ESSEX JCT. TODAY
65°
Low 53° · Mild, some sun
Tuesday: 58°, showers likely

The Morning Courier

"Markets, Mountains, Box Scores & Bourbon — Delivered Before the Coffee Cools"

NEW TODAY
CROSSWORD
Plus every standing in the NFL, NHL & NBA
Puzzles P. 14 · Standings P. 6

VOL. I · NO. 40 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026 · ELECTION EVE · ESSEX JUNCTION, VERMONT MORNING EDITION · FREE TO JB

DOW 51,770 ▼ Fri. S&P 500 7,580 ▼ Fri. NASDAQ 25,437 ▼ Fri. PLTR $184.11 ▼ reports tonight 10-YR 4.94% GAS $4.29 WTI $104.12

WALL STREET · TONIGHT

Palantir's Big Night

The data-software company on your watch list reports after the bell, with the stock down 6% Friday and Wall Street expecting another record quarter

PALANTIR BY THE NUMBERS

$2.18B	Expected third-quarter sales
41¢	Expected profit per share
9	Straight quarters it has beaten forecasts
5 p.m.	Conference call, Eastern time

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: INVESTINGCUBE, MARKETBEAT, 24/7 WALL ST.

Palantir Technologies, one of the three stocks on JB's watch list, reports its third-quarter results after the market closes today, with a conference call at 5 p.m. It is the first big test for tech stocks since Friday's chip-stock rout.

Wall Street expects about $2.18 billion in sales and 41 cents a share in profit, according to estimates compiled by MarketBeat — roughly double a year ago, when Palantir earned 21 cents on $1.18 billion. The company itself had forecast $2.16 billion, so analysts are already betting on a beat.

Palantir has topped forecasts nine quarters in a row, which sets a high bar. Investors will watch its U.S. business, which made up about 81% of sales last quarter, when U.S. commercial revenue jumped 149% and government revenue rose 90%.

The stock fell 6.3% Friday, to $184.11, in the selloff that hit chipmakers and AI companies. At that price, there is little room for disappointment.

Also this week: Election Day tomorrow and the October jobs report Friday. **Your watch list, Page 2.**

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

65°
Low tonight: 53°

Mild and mostly cloudy with a few breaks of sun. A southerly breeze.

CHANCE OF RAIN TODAY 10%
Showers arrive Tuesday

THE WEEK AHEAD

TUE	WED	THU	FRI
58°	73°	67°	59°
55%	5%	60%	10%

Blue = chance of rain. NWS forecast data, Monday a.m.

FORECASTER'S NOTE
Forecast data: 50° at dawn — 20 degrees milder than Sunday. Sunset 4:39 p.m.

NFL · SUNDAY

Patriots Rally Past Miami

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Down 13–3 at halftime, New England scored 21 straight points and held on to beat the Dolphins 24–19 in Miami.

Drake Maye completed 16 of 20 passes for 199 yards and two touchdowns — 43 yards to Kyle Williams and 48 to DeMario Douglas — and ran for another. The defense had five sacks.

The Patriots (5–3) host Green Bay Sunday at 4:25.

Also: Celtics won at Orlando, 108–97. Bruins host Vegas tonight. **Every standing, Page 6.**

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS Palantir reports tonight. P. 2
VERMONT What's on Tuesday's ballot. P. 3
STANDINGS Every team, every league. P. 6
WEATHER Near 73° Wednesday. P. 7
SERIAL Chapter 29 is here. P. 8
CRIME A cold case in Milton. P. 12

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Monday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	NOW	HI	LO	RAIN
MIDDLEBURY, VT	44°	65°	45°	10%
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	34°	52°	39°	10% summit
SNOWSHOE, WV	45°	53°	45°	20%
ROSEBURG, OR	43°	56°	43°	30%
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	49°	65°	50°	10%
CHARLOTTE, NC	54°	70°	51°	10%
WILMINGTON, NC	56°	72°	56°	10%
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	72°	77°	71°	36%
FULTON, MO	58°	70°	59°	20%
HOT SPOT · McALLEN, TX	71°	92°	72°	10%

INSIDE TODAY

2 Markets · World 3 Vermont · Sports 4 Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Standings 8 Serial · 12 Crime · 13 Snow · 14 Games

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MARKETS & MONEY

Friday's closes are the latest · Monday, November 2

THE BIG BOARD — FRIDAY, OCT. 30 (LATEST)

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT
Dow Jones Industrials	51,770.31	−572.25	−1.09%
S&P 500	7,580.07	−140.32	−1.82%
Nasdaq Composite	25,437.00	−747.72	−2.86%
Russell 2000	2,811.84	−47.38	−1.66%
JB'S WATCHLIST			
Nvidia (NVDA)	204.64	−9.02	−4.22%
Palantir (PLTR)	184.11	−12.31	−6.27%
Microsoft (MSFT)	521.91	−8.25	−1.55%
BIG NAMES			
Apple (AAPL)	344.63	−4.29	−1.23%
Amazon (AMZN)	240.35	−3.44	−1.41%
Alphabet (GOOGL)	279.84	−3.98	−1.40%
Meta (META)	614.99	−9.53	−1.53%
Tesla (TSLA)	399.81	−3.49	−0.87%

Markets reopen this morning. Index and stock changes are Friday's (CappNotes, The Wall Street Republic, MarketBeat).

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

10-yr Treasury (Friday)	4.94%
2-yr Treasury	4.56%
30-yr Treasury	5.31%
Gold (1-year low)	$3,899
Silver	$49.14
WTI crude (Friday)	$104.12
Brent crude	$113.43
Bitcoin (Friday)	~$76,760
VIX (Friday)	19.42

THE WEEK AHEAD — **MON.** Palantir earnings, 5 p.m. call · **TUE.** Election Day; job openings · **WED.** ADP private payrolls · **FRI.** October jobs report, 8:30

Friday: Dow −1.1%, S&P −1.8%, Nasdaq −2.9% · Week: Russell +1.3%, Nasdaq −2.0%

Closes via CappNotes and Tapeboard

THE WEEK AHEAD

Earnings, an Election and Jobs

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK

It's a packed week. Palantir reports tonight (Page 1). Tomorrow brings Election Day and the government's report on job openings; private-payroll numbers from ADP come Wednesday.

The big one is Friday's October jobs report at 8:30 a.m. With two Federal Reserve officials talking about more rate hikes, a hot report could push yields and the odds of a December hike higher.

Crypto: the FBI blamed North Korea's TraderTraitor hackers for the record $6.3 billion Binance theft. (Al Jazeera)

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Palantir (PLTR) — Reports after the close; Wall Street expects 41¢ a share on $2.18 billion in sales.

Nvidia (NVDA) — Starts the week at $204.64 after Friday's chip slide.

Microsoft (MSFT) — At $521.91; held up better than most tech Friday.

Intel (INTC) — Can it bounce after its worst day since 1974?

Binance — Says it has covered 90% of the $6.3 billion hack.

Oil — WTI near $104 as Gulf shipping attacks continue.

Gold — At a one-year low near $3,899.

Jobs report — Friday at 8:30 a.m.

BIG MOVERS

REGN	Regeneron	927.89	+13.33%
XOM	Exxon	187.25	+2.16%
CVX	Chevron	235.52	+1.75%
AMD	AMD	504.80	−10.88%
INTC	Intel	65.76	−28.58%

Best of these: Energy +1.9% FrWorst: Tech −4.9% Fri.

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+13.4%
S&P 500	+10.7%
Nasdaq	+9.4%
Dow	+7.7%

Through Friday; S&P via The Wall Street Republic, others Courier estimates.

THE LUMBER DESK

A Big Week for Rates

FOR THE JB WOODS DESK

Friday's jobs report will shape the Fed's next move — and the cost of borrowing for builders and buyers. Diesel stays pricey with oil near $104. Weather: mild, 65°; showers Tuesday.

HOUSING STARTS · SEPT.

1.22M −5.2% from Aug. · −7.4% from a year ago · Permits 1.40M · Single-family 859K

Census Bureau, seasonally adjusted annual rate · next report Nov. 18

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · THE GULF

Another Gas Tanker Hit

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCE: AL JAZEERA

A Qatari liquefied natural gas carrier, the Al Mayeda, was struck by "unidentified objects" while sailing in the Gulf Friday evening, its owner, Qatar Gas Transport Co., said. No one was hurt and there was no spill; the ship remains operational.

It is one of more than 120 commercial ships hit since the U.S.-Israeli war with Iran began in February. Iran warned there would be "no limitations" if fighting resumes, even as talks continue on a plan to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

Israel. The head of Israel's elections committee, Supreme Court Justice Noam Sohlberg, said the results will stand, rejecting Likud's claim that Arab-led parties "stole" the vote. Opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot accused Prime Minister Netanyahu of trying to delegitimize the election. (WCAX/AP)

ELSEWHERE

Bolivia. Bolivia declared a national emergency over El Niño drought and floods: 78,000 families are affected and more than 75,000 cattle have died. Forecasters say this El Niño may become the strongest on record. (Al Jazeera)

Brazil. Secretary of State Marco Rubio denied that the Trump administration helped former president Jair Bolsonaro leave Brazil for the U.S. (Al Jazeera)

Bangladesh. The government formed a wage board as garment workers protest for higher pay. (Al Jazeera)

Yemen. Saudi-backed government forces seized strategic positions from the Houthis in al-Jawf province. (Al Jazeera)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

STATEWIDE · ELECTION EVE

What's on Tuesday's Ballot

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCE: VERMONT PUBLIC

Vermonters choose a governor, a lieutenant governor and a member of Congress tomorrow, along with the attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer, auditor, every seat in the Legislature, state's attorneys and sheriffs, Vermont Public reported in its last-minute voter guide.

The headliner is the tight race between Republican Gov. Phil Scott and Democrat-Progressive Amanda Janoo. For lieutenant governor, Republican incumbent John Rodgers faces Democrat Molly Gray. U.S. Rep. Becca Balint, a Democrat, faces Republican Gerald Malloy and independent Adam Ortiz.

Two proposed amendments to the Vermont Constitution, Propositions 3 and 4, are also on the ballot.

Not registered? Vermont allows same-day registration: you can register at your polling place on Election Day. Check your registration and find your polling place at vote.vermont.gov, or call your town clerk.

BARRE · HOCKEY

Volunteers Save the Rink

The BOR Arena reopened Sunday after volunteers donated about $50,000 in labor and materials to fix its broken ice. The city warns the aging pipes may not last the season. "Hopefully this will put a patch on it," said Vermont Flames youth coach Corey Gillander. (WCAX)

STATEWIDE · HEALTH

Tick Bites Still Rising

Emergency and urgent-care visits for tick bites spiked in early October and usually stay high until about December, the Health Department says. Use permethrin on clothes and do tick checks. "Do not let the fear of tick-borne illnesses and tick bites drive you indoors," said Dr. Natalie Kwit. (WCAX)

AROUND THE STATE

BURLINGTON — An extra hour of Halloween. Halloween plus the time change gave bars an extra hour; one regular said it felt "like I'm in college again." (WCAX)

SHREWSBURY — The moose that fell for a cow. Forty years ago a bull moose spent 76 days courting a Hereford named Jessica on the Carrara farm. (WCAX)

KILLINGTON — A new training center. Killington Mountain School is building a 12,000-square-foot athletic center with trampolines and a weight room, opening next summer. (WCAX)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Mild election week

Election: polls open Tuesday; same-day registration allowed.

Mild: 65° today, near 73° Wednesday.

Rain: showers likely Tuesday (55%).

Sunset: 4:39 p.m.; 10 hours 8 minutes of daylight.

Ticks: still active — check after hikes.

Turning colder: 40s by the weekend.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Mild, some sun, 65°.

Tonight Cloudy, 53°.

Tue. Election Day; showers, 58°.

Wed. Warm, near 73°.

Thu. Rain likely, 67°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

1	Governor's race called a toss-up
2	Constitutional amendments
180	Legislative seats on the ballot
$50K	Volunteer work on Barre's rink
76	Days the moose courted Jessica

SPORTS

Patriots win in Miami · Celtics win at Orlando · Bruins host Vegas tonight

NFL · NEW ENGLAND 24, MIAMI 19

TEAM	1	2	3	4	T
NE	3	0	14	7	24
MIA	3	10	0	6	19

Drake Maye 16-for-20, 199 yds, 2 TD + 1 rushing TD · TD catches: Kyle Williams 43, DeMario Douglas 48 · NE: 131 rush yds, 5 sacks

NFL · WEEK 9 ROUNDUP

Bills, Broncos Win Big Games

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Buffalo routed Baltimore 36–10 to improve to 6–1, still a game and a half ahead of the Patriots in the AFC East. Denver beat Kansas City 28–24 to take over first in the AFC West.

Other scores: Jacksonville 42, Indianapolis 7; Pittsburgh 27, Cleveland 6; Detroit 19, Minnesota 15; Las Vegas 38, N.Y. Jets 33; Washington 27, Philadelphia 10.

Tonight: Chicago at Seattle, 8:15. **Thursday:** Jacksonville at Baltimore.

Every standing: Page 6.

NFL WEEK 9 · FINAL

Sunday

NE 24, MIA 19		F
BUF 36, BAL 10		F
DEN 28, KC 24		F
JAX 42, IND 7		F
CIN 43, TEN 36		F
PIT 27, CLE 6		F
DET 19, MIN 15		F
TB 16, ATL 0		F
ARI 33, DAL 30		F
LV 38, NYJ 33		F
LA 24, LAC 9		F
WAS 27, PHI 10	SNF	F
CHI at SEA	MNF 8:15	SEA 61%
JAX at BAL	Thu. 8:15	JAX 79%

Via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	6-1	—
New England	5-3	1½
NY Jets	2-6	4½
Miami	1-6	5

Via SportRadar. Patriots host Green Bay Sunday, 4:25 p.m.

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Vegas Visits Tonight

Boston (10–4–1) leads the Atlantic with 21 points. Golden Knights at TD Garden at 7; at Pittsburgh Thursday.

CELTICS · 108–97 AT ORLANDO

Road Trip Rolls On

Tonight: At Houston, 8:30.

Wed.: Bucks at Boston, 7:30.

Fri.: At Charlotte, 7:00.

THIS WEEK ON TV (ET)

NHL Golden Knights at Bruins, Mon. 7:00
NFL Bears at Seahawks, Mon. 8:15
NBA Bucks at Celtics, Wed. 7:30

THE BOURBON PAGE

A scientists' distillery in Danville · plus the Revolver



BOTTLE OF THE WEEK

WILDERNESS TRAIL DISTILLERY · DANVILLE, KY.

Wilderness Trail Wheated BiB

PROOF	STYLE	GRAIN	SINCE	PRICE
100	Bottled in bond	Wheated	2013	~$50

Most famous bourbon brands are a century old or more. Wilderness Trail is a newcomer: founded in Danville, Kentucky, in 2013 by Shane Baker and Pat Heist, two fermentation scientists who ran a business helping other distilleries make better whiskey.

They brought a lab-coat approach to their own: a "sweet mash" process that starts each batch with fresh yeast instead of leftover mash, and barrels entered at a lower proof than most, which they say gives a softer, richer whiskey.

This bottle is the wheated version: wheat instead of rye as the flavoring grain, for a gentler, rounder pour. As a bottled-in-bond bourbon it is at least four years old, from one distilling season, and exactly 100 proof.

How to drink it: neat or with a drop of water. Look for honey, vanilla, baked bread and a soft cinnamon finish.

Fun fact: the Italian spirits company Campari bought the distillery in 2022.

BOURBON SCIENCE 101

Sweet Mash vs. Sour Mash

BY THE COURIER SPIRITS DESK

Most bourbon is "sour mash": a bit of the leftover, acidic mash from the last batch is added to the next one, the way bakers keep a sourdough starter going.

The acid keeps unwanted bacteria in check and makes each batch taste like the last.

"Sweet mash" skips that step and starts fresh every time. It takes more care and cleanliness, but fans say it lets the grain flavors come through.

Only a handful of distilleries use sweet mash; Wilderness Trail is the best known.

Label tip: "sour mash" on a label is a process, not a flavor — it isn't sour.

THE WHEATED SHELF

Bourbons Made With Wheat

Maker's Mark — the best-known wheated bourbon.

Weller — the "original wheated bourbon," hard to find.

Larceny — Heaven Hill's wheater, easy on the wallet.

Wilderness Trail — this week's bottle, bottled in bond.

Why wheat? Rye gives bourbon spice; wheat gives it softness and a bready sweetness.

Visit: Wilderness Trail is about 40 minutes south of Lexington and offers tours.

Shopping tip: the label lists the mash bill — look for "wheated" or "wheat recipe."

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Revolver. A modern classic: bourbon and coffee, stirred like a Manhattan.

Stir 2 oz bourbon, ½ oz coffee liqueur and 2 dashes orange bitters with ice. Strain into a chilled coupe and garnish with an orange peel — flamed, if you're feeling brave.

The story: bartender Jon Santer created it in San Francisco in the early 2000s.

TASTING LAB

Try it with a wheated bourbon, then a high-rye one. The wheated version is smoother; the rye one has more bite against the coffee.

Flaming a peel: hold a lit match near the drink, squeeze a coin of orange peel through the flame, and the oils spark.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT · BRUINS–VEGAS
A Revolver while you watch the Garden.

TUESDAY · ELECTION NIGHT
Wilderness Trail neat, one slow sip per precinct.

FRIDAY · JOBS REPORT
A small pour to toast the weekend.

THE BOURBON GLOSSARY

Label terms, decoded

Sweet mash — each batch started fresh.

Sour mash — leftover mash added to the next batch.

Wheater — bourbon with wheat, not rye.

Bottled in bond — 4+ years, 100 proof, one season.

Mash bill — the grain recipe; at least 51% corn.

Entry proof — strength when it goes into the barrel.

Coffee liqueur — sweet spirit flavored with coffee.

Coupe — a stemmed, shallow cocktail glass.

Stirred — mixed with ice, never shaken.

Bitters — a few dashes of concentrated spice.

Proof — twice the alcohol percentage.

Straight — aged at least two years.

Danville — Kentucky home of Wilderness Trail.

New oak — bourbon barrels are used only once.

Angel's share — whiskey lost to evaporation.

Neat — straight from the bottle, no ice.

Finish — the flavor that lingers after a sip.

Yeast — turns grain sugar into alcohol.

THE FUNNY PAGES

JB's Morning Strip — original art by JB, fresh lines daily



Characters and artwork © JB. Today's dialogue: The Courier.

THE WEEK-AHEAD PLANNER

Monday, Nov. 2 – Sunday, Nov. 8

ON THE TUBE (ET)

Today 7:00 — Bruins host Vegas.
Today 8:15 — Bears at Seahawks.
Today 8:30 — Celtics at Houston.
Tue. night — Election returns.
Wed. 7:30 — Bucks at Celtics.
Thu. 7:00 — Bruins at Pittsburgh.
Sun. 4:25 — Packers at Patriots.

AROUND VERMONT

Today — Palantir reports after the bell.
Tue. — Election Day; same-day registration OK.
Wed. — Warmest day of the week, near 73°.
Fri. — October jobs report, 8:30 a.m.
Daily — Crossword, Page 14.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Mon. — Mild, some sun, 65°.
Tue. — Showers likely, 58°.
Wed. — Warm, near 73°.
Thu. — Rain likely, 67°.
Fri. — Cooler, 59°.
Sat. — Chilly, 47°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

HOWELL, N.J.

A Football Field of Groceries

Students at Howell High School collected more than 250,000 pounds of food — enough to cover their football field — for local food banks in the second annual 100-Yard Food Drive Challenge. "They united communities," an organizer said. (Good News Network)

ENGLAND

Storm the Hero Dog

Sandra Donally, who is deaf, was woken after midnight by her support dog, Storm, who stared toward the stairs until she found her husband, Gary, injured at the bottom after a fall. He is recovering after 24 days in the hospital. (Good News Network)

FLORIDA

A Bench at the Bus Stop

When their doorbell camera showed a middle-schooler sitting in the dirt waiting for her bus, teachers Maren and David Douglass put a bench at the end of their driveway — plus a little free library. (Good News Network)

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

Love at the Gym, at 88

Widowed retirees Barbara Thompson and Fred Jenkins, both 88, met at their retirement village gym, where the former Army fitness instructor started coaching her. Now they're a couple. "I started looking forward to going to the gym," she said. (Good News Network)

BEIJING

A Vitamin for Psoriasis?

In a small trial, patients who took pantethine, a form of vitamin B5, along with an ointment saw their psoriasis improve more than those using the ointment alone. (Good News Network)

UKRAINE

Families Together Again

Families evacuated from the Russian-occupied town of Oleshky were reunited with relatives in Ukraine after a negotiated evacuation. (Al Jazeera)

THE MONDAY KITCHEN

A SEASONAL RECIPE

White Chicken Chili

Serves 6 · 15 min prep · 35 min simmer

THE POT 1½ lb boneless chicken thighs · 2 cans cannellini beans, drained · 1 onion, diced; 3 garlic cloves · 2 cans (4 oz) chopped green chiles · 4 cups chicken broth

SPICES & TOPPINGS 1 tsp cumin; 1 tsp oregano · ½ cup sour cream · 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack · Lime wedges, cilantro · Tortilla chips

METHOD

1. Sauté the onion in oil 5 minutes; add the garlic, cumin and oregano for 1 minute.
2. Add the broth, chiles, one can of beans and the whole chicken thighs. Simmer 25 minutes.
3. Lift out the chicken and shred it. Mash the second can of beans and stir in to thicken.
4. Return the chicken, simmer 10 minutes, and stir in the sour cream off the heat.
5. Top with cheese, cilantro and lime; serve with chips.

Courier tip: Mashing one can of beans makes it creamy without flour. Freezes well for up to three months.

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Sunday's games (Bears–Seahawks Monday night not included) · NHL and NBA through Sunday · via SportRadar *Highlighted: the Patriots, Bruins and Celtics*

NFL · DIVISION STANDINGS

AFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
Buffalo	6	1	0	.857
New England	5	3	0	.625
N.Y. Jets	2	6	0	.250
Miami	1	6	0	.143

AFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750
Cincinnati	5	2	0	.714
Cleveland	5	3	0	.625
Baltimore	4	4	0	.500

AFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Jacksonville	5	2	0	.714
Houston	2	5	0	.286
Indianapolis	2	6	0	.250
Tennessee	1	7	0	.125

AFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
Denver	6	2	0	.750
Kansas City	5	2	0	.714
Las Vegas	4	4	0	.500
L.A. Chargers	0	7	0	.000

NFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
N.Y. Giants	4	2	0	.667
Dallas	3	5	0	.375
Washington	2	4	0	.333
Philadelphia	2	6	0	.250

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Minnesota	6	1	0	.857
Detroit	5	2	0	.714
Chicago	5	2	0	.714
Green Bay	5	3	0	.625

NFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Carolina	3	4	0	.429
Tampa Bay	3	5	0	.375
Atlanta	3	5	0	.375
New Orleans	2	5	0	.286

NFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
San Francisco	6	1	0	.857
Seattle	4	3	0	.571
L.A. Rams	4	4	0	.500
Arizona	3	5	0	.375

NHL · DIVISION STANDINGS

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Boston	15	10	4	1	21
Montreal	14	9	3	2	20
Ottawa	16	9	6	1	19
Tampa Bay	13	8	3	2	18
Florida	14	8	4	2	18
Toronto	16	8	6	2	18
Buffalo	14	7	4	3	17
Detroit	14	6	5	3	15

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	16	12	2	2	26
New Jersey	14	9	5	0	18
Washington	13	8	5	0	16
N.Y. Islanders	14	7	5	2	16
N.Y. Rangers	15	7	7	1	15
Pittsburgh	14	5	7	2	12
Philadelphia	16	4	8	4	12
Columbus	12	5	7	0	10

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	16	10	3	3	23
Utah	15	9	6	0	18
Colorado	14	8	5	1	17
Dallas	14	8	5	1	17
St. Louis	14	7	6	1	15
Nashville	14	5	4	5	15
Winnipeg	15	4	8	3	11
Chicago	14	4	9	1	9

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	15	11	2	2	24
Vegas	15	9	5	1	19
Seattle	14	8	5	1	17
San Jose	15	7	7	1	15
Anaheim	14	6	7	1	13
Calgary	14	6	8	0	12
Los Angeles	13	4	7	2	10
Vancouver	16	3	12	1	7

Atlantic and Metropolitan: Eastern Conference · Central and Pacific: Western · PTS = 2 per win, 1 per overtime or shootout loss

NBA · DIVISION STANDINGS

ATLANTIC · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	6	1	.857	—
Boston	5	1	.833	0.5
Toronto	3	3	.500	2.5
New York	2	4	.333	3.5
Brooklyn	1	5	.167	4.5

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	5	1	.833	—
Cleveland	4	2	.667	1
Indiana	2	5	.286	3.5
Chicago	1	5	.167	4
Milwaukee	1	5	.167	4

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Washington	3	3	.500	—
Atlanta	3	4	.429	0.5
Charlotte	3	4	.429	0.5
Orlando	2	4	.333	1
Miami	2	4	.333	1

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Portland	4	1	.800	—
Oklahoma City	4	2	.667	0.5
Denver	3	2	.600	1
Minnesota	4	3	.571	1
Utah	1	5	.167	3.5

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	5	2	.714	—
Golden State	4	3	.571	1
Phoenix	1	3	.250	2.5
LA Clippers	1	5	.167	3.5
Sacramento	0	6	.000	4.5

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	6	0	1.000	—
Houston	6	1	.857	0.5
San Antonio	4	2	.667	2
Dallas	4	2	.667	2
New Orleans	2	4	.333	4

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Patriots (5–3) Beat Miami 24–19 Sunday; second in the AFC East, a game and a half behind Buffalo (6–1). Green Bay visits Sunday, 4:25.

Bruins (10–4–1) Still first in the Atlantic with 21 points. Vegas visits tonight at 7; at Pittsburgh Thursday.

Celtics (5–1) Won 108–97 at Orlando Sunday; second in the Atlantic. At Houston tonight, 8:30.

On TV tonight Bears at Seahawks, 8:15 · Golden Knights at Bruins, 7 · Celtics at Rockets, 8:30.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

A Mild Election Week, Then a Turn to Cold

BY THE COURIER WEATHER DESK · SOURCE: FORECAST DATA · COURIER WEATHER DESK

What a difference a day makes: after Sunday's frosty 28° start, a southerly flow kept us near 50° overnight. Expect a mostly cloudy, mild Monday with a few breaks of sun and a high near 65°.

A weak system brings showers on Election Day (55% chance), with a high near 58°. Take an umbrella to the polls, but it won't be a washout.

Wednesday is the warm peak — near 73°, more than 20 degrees above normal for early November. Then a cold front brings rain Thursday (60%).

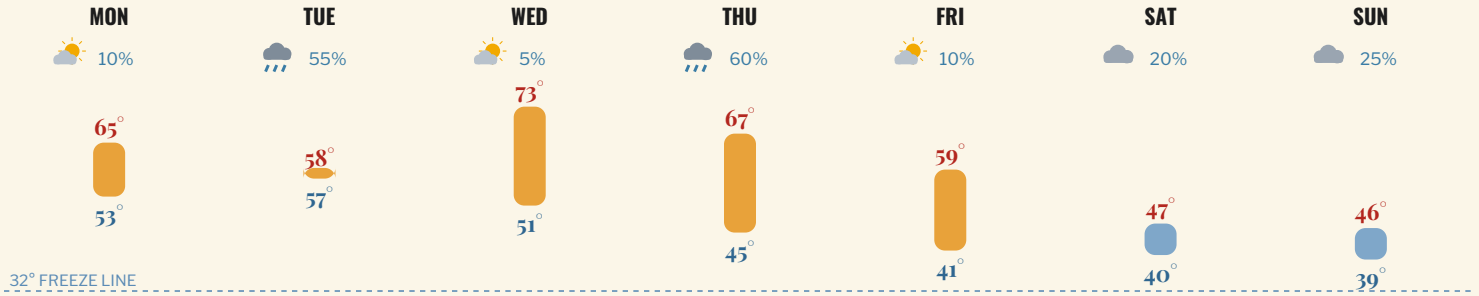
Behind it, real November air arrives: highs only in the 40s Saturday and Sunday. The higher summits, including Mount Washington and Jay Peak, could see wet snow mixing in Saturday.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 57° · Low 28°
SUNRISE	6:31 a.m.
SUNSET	4:39 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	10 hr 8 min
CHANGE	-2.7 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	5 hr 24 min less light
MOON	Last quarter

Sun & moon computed for Essex Jct.; temps from forecast data.

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS



Bars run from the low to the high; * = freezing night. Percent = chance of rain or snow. Forecast data.

MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS & THE PLACES WE WATCH

JAY PEAK
Northern Green Mtns.
57° / 47° · 10%
Wet snow possible Saturday.

NEWPORT
Lake Memphremagog
61° / 43° · 10%
Near 71° Wednesday.

PLATTSBURGH
Across the lake, N.Y.
62° / 47° · 10%
Showers Tuesday (55%).

BOLTON VALLEY
Ski area, 2,100 ft.
60° / 46° · 10%
Only 40° by Sunday.

BENNINGTON
Southwest Vermont
65° / 37° · 10%
Coldest start: 36° now.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 2

Season totals, Nov. 1 – Apr. 1 · The Snow Desk, Page 13

ESSEX JCT.	MIDDLEBURY	STOWE	SNOWSHOE, WV
0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"
Burlington (BTV)	Addison County	Mt. Mansfield	Highland House · Rimfire

SEVERE & NATIONAL

Heat in Texas, El Niño Woes Abroad

Deep South Texas stays summery: McAllen reaches about 92° today. Showers linger around St. Petersburg, and rain spreads into Missouri Tuesday (75% in Fulton).

Overseas, Bolivia declared a national emergency over El Niño drought and floods. The World Meteorological Organization puts the odds near 100% that El Niño lasts through February; it may become the strongest on record. (Al Jazeera)

BEAT THE FORECASTER

We Called It

Sunday: we said 57°; Burlington hit 57° (right on). Within 2° counts as a win.

Season record: 1–0 (100%)

Today's call: 65° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

WEATHER WORD

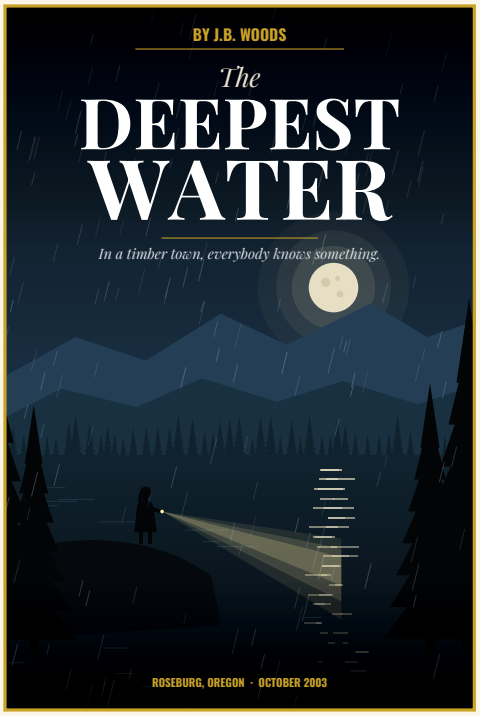
Wet-Bulb Temperature

The temperature air would cool to if water evaporated into it until saturated — always at or below the regular reading.

Why it matters: ski areas watch it, not the thermometer — snowmaking works best when the wet-bulb is in the mid-20s or colder.

THIS DAY IN WEATHER

Nov. 2–4, 1927: the remains of a tropical storm poured up to 9 inches of rain on Vermont, causing the state's worst flood. Eighty-four Vermonters died, including Lt. Gov. S. Hollister Jackson.



CHAPTER 29

The Silent Partner

Roseburg · November 2003

Previously: Josh Foster carried a small safe out of Room 118's wall — and Tiffany Voss had asked for that room by name.

> *"I can stay any damn place I want to stay, Agent."*

DAN MYERS TURNED the car away from the river and up the hill, and for a while neither agent said a word.

Christine Mason had her case file open to a photograph. Weeks ago, behind the Ranch Motel at Rice Hill, Tess Halloran had pulled Josh Foster's dented mint tin from a puddle. Inside, with a few swollen Tic Tacs, was a small brass key stamped "1987." Tess had handed it over at Carlos in Winston, and it was in the evidence room now.

"Dan," she said, "I'll bet you a slice of Abby's pizza that the key Tess found in Josh Foster's little tin opens that safe — or vault, or whatever it was — that came out of Room 118."

"Question is how many of those keys were made, and who else has one. And what the hell is in there."

"I saw it in your report," Myers said. "It says 1987 on the key. How would that be related to anything?"

"Maybe it just identifies the key, and the year means nothing. Or maybe 1987 is a code word."

"Anything's possible. But we need the key and the safe in the same room, and we need to see it turn, before anybody collects on that slice of Abby's."

"Now you're making me hungry."

The Voss place came up on the left: tall shrubs, long fences, the silver Mercedes under its spotlights.

"Well," he said. "Let's go see what we can learn from Mrs. Voss."

* * *

Tiffany Voss opened the door before the second knock: no sunglasses today, just a gray sweater, diamond studs and tired eyes.

"Good morning, Mrs. Voss. I'm Agent Myers with the FBI, and this is Agent Mason."

"I've seen Agent Mason around. How may I help you two?"

"We have a couple of questions we'd like to ask you —"

"Before you ask me anything, I have one for you." "Where is my husband? Why isn't anyone doing anything about this? I never hear a word from Sheriff Coyle's office. Not from anyone." Her jaw set. "I don't trust that Coyle. I do like Deputy Walters. He's the only one who seems to care."

"We're working on finding him, ma'am," Myers said. "That's why we're here."

She studied him a moment, then stepped back from the door. "Then ask your questions."

"Why were you at the Holiday Inn last night?" Myers asked. "And why did you request Room 118? You live right up the street."

Her eyes flashed. "Am I under house arrest? I can stay any damn place I want to stay, Agent."

"Yes, ma'am. We're hoping you know something that can help us find Harlan."

Then Tiffany sat down on the edge of the brown sofa.

"I told Tess I would talk to anyone if it would help find my husband. I meant it." She looked toward the curtained window. "Even though it isn't safe for me."

Mason leaned forward. "What do you mean by that?"

"The night before he left, Harlan said if he ever disappeared, I was to go to the Holiday Inn, Room 118. There's a secret compartment in the closet. Nobody would ever know it was there. Get it out. Find a way to open it. Tell no one. And start a new life."

"What did you say?"

"Nothing. I was so upset I just fell apart. We never talked about it again. And the next day he was gone."

"Did he tell you what was in it?"

"No."

"You didn't tell Tess any of this," Mason said gently.

"I didn't tell anybody. And it doesn't matter. Every time I called, somebody was in that room. Last night I finally got it." Her voice cracked. "There was nothing in that closet. I looked everywhere."

Neither agent looked at the other. Neither said the name Josh Foster.

"There's something else you should know." Tiffany straightened. "Harlan was a silent partner in Pryce Lumber. He bought in with Gordon years ago — no office, and nobody in town knew he was an owner. They used to meet in that room. Room 118. For years."

"And after the mill shut down?" Myers asked.

"Harlan said they'd still be doing other things out there. We never really talked about it. All I knew was they weren't making much of anything anymore." She paused. "But they were still shipping."

"I never went out there. It was filthy — dust on everything. It took forever to get my Mercedes clean."

"And now Gordon Pryce is dead," Mason said quietly.

Tiffany did not answer. She did not have to.

At the door Myers thanked her and promised to tell her anything they learned. Mason handed her a card. "Please call us if you hear anything else. Or if you hear from Harlan."

"If I hear from Harlan," Tiffany said, "you'll be the second to know."

* * *

That evening on Pine Street, Tess Halloran ran her thumb along the gash in her front door where the knife had been. Then she picked up the phone.

"Eye Spy Investigations," Kally answered. "We see what you don't."

"Kally, it's Tess. I'm coming to Medford to see you. I need to get away from here for a couple of days."

Kally squealed. In the background Teresa called, "Tell her I'm buying the good tea."

"We'll leave the light on," Kally said.

Tess hung up and pulled her overnight bag from the closet. For the first time in weeks, she smiled.

A work of fiction: characters and events are invented; places are real. · *Catch up: Reader's Guide, Pages 9–11.*

Chapter 30 coming soon

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–16

Published chapters only — no spoilers. Updated every edition. By J.B. Woods · Roseburg, Oregon · October 2003

October 2003. Roseburg is a timber town still sore from the mill closures of the '90s. When its most prominent mill owner vanishes, a reporter who came home to start over finds a town where everybody knows something, and nobody is saying it.

CHAPTER 1

Lights On Till Eleven

On a rainy Monday night at the Umpqua Ledger, editor Walt Brenner put Tess Halloran on a quiet story: Gordon Pryce, owner of the shuttered Pryce Lumber mill, left the Elks Lodge Friday and never got home. Then the police scanner crackled: a dark Lincoln, abandoned on Highway 138, keys in it.

CHAPTER 2

Whoever Left It There

At a pullout past Glide near Toketee Falls, a deputy turned Tess away from Pryce's Lincoln, its door open and wheels turned neatly toward the river. After pie at Del's Riverside Diner, she was on Sheriff Ray Coyle's porch at seven. The wallet held $200, he said. Whoever left the car wanted it found.

CHAPTER 3

The Sister at the Bar

Del told Tess nobody stops at that pullout by accident. At the Idle Hour, Big Dave said Gordon had been scared all summer and pointed her to "Tic Tac." A woman drank Tess's whiskey and told her to leave him alone. She was his sister — and her brother had told Coyle what he saw Friday night.

CHAPTER 4

Forty Dollars a Plate

Coyle still wasn't talking, and the Pryces had hired a Eugene lawyer. Over dinner at Brix Grill, PI friends Kally and Teresa of Eye Spy named Tic Tac in unison: "Oh, Josh Foster?" Outside, Kally added that Josh had called their office Monday asking what it costs to run a license plate.

CHAPTER 5

If I End Up in the River

Trent Pryce said he was home watching the game with his mother. At Abby's Pizza, Josh Foster told Tess he saw Pryce's Lincoln heading up the canyon Friday with a dark pickup behind it, no lights, and got part of a plate. As he walked away, a dark pickup idling at the curb pulled out and followed.

CHAPTER 6

Patient as the Rain

At Fred Meyer, Tess ran into old neighbor Buck, who had worked for Gordon and tipped her to his hidden fishing hole at Cavitt Creek and Little River. She asked Eye Spy to search it. At home, a message from Darla Foster: Josh never showed, his truck and gear were gone. Where was her brother?

CHAPTER 7

The Third Time Today

With Big Dave beside her, Tess went back to the Idle Hour on Friday, where Darla blamed her for Josh's disappearance. Roseburg police came looking for Josh over a coin-shop break-in. Then a dark pickup roared past with no lights, and the cruiser lost it. Darla said it was the third time today.

CHAPTER 8

Your Case, Not Ours

Deputy Cal Walters got a tip that the dark pickup had been parked at the Holiday Inn by the river. A dog walker then brought in a stag-handled knife found below the decks, engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987. Coyle had it logged as found property, then dialed a number twice. Nobody answered.

CHAPTER 9

Up Little River

Kally and Teresa searched Cavitt Creek and Little River. At a hidden pool off a gravel spur, Kally found a rusted tackle box with "G.P." carved in the lid — and a torn mayonnaise packet sitting on top of the silt. They called Tess. "Don't tell anyone else you found it," she said. "Bring it to me."

CHAPTER 10

August 1987

Kally delivered the tackle box to the Ledger — "No, Tess. Mayonnaise!" — and it went back to Eye Spy under lock. Channel 9 reported Commissioner Harlan Voss missing since Sunday, his wife Tiffany pleading for him to come home. At six, a typed note waited on Tess's desk: "Ask them about August 1987."

CHAPTER 11

Behind the Hedge

Tiffany Voss let Tess into the plain, dusty house behind the hedge. Sunday evening, she said, Harlan took a call from Josh Foster, said "Don't wait up" and left, scared. Then Walters phoned: Harlan's wallet had turned up at a truck stop on I-5 at Rice Hill. Harlan never goes north, Tiffany said.

CHAPTER 12

The Tin in the Gravel

FBI profiler Christine Mason arrived and faced down Coyle. Harlan's wallet held cash receipts from the K&R Drive-In and the Ranch Motel; somebody wanted them looking north, she said. An anonymous caller sent Tess to Rice Hill, where she found Josh's dented mint tin behind the motel.

CHAPTER 13

The Brass Key

Inside the tin was a brass key stamped 1987. Tess gave it to Mason at Carlos in Winston. At the Idle Hour, Darla broke down: Josh had said Gordon and Harlan were in danger. Next morning at Del's, Del told Tess that Owen Marsh was out of prison, back in town and asking around about Harlan Voss.

CHAPTER 14

The Twin Knife

On a day off at Seven Feathers in Canyonville, Tess pulled old neighbor Owen Marsh out of a fight with casino security. He said he spent the Pryce weekend at the Screw and Brew in Cannon Beach. At the Holiday Inn, Marisol Reyes found a second 1987 knife in Room 118. The guest two doors down: Marsh.

CHAPTER 15

The Door That Wasn't Locked

Walters found that 118's deck door looked locked but wasn't. Owen Marsh said he liked that room, then drove off in a dark blue pickup. Coyle ordered the knife brought to him. Walters called Tess from a pay phone, and she sent Kally and Teresa to Cannon Beach to visit the Screw and Brew.

CHAPTER 16

The Screw and Brew

Kally and Teresa drove I-5 to the coast, stopping at rest areas and plotting how to bring up Owen Marsh with Freddy, the Screw and Brew's pastrami cook. But the sign said no pastrami today. Waitress Sally whispered why: Freddy had been found stabbed to death in an alley the night before.

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 17–29 (continued)

Published chapters only — no spoilers. Updated every edition. By J.B. Woods · Roseburg, Oregon · October 2003

CHAPTER 17

Alive a Minute Ago

Kally phoned Tess with the news. Heather said Owen had checked out of the Holiday Inn three days earlier. That night at the Idle Hour, Josh whispered to Darla by phone that Pryce and Harlan were alive — then came a gunshot and silence. Darla called Tess: "My brother's alive. Or he was a minute ago."

CHAPTER 18

The Phone Didn't Ring

Tess hurried to the Idle Hour and called Mason, who arrived with Walters and Coyle. Coyle detained Darla for questioning; Josh was now a suspect, to be named armed and dangerous at a press conference in the morning. Darla told them to arrest her or get out. They left, and the phone never rang again.

CHAPTER 19

Room 118

At City Hall, Coyle said there were no suspects and never named Josh. Buck heckled him. A dark pickup flashed through an intersection, and a figure in black slipped away from behind a maple as Darla cried, "Josh!" Coyle took no questions. Tess phoned the Holiday Inn and reserved Room 118.

CHAPTER 20

Not a One-Glass Night

Home on Pine Street with wine, cheese and the late news, Tess traded thoughts with Teresa by phone, then dozed. After ten, a heavy thud hit her front door. Nobody was there — only a third 1987 knife driven into the wood, with a pencil note: "STOP DIGGING OR YOU'LL GO FOR A SWIM TOO."

CHAPTER 21

Rubber Gloves and White Wine

Walters bagged the knife, and Mason cast a shoe print in Tess's yard. Next day Tess checked into Room 118, with Kally and Teresa next door in 116. After white wine, chips and Kally's own bedsheets, Tess bolted the deck door and slept. At 3:08 a figure stood at the foot of her bed. "It's you!"

CHAPTER 22

Pale as Chalk

Kally and Teresa heard the scream and got Heather's master key, but 118 was empty, the deck door open. Tess was gone. Police, Coyle, Walters and Mason arrived as a motorboat droned downriver. At dawn Mason cast a fresh shoe print below the deck, almost sure it matched the one from Tess's yard.

CHAPTER 23

Count to a Hundred

Hooded and tied, Tess was taken by boat and truck to a hillside log bunker, stocked with mayonnaise packets. Her captor said his hotel source had failed him, that he was hunted, and that the mill shipped more than lumber. At dusk he left her by I-5 near Rice Hill. She said his name: Gordon Pryce.

CHAPTER 24

Focus, Tess

From Rice Hill, Tess called Eye Spy, then told Coyle that Gordon Pryce was alive, probably near his Little River fishing hole. Coyle sent Walters to search at first light and called a press conference to name Pryce armed and dangerous. Instead he announced Pryce had been found stabbed to death.

CHAPTER 25

Under the Lab Lights

Mason told Coyle the two shoe casts didn't match after all and more agents were coming; Coyle left town. Near where Pryce died, she found a print matching the cast from Tess's yard. Karen Marsh at the Holiday Inn said Coyle had let 118 be rented again. Karen, Walters said, is Owen Marsh's cousin.

CHAPTER 26

65 Alder Brook Road

Mason and Walters questioned maintenance man Hollis Tate at 65 Alder Brook Road. He was "sure" he fixed 118's deck door, and he named Harlan Voss and Josh Foster as missing without being asked. Doubling back, lights off, Walters found Tate's pickup parked and Tate at his window on the phone.

CHAPTER 27

Behind the Boulders

FBI agent Dan Myers arrived, and the lab matched the creek print to the one from Tess's yard. Guided by Tess, agents found Pryce's bunker behind mossy boulders, swept bare except for a pile of mayonnaise packets. Walters called Coyle from Glide. The sheriff asked: "Was there anything left inside?"

CHAPTER 28

Something in the Wall

Marisol Reyes told Myers and Mason that Josh Foster, on the renovation crew, found a heavy metal box inside 118's wall. Karen Marsh admitted Tiffany Voss had requested 118 the night before. Coyle returned, and Myers sealed the room. Next stop: Mrs. Voss — and the agents still had to find Tic Tac.

CHAPTER 29

The Silent Partner

Driving up the hill, Mason bet Myers a slice of Abby's that the brass 1987 key from Josh's mint tin opens the safe from Room 118. Tiffany Voss said Harlan told her to retrieve a hidden compartment in 118's closet if he vanished; she found nothing. Harlan, she said, was Gordon's silent partner.

OPEN QUESTIONS

- Who killed Gordon Pryce — and who knew where he was hiding?
- What does the brass key stamped 1987 open — and why did Josh have it?
- Three matching knives — river, Room 118, Tess's door. Whose are they?
- Who killed Freddy — and where did Owen go when he checked out Friday?
- Josh says Pryce and Voss were alive. Where — and what was that gunshot?
- Why is Coyle so eager to blame Josh — and whose side is Mason on?
- Who left the notes — and what happened in August 1987?
- What was hidden in the mill's lumber — and who is hunting Pryce?

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

Who's Who in Roseburg

Published chapters only — no spoilers. Updated every edition. By J.B. Woods · Roseburg, Oregon · October 2003

THE LEDGER

Tess Halloran — Our lead, 34. Reporter at the Umpqua Ledger. Grew up in Winston, laid off from a Portland daily, came home. Daughter of the late Frank Halloran, a faller at Pryce Lumber.

Walt Brenner — Ledger editor. Gruff and protective; keeps stories tight in the conference room until they're ready.

Gloria Bordiam — New staff reporter and newsroom busybody. Tells Tess what to eat — and orders it for her.

THE MISSING

Gordon Pryce — Owner of the closed Pryce Lumber mill. Faked his disappearance and hid in the woods; found stabbed to death.

Josh "Tic Tac" Foster — Idle Hour regular (40s, Mariners cap, rattles a mint box). Saw the dark pickup tailing the Lincoln; vanished. Called Darla (Ch. 17); a gunshot. Worked the hotel renovation.

Harlan Voss — Douglas County commissioner. Left home Sunday about 6 p.m. after a call from Josh Foster; his wallet turned up at the Rice Hill truck stop on I-5.

THE PRYCE HOUSEHOLD

Trent Pryce — Gordon's son, 35, running for county commission. Says he was home all night watching the game with his mother.

Evelyn Pryce — Gordon's wife. Watches silently in a gray cardigan.

Martin Kessler — The family's Eugene lawyer. Shuts down interviews.

THE VOSS HOUSEHOLD

Tiffany Voss — Harlan's wife of 18 years; nobody knows her real name. Flashy in public, plain at home. Says Harlan was Gordon's silent partner.

THE LAW

Sheriff Ray Coyle — Douglas County sheriff. Stonewalls Tess, downplayed Josh's statement, keeps the river knife quiet — and didn't ask for the FBI.

Deputy Cal Walters — 28. The only lawman who seems to care. Quietly feeds Mason and Tess what he finds.

Christine Mason — FBI profiler, about 50. Takes no guff from Coyle. Holds Josh's tin and the key.

Dan Myers — Mason's FBI boss, late 50s, triathlete. All business; unimpressed by Coyle.

Officer Ron & partner — Roseburg police. Want Josh about a break-in at Umpqua Gold & Coin; lose the pickup in a chase.

FRIENDS & ALLIES

Teresa Juniper — Eye Spy Investigations co-owner, Tess's friend since high school. Tea drinker; has an office cat in Klamath Falls.

Kallysta "Kally" Hawthorn — Eye Spy co-owner, self-declared germaphobe, transplanted from back East. Found the "G.P." tackle box.

Big Dave — Shift supervisor at the veneer plant south of town; knew Tess's father. Her Idle Hour escort.

Buck — Tess's old Winston neighbor (red suspenders, calls her "Tessie"). Worked for Gordon fifteen years.

Del — Runs the diner in Glide on Hwy 138; drove log trucks thirty years. Marionberry pie and advice. Keeps a faded snapshot of his "niece" by the register.

Flo — Waitress at Del's for as long as Tess can remember. Pink uniform, pencil behind her ear: "Sit anywhere, hon."

THE IDLE HOUR CROWD

Darla Foster — Josh's protective older sister; raised him. Tends bar part-time and is thawing toward Tess.

Herb & Rocky — Herb, in a fishing vest, waltzes with Rocky, a googly-eyed pet rock.

The owners — Brothers who flip coins to decide who pays for drinks.

TOWNSFOLK & WITNESSES

Earl Haskins — Graveyard-shift cabinet-shop worker who tipped police about the pickup.

Heather — Holiday Inn front-desk clerk; doesn't notice trucks. Called Walters about Room 118.

Marisol Reyes — Hotel housekeeper; found the 118 knife.

Hollis Tate — Holiday Inn maintenance chief, nearly 16 years; 65 Alder Brook Road.

Karen Marsh — Holiday Inn desk clerk; Owen Marsh's cousin.

Lorraine Pettibone & Moose — Retired teacher and her beagle, who found the engraved knife.

Janet Marsh — Local woman whose funeral Tess covered three weeks before the story opens.

Owen Marsh — Janet's son, about 28; 6-foot-5. Tess babysat him. In and out of prison since 18. Says he was in Cannon Beach the Pryce weekend; stayed two doors from Room 118. Drives a dark blue pickup.

Freddy — Smoker chef at the Screw and Brew in Cannon Beach; met Owen in prison. Found stabbed to death in an alley (Ch. 16).

Sally — Screw and Brew waitress who breaks the news.

The Ranch Motel clerk — Kind, tired, reading glasses on a chain. Remembers a man paying cash Sunday night; didn't see him leave.

THE EVIDENCE LOCKER

The Lincoln — Gordon's car, wheels turned neatly toward the river, wallet on the seat with $200.

The knife — Stag-handled, engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987. Found in the shallows; Coyle had it logged as found property.

The tackle box — Silt-filled, "G.P." carved in the lid, a torn mayonnaise packet on top. Locked up by Eye Spy.

The note — Unstamped, on Tess's desk: "Ask them about August 1987."

Harlan's wallet — Tossed in a Rice Hill truck-stop trash can, $41 inside, plus cash receipts from the K&R Drive-In (Sunday, 9:12 p.m.) and the Ranch Motel.

The mint tin — Dented, in a puddle in the tire ruts behind the Ranch Motel. Josh's — still holding his Tic Tacs. Now with the FBI.

The brass key — Small, worn, stamped "1987," found under the mints. Now with the FBI.

Room 118's back door — Looks locked but opens with a tug; the strike plate was tampered with. A private way in from the river deck.

The second knife — In an ottoman in Holiday Inn Room 118: stag handle, dried blood, same 1987 engraving. The river knife's twin.

KEY TIMES

Gordon Pryce: Friday night: leaves the Elks Lodge · about 10 p.m.: calls home to take a drive "up the river" · about 10:30: Josh sees the Lincoln heading up the canyon, a dark pickup behind it with no lights · next morning: the wallet is still on the seat.

Harlan Voss: Sunday, about 6 p.m.: leaves home after a call from Josh · Sunday night: cash at the K&R and the Ranch Motel · Tuesday: the wallet turns up at Rice Hill · Wednesday: the FBI arrives.

KEY PLACES

Roseburg · Glide · Hwy 138 pullout near Toketee Falls · Idle Hour Tavern · Umpqua Ledger · Brix Grill · Abby's Pizza · Fred Meyer · Holiday Inn on the South Umpqua · Cavitt Creek & Little River · the Voss house on the hill · Rice Hill, 25 miles north on I-5: the truck stop, the K&R Drive-In and the Ranch Motel · Carlos, Winston · Seven Feathers Casino, Canyonville · the Screw and Brew, Cannon Beach

THE CRIME DESK

Cold cases · Blotter · Court watch · Top 20 · Scams · Trivia

COLD CASE FILE

Milton, Vermont · 1976

David Milizia: The Woods Off Watkins Road

On the night of Saturday, Sept. 4, 1976 — Labor Day weekend — 19-year-old David M. Milizia was seen alive for the last time.

The next day, his body was found in the woods off Watkins Road in the town of Milton, in northern Chittenden County, a rural stretch of farm fields and back roads a few miles from Lake Champlain.

Investigators determined that he had been killed. The Vermont State Police have said publicly only a little more: "Evidence suggest there may be more than one individual responsible for his death."

More than one person means more than one set of memories — and 50 years is a long time to keep a secret. Someone may have heard a boast at a party, seen a car parked by those woods that night, or noticed a friend who suddenly stopped talking about that holiday weekend.

The case belongs to the State Police Major Crime Unit, which still lists it as an open, unsolved homicide.

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit, text VTIPS to 274637, or call 802-244-8727 (case 93A103895).

CASE FACTS

NAME
David M. Milizia
AGE
19
LAST SEEN
Sept. 4, 1976
FOUND
Sept. 5, 1976
WHERE
Woods off Watkins Road, Milton
STATUS
Homicide, unsolved
CASE NO.
93A103895

vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit (anonymous)
Text VTIPS to 274637 · VSP 802-244-8727

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

BURLINGTON — Police detained a 20-year-old Burlington man Friday after callers reported a man with a shotgun near City Hall Park and the Church Street Marketplace; police say he threatened a group of people. He was held on bail for arraignment today. (WCAX)

PITTSFORD — State police are looking for two people who broke into the Champlain Farms gas station around 4 a.m. Sunday and stole the ATM. Call the Rutland barracks with tips. (WCAX)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Anchorage — Judge Sharon Gleason dismissed a Justice Department suit that sought to block certification of Alaska's Senate race if Sen. Dan Sullivan lost, citing the states' power over elections; the DOJ plans to appeal. (WCAX/AP)

New York — Judge Jesse Furman ruled the Trump administration unlawfully fired prosecutor Maurene Comey, daughter of the former FBI director, and ordered back pay; the DOJ will appeal. (WCAX/AP)

Washington — Judge Ana Reyes extended her order blocking the administration's renovation of the public East Potomac Golf Course, barring more tree removal. (WCAX/AP)

SOLVED AFTER DECADES

Cold cases cracked by DNA

VICTIM / CASE	WHERE	CRIME	SOLVED	HOW DNA CRACKED IT
Rita Curran	Burlington, Vt.	1971	2023	Cigarette-butt DNA and genealogy named her neighbor, William DeRoos, who died in 1986.
Christine Jessop	Queensville, Ont.	1984	2020	Genealogy named Calvin Hoover, who had died in 2015.
Bear Brook	Allenstown, N.H.	1985	2017	Genealogy tied the bodies found in barrels to Terry Rasmussen.
Lisa Ziegert	Agawam, Mass.	1992	2018	Retested DNA led to Gary Schara's arrest.
Phoenix Canal	Phoenix	1992	2015	Genealogy led to Bryan Patrick Miller, convicted in 2022.
Golden State Killer	California	1974	2018	Genealogy led to Joseph DeAngelo, a former police officer.
Angie Dodge	Idaho Falls	1996	2019	Genealogy named Brian Dripps and helped free Christopher Tapp.
Green River	Washington	1982	2001	A 1987 saliva sample, retested, matched Gary Ridgway.
BTK	Wichita, Kan.	1974	2005	A floppy disk led to Dennis Rader; family DNA confirmed it.
Michella Welch	Tacoma, Wash.	1986	2018	Genealogy and a discarded napkin led to Gary Hartman.

Genetic genealogy compares crime-scene DNA with public family-tree databases to find relatives, then builds the family tree.

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

Eric Rudolph

A bomb at Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park during the 1996 Summer Olympics killed one woman and injured more than 100 people. Bombings at an Atlanta-area abortion clinic, an Atlanta nightclub and a Birmingham, Ala., clinic followed. Evidence led to Eric Rudolph, a former soldier, who vanished into the mountains of western North Carolina in 1998. Despite a huge manhunt and a spot on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list, he stayed hidden for five years. The end came by chance. Before dawn on May 31, 2003, rookie Murphy, N.C., police officer Jeff Postell spotted a man rummaging through a grocery store's trash bin and arrested him. It was Rudolph. He pleaded guilty in 2005 and is serving life in prison.

SCAM ALERT

The Utility Shut-Off Call

As heating season starts, scammers call pretending to be from the electric or gas company, warning that your power will be cut off within the hour unless you pay right away — by gift card, wire or a payment app.

Remember: real utilities send written notices well before any shut-off and never demand gift cards. Hang up and call the number on your bill.

Report it: ReportFraud.ftc.gov and the Vermont Attorney General's Consumer Assistance Program, 800-649-2424.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

"Every contact leaves a trace" is the founding idea of forensic science. Which French criminologist is it named for?

Answer: Edmond Locard — Locard's exchange principle.

THE SNOW DESK

Season tracking Nov. 1 – Apr. 1 · all totals in inches

Day 2 OF 152

Totals through Sunday, Nov. 1

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

23.0" · Seward 4.7 NE, NE

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 0.1" · Depth: 0"

MIDDLEBURY

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Nearest observer reports
No report = no observer reading that day

STOWE

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Mt. Mansfield / Stowe observers
No report = no observer reading that day

SNOWSHOE, WV

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Snowshoe observer (4,780 ft)
No report = no observer reading that day

THE CITY SNOW BOARD · OFFICIAL NWS TOTALS

CITY	LAST 24 HRS	MONTH	SEASON	NORMAL	+/-	DEPTH
Burlington, Vt.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Portland, Maine					report not available	
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0.0
Concord, N.H.					report not available	
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
New York City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Erie, Pa.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska					report not available	

NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Seward 4.7 NE, NE Elev. 1539 ft	23.0"
2	Alyeska Weather Top, AK Elev. 2707 ft	17.0"
3	Alyeska Weather Mid, AK Elev. 1644 ft	14.0"
4	Bettles Arpt Elev. 633 ft	7.7"
5	Wiseman, AK Elev. 1181 ft	5.2"
6	Kuparuk, AK Elev. 72 ft	3.1"
7	Lawrence 0.3 SSE, NE Elev. 1880 ft	3.0"
8	Alyeska Base, AK Elev. 371 ft	1.0"
9	Tuolumne Meadows, CA Elev. 8701 ft	0.5"
10	Eagle River 7.8 SE, AK Elev. 2146 ft	0.0"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES

Burlington, Vt.	0.0"
Boston	0.0"
Caribou, Maine	0.0"
Albany, N.Y.	0.0"
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0"
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0"
New York City	0.0"
Erie, Pa.	0.0"

SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Opening day in 23 days — Wed., Nov. 25 (target, weather permitting)

Today: 53° and cloudy on the mountain, low 45°, 20% chance of showers.

Tue.–Thu.: Mild: 64°, 60° and 62°; showers likely Thursday (45%).

Fri.–Sat.: Cooler — 56° then 49°, lows near 38°.

Sun.: 45°, a 15% chance of the first snow showers.

Next Mon.: 41° with a 55% chance of snow — the first real shot at natural flakes.

Snowmaking: Crews need hard, sustained cold — mid-20s or lower — to make snow in earnest. Next week's pattern is the first that could deliver it.

Where: Snowshoe, W.Va., 4,848 ft. on Cheat Mountain.

SNOW NOTES

Day 2. Still a clean slate at home: no measurable snow at Burlington since the season began. Sunday topped out at 57°, five above normal.

Rain first. Tuesday brings rain, not snow, with a 55% chance in Essex and highs near 58°. A 73° Wednesday follows before the cooldown.

The turn. Highs slip into the 40s by Saturday and Sunday. Snow levels stay on the summits for now; the valleys look dry of flakes through the weekend.

New on this page. The Snowshoe Mountain Report, every day through opening day and the season beyond.

PUZZLES & GAMES

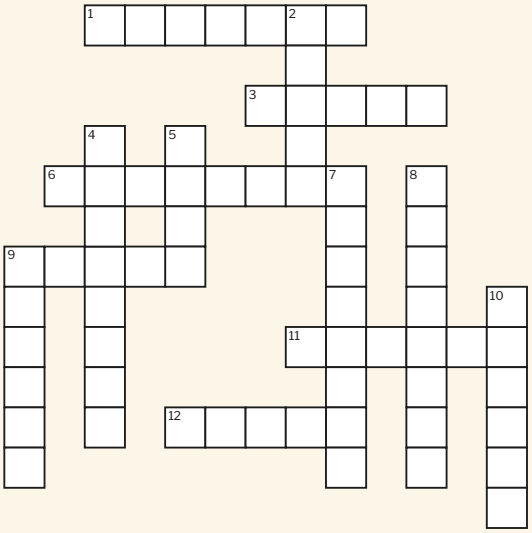
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

		9			1			5
			3		5	9	4	
		3	9	4			8	
	8					2	7	
7	4				8		9	
9		5					3	
	3	8					1	7
	9		4		7		5	
1				5			2	9

Fill every row, column and 3×3 box with 1–9.

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · ELECTION EVE



ACROSS

1 The Hereford he courted (7)
3 Their bites keep sending Vermonters to the ER (5)
6 Watch-list stock reporting tonight (8)
9 City whose rink volunteers fixed (5)
11 Pacific warming behind Bolivia's drought (6)
12 Shrewsbury's lovestruck visitor of 1986 (5)

DOWN

2 White chicken ___ (5)
4 Beat Miami 24–19 on Sunday (8)
5 New England QB Drake (4)
7 Bourbon-and-coffee cocktail (8)
8 Kentucky home of Wilderness Trail (8)
9 What you'll mark on Tuesday (6)
10 "Every contact leaves a trace" criminologist (6)

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions, No Peeking

1. Which team did the Patriots beat Sunday?

2. Which Vermont lieutenant governor died in the 1927 flood?

3. Which rookie officer caught bomber Eric Rudolph in 2003?

4. Pantethine, tested for psoriasis, is a form of which vitamin?

5. About how many pounds of food did Howell High students collect?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues, One Year

- America's Bicentennial.
- Apple Computer is founded.
- Viking 1 lands on Mars.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION



Solutions run the next day.

THE JUKEBOX

Music history, a record to spin and shows near home

NOVEMBER 2 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1941 — Bruce Welch, rhythm guitarist of Britain's instrumental hitmakers the Shadows.

1944 — Keith Emerson, the keyboard wizard of Emerson, Lake & Palmer.

1945 — J.D. Souther, who co-wrote the Eagles' "Best of My Love" and "New Kid in Town."

1947 — Dave Pegg, longtime bassist of the British folk-rock band Fairport Convention.

1961 — k.d. lang, the Canadian singer with the big, clear voice — and jazz singer Kurt Elling.

1974 — Rapper Nelly, of "Hot in Herre" fame.

A rich day for birthdays: prog rock, country-folk songwriting, British folk-rock, torch songs and hip-hop.



SPIN THIS

Ingénue

k.d. lang · 1992

k.d. lang turns 65 today, so spin *Ingénue*, the album that took her from cowpunk country to the pop charts.

Its hit, "Constant Craving," won her a Grammy. The rest of the record is lush and slow — strings, accordion and that soaring voice.

Listen for "Miss Chatelaine" and the closing "Constant Craving" on a rainy Election Day.

Best with: a Revolver and white chicken chili.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Tue. Nov. 3 · Clutch, Higher Ground

Fri. Nov. 6 · Fruit Bats, Higher Ground

Sat. Nov. 7 · Willi Carlisle, Higher Ground

Wed. Nov. 11 · Sleep, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Keith Emerson, born on this day in 1944, formed a famous progressive-rock trio with which two musicians?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. The Miami Dolphins, 24–19. 2. S. Hollister Jackson. 3. Jeff Postell of Murphy, N.C. 4. Vitamin B5. 5. More than 250,000. Name That Year: 1976. Music trivia: Greg Lake and Carl Palmer — Emerson, Lake & Palmer.