ESSEX JCT. TODAY
53°
Low 30° · Sunny and milder
Next: 59° Wednesday, near 60° by Frida

The Morning Courier

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

KILLINGTON
OPEN
Passholders ride today
Public Wednesday, 9 a.m. · Page 3

VOL. I · NO. 55 · FREE TO JB · TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 · ESSEX JCT., VT · SUNRISE 6:51 A.M. · SUNSET 4:22 P.M.

DOW 51,608 ▼ −1.41% · S&P 500 7,417 ▼ −1.92% · NVDA $156.14 ▼ −4.12% · PLTR $160.39 ▼ −4.52% · MSFT $517.99 ▼ −1.12% · GAS $3.81

NATION · AIR TRAVEL

One Router Grounded the Nation's Flights

Friday's ground stop is traced to a box in El Dorado, Ark.; Duffy wants $50 billion, and senators want answers.

BY THE NUMBERS

4 hrs 39 min	Friday's ground stop
12,000+	Weekend cancellations
$50B	Duffy's ask for a new network
$1B	Spent of $12.5B approved in 2025

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: THE NEXT WEB, TECH TIMES, YAHOO/ABC, NPR

The ground stop that froze American air travel Friday afternoon — 3:36 to 8:15 p.m. Eastern, followed by more than 12,000 weekend cancellations — has been traced to one router at a remote FAA site in El Dorado, Ark., where contractor L3Harris was swapping old copper lines for fiber. A second router in Amarillo, Texas, also flooded the network with roughly 1,000 connection attempts every four to five seconds.

The Arkansas router is now at an L3Harris lab in Florida, where FAA staff and the FBI are checking for any sign of a cyberattack. Hewlett Packard Enterprise, which owns the router's maker, Juniper, said the device "functioned as it was configured to by the installer." FAA chief Bryan Bedford told lawmakers the network has "no backup to the backup."

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said on CNBC the outage cost "billions of dollars" and asked for $50 billion for a new system. Senate Majority Leader John Thune said "there's some explanations that have to be given" for that number. Duffy meets Senate Republicans at lunch today.

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

29°
Low tonight: 30°

Sunny and milder after a cold start. Light wind. High 53°.

RAIN TODAY 5% | SNOW TODAY 0%
Dry and mild through Saturday (WCAX)

THE WEEK AHEAD

WED	THU	FRI	SAT
59°	58°	60°	59°
R 10% S 0%	R 10% S 0%	R 5% S 0%	R 0% S 0%

R = rain, S = snow chance. Forecast data, Tuesday a.m.

FORECASTER'S NOTE

We called 44° Monday; Burlington hit 46°. A win — Beat the Forecaster stands at 10–6.

ENTERTAINMENT · 007

Robert Pattinson Is the Next James Bond

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEWS, AMAZON

Robert Pattinson will be the seventh actor to play James Bond in the films since "Dr. No" in 1962, taking over from Daniel Craig. Denis Villeneuve directs the 26th Bond film from a script by Steven Knight — the first since Amazon MGM took over the series.

"To be entrusted with 007 is the honour of a lifetime," Pattinson said. No release date has been set.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS	Nvidia reports tonight.	2
VERMONT	Killington opens.	3
SPORTS	Chargers win at last.	3
WEATHER	Back in the win column.	7
SERIAL	Chapter 39 is coming.	8
CRIME	On this day in crime.	12

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Tuesday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	NOW	HI	LO	RAIN	SNOW
MIDDLEBURY, VT	27°	52°	29°	5%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	28°	39°	28°	5%	5%
SNOWSHOE, WV	34°	53°	34°	0%	
ROSEBURG, OR	42°	53°	39°	10%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	38°	54°	38°	0%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	32°	61°	33°	0%	
WILMINGTON, NC	38°	64°	39°	0%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	67°	69°	66°	65%	
FULTON, MO	33°	60°	32°	0%	
HOT SPOT · MIAMI, FL	74°	77°	74°	60%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
Chapter 39 is being written. Today on Page 8: a scene from Chapter 6.

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

Before the bell · Nvidia reports tonight · the Nasdaq enters a correction · Tuesday, November 17

MONDAY'S CLOSES · TUESDAY FUTURES BELOW

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT	DAY MOVE
Dow Jones Industrials	51,608.17	−738.08	−1.41%	
S&P 500	7,416.59	−145.19	−1.92%	
Nasdaq Composite	24,509.76	−625.88	−2.49%	
Russell 2000	2,742.94	−47.44	−1.70%	
JB'S WATCHLIST				
Nvidia (NVDA)	156.14	−6.71	−4.12%	
Palantir (PLTR)	160.39	−7.59	−4.52%	
Microsoft (MSFT)	517.99	−5.87	−1.12%	
BIG NAMES				
AMD (AMD)	504.28	−29.80	−5.58%	

Closes via Reuters, StockAlarm; futures as of ~3 a.m. ET. *Written with help from Claude, made by Anthropic.

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

Dow futures 3 a.m.	−0.63%
S&P futures 3 a.m.	−0.56%
Nasdaq fut. 3 a.m.	−0.66%
10-yr Treasury Tue.	~5.13%
Brent crude Mon.	~$92
WTI crude Mon.	~$86
Gold Mon.	~$3,853
VIX Mon.	22.91
Bitcoin Tue.	~$64,300

THE WEEK AHEAD **TODAY** Retail sales 8:30; Home Depot, Disney; Nvidia **WED.** Fed minutes; Anthropic* prices **THU.** Walmart; claims; ANT trades

Today: builders' index 10 a.m. · NY Fed's Williams 2:25 p.m. · Huang briefs House chairs Wed.

Yahoo Finance, CNBC, Reuters, Cboe

BEFORE THE BELL

Nasdaq Slides Into a Correction Before Nvidia Reports

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: REUTERS, YAHOO FINANCE, CNBC, CBOE

The Nasdaq fell 2.5% Monday and now sits more than 10% below its Oct. 6 record — a correction. Chip stocks led the way down ahead of Nvidia's first report since Jensen Huang resigned, and a new Commerce Department rule limits China's remote access to advanced AI chips.

Nvidia reports at about 4:20 p.m.; analysts expect about $109 billion in revenue and $2.47 a share. A source told CNBC the board isn't considering bringing Huang back.

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — $156.14, −4.1%; reports after the close.

Palantir (PLTR) — $160.39, −4.5%.

Microsoft (MSFT) — $517.99, −1.1%.

The Fed — Warsh: AI risks "can be highly disruptive." Futures: ~96% odds of a December hike.

Factories — Empire State index fell 18 points to 7.8.

Anthropic IPO* — $70–$78, about 6× oversubscribed; prices Wednesday.

OVERNIGHT AROUND THE WORLD

KOSPI	South Korea	−2.60%
TWSE	Taiwan	−2.30%
N225	Japan (Nikkei)	−1.30%
STOXX	Europe (STOXX 600)	−0.64%
DBK	Deutsche Bank	−5.00%

Best of these: STOXX 600 −0.6%. Worst: Deutsche Bank −5%

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+10.6%
S&P 500	+8.4%
Nasdaq	+5.4%
Dow	+7.4%

Approx., through Monday.

THE LUMBER DESK

Lumber Slips to $510 Before Builders Weigh In

FOR THE JB WOODS DESK

January lumber traded near $510 late Monday, down about $10 (Yahoo Finance). The builders' index comes at 10 a.m.; economists expect 29.

GAS PRICES · REGULAR, PER GALLON

NATIONAL	VERMONT	HIGHEST	LOWEST
$3.81	$4.09	$5.62	$3.09
U.S. average	state average	Hawaii	North Carolina

AAA, Nov. 16 · down 1¢ from the day before, 20¢ in a week

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · ASIA TRIP

Trump Opens Asia Swing in Manila

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: REUTERS, AL JAZEERA, ABC NEWS

President Trump arrives in the Philippines today for his first Quad meeting — with Japan, Australia and India — and a U.S.-ASEAN summit Wednesday. The Quad is "a partnership of action," said White House spokeswoman Olivia Wales. He also signs a trade statement with Thailand.

Thursday's three-way meeting with Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin in Shenzhen is still on. "We do not expect to get to any kind of agreement," a senior official told Reuters. Asked whether Kim Jong Un would come, Trump said, "He may come. I don't know."

ELSEWHERE

Alaska. As of 9:52 p.m. ET Monday, AP's count showed Mary Peltola with 50.0% to 45.9% for Sen. Dan Sullivan, with an estimated 98% counted. AP has not called the race. Numbers may have changed since.

Supreme Court. The justices turned away the administration's appeal over about $59 million in canceled University of California research grants, and declined to hear a challenge to Maryland's "sensitive places" gun law. (Reuters, AP)

Rome. Pope Leo XIV landed home early today after his South America trip. Of his October lung surgery, he said, "I'm not 100% but I'm pretty good." (AP)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

KILLINGTON · SKI SEASON

The Beast Is Open

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCES: WCAX, MYNBC5, SNOWBRAINS

Killington spins its lifts today, the first ski area in New England to open for 2026–27. Today is for passholders (Killington, Beast 365 and Ikon); everyone else can ride starting Wednesday at 9 a.m. The K-1 Express Gondola and the North Ridge Quad will run to Rime, Reason and Upper East Fall — no beginner terrain yet — and passholders get a free lunch.

"It's great to be back for another winter of skiing and riding at The Beast," said Mike Solimano, Killington's president. The resort is also giving $10,000 to the Killington Mountain School's campus expansion.

BARRE · A CITY MOURNS

Mayor Thom Lauzon Dies at 65

Barre Mayor Thom Lauzon died early Monday; police said there were no suspicious circumstances. First elected in 2006, he led the city through the 2024 flood. Gov. Phil Scott called him "always ready, willing and able to help." (VTDigger, Seven Days)

ESSEX JCT. · BROWNELL LIBRARY

A Free Toy Swap Saturday

Families can pick out "new-to-you" toys for free at Brownell Library's Toy Swap this Saturday, Nov. 21 — just in time for holiday shopping lists. (City of Essex Junction)

AROUND THE STATE

STATEWIDE — Fewer visitors. Vermont drew 15.6 million visitors spending $4.1 billion in 2025, down from 16 million and $4.2 billion; officials cite fewer Canadians. (WCAX)

MONTPELIER — A new Senate leader. Washington County Sen. Andrew Perchlik was nominated to succeed Phil Baruth; the full Senate votes in January. (Seven Days)

MT. MANSFIELD — Latest on record. The summit stake reached 1 inch of snow on Nov. 14 — the latest ever; the old mark was Nov. 9, 1985. (WCAX)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Sunny and mild

Monday: Burlington 46°; we called 44°.
Record: a win — 10–6.
Snow: first trace Nov. 14, 2nd-latest.
Today: sunny, 53°.
Wednesday: sunny, 59°.
Friday: about 60°.
Sunday: rain likely (75%).
Sunset: 4:22 p.m.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Sunny, 53°.
Tonight Clear, 38°.
Wed. Mild, 59°.
Thu. Mild, 58°.
Fri. Sunny, 60°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

23–20	Chargers' first win
319	Brissett's passing yards
115–105	Magic over Celtics
11–3	Celtics' record
10–6	Beat the Forecaster

SPORTS

Chargers win at last · Celtics streak ends · Maye update · Bruins host L.A. tonight

CHARGERS 23, RAVENS 20 · BALTIMORE, MONDAY · BY HALF

TEAM	1	2	F
LAC	17	6	23
BAL	10	10	20

Herbert 22-yd TD run, 51 rush yds · Dicker 3 FGs · Brissett 319 yds · Henry 2 TDs · Flowers lost a late fumble

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Chargers Finally Win; Ravens Lose Fifth Straight

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Justin Herbert ran 22 yards for a touchdown and Los Angeles never trailed. Derrick Henry's second short TD cut it to 23–20 with 10:23 left; Baltimore was driving late when Zay Flowers fumbled. The Chargers are 1–8; the Ravens fall to 4–6. (CBS Baltimore, NBC LA)

Patriots: Drake Maye stayed in Germany for ankle tests; ESPN reports a fracture is feared. New England (5–5) has a bye. (Yahoo Sports)

NFL · WEEK 11

Week 11: Washington wins Thursday

WAS 24, NYG 21	Final
NE vs. DET	Sun. 9:30a
BUF at NYJ	Sun. 1:00
KC at ATL	Sun. 1:00
MIN at GB	Sun. 1:00
JAX at TEN	Sun. 1:00
SF at DAL	Sun. 4:25
PIT at CIN	SNF
LAC at BAL	MNF

Win probabilities via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	7-1	—
New England	5-4	2½
NY Jets	2-7	5½
Miami	1-7	6

Via SportRadar. Sun.: Bills at Jets 1; Pats–Lions 9:30 a.m. (Munich).

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Magic End Celtics' Streak

Orlando won 115–105, ending Boston's six-game streak and handing the Celtics (11–3) their first home loss. Tatum had 24 and 12 rebounds. (ESPN)

AROUND THE RINKS & FIELDS

Tonight & This Week

AP Top 5: Georgia, Utah, Notre Dame, UCLA, Miami.

Red Sox: Signed Jake Bauers, 4 years, $58M.

TONIGHT ON TV (ET)

NHL Kings at Bruins, 7:00
NHL Bruins at Detroit, Wed. 7:30

THE BOURBON & WINE PAGE

A wheated bonded bourbon from Bardstown · a Mosel Riesling · bourbon-mustard pork chops



BOURBON OF THE WEEK

BARDSTOWN BOURBON CO. · BARDSTOWN, KY.

Origin Series Wheated Bottled-in-Bond

PROOF	AGE	WHEAT	PRICE
100	6 years	20%	~$50

Founded in 2014, Bardstown Bourbon Co. made its name distilling for more than 30 other brands before launching its own bourbons in 2019. (Business Wire)

How it tastes: the distillery says stone fruit, toffee and cocoa; Distiller adds butterscotch and peanut brittle, then a long finish of chocolate, vanilla and cinnamon.

The Origin Series: its first estate-distilled line, out since December 2022. The mash is 68% corn, 20% wheat and 12% malted barley — wheat in place of rye for a softer sip. (Distiller)



WINE OF THE WEEK

DR. LOOSEN · BERNKASTEL, GERMANY

Dr. Loosen "Dr. L" Riesling

GRAPE	ABV	STYLE	PRICE
Riesling	8.5%	off-dry	~$12

The Loosen family has made wine along the Mosel River for more than 200 years; Ernst "Erni" Loosen took over in 1988. (Vino Fino)

How it tastes: honey, apricot and peach on the nose; juicy and zesty, with a touch of spritz and lively acidity. (Vino Fino, BuyWinesOnline)

Why so light? Fermentation is stopped by chilling, leaving a little natural grape sugar and just 8.5% alcohol. The grapes come from steep slate slopes, bought from growers on long-term contracts. (Red+White Cellar tech sheet)

TODAY'S RECIPE

Made to go with a glass

Bourbon-Mustard Pork Chops & Apples

Serves 4 · about 30 minutes

THE CHOPS

- 4 boneless pork chops, 1 inch thick
- 1 tsp kosher salt, ½ tsp pepper
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 3 tbsp bourbon
- 2 tbsp whole-grain mustard
- 2 tbsp maple syrup

THE APPLES

- 2 firm apples, in wedges
- 1 large shallot, sliced
- 2 tbsp butter
- ½ tsp fresh thyme
- Pinch of salt
- 1 tbsp cider vinegar

METHOD

1. Pat the chops dry and season. Whisk the bourbon, mustard and maple syrup in a small bowl.

2. Sear the chops in the oil over medium-high, 4–5 minutes a side, to 145°F. Move to a plate and tent with foil.

3. Lower to medium; add butter, apples, shallot, thyme and salt. Cook until the apples are golden, 6–8 minutes. Add the vinegar and scrape up the browned bits.

4. Off the heat, pour in the glaze; return to medium and simmer 1–2 minutes until syrupy.

5. Return the chops and juices; turn to coat. Serve with the apples spooned over.

Courier tip: Thin chops cook in half the time — start checking at 2–3 minutes a side, and let them rest 3 minutes.

POUR WITH IT · BOURBON

Bardstown wheater: toffee and cinnamon echo the maple-bourbon glaze, and the soft wheat won't bury mild pork. (Courier pick)

POUR WITH IT · WINE

Dr. L: a retailer suggests it with "savory pork chops"; the peach and apple notes meet the skillet apples. (BuyWinesOnline)

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Fancy Free. Stir 2 oz bourbon, a scant ½ oz maraschino liqueur, 3 dashes Angostura and 2 dashes orange bitters with ice; strain over a big cube. Garnish with an orange twist.

The story: First printed in Crosby Gaige's "Cocktail Guide and Ladies' Companion" around 1941. Modern bartenders made it a stirred drink on the rocks — an Old Fashioned with maraschino in place of sugar. (Difford's Guide, PUNCH)

BOURBON & WINE NEWS

Dierks Bentley's Bourbon Heads to the Opry

Country star Dierks Bentley's ROW 94 bourbon opened its first tasting room, at Nashville's Bode Hotel, and announced "Trespasser's Proof" for early 2027 — four barrels finished at the Grand Ole Opry, about $100. (Fred Minnick)

Coming up: Beaujolais Nouveau Day, Thursday.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT · BRUINS 7:00
Chops in the pan by 6:30.

TONIGHT · NVIDIA ~4:20
A Fancy Free for the numbers.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19
Beaujolais Nouveau Day.

THE CELLAR & RICKHOUSE GLOSSARY

Nine wine words, nine bourbon words

Riesling — Germany's great white grape.
Mosel — steep river valley in western Germany.
Off-dry — a touch of sweetness.
Slate — the rocky soil of the Mosel.
QbA — German quality-wine level.
Spritz — a faint fizz.

Acidity — the bright, mouthwatering bite.
Petrol — a classic aged-Riesling aroma.
Flute — the tall, slim German bottle.
Wheater — bourbon with wheat, not rye.
Bottled-in-bond — 100 proof, 4+ years, one season.
Mash bill — the grain recipe.

Estate-distilled — made start to finish in-house.
Custom distiller — makes whiskey for other brands.
Maraschino — cherry liqueur from Croatia/Italy.
Orange bitters — citrus-peel bitters.
Twist — a strip of peel.
Stirred — mixed with ice, not shaken.

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. 9 – Sunday, Nov. 15

ON THE TUBE (ET)

Tonight 7:00 — Kings at Bruins.
Tonight ~4:20 — Nvidia earnings.
Wed. 7:30 — Bruins at Detroit.
Wed. — Fed minutes; Anthropic* prices.
Thu. — Trump–Xi–Putin, Shenzhen.
Thu. — ANT starts trading.

AROUND VERMONT

Today — Killington opens to passholders.
Wed. 9 a.m. — Killington opens to all.
Wed. — Voyager 1 one light-day away.
Thu. — Beaujolais Nouveau Day.
Sat. — Free Toy Swap, Brownell.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Tue. — Sunny, 53°.
Wed. — Mild, 59°.
Thu. — Mild, 58°.
Fri. — About 60°.
Sat. — About 59°.
Sun. — Rain likely.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

ENGLAND

Rivers Getting Cleaner

Levels of two "forever chemicals," PFOS and PFOA, have fallen about 30% in England's rivers over a decade — and 49% in freshwater fish. "It's brilliant to see how far we have come," one scientist told the BBC. (Good News Network)

ITALY

Miracle Wheat From the Attic

A farmer near Parma tossed century-old seeds from his family's attic onto a manure pile. They sprouted — seven ears on one stalk — into an ancient wheat now milled as "Miracolo" flour. (Good News Network, Smithsonian)

WALES

Pen Pals, Then Partners

David McArdle met Jodie on a Greek holiday in 1994; they wrote letters, then lost touch. A birthday text reunited them 20 years later. Now married, they return to Kos every August. (Good News Network)

MIDWEST

A Transplant First

Doctors at Franciscan Health say a woman with severe aplastic anemia recovered after a bone-marrow transplant from a deceased organ donor — the first reported for the disease. (Good News Network)

INDIANA

The Banana Man

A boy in Linton rides his bike around town in a banana costume from Goodwill. People wave and honk, and fans dressed as him for Halloween. "I like making people smile," he said. (Sunny Skyz, CBS)

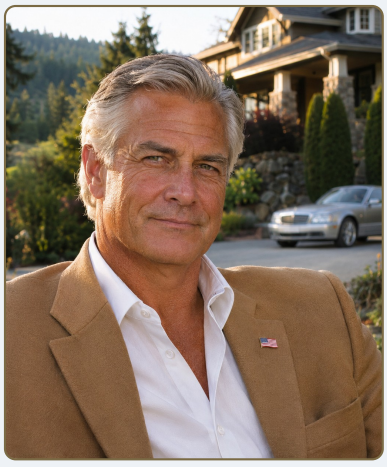
SAN FRANCISCO

$100 Million for Parks

Airbnb's Brian Chesky is giving $100 million to the city's parks — its largest single-donor gift ever. "Parks are where a city meets," he said. (City of San Francisco)

MEET THE CAST

The Deepest Water



Harlan Voss

Douglas County Commissioner

"Either Harlan Voss changed every habit he ever had, or somebody wants us looking north."
— Agent Mason, Chapter 12

A new face every day · catch up on Pages 9–11

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Monday night · NHL and NBA through Monday · via SportRadar

Highlighted: the Patriots, Bruins and Celtics

NFL · DIVISION STANDINGS

AFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
Buffalo	8	1	0	.889
New England	5	5	0	.500
N.Y. Jets	2	8	0	.200
Miami	1	8	0	.111

AFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Cincinnati	7	2	0	.778
Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667
Cleveland	6	4	0	.600
Baltimore	4	6	0	.400

AFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Jacksonville	7	2	0	.778
Houston	3	6	0	.333
Indianapolis	3	7	0	.300
Tennessee	1	8	0	.111

AFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
Kansas City	7	2	0	.778
Denver	7	2	0	.778
Las Vegas	4	6	0	.400
L.A. Chargers	1	8	0	.111

NFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
N.Y. Giants	5	3	1	.611
Dallas	4	6	0	.400
Washington	3	5	1	.389
Philadelphia	2	7	0	.222

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Detroit	7	2	0	.778
Minnesota	7	2	0	.778
Chicago	7	2	0	.778
Green Bay	6	4	0	.600

NFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Carolina	4	5	0	.444
Tampa Bay	3	6	0	.333
New Orleans	3	6	0	.333
Atlanta	3	7	0	.300

NFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
San Francisco	8	1	0	.889
L.A. Rams	6	4	0	.600
Seattle	6	4	0	.600
Arizona	3	7	0	.300

NHL · DIVISION STANDINGS

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Tampa Bay	20	13	5	2	28
Ottawa	21	13	6	2	28
Montreal	21	12	5	4	28
Boston	20	13	6	1	27
Florida	22	12	7	3	27
Buffalo	20	8	8	4	20
Detroit	21	8	10	3	19
Toronto	22	8	12	2	18

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	21	16	3	2	34
New Jersey	21	15	6	0	30
N.Y. Rangers	22	13	8	1	27
N.Y. Islanders	19	9	6	4	22
Washington	18	10	8	0	20
Philadelphia	23	6	11	6	18
Pittsburgh	20	7	11	2	16
Columbus	18	7	11	0	14

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	22	15	3	4	34
Colorado	21	12	6	3	27
Nashville	21	11	5	5	27
Dallas	20	12	6	2	26
Winnipeg	21	10	8	3	23
Utah	22	10	9	3	23
St. Louis	20	9	9	2	20
Chicago	20	5	13	2	12

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	22	16	3	3	35
Vegas	22	13	6	3	29
Anaheim	21	11	9	1	23
San Jose	23	10	11	2	22
Seattle	18	9	8	1	19
Calgary	21	9	11	1	19
Los Angeles	18	5	11	2	12
Vancouver	23	5	17	1	11

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	12	3	.800	—
Boston	11	3	.786	0.5
New York	7	6	.538	4
Toronto	5	8	.385	6
Brooklyn	3	10	.231	8

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	8	4	.667	—
Cleveland	8	7	.533	1.5
Indiana	5	9	.357	4
Chicago	3	10	.231	5.5
Milwaukee	1	13	.071	8

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	8	6	.571	—
Atlanta	8	6	.571	—
Orlando	6	7	.462	1.5
Charlotte	4	9	.308	3.5
Washington	4	11	.267	4.5

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	10	4	.714	—
Portland	9	4	.692	0.5
Oklahoma City	9	5	.643	1
Denver	7	5	.583	2
Utah	1	13	.071	9

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	12	2	.857	—
Golden State	8	6	.571	4
Phoenix	6	7	.462	5.5
LA Clippers	4	8	.333	7
Sacramento	1	12	.077	10.5

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	12	2	.857	—
Houston	11	4	.733	1.5
Memphis	10	4	.714	2
Dallas	7	7	.500	5
New Orleans	5	10	.333	7.5

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Bruins (13–6–1) Fourth in a tight Atlantic after Saturday's 6–2 loss to Minnesota — Tampa Bay, Montreal and Ottawa each have one more point.

Celtics (10–2) Best record in the East. Dallas (7–6) visits tonight at 6.

Patriots (5–4) Second in the AFC East, two games behind Buffalo. Lions in Munich at 9:30 a.m.

Around the NHL Carolina (16–3–2) and Minnesota (15–3–4) share the NHL lead with 34 points; Vancouver (3–17–1) has the fewest.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

Back in the Win Column

BY THE COURIER WEATHER DESK · SOURCE: FORECAST DATA · BURLINGTON CLIMATE REPORT (NWS)

We called 44° Monday; Burlington reached 46°. Two degrees off — that's a win, and Beat the Forecaster improves to 10–6. Today's call: 53°.

A frosty, clear start at 29° in Essex Junction, then lots of sun. Wednesday through Saturday stay mild — upper 50s to 60°, about 15 degrees above normal — and dry.

Rain is likely Sunday (75%). Then the pattern flips: highs fall into the mid-40s Monday and the low-to-mid 30s by next Tuesday, with lows in the low 20s. Thanksgiving week finally looks like November.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 46° · Low 28°
SUNRISE	6:51 a.m.
SUNSET	4:22 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 30 min
CHANGE	-2.2 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	6 hr 1 min less light
MOON	First quarter

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

TODAY	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
53° / 30°	59° / 38°	58° / 39°	60° / 36°	59° / 37°	56° / 47°	47° / 31°
HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW
FREEZE						FREEZE
RAIN 5%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 5%	RAIN 0%	RAIN 75%	RAIN 15%
SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%

High in red, low in blue · FREEZE = low at or below 32° · bars show the chance of rain and of snow. Forecast data.

MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS & THE PLACES WE WATCH

JAY PEAK — Orleans County
44° / 31° · 5%
Teens by next Tuesday.

MONTPELIER — Washington County
50° / 25° · 5%
Coldest start: 25°.

BENNINGTON — Bennington County
49° / 31° · 10%
Near 59° by Saturday.

WOODSTOCK — Windsor County
51° / 27° · 0%
Crisp and sunny.

ST. ALBANS — Franklin County
52° / 32° · 10%
Mild nights in the 40s.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 17

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

ESSEX JCT.	MIDDLEBURY	STOWE	SNOWSHOE, WV
0.0"	0.0"	4.0"	1.7"
Burlington (BTV)	Addison County	Mt. Mansfield	Highland House · Rimfire

SEVERE & NATIONAL

Warm East, Wet Florida

Wilmington, N.C., reaches 73° Friday and Charlotte 68°; Fulton, Mo., hits 71° Friday before a cold front drops it to the 40s by Monday.

Florida turns soggy: rain chances of 60–75% in Miami and St. Petersburg today and Wednesday. Miami is the hot spot at 77°.

BEAT THE FORECASTER

We Called It

Monday: we said 44°; Burlington hit 46° (2° warmer). Within 2° counts as a win.

Season record: 10–6 (62%)

Recent: Thu 42/43 W · Fri 38/39 W · Sat 39/39 W · Sun 42/45 L · Mon 44/46 W

Today's call: 53° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

WEATHER WORD

Lake-Effect Snow

When frigid air blows across a lake that's still relatively warm, it picks up heat and moisture and drops it downwind as narrow, intense snow bands. One town gets buried while another a few miles away sees sun. (AMS, NOAA)

Not this week: mild and dry until Sunday's rain.

THIS WEEK IN WEATHER

Nov. 23, 1981: 104 tornadoes touched down across England and Wales in about five and a quarter hours, all along one cold front — still the largest outbreak on record in Britain and Europe. Most were weak, and no one died. (TORRO)

THE DEEPEST WATER *New reader? Tap here to read from Chapter 1 ›*



Scenes from The Deepest Water · Chapter 6, "Patient as the Rain" · image by J.B. Woods

CHAPTER 39

Chapter Still Being Written

The author is still at work. The story picks up again soon.

WHERE WE LEFT OFF · CHAPTER 38: OVER HIS SHOULDER

Myers called Mason at the Waves: an anonymous, slurring caller claimed Josh "Tic Tac" Foster had been seen drinking alone at a speakeasy club in Medford; Medford police would check. Mason mentioned that Walters was in Cannon Beach on vacation. The Cannon Beach police had no breakthrough on Freddy Dunn's murder, but the night before, someone had torn apart Freddy's empty house — walls opened, closets gutted, nothing stolen. His sister, Samantha Dunn, found it. Mason walked the alley where Freddy died and learned he cut through it every night. At the Screw and Brew, manager Sally Lindgren said Freddy was always looking over his shoulder, loved his sister, and had two friends: Owen, and one he called Tic Tac, who came in once shortly after Freddy died and hasn't been seen since. Walters didn't answer Mason's call, and she drove back to Roseburg to tell Myers.

CATCH UP ON THE WHOLE STORY — THE READER'S GUIDE IS ON PAGES 9 TO 11

A work of fiction: characters and events are invented; places are real. · The Deepest Water returns soon.

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–25

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.

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.

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 26–38 (continued)

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

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.

CHAPTER 30

Road Trip to the Running Y

The FBI found nothing in Room 118 and set up secret surveillance from across the river. On Highway 140 at dusk, in the first flurries, a blue car raced past and Tess swore the driver was Harlan Voss. Mason told her Harlan was Gordon's silent partner; Walters found the car was stolen.

CHAPTER 31

Over the Rim

The stolen blue car turned up abandoned at Crater Lake. At the rim, Ranger Montgomery Smith spotted two hikers below the rim, where no one is allowed: Owen and Karen Marsh. That night Tess's room at the Rogue Regency was 118. By morning, a note on the old typewriter read: 1987.

CHAPTER 32

By Request

Tess drove the note straight to Roseburg. At checkout, the clerk said a woman had called asking for Room 118 in Tess's name. The stolen car's owner lost it at Seven Feathers, helping a woman in a wheelchair. In his office, Sheriff Coyle had his boots up on the desk — and Myers and Mason saw the tread.

CHAPTER 33

Above the Fold

At the Rogue Regency, clerk Kyle told Kally and Teresa the woman who asked for Room 118 called from a pay phone, a man talking beside her — and she didn't sound old. A back-door lock had been busted. Mason and Myers quietly began checking the sheriff's boots. Walt ordered Tess to write; her story, "Harlan Voss Spotted Near Crater Lake," was the talk of the town. Then Seven Feathers called Walters: the cameras had caught something.

CHAPTER 34

Who Came for the Wallet

Myers pulled the team off Room 118. At Seven Feathers, security chief Kevin Chase showed the tape: the wheelchair was placed so the retiree had to stop, a man from the bushes took his car in 30 seconds, and the "elderly" woman stood up and walked off — clearly in disguise. The boot prints turned out to match standard-issue Danners worn by deputies from Medford to Portland. At the Rice Hill truck stop, Mason learned Sheriff Coyle had picked up Harlan's wallet himself and asked if anything else had been left behind. At the Ranch Motel, the registration card was signed "H. VOSS" in careful block letters.

CHAPTER 35

Not His Hand

At the Voss house, Trent Pryce tried to send Mason to the family lawyer, but Tiffany came down and said the H. VOSS card was not Harlan's writing — and Harlan never left his wallet anywhere. Mason scolded Tess for her Crater Lake story and warned her to be careful. Kally and Teresa told Tess that Karen Marsh had arrests in Rutland, Vermont. Myers' lab matched the wheelchair prints to Karen. Then Deputy Walters called Myers alone: a back-side Seven Feathers camera showed the driver of the stolen car. It was Harlan Voss.

CHAPTER 36

Every Hand in That Car

The FBI went over the stolen Toyota in a Roseburg police garage and found a plain Crater Lake tourist map — and the fingerprints of both Owen and Karen Marsh. Karen skipped work and vanished; Myers put out an alert for her, and Owen couldn't be found either. Walters quietly told Tess that Harlan Voss had been driving, and Walt ordered the story onto Monday's front page. That night a stranger called Tiffany Voss: get them what they're looking for, or Harlan dies, and she's next. Then a 1987 county knife hit her door. Tess and Kally reminded the FBI about Freddy's murder, and Myers sent Mason to Cannon Beach to look for Owen.

CHAPTER 37

Where the Rock Should Be

Deputy Walters turned in a last-minute vacation slip, and Gloria Bordiam, at the sheriff's office to drop off a found handbag, heard where he was going: Cannon Beach, Haystack Rock and the Screw and Brew. She told Tess right away. The next afternoon Agent Mason walked into the Screw and Brew and found Walters on a stool. Myers called with one bar of service; all she caught was something like "Tic Tac" before the call died in a heavy fog that hid Haystack Rock completely. She checked into the Waves and left Myers messages. That night she watched Walters leave the Screw and Brew in a car driven by a man she couldn't see. Night bartender Tammy Stevens told her Freddy Dunn had always watched his back, as if someone was out to get him — and had written down his pastrami recipe step by step, almost as if he knew his time was coming.

CHAPTER 38

Over His Shoulder

Myers called Mason at the Waves: an anonymous, slurring caller claimed Josh "Tic Tac" Foster had been seen drinking alone at a speakeasy club in Medford; Medford police would check. Mason mentioned that Walters was in Cannon Beach on vacation. The Cannon Beach police had no breakthrough on Freddy Dunn's murder, but the night before, someone had torn apart Freddy's empty house — walls opened, closets gutted, nothing stolen. His sister, Samantha Dunn, found it. Mason walked the alley where Freddy died and learned he cut through it every night. At the Screw and Brew, manager Sally Lindgren said Freddy was always looking over his shoulder, loved his sister, and had two friends: Owen, and one he called Tic Tac, who came in once shortly after Freddy died and hasn't been seen since. Walters didn't answer Mason's call, and she drove back to Roseburg to tell Myers.

THE CASE BOARD

Where things stand through Chapter 38

THE DEAD

Gordon Pryce — lumber baron. Hid in a bunker for weeks, then found stabbed off Little River Road with a 1987 county knife (Ch. 24).

Freddy Dunn — Screw and Brew cook, Owen's prison friend and alibi. Stabbed in a Cannon Beach alley he walked every night (Ch. 16, 38).

MISSING · ON THE RUN

Harlan Voss — drove the stolen Camry; a caller tells Tiffany "we have him."

Josh "Tic Tac" Foster — gone since October; a drunk tipster puts him at a Medford speakeasy.

Owen Marsh — can't be found.

Karen Marsh — skipped work; FBI alert out.

PERSONS OF INTEREST

Owen & Karen Marsh — prints in the stolen car; seen below the Crater Lake rim.

Trent Pryce — guards Tiffany; talks only through his lawyer.

Sheriff Coyle — picked up Harlan's wallet himself.

THE CLUES

Four knives engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987.

A key stamped 1987; a box gone from Room 118's wall.

"Ask them about August 1987."

Freddy's empty house, torn apart.

OPEN QUESTIONS

Who killed Gordon Pryce and Freddy Dunn — and are they connected?

What really moved through the closed mill?

What are "they" looking for — at Tiffany's, and at Freddy's?

Where is Tic Tac?

What happened in August 1987?

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. Climbed out of the Crater Lake caldera with Owen (Ch. 31).

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.

Montgomery Smith — Crater Lake park ranger; caught Owen and Karen below the rim (Ch. 31).

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."

The second note — Under Rogue Regency Room 118's door, same typewriter: "1987 — You were standing in the right place today." Now with the FBI.

The request call — A woman phoned the Rogue Regency as "Tess" and asked for Room 118 (Ch. 32).

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 · This day in history · Scams · Trivia

COLD CASE FILE

Derby, Vermont · 1993

Angela Blouin: Who Was on Crawford Road?

Angela Ann Blouin, 21, was last seen between 1 and 1:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 30, 1993, at the One Stop Mini Mart at Main and Third streets in Newport.

About 11:40 that morning, someone walking nearby found her body on Town Highway 41 — Crawford Road — in Derby, about a mile and a quarter south of Route 5.

Evidence at the scene showed there had been a struggle. No one has ever been charged.

Thirty-three years later, the Vermont State Police still want to hear from anyone who saw her that night.

Tips: Major Crime Unit, 802-244-8727 (case 93B201051); vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit (anonymous); or text VTIPS to 274637. (Vermont State Police)

CASE FACTS

NAME
Angela Ann Blouin
AGE
21
LAST SEEN
May 30, 1993
WHERE
Newport / Derby
CASE
93B201051
STATUS
Unsolved
TIPS
802-244-8727

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

BRANDON — Robert Mears, 55, was held without bail on an aggravated domestic assault charge after police say he threatened a household member with a dangerous weapon Sunday night on Forest Dale Road. (WCAX)

BRADFORD — Robert Ferry, 78, is charged with reckless endangerment and aggravated assault after reports of gunfire on Blue Spruce Drive; police say pellets struck one person in the face and head. (mynbc5)

RICHMOND — Troopers cited Owen Streeter, 20, for negligent operation after stopping him at more than 110 mph on I-89 near Exit 11. (Vermont State Police)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

U.S. Supreme Court — Turned away the administration's appeal over about $59 million in canceled University of California research grants; a lower court found the cuts were likely viewpoint discrimination. (Reuters)

U.S. Supreme Court — Declined, without comment, to hear a challenge to Maryland's ban on carrying guns in "sensitive places" such as schools and bars. Justice Thomas wrote that he is skeptical of such laws. (AP)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

ANTWERP, 2003

Over a weekend in mid-February 2003, an Italian gang from Turin slipped into the vault of the Antwerp World Diamond Centre and emptied 123 of its 160 safe-deposit boxes — about $100 million in gems. They had leased an office in the building and posed as diamond merchants to study its security. Their undoing: trash dumped beside a road outside Antwerp, including the stolen camera footage and a half-eaten sandwich with ringleader Leonardo Notarbartolo's DNA. He got 10 years. The diamonds were never found. (National Geographic, Guinness)

ON THIS DAY IN CRIME HISTORY

November 17

1894 — H. H. Holmes Arrested
Chicago's notorious killer was taken into custody in Boston, wanted for the death of his business partner, Ben Pitezel. He later confessed to many more murders and was hanged in 1896.

1973 — "I Am Not a Crook"
Facing the Watergate scandal, President Nixon told newspaper editors at Walt Disney World, "People have got to know whether or not their president is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook."

1978 — A Congressman Visits Jonestown
Rep. Leo Ryan of California arrived at the Peoples Temple compound in Guyana to check on Americans there. The next day he was shot dead at a nearby airstrip, and more than 900 people died at Jonestown.

2003 — The D.C. Sniper Is Convicted
A Virginia jury found John Muhammad guilty in the 2002 Washington-area sniper attacks, in which he and Lee Boyd Malvo were charged with killing 10 people. He was later sentenced to death.

Sources: History.com, All That's Interesting, Richard Nixon Presidential Library, FBI.

SCAM ALERT

Fake Rental Listings

The Better Business Bureau warns that scammers copy photos from real rental ads, swap in their own contact information and repost them. One Tennessee renter paid $775 in fees; the "landlord" never showed. An FTC study counted nearly 65,000 rental-scam reports since 2020. (BBB, WBBJ)

Red flags: requests to pay by cash, wire, gift card or crypto; a listing that turns up somewhere other than the original posting.

Protect yourself: search the landlord's name with "scam"; check property ownership in town records. Report at BBB.org/ScamTracker.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

In an 1840 French poisoning trial, a famous chemist proved the arsenic in the victim hadn't seeped in from graveyard soil. Who was this "father of toxicology"?

Answer: Mathieu Orfila. (National Library of Medicine)

THE SNOW DESK

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

Day 17 OF 152

Totals through Monday, Nov. 16

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

5.0" · Alyeska Weather Mid, AK

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 1.9" · 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"	4.0"

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

SNOWSHOE, WV

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.5"	1.7"

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	1.9	−1.9	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0
Portland, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	−0.7	0.0
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	−3.9	0.0
Concord, N.H.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	−0.8	0.0
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.7	−0.4	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	3.3	−3.0	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	−2.7	0.0
New York City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Erie, Pa.	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	−3.7	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	−0.6	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	−0.5	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	−2.8	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	−2.7	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska	T	5.5	5.5	5.9	−0.4	5.0

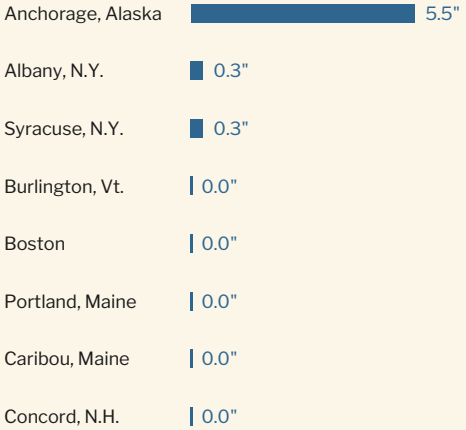
NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Alyeska Weather Mid, AK Elev. 1644 ft	5.0"
2	Alyeska Weather Top, AK Elev. 2707 ft	5.0"
3	Anchorage 4.5 E, AK Elev. 230 ft	4.7"
4	Truchas 1.4 ESE, NM Elev. 8284 ft	4.4"
5	Alyeska Base, AK Elev. 371 ft	4.0"
6	Crater Lake National Park Hq, OR Elev. 6499 ft	4.0"
7	Gray Knob, NH Elev. 4360 ft	3.5"
8	Buladean 1.3 ESE, NC Elev. 4058 ft	3.5"
9	Glover 5.7 SW, VT Elev. 1791 ft	3.0"
10	Mount Washington Elev. 5627 ft	2.9"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES



SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Opening day in 8 days — Wed., Nov. 25 (target, weather permitting)

Now: Clear and 34° this morning.

Today: Sunny, 53°.

Wednesday: 58°, still dry.

Thursday: Near 61° — the warmest day.

Sunday: Rain likely (75%), 52°.

Snowmaking: Cold returns Monday: highs near 39°, lows in the upper 20s.

Countdown: Eight days to the Nov. 25 opening target.

SNOW NOTES

Day 17 — still zero. Burlington reached 46° Monday; no snow has been measured there this season. Stowe's season total stands at 4.0" from Saturday's summit snow (WCAX).

Killington opens today. The first New England ski area to spin its lifts this season (WCAX).

Mild through Saturday. Upper 50s to 60° in Essex Junction — tough on the early snowpack.

Then winter returns. After Sunday's rain, highs drop into the 30s by next Tuesday, with lows near 20 in the mountains: good snowmaking weather for Thanksgiving week.

PUZZLES & GAMES

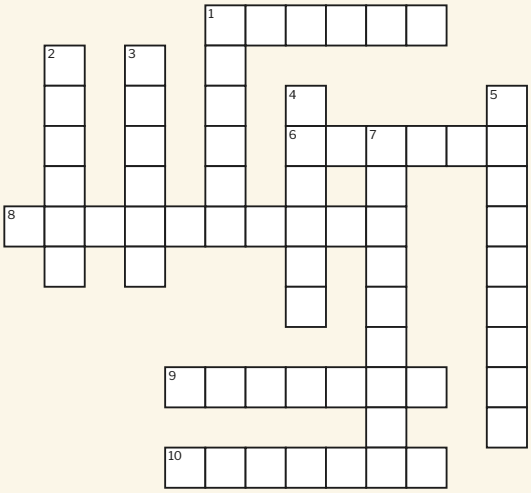
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

							5	
7	6	2				8	4	
	5		4	1		2	6	
				9	4			
	3	4	1	8		5		2
	1							
4	9	1	8		7	3		
6		7	2		3	1	9	4

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · RIESLING & THE ROUTER



ACROSS

1 Barre's late mayor (6)
6 Father of toxicology (6)
8 The Beast, open today (10)
9 City of the 2003 diamond heist (7)
10 Bourbon with no rye (7)

DOWN

1 Dr. ___ of the Mosel (6)
2 Four Seasons' Bob, 84 today (6)
3 Trump's first Asia stop (6)
4 Box that grounded U.S. flights (6)
5 The next 007 (9)
7 Maraschino Old Fashioned cousin (9)

WORD SEARCH · BOND, JAMES BOND

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

FIND 12 WORDS

ASTON
DRNO
GOLDENEYE
GOLDFINGER
MARTINI
MONEYPENNY
MOONRAKER
OCTOPUSSY
SKYFALL
SPECTRE
THUNDERBALL
VESPER

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. What was traced as the cause of Friday's FAA ground stop?

2. Who was named the next James Bond?

3. Which team won its first game of the season Monday night?

4. Which Vermont ski area opens today?

5. What alcohol level is the Dr. L Riesling?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

- Secretariat wins the Belmont by 31 lengths.
- Billie Jean King beats Bobby Riggs.
- "Dark Side of the Moon" hits No. 1.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

2	3	4	9	7	8	1	5	6
6	1	5	4	3	2	7	9	8
8	7	9	5	1	6	3	4	2
7	9	6	2	5	1	4	8	3
3	4	8	6	9	7	5	2	1
1	5	2	8	4	3	9	6	7
9	6	1	3	2	5	8	7	4
5	2	3	7	8	4	6	1	9
4	8	7	1	6	9	2	3	5

Yesterday's sudoku. Crossword answers are upside down at the bottom of the page.

THE JUKEBOX

Music history, a record to spin and shows near home

NOVEMBER 17 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1942 — Bob Gaudio of the Four Seasons — 84.
1946 — Martin Barre of Jethro Tull — 80.
1960 — RuPaul — 66.
1967 — Ronnie DeVoe of New Edition — 59.
1980 — Isaac Hanson of Hanson — 46.

Also today: in 1970, Elton John played a live radio concert in New York — released as the album "11-17-70."



SPIN THIS

Double Fantasy

John Lennon & Yoko Ono · Nov. 17, 1980

Forty-six years old today. It peaked at No. 11 — until Lennon was killed on Dec. 8, 1980. Then it went to No. 1 for eight weeks.

"(Just Like) Starting Over" topped charts worldwide, and the album won the Grammy for Album of the Year. (The Beatles Bible)

Best with: a Fancy Free.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Thu. Nov. 19 · Tom Hamilton, Higher Ground
Sun. Nov. 29 · Nate Smith, Higher Ground
Sat. Dec. 5 · Karina Rykman, Higher Ground
Thu. Dec. 10 · Albert Cummings, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Elton John's first live album is titled only "11-17-70." What happened that day?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. A router in El Dorado, Ark. 2. Robert Pattinson. 3. The Chargers, 23–20 at Baltimore. 4. Killington, for passholders. 5. 8.5%. Name That Year: 1973. Music trivia: A concert broadcast live on New York's WABC-FM. **Yesterday's crossword:** 1A VULCAN · 7A KILLINGTON · 8A POLENTA · 9A GRANDDAD · 10A BOGLE · 2D LARSON · 3D HATTON · 4D OKLAHOMA · 5D WOLK · 6D ZINFANDEL · 7D KRALL