemption from a California law that required them to classify their drivers as employees instead of contractors.

California voters passed Proposition 22 and delivered a stinging rebuke to state lawmakers and labor leaders who were fighting for better working conditions for a growing number

of people who drive for ride-hailing and food delivery services.

California has one of the strictest laws in the country for determining when a company must treat its workers as employees with benefits such as minimum wage, overtime and sick days. Uber, Lyft, Doordash, Instacart and others sought to get out of those requirements, and after failing in court, succeeded in convincing voters to give them an exemption from most of the year-old

law’s provisions.

A record \$200 million spending spree by the companies and their supporters helped them win the vote. The investment yielded a huge return for Uber and Lyft, whose combined market value climbed by \$10 billion on Wednesday.

Supporters applauded the outcome, saying drivers would be able to maintain their independence while accessing new benefits such as a guaranteed minimum wage and

health care subsidies.

Don Pruitt, an accountant in Stockton, was relieved by Proposition 22’s passage because it will allow him to continue to drive for both Lyft and Uber, as well as handle deliveries for Postmates and Instacart, as he has been during the past three years whenever he isn’t busy filing taxes for his clients.

“If Prop. 22 had lost, I wouldn’t have been able to keep doing that to make extra money. I couldn’t work for all of them if I

had to be an employee,” Pruitt said.

James Patterson, a Sacramento retiree who drove four years for Lyft but now does deliveries for DoorDash and Postmates, prefers the freedom of being able to make his own schedule.

“You can just work when you want and stop whenever you want,” he said. “And as someone who is retired, it’s nice to get a little supplemental income whenever you need it.”

Others viewed the development as a major setback for gig workers.

“It should be a good wake-up call for us all, across the country, if these companies think they can buy their way out of having to comply with basic labor laws,” said Shannon Liss-Riordan, a labor attorney who has been fighting for employment protections for app-based workers. “I’m worried about what these companies may try to pull off on a national basis.”

eEdition

Coos County shows record high voter turnout

County has highest number of voters, though percentage is down slightly

THE WORLD

A record high number of Coos County residents cast their ballots in the 2020 general election Tuesday, results show. Over 37,700 were returned by the 8 p.m. deadline, county elections data show.

That’s just under 6,000 more ballots than the 2016 presidential election, and over 8,000 more than 2012, records show. The 2020 returns represent 79.09% of the county’s eligible voters, a

smaller share than 2016’s 79.25% and 2012’s 83.75%. Statewide, voter turnout was 81.24%

The record-high turnout in Coos County was generally a good sign for Republicans in state and federal races. The county’s 15,800 Republicans voted at a rate of about 90%, compared to 88% among 12,300 Democrats and just 55% of 16,200 nonaffiliated voters, state returns data showed about an hour before Tuesday’s ballot deadline.

Republicans won support from county voters in every non-local race — though in most cases, those Republican votes in Coos County were outweighed by Democrats in other areas of the state.

President Trump received about 59% of the county’s vote for president, far above the 38%

of former Vice President Joe Biden.

Still, unsurprisingly, Oregon voted strongly for Biden. The Associated Press called the race for Biden just moments after the 8 p.m. ballot deadline, and Wednesday morning’s returns data show Biden receiving about 57% of the state’s support.

The Associated Press also called the state’s U.S. Senate race soon after polls closed. Incumbent Democrat Jeff Merkley received about 58% of the vote statewide.

In Coos County, Republican challenger Jo Rae Perkins, who received national attention for her support of the baseless QAnon conspiracy theory, held about 56% of the vote.

Republican congressional

challenger Alek Skarlatos received about 57% of the county’s vote, a knockout over longtime incumbent Peter DeFazio’s 40%. Still, DeFazio won the fourth congressional district handily and will be heading back to Washington for another term as representative.

In Oregon’s heated Secretary of State race, Republican candidate Kim Thatcher received 59.77% of the vote in the county. Democrat Shemia Fagan, who received just 34.71% of the county’s votes, won statewide with 50.88% of all ballots cast, according to state elections results.

Fagan’s win statewide means Democrats will retake control of the the only state office currently under Republican control. Fagan

received support from Democratic donors state- and nationwide, as the office will oversee voting access and a potential redistricting effort in 2021 if legislators can’t come to an agreement.

County and state returns show similar results for Oregon’s Attorney General and State Treasurer races.

Republican attorney general candidate Michael Cross received 58% of Coos County’s votes, while incumbent Democrat Ellen Rosenblum won the state with nearly 57% of the vote. Cross, who positioned himself as an opportunity to “check” Oregon Governor Kate Brown on her power, would have been the first non-lawyer to hold the position in modern history, Oregon Public Broadcasting reported.

South Coast voting for state/national candidates

Coos County Voting			
President			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Donald J. Trump (Republican)	21488	58.90	
Joseph R. Biden (Democrat)	14024	38.44	
Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)	560	1.53	
Howie Hawkins (Pacific Green)	167	0.46	
Dario Hunter (Progressive)	78	0.21	
U.S. Senator			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Jo Rae Perkins (Republican)	19757	55.58	
Jeff Merkley (Democrat)	14666	41.26	
Ibrahim A Tahner (Pacific Green)	449	1.26	
Gary Dye (Libertarian)	655	1.84	
U.S. Representative 4th District			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Peter DeFazio (Democrat)	14535	40.43	
Alek Skarlatos (Republican)	20600	57.30	
Daniel Hoffay (Pacific Green)	792	2.20	
Secretary of State			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Nathalie Paravicini (Pacific Green)	894	2.56	
Kyle Markley (Libertarian)	1008	2.89	
Kim Thatcher (Republican)	20874	59.77	
Shemia Fagan (Democrat)	12121	34.71	
State Treasurer			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Michael P Marsh (Constitution)	1041	2.99	
Tobias Reed (Democrat)	12956	37.25	
Chris Henry (Independent)	1382	3.97	
Jeff Gudman (Republican)	19382	55.73	
Attorney General			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Ellen Rosenblum (Democrat)	13623	39.65	
Michael Cross (Republican)	20104	58.07	
Lars DH Hedbor (Libertarian)	788	2.28	
State Senator District 1			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Dallas Heard (Republican)	9794	66.95	
Kat Stone (Democrat)	4809	32.87	
State Senator District 5			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Dick Anderson (Republican)	11085	54.68	
Shauleen Higgins (Pacific Green Party)	4.62	937	
Melissa Cribbins (Democrat)	8239	40.64	
State Representative District 1			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Calla Felicity (Democrat)	4512	31.00	
Davie Brock Smith (Republican)	10024	68.88	
State Representative District 9			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Cal Mukumoto (Democrat)	8338	41.12	
Boomer Wright (Republican)	11917	58.78	
State Measures			
Votes	Pct.		
M107 Limiting Political Contributions			
Yes	24761	72.16	
No	9551	27.84	
M108 Cigarette and Cigar Tax Increase			
Yes	19054	53.59	
No	16499	46.41	
M109 Legalize Psychoactive Mushroom			
Yes	15741	45.27	
No	19031	54.73	
M110 Statewide Addiction/Recovery Services			
Yes	15752	45.31	
No	19013	54.69	

Curry County Voting			
President			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Donald J. Trump (Republican)	11103	73.21	
Joseph R. Biden (Democrat)	3715	24.50	
Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)	221	1.46	
Howie Hawkins (Pacific Green)	41	0.27	
Dario Hunter (Progressive)	16	0.11	
U.S. Senator			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Jo Rae Perkins (Republican)	17537	54.69	
Jeff Merkley (Democrat)	13601	42.41	
Ibrahim A Tahner (Pacific Green)	380	1.19	
Gary Dye (Libertarian)	535	1.67	
U.S. Representative 4th District			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Peter DeFazio (Democrat)	5965	41.08	
Alek Skarlatos (Republican)	8233	56.69	
Daniel Hoffay (Pacific Green)	321	2.21	
Secretary of State			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Nathalie Paravicini (Pacific Green)	329	2.31	
Kyle Markley (Libertarian)	360	2.52	
Kim Thatcher (Republican)	8299	58.20	
Shemia Fagan (Democrat)	5266	36.93	
State Treasurer			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Michael P Marsh (Constitution)	370	2.61	
Tobias Reed (Democrat)	5431	38.37	
Chris Henry (Independent)	509	3.60	
Jeff Gudman (Republican)	7842	55.41	
Attorney General			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Ellen Rosenblum (Democrat)	5781	40.81	
Michael Cross (Republican)	8073	56.99	
Lars DH Hedbor (Libertarian)	301	2.12	
State Senator District 1			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Dallas Heard (Republican)	8540	65.40	
Kat Stone (Democrat)	4498	34.45	
State Representative District 1			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Calla Felicity (Democrat)	11955	32.42	
Davie Brock Smith (Republican)	24871	67.44	
State Measures			
Votes	Pct.		
M107 Limiting Political Contributions			
Yes	10557	75.20	
No	3482	24.80	
M108 Cigarette and Cigar Tax Increase			
Yes	8584	59.50	
No	5842	40.50	
M109 Legalize Psychoactive Mushroom			
Yes	7144	50.25	
No	7074	49.75	
M110 Statewide Addiction/Recovery Services			
Yes	7453	52.46	
No	6755	47.54	

Douglas County Voting			
President			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Donald J. Trump (Republican)	42513	67.37	
Joseph R. Biden (Democrat)	18780	29.76	
Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)	1131	1.79	
Howie Hawkins (Pacific Green)	248	0.39	
Dario Hunter (Progressive)	137	0.22	
U.S. Senator			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Jo Rae Perkins (Republican)	39316	63.90	
Jeff Merkley (Democrat)	20341	33.06	
Ibrahim A Taher (Pacific Green)	637	1.04	
Gary Dye (Libertarian)	1175	1.91	
U.S. Representative 4th District			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Peter DeFazio (Democrat)	20569	32.91	
Alek Skarlatos (Republican)	40625	65.00	
Daniel Hoffay (Pacific Green)	1212	1.94	
Secretary of State			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Nathalie Paravicini (Pacific Green)	1160	1.90	
Kyle Markley (Libertarian)	1697	2.78	
Kim Thatcher (Republican)	41731	68.34	
Shemia Fagan (Democrat)	16420	26.89	
State Treasurer			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Michael P Marsh (Constitution)	1934	3.21	
Tobias Reed (Democrat)	17597	29.18	
Chris Henry (Independent)	1996	3.31	
Jeff Gudman (Republican)	38696	64.18	
Attorney General			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Ellen Rosenblum (Democrat)	18754	31.03	
Michael Cross (Republican)	40021	66.21	
Lars DH Hedbor (Libertarian)	1483	2.45	
State Senator District 1			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Dallas Heard (Republican)	27800	71.99	
Kat Stone (Democrat)	10733	27.79	
State Senator District 5			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Dick Anderson (Republican)	1531	56.79	
Shauleen Higgins (Pacific Green)	91	3.38	
Melissa Cribbins (Democrat)	1068	39.61	
State Representative District 1			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Calla Felicity (Democrat)	2069	22.32	
Davie Brock Smith (Republican)	7183	77.49	
State Representative District 9			
Name	Votes	Pct.	
Cal Mukumoto (Democrat)	1190	35.56	
Boomer Wright (Republican)	2151	64.29	
State Measures			
Votes	Pct.		
M107 Limiting Political Contributions			
Yes	40845	68.31	
No	18950	31.69	
M108 Cigarette and Cigar Tax Increase			
Yes	30465	49.17	
No	31494	50.83	
M109 Legalize Psychoactive Mushroom			
Yes	24177	39.68	
No	36752	60.32	
M110 Statewide Addiction/Recovery Services			
Yes	25560	42.03	
No	35249	57.97	

Another 751,000 Americans seek jobless benefits

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits fell slightly last week to 751,000, a still-historically high level that shows that many employers keep cutting jobs in the face of the accelerating pandemic.

A surge in viral cases and Congress’ failure so far to provide more aid for struggling individuals and businesses are threatening to

deepen Americans’ economic pain. Eight months after the pandemic flattened the economy, weekly jobless claims still point to a stream of layoffs. Before the virus struck in March, the weekly figure had remained below 300,000 for more than five straight years.

Thursday’s report from the Labor Department said the number of people who are continuing to receive traditional unemployment

benefits declined to 7.3 million. That figure shows that some of the unemployed are being recalled to their old jobs or are finding new ones. But it also indicates that many jobless Americans have used up their state unemployment aid — which typically expires after six months — and have transitioned to a federal extended benefits program that lasts an additional 13 weeks.

The job market has been under pressure since the virus paralyzed the economy and has regained barely half the 22 million jobs that were lost to the pandemic in early spring. The pace of rehiring has steadily weakened — from 4.8 million added jobs in June to 661,000 in September. On Friday, when the government issues the October jobs report, economists foresee a further

slowdown — to 580,000 added jobs — according to a survey by the data firm FactSet.

Last week, nearly 363,000 people applied for jobless aid under a new program that extended eligibility for the first time to self-employed and gig workers, up slightly from 359,000 the previous week. That figure isn’t adjusted for seasonal trends, so it’s reported separately.

All told, the Labor Department said 21.5 million people are receiving some form of unemployment benefits, though the figure may be inflated by double-counting by states.

The financial aid package that Congress enacted in the spring included a \$600-a-week federal jobless benefit and \$1,200 checks that went to most adults, in addition to assistance for small businesses.

PORTLAND (AP) — Kelyn Acosta scored in the 83rd minute and the Colorado Rapids clinched a playoff spot with a 1-0 victory over the Portland Timbers on Wednesday night.

The Rapids (7-6-4) had five games called off this season because of coronavirus cases. But instead of total points, Major League Soccer decided to use points per game for playoff position, boosting Colorado's chances with fewer games played.

It is Colorado's first trip to the playoffs since 2016. The Rapids closed in on a postseason berth after a 3-1 win at home against the Seattle Sounders on Sunday.

"I mean, we're definitely satisfied with the result, but I think we're also happy with the work we put in, not only today, but last game as well," Acosta said. "I mean, the guys in that last game went into this game and played a lot of minutes. But you can see that we're building and we have something special going on here."

Steve Clark made three saves for Portland (11-6-5), unbeaten in its previous four games — including wins in the past two. Portland closes out the regular season on Sunday at LAFC.

The Timbers went into the match as the top team in the Western Conference but fell into

second place in the standings behind Sporting Kansas City with the loss. The defending champion Sounders, after a 1-1 draw with the LA Galaxy, were in third.

The Rapids, seventh in the West, wrap up the season Sunday against the Dynamo in Houston.

Portland was hurt by the loss of Jaroslaw Niezgodna, who tore his left ACL in a 1-0 victory over Vancouver last weekend. Niezgodna, who had eight goals, will miss the rest of the season.

It was the second significant knee injury for the Timbers this season. In September, forward Sebastian Blanco tore his right ACL. Blanco was the MVP of

this summer's MLS is Back tournament in Florida.

Portland was also without forward Jeremy Ebobisse for the fourth straight game because of a concussion.

"I think the fact that we didn't get the result today was more about us not being the best version of ourselves than anything else. Nothing to take away from Colorado because I think they worked very hard to get the result that they got. They sacrificed and they understood the importance of winning this game," Timbers coach Giovanni Savarese said.

"But I think it's more about what we didn't do, and that we show

the best side of us.”

After a scoreless first half, Acosta came off the bench and broke through for his second goal of the season.

“I wasn’t really thinking about the playoffs, I was more thinking about getting the result. We went up 1-0 and I’m thinking we’ve got to do whatever we can to finish this game off, get the shutout and close the game out,” Acosta said. “So for me, it hasn’t settled until now. I mean, this is a big moment for us as players, for the fans, the organization.”

It was the 14th goal allowed in the final 15 minutes of a game for Portland this season.

ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

After thriving under coach Mike Leach and the Air Raid, Washington State running back Max Borghi has been presented with a new challenge in Nick Rolovich's run-and-shoot offense.

Borghi never considered opting out. And he didn't think of transferring when the Pac-12 season was put on hold.

"I plan to finish my whole career here," he said.

Borghi is among several gifted Pac-12 running backs who have returned for this coronavirus-shortened season, joining Oregon's CJ Verdell and Oregon State's Jermar Jefferson, among others.

Borghi ran for 817 yards and had 597 yards receiving, with 16 total touchdowns, as a sophomore last season under Leach, who left in the offseason for Mississippi State. He was the only Power Five running back with as many rushing and receiving yards.

He averaged 6.4 yards per carry to lead the Pac-12 and led the nation among running backs with 86 catches. This season he's the only player on both the Doak Walker award watch list for the nation's top running back and the Biletnikoff award watch list for best receiver.

A two-year starter under Leach, Borghi stands to become the focal point of the Cougars' offense, especially now that prolific quarterback Anthony Gordon has graduated, with true freshman Jayden de Laura taking his place.

Borghi said this year's Cougs will look a bit different and his role will change, too.

"Honestly, with this offense, the running back doesn't get out of the box and get as many receptions as I was used to with the Air Raid," he said. "But obviously, there's still screens that can happen and then a little bit of slot action, maybe, as well. So I should be interested to see how

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — California's season-opening game Saturday night against Washington is in jeopardy following a positive coronavirus test Wednesday on the Golden Bears that has caused what coach Justin Wilcox said is a "significant" number of players needing contact tracing.

Wilcox said Cal's athletic department was in contact with Washington officials Wednesday night about the game scheduled for a 7:30 p.m. PST kickoff Saturday at Memorial Stadium in Berkeley.

When asked whether the game could be postponed, Wilcox said, "That's fair."

"If it is feasible for us to play we are going to play the game," Wilcox said

on a Zoom call. “Are there hurdles? There are hurdles, yes. With the players in question the game is in jeopardy. If we have the bodies available to play the game we will play the game. Several people are being held out and that’s a legitimate threat to the game.”

Wednesday’s practice was limited and some team drills were not doable based on the number of players held out. Wilcox wouldn’t specify how many players were sidelined.

The player with a positive COVID-19 test is asymptomatic. He took his regular daily antigen test and then a supplemental PCR test, which also showed a positive result. This marked the first positive test on Cal’s football team since practices began last month.

There was no question Verdell would return.

“That never crossed my mind. Not even once,” he said. “I always knew that I wanted to come back and play for Oregon. I felt like I had a lot more to give to the university and the football team, so leaving or opting out never really crossed my mind.”

Oregon also should see production from running backs Travis Dye and Cyrus Habibi-Likio. The No. 12 Ducks host Stanford to open the season on Saturday.

JERMAR JEFFERSON, OREGON STATE: Now a junior, Jefferson was named the Pac-12 Freshman of the year in 2018 after rushing for 1,380 yards and 12 touchdowns.

Hampered by injuries last season, he still managed 685 rushing yards and eight TDs.

“I’ve been feeling really good this year. And I feel a lot quicker. A lot faster. I’ve

BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

What a brilliant idea: The defending NFC champion 49ers hosting the team they vanquished in January to get to the Super Bowl, the Packers.

In prime time. On a Thursday night.

Oops.

The 49ers (4-4) are wrecked by injuries, the latest sidelining their best offensive player, tight end George Kittle, and their quarterback, Jimmy Garoppolo. What they present against a Packers team coming off a weak performance against underachieving Minnesota isn't exactly spotlight material.

Other injured 49ers include receiver Deebo Samuel, cornerback Richard Sherman, pass rushers Nick Bosa and Dee Ford, and running backs Raheem Mostert, Tevin Coleman and Jeff Wilson Jr.

"By no means do you ever want this," 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan said. "You want all your guys and you want to be going as good as you can. But you have to embrace everything. You've got to embrace the quick turnaround with Thursday night football. You've got to embrace injuries. You've got to embrace everything. The game's too hard that if you go in thinking any

other way, I mean, then you give yourself no chance.”

Green Bay (5-2), meanwhile, travels west without two running backs, A.J. Dillon and Jamaal Williams, after Dillon’s positive coronavirus test, and likely missing Aaron Jones, the No. 1 RB.

Green Bay, ranked seventh in the AP Pro32, is a 5-point favorite at beleaguered No. 17 San Francisco. We’ll stick with Aaron Rodgers to be the difference maker ... **PACKERS**, 27-16

KNOCKOUT POOL: The Chiefs came through against the Jets — was there ever any doubt on that one? Let’s go with **PITTSBURGH**.

Pittsburgh (minus 13 1/2) at Dallas: The unbeaten Steelers are emulating the Steel Curtain years. The Cowboys are beaten-up and lost ... **BEST BET: STEELERS**, 31-13

New York Giants (plus 3) at Washington: Two teams that can only win within the weak NFC East ... **UPSET SPECIAL: GIANTS**, 19-17

New Orleans (plus 5 1/2) at Tampa Bay: Too big a spread in Brees versus Brady, a fitting prime-time matchup ... **BUCCANEERS**, 27-24

Seattle (minus 2) at Buffalo: The past month has not looked great for the Bills, despite their solid AFC East lead ... **SEAHAWKS**, 23-20

Houston (minus 6½) at Jackson-

villie: A true sign of how much the Jaguars are struggling is this line ...
TEXANS, 26-15

New England (minus 7) at New York Jets, Monday night: Even during the Patriots' plummet, they can handle these Jets ... **PATRIOTS**, 19-7

Chicago (plus 5 1/2) at Tennessee: Time for the Titans to turn things back around. The Bears could say the same ... **TITANS**, 26-21

Baltimore (minus 2 1/2) at Indianapolis: A prove-it game for the Colts, or a rebound game for the Ravens? ... **RAVENS**, 27-23

Miami (plus 4) at Arizona: The rested Cardinals against the revitalized Dolphins: Kyler versus Tua ... **CARDINALS**, 26-20

Carolina (plus 10) at Kansas City: Pro Picks will keep riding Reid, Mahomes and company ... **CHIEFS**, 33-20

Denver (plus 4) at Atlanta: The Broncos come off that Mile High, uh, high after stunning the Chargers ... **FALCONS**, 30-22

Detroit (plus 4) at Minnesota: Can Dalvin Cook account for 300 yards this week? Possibly ... **VIKINGS**, 30-27

Las Vegas (plus 2 1/2) at Los Angeles Chargers: At some point, the Chargers will hold on in a close game. Maybe this one ... **CHARGERS**, 21-20.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Sitting at home with the Jacksonville Jaguars' playbook in hand and virtual meetings lined up regularly, rookie quarterback Jake Luton was looking for another way to practice.

The former Oregon State standout turned to those closest to him for help. He had two of his younger brothers and his girlfriend call plays for him to repeat in a simulated huddle. It didn't exactly go as planned.

"They didn't know how to spit it out the right way," Luton recalled Wednesday.

So Luton grabbed his phone and tried something different. He recorded himself barking out every play in every imaginable scenario again and again until he felt like he had the playbook — along with his cadence and his delivery — down pat.

Now, after countless repetitions over the past six months, Luton expects to have an NFL voice to go along with prototypical size and arm strength when he makes his professional debut against Houston (1-6) on Sunday.

"If you can't say the play call, there's not going to be a lot of confidence flowing around," Luton said. "So that's kind of the first step and something that's worked for me."

The Jaguars (1-6) believe Luton will make a smooth transition into the starting lineup despite not playing in nearly a year. He missed out on preseason games and was the team's third-string quarterback for the first seven games, inactive behind starter Gardner Minshew and backup Mike Glennon.

When tests revealed Minshew had a strained ligament and broken bones in the thumb on his throwing hand, coach Doug Marrone decided to give Luton a chance to end Jacksonville's six-game losing streak against the Texans.

"He doesn't act like a rookie, meaning he's not a starry-eyed guy," Marrone said.

Luton is somewhat of an unknown. He was the 189th player and the ninth quarterback selected in the NFL Draft, mostly an afterthought, even for the QB-starved Jaguars.

But he caught offensive coordinator Jay Gruden's eye in training camp, mostly because of his 6-foot-6 frame and his ability to make every throw in tight spaces.