ESSEX JCT. TODAY
32°
Low 22° · Sunny, breezy and cold
Supermoon full at 9:54 a.m.

The Morning Courier

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

BUSIEST FLYING DAY
52,000+
Flights today, the FAA says
Busiest holiday skies in 16 years

VOL. I · NO. 62 · FREE TO JB | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2026 · ESSEX JCT., VT | SUNRISE 7:00 A.M. · SUNSET 4:17 P.M.

DOW 49,595 ▲+3.01% · S&P 500 7,237 ▲+4.73% · NVDA +31.5% · MSFT +1.65% · ANT* $87.64 ▼−1.43% · GAS $3.64

NATION · NVIDIA

Nvidia Brings Back Huang; Stocks Soar

Eleven days after he resigned, the chipmaker reinstates its founder with Washington's blessing — and Wall Street has its best day since April 2025.

BY THE NUMBERS

31.5%	Nvidia's gain Monday
+1,448	Dow points
11	Days Huang was out
4.7%	S&P 500 gain

BY THE COURIER NATIONAL DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEWS, AP, ABC NEWS, YAHOO FINANCE

Nvidia's board on Monday reinstated Jensen Huang as president and chief executive, 11 days after he resigned amid a scandal over an affair with a woman U.S. intelligence agencies suspected of spying for China; China denies it. The board said it had input from senior government officials and is "confident that Mr. Huang's reinstatement poses no national security risk." (CBS, AP)

"The Board believes Jensen is the right person to lead NVIDIA," said chairman Harvey C. Jones, who only last week said the company did not intend to bring him back. Huang said he returns "with the greatest humility and renewed commitment." Interim CEO Colette Kress goes back to being finance chief. Thousands of employees had signed a petition for his return. (CBS, AP)

President Trump, who had urged the move, called Huang a "Great Patriot and National Treasure." Nvidia jumped 31.5%; the Dow rose about 3%, the S&P; 500 4.7% and the Nasdaq 6.5%. "Nvidia is the linchpin to the global economy," said analyst Dan Ives. (CBS, Yahoo Finance) Page 2.

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

32°
Low tonight: 22°

Sunny, breezy and cold.
North-northwest wind. High 36°.

RAIN TODAY 0% | SNOW TODAY 10%
Clear and cold tonight

THE WEEK AHEAD

WED	THU	FRI	SAT
39°	35°	41°	42°
R 0% S 5%	R 65% S 0%	R 70% S 0%	R 15% S 0%

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

FORECASTER'S NOTE

We called 55° Monday; Burlington hit 59°. Beat the Forecaster: 15–8.

NATION · TRAVEL

Busy Skies, Then a Storm

BY THE COURIER NATIONAL DESK · SOURCES: U.S. DOT, WEATHER.COM

The FAA expects more than 52,000 flights today — the week's busiest — and 417,000 over nine days, the busiest holiday skies in 16 years. A coastal storm brings 1 to 4 inches of rain and gusts over 50 mph up the East Coast, peaking in New England Thursday night.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS	Best day since April 2025.	2
VERMONT	Stratton delays its opening.	3
SPORTS	Celtics try to stop the skid.	3
SERIAL	Chapter 44 is coming.	8
CRIME	On This Day in Crime.	12
STARS	Tonight's supermoon.	15

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Tuesday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	NOW	HI	LO	RAIN	SNOW
MIDDLEBURY, VT	33°	37°	21°	5%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	20°	20°	15°	10%	10%
SNOWSHOE, WV	24°	38°	23°	5%	
ROSEBURG, OR	50°	61°	46°	55%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	49°	47°	38°	0%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	52°	56°	40°	10%	
WILMINGTON, NC	61°	57°	49°	10%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	64°	72°	64°	20%	
FULTON, MO	26°	40°	26°	10%	
MIAMI, FL	68°	77°	67°	25%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
Chapter 44 is being written. Today on Page 8: a scene from Chapter 10.

INSIDE TODAY

2 Markets · World
3 Vermont · Sports
4 Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Standings
8 Serial · 12 Crime · 13 Snow · 14–15 Fun

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MARKETS & MONEY

Nvidia rehires Jensen Huang · Best day since April 2025 · Dell, HP and Workday tonight · Tuesday, November 24

MONDAY'S CLOSES

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT
Dow Jones Industrials	49,595.31	+1,449.20	+3.01%
S&P 500	7,237.17	+326.86	+4.73%
Nasdaq Composite	24,089.56	+1,472.38	+6.51%
Russell 2000	2,669.66	+87.78	+3.40%
JB'S WATCHLIST			
Nvidia (NVDA)	165.05	+39.52	+31.48%
AMD	453.46	+29.07	+6.85%
Microsoft (MSFT)	492.51	+7.99	+1.65%
BIG NAMES			
Anthropic (ANT)*	87.64	−1.27	−1.43%

Closes via Fox Business, Cappnotes; stock prices computed from reported % moves. *Written with help from Claude, made by Anthropic.

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

VIX −25.8%	26.62
10-yr Treasury flat	4.92%
WTI crude −3.9%	$80.17
Gold +3.4%	~$3,634
Bitcoin flat	~$61,250
Dec. rate hike odds futures	~95%
Futures, 4 a.m. NVDA −3% pre	mixed
Kospi Tue.	~+7%
Nikkei Tue.	~+4%

THANKSGIVING WEEK **TUE.** Confidence 10 a.m.; Dell, HP tonight **WED.** PCE, GDP, claims 8:30 **THU.** Markets closed **FRI.** Stocks close at 1 p.m.

"Sentiment remains pretty bleak," said Vital Knowledge's Adam Crisafulli. (Yahoo Finance)

Yahoo Finance, Fox Business, Cappnotes, Investing.com, SiliconANGLE, AAA

MARKETS · MONDAY

Huang Is Back, and So Are the Bulls

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: YAHOO FINANCE, FOX BUSINESS, CAPPNOTES

Nvidia's board reinstated Jensen Huang as chief executive Monday morning, citing input from "senior levels" of the U.S. government and creating a new national-security committee. President Trump called it "an absolutely GREAT decision!" Nvidia jumped 31.5%, and the Dow (+1,448), S&P; 500 (+4.7%) and Nasdaq (+6.5%) had their best day since April 2025.

"The uncertainty of their leadership was like a huge overhang," said eToro's Bret Kenwell. Nomura's Charlie McElligott was cautious: "This 'Mechanical Bounce' guarantees us nothing."

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — +31.5% Monday on Huang's return; down ~3% before Tuesday's open.

Palantir (PLTR) — Monday close not available at press time.

Microsoft (MSFT) — +1.65%.

AMD — +6.85%.

Anthropic (ANT)* — $87.64, —1.43% — third straight decline.

Zoom / HPE — Zoom: $1.59 a share vs. $1.49 est., first dividend. HPE: revenue +50% to $14.55B.

MONDAY'S BIG MOVERS

NVDA	Nvidia	+31.48%
ALAB	Astera Labs	+23.16%
CRWV	CoreWeave	+22.32%
KSS	Kohl's	−4.70%
CRWD	CrowdStrike	−8.90%

Best of these: Nvidia +31.5% Worst: CrowdStrike −8.9%

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+7.7%
S&P 500	+5.9%
Dow	+3.1%
Nasdaq	+3.5%

Approx., through Monday.

GAS PRICES

Regular, per gallon

AAA · Nov. 23 · N.C. now under $3 · diesel $5.82

NATIONAL	VERMONT	HIGHEST	LOWEST
$3.64	$3.93	$5.60	$2.99
U.S. average	state average	Hawaii	North Carolina

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · IRAN

Tehran Vows 'All Available Means'

BY THE COURIER WORLD DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEWS, GULF NEWS

Iran called the U.S. naval blockade "an act of military aggression" Monday. "We will certainly not tolerate these actions and will use all available means to counter U.S. aggression," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baqaei. Qatar's prime minister met Secretary of State Rubio in Washington to try to revive talks, and Israel's Ynet reported a possible U.S. strike was postponed at least a week. (CBS, Gulf News)

Treasury sanctioned 22 entities and eight people in an Iranian shadow-banking network; Secretary Bessent said Iran's economy is "underwater, and its leaders are panicking." Brent crude fell 4.1% to $88.75, and U.S. crude closed below $80 for the first time since August. (Gulf News)

ELSEWHERE

Ukraine. President Zelenskyy said Ukrainian forces sank the Russian corvette Merkury at a naval base in Benghazi, Libya. The Kremlin warned of "painful consequences." (Al Jazeera)

Finland. After the Baltic drone strike on a Russian cargo ship, Prime Minister Petteri Orpo said, "War is spilling over into our immediate vicinity." (Yle)

Macy's parade. Balloons stay grounded if sustained winds top 23 mph or gusts top 34 mph — worth watching with Thursday's storm. (FOX Weather)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

SKI COUNTRY · OPENINGS

Stratton Delays Its Opening

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCES: WCAX, SKI VERMONT

Stratton, which had planned to open Wednesday, has postponed to a date to be determined, WCAX reported. Ski Vermont now lists Jay Peak, Bromley and Smugglers' Notch for Friday; Jay's Friday is a "Day for the Devoted" for passholders, with the public welcome Saturday. Bolton Valley is listed for Dec. 5. Stowe, Okemo, Mount Snow and Sugarbush have no date. Killington is open.

The weather is finally helping: sunny and cold today, with highs in the low to mid 30s and lows in the teens and low 20s tonight. WCAX is "tracking rain and wind for Black Friday" — mainly rain in the valleys, with snow in the high country. The weather service has warned of "gusty winds Thursday and Friday."

GROCERY STRIKE

No Talks Until Dec. 17

Teamsters at Associated Grocers of New England rejected the company's latest offer, and talks won't resume until Dec. 17, so the warehouse strike runs through the holidays. "Keep the pension or no contract," said Local 633's Jeff Padellaro. AGNE says it has hired permanent replacements. (Union Leader)

MOUNT TABOR · UPDATE

Missing Hunter Identified

State police identified the hunter found dead Sunday in the Green Mountain National Forest as Peter Greene, 78, of Pawlet. His death is not considered suspicious. (VSP)

AROUND THE STATE

ESSEX JCT. — Holiday hours. City offices close Thursday and Friday and reopen Monday at 8 a.m. (City of Essex Junction)

ESSEX JCT. — Bring a project. Coffee, Crafts and Conversation is Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon, at Brownell Library. (City of Essex Junction)

BURLINGTON — Mapping moon water. A Burlington aerospace company aims to map water on the moon. (WCAX)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Sunny and cold

Monday: Burlington 59°; we called 55°.
Record: 15–8.
Snow: still 0.0" in Burlington.
Today: sunny, 36°.
Tonight: clear, 22°.
Wednesday: sunny, 39°.
Thanksgiving: rain late, 35°.
Friday: rain and wind.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Sunny, 36°.
Tonight Clear, 22°.
Wed. Sunny, 39°.
Thu. Rain late, 35°.
Fri. Rain, wind, 41°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

5 Field goals for Washington's kicker

4 Straight Celtics losses

9–1 Bills vs. 8–2 Chiefs Thursday

15–8 Beat the Forecaster

2 Days to Thanksgiving

SPORTS

Washington wins at the gun · Celtics try to end a skid · Thanksgiving football preview

COMMANDERS 22, BENGALS 20 · MONDAY NIGHT · LANDOVER, MD.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	F
CIN	0	10	7	3	20
WAS	0	7	6	9	22

Winning 26-yard FG with 4 seconds left, after Cincinnati's 56-yarder · Burrow 300 yds, 2 TD · Washington 150 rushing yds

MONDAY NIGHT

Five Kicks and a Winner

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Washington's kicker made all five of his field goals, the last a 26-yarder with four seconds left, as the Commanders beat Cincinnati 22–20. The Bengals had taken the lead on Evan McPherson's 56-yarder with 50 seconds to go. (SportRadar)

Joe Burrow threw for 300 yards and two touchdowns.

NFL · THANKSGIVING WEEK

Patriots at Chargers Sunday

CIN 20 at WAS 22 F	
GB at LA	Wed. 8
CHI at DET	Thu. 1
PHI at DAL	Thu. 4:30
KC at BUF	Thu. 8:20
DEN at PIT	Fri. 3
NE at LAC	Sun. 4:05
NYJ at MIA	Sun. 1
WAS at ARI	Sun. 4:25

Win probabilities via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	9-1	—
New England	5-5	4
NY Jets	3-8	6½
Miami	1-9	8

Via SportRadar. Patriots at Chargers Sun., Nov. 29, 4:05.

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Celtics at Wizards Tonight

Boston (11–6) has lost four straight, the last two by one point. The Celtics visit Washington (7–11) at 8, then host Atlanta Friday. The Bruins host Winnipeg Wednesday at 7. (SportRadar)

THANKSGIVING FOOTBALL

Bills–Chiefs Under the Lights

Thursday: Bears at Lions 1:00; Eagles at Cowboys 4:30; Chiefs at Bills 8:20.

Saturday: Michigan at Ohio State, noon.

TONIGHT ON TV (ET)

NBA Celtics at Wizards, 8:00
NCAA UVM at Siena, 7:00
NHL Jets at Bruins, Wed. 7

THE BOURBON & WINE PAGE

Old Forester 1910 · Umani Ronchi Verdicchio · cranberry sauce with bourbon and orange



BOURBON OF THE WEEK

OLD FORESTER · LOUISVILLE, KY.

Old Forester 1910

PROOF	AGE	MASH	PRICE
93	NAS	72/18/10	~$55

A fire and a happy accident: in October 1910 a fire shut Old Forester's bottling line, and mature whiskey waited in fresh charred barrels — the brand calls it the first documented "double barreling." (Breaking Bourbon)

Two barrels: today mature Old Forester goes into a second barrel "charred nearly to the point of incineration," said master taster Jackie Zykan.

How it tastes: burnt caramel, vanilla, toasted marshmallow and pecan, finishing with "dry leather and light cigar box." (Breaking Bourbon)



WINE OF THE WEEK

UMANI RONCHI · MARCHE, ITALY

Casal di Serra Verdicchio

GRAPE	REGION	VINTAGE	PRICE
Verdicchio	Marche	2024	~$23

A Thanksgiving white: VinePair rated it 95 among its 30 best Thanksgiving wines this year. (VinePair, Nov. 18)

How it tastes: "bright aromas of honeysuckle, lemon zest, and a note of salted almonds." (VinePair)

Why it works: crisp and almond-edged, it cuts through gravy and stuffing and won't fight the cranberry sauce — a change from Chardonnay.

TODAY'S RECIPE

Made to go with a glass

Cranberry Sauce with Bourbon and Orange

Serves 6 · 45 minutes · make up to 10 days ahead

THE SAUCE

- 2 cups sugar
- ½ cup bourbon
- 1 lb (4 cups) cranberries

THE FLAVOR

- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 2 coins fresh ginger
- Zest of 1 orange, juice of 4
- 1 vanilla bean, split

METHOD

1. In a 1-quart saucepan, stir together the sugar and bourbon.

2. Add the cinnamon, ginger, orange zest and juice. Bring to a boil, stirring until the sugar dissolves.

3. Lower the heat and simmer 5–7 minutes, until slightly reduced.

4. Add the cranberries and the vanilla bean and seeds. Simmer 12–15 minutes, until the berries burst and the sauce thickens.

5. Remove the cinnamon, ginger and vanilla pod. Serve warm or chilled; it keeps up to 10 days.

Courier tip: Adapted from Michael Symon, Food Network Magazine. "The flavor improves as it chills."

POUR WITH IT · BOURBON

Old Forester 1910: its burnt caramel and vanilla echo the bourbon and vanilla bean in the pot. (Courier pick)

POUR WITH IT · WINE

Verdicchio: lemon-zest acidity stands up to tart berries and rich gravy. (Courier pick)

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Derby. Shake 1 oz bourbon, ½ oz sweet vermouth, ½ oz orange curaçao and ¾ oz fresh lime juice with ice; strain into a chilled cocktail glass; mint leaf. (Forgotten Cocktails)

The story: It is one of three drinks called the Derby in the 1947 Bartender's Guide by Victor Bergeron — Trader Vic himself. (Forgotten Cocktails)

BOURBON & WINE NEWS

An Old Fashioned in a Bottle

Louisville's Buzzard's Roost releases its first ready-to-drink cocktail on Nov. 30: a bottled Signature Old Fashioned made with its Double Oak Bourbon. A $40, 375-ml bottle makes about four drinks. (The Whiskey Wash, Nov. 20)

CEO Judy Hollis Jones: "a chance for us to gauge the market."

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT · PREP

Make the cranberry sauce.

TONIGHT 8

Old Forester for Celtics–Wizards.

THANKSGIVING

Verdicchio on the table.

THE CELLAR & RICKHOUSE GLOSSARY

Nine wine words, nine bourbon words

Verdicchio — crisp white grape of central Italy.
Marche — region on Italy's Adriatic coast.
Classico Superiore — historic zone, higher standard.
Minerality — a stony, saline note.
Crisp — high acidity, refreshing.
Honeysuckle — a floral note in whites.
Chill — serve whites about 45–50°F.
Pairing — matching wine to food.
Vintage — the year the grapes grew.
Double barreled — aged in a second new barrel.
Whiskey Row — Louisville's old distillery street.
Mash bill — the grain recipe.
Rye — adds spice.
NAS — no age statement.
Toasted barrel — heated before charring.
Curaçao — orange liqueur.
Sweet vermouth — red aromatized wine.
RTD — ready-to-drink cocktail.

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 8 — Celtics at Wizards.
Wed. 7 — Jets at Bruins.
Thu. 9 a.m. — Macy's parade.
Thu. 1 — Bears at Lions.
Thu. 4:30 — Eagles at Cowboys.
Thu. 8:20 — Chiefs at Bills.

AROUND VERMONT

Today — Supermoon tonight.
Thu.–Fri. — Essex Jct. offices closed.
Fri. — Jay, Bromley, Smuggs open.
Sat. 10 a.m. — Coffee & Crafts, Brownell.
Sat.–Sun. — World Cup, Killington.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Tue. — Sunny, 36°.
Wed. — Sunny, 39°.
Thu. — Rain late, 35°.
Fri. — Rain, wind, 41°.
Sat. — Clouds, 42°.
Sun. — Mild, 49°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

BURLINGTON

Skating on the Waterfront

A free skating rink is coming to the Burlington waterfront, opening Dec. 4 at Main Street Landing. (Seven Days)

VERMONT

Trillions of Stories

WCAX's "Made in Vermont" profiled the Storymatic, a Vermont-made card game meant "to spark imagination and connection" — billed as six trillion stories in one little box. (WCAX)

PENNSYLVANIA

No One Walks Out Alone

Freddie Nole, who spent decades in prison, now meets people on their release day with a meal, clothes, a phone and a ride. "Those who were confined are the best teachers for those coming out." (Good News Network)

POINT LAY, ALASKA

A Place for Walrus

A conservation easement now protects 47,000 acres of barrier islands where as many as 200,000 Pacific walrus haul out — so "walrus will always have somewhere to rest." (Good News Network)

NEW ORLEANS

A Museum in a Hospital

Walker's Imaginarium, a 15,000-square-foot children's museum built inside a children's hospital, opened last week — the wish of a boy who wanted somewhere to play during chemo. (Good News Network)

MONTPELIER

Higher and Drier

Montpelier is lifting homes to protect them against future flooding. (WCAX)

MEET THE CAST

The Deepest Water



Samantha Dunn

Freddy Dunn's younger sister · Portland

"Freddy wasn't perfect. But he was my brother."
— Chapter 38

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
Ottawa	25	16	6	3	35
Tampa Bay	23	15	6	2	32
Montreal	25	14	7	4	32
Boston	23	15	7	1	31
Florida	24	13	8	3	29
Buffalo	24	10	10	4	24
Toronto	26	9	14	3	21
Detroit	23	8	12	3	19

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	24	18	3	3	39
New Jersey	24	16	8	0	32
N.Y. Rangers	23	13	9	1	27
N.Y. Islanders	23	11	7	5	27
Philadelphia	26	9	11	6	24
Washington	21	10	11	0	20
Columbus	22	9	13	0	18
Pittsburgh	23	7	14	2	16

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	26	18	3	5	41
Dallas	23	15	6	2	32
Colorado	23	13	7	3	29
Nashville	23	12	6	5	29
St. Louis	24	13	9	2	28
Winnipeg	25	12	9	4	28
Utah	25	12	10	3	27
Chicago	24	8	14	2	18

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	26	17	5	4	38
Vegas	25	14	6	5	33
San Jose	26	11	13	2	24
Seattle	21	11	9	1	23
Anaheim	25	11	13	1	23
Calgary	25	10	13	2	22
Los Angeles	22	8	12	2	18
Vancouver	26	6	19	1	13

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	14	4	.778	—
Boston	11	6	.647	2.5
New York	11	6	.647	2.5
Toronto	6	11	.353	7.5
Brooklyn	3	13	.188	10

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	10	6	.625	—
Cleveland	9	9	.500	2
Indiana	6	12	.333	5
Chicago	5	12	.294	5.5
Milwaukee	2	16	.111	9

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Atlanta	11	6	.647	—
Miami	10	6	.625	0.5
Orlando	7	9	.438	3.5
Washington	7	11	.389	4.5
Charlotte	4	12	.250	6.5

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	13	5	.722	—
Denver	10	5	.667	1.5
Portland	11	6	.647	1.5
Oklahoma City	10	8	.556	3
Utah	3	16	.158	10.5

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	15	3	.833	—
Phoenix	9	7	.562	5
Golden State	9	8	.529	5.5
LA Clippers	4	12	.250	10
Sacramento	2	15	.118	12.5

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	15	3	.833	—
Houston	13	5	.722	2
Memphis	13	5	.722	2
Dallas	10	7	.588	4.5
New Orleans	5	14	.263	10.5

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Patriots (5–5) At the Chargers (1–9) Sunday at 4:05. Tommy DeVito is in line to start while Drake Maye recovers from an ankle injury.

Bills (9–1) Host Kansas City (8–2) on Thanksgiving night at 8:20 — the AFC's top two teams.

Celtics (11–6) Lost four straight, two by a single point. At Washington (7–11) tonight at 8.

Bruins (15–7–1) Host Winnipeg Wednesday at 7, then Toronto on Black Friday at 1.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

Two Misses Running — the Warmth Keeps Winning

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

We called 55° Monday; Burlington reached 59°, 16 degrees above normal, before the cold front arrived. That's four degrees outside our window: Beat the Forecaster is 15–8. Today's call: 36°.

Now it's truly cold: highs in the mid-30s today and near 39° Wednesday, with lows in the low 20s both nights. Snowmaking guns should be roaring.

Thanksgiving: a 65% chance of precipitation late in the day, high near 35°; Black Friday brings the steadier rain (70%), high near 41°. A milder weekend follows.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 59° · Low 40°
SUNRISE	7:00 a.m.
SUNSET	4:17 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 16 min
CHANGE	-1.9 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	6 hr 16 min less light
MOON	Full moon

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

TODAY	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
36° / 22°	39° / 22°	35° / 24°	41° / 36°	42° / 37°	49° / 37°	48° / 33°
HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW
FREEZE	FREEZE	FREEZE				
RAIN 0%	RAIN 0%	RAIN 65%	RAIN 70%	RAIN 15%	RAIN 0%	RAIN 55%
SNOW 10%	SNOW 5%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 15%	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

STOWE — Lamoille County
30° / 18° · 10%
Wednesday night: 18°.

JAY PEAK — Orleans County
25° / 17° · 10%
Opens Friday; 60% rain then.

KILLINGTON — Rutland County
29° / 18° · 10%
World Cup this weekend.

ST. ALBANS — Franklin County
33° / 22° · 5%
Dry until Friday.

WHITE RIVER JCT. — Windsor County
36° / 21° · 10%
85% Thanksgiving chance.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 24

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

Wet Wednesday in the Southeast

Rain spreads across the Southeast for Wednesday travel: Charlotte 75%, Wilmington, N.C., 75%, Miami 85%. Fulton, Mo., may see snow on Thanksgiving (65%).

Roseburg, Ore., stays mild and wet — 61° today, rain chances up to 75% Friday. Mt. Washington's summit tops out near 20° today.

BEAT THE FORECASTER

Nature Wins This One

Monday: we said 55°; Burlington hit 59° (4° warmer). More than 2° off counts as a loss.

Season record: 15–8 (65%)

Recent: Thu 58/59 W · Fri 61/63 W · Sat 59/61 W · Sun 57/61 L · Mon 55/59 L

Today's call: 36° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

WEATHER WORD

Virga

The National Weather Service defines virga as "streaks or wisps of precipitation falling from a cloud but evaporating before reaching the ground" — gray curtains under a cloud that never touch down. (NWS)

THIS WEEK IN WEATHER

Nov. 26, 1987: A Thanksgiving Day storm buried northern New England — 20 inches at Flagstaff Lake in western Maine and 18 at Errol, N.H. — as gales lashed the coast. (Old Farmer's Almanac)

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



Scenes from The Deepest Water · Chapter 10, "August 1987" · image by J.B. Woods

CHAPTER 44

Chapter Still Being Written

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

WHERE WE LEFT OFF · CHAPTER 43: NOT WORTH THE CONVERSATION

Hollis Tate sat up all night: he had named no names, and someone had swapped the logs. Sunday morning Myers saw the FBI photos of Coyle knocking on the logs and guessed they were hollow; Mason recognized Hollis in the cruiser. Myers ordered silence toward Coyle and a team on Hollis starting Monday morning. Sunday night the same low voice told someone that Hollis was talking — and pointed to an envelope with a photo of him climbing into the sheriff's car. Monday, Hollis never came to work. Coyle sent Walters on a welfare check without saying why. The blue pickup sat in the yard, the porch light burned in daylight, and no one answered the door.

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 1–27

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.

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?"

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 28–43 (continued)

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

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 took a sudden vacation to Cannon Beach, and Gloria told Tess. Agent Mason found him at the Screw and Brew; a call from Myers died in thick fog with only "Tic Tac" coming through. That night she watched Walters leave in a car driven by a man she couldn't see. Bartender Tammy Stevens said Freddy Dunn had always watched his back — and had written down his pastrami recipe, as if he knew his time was coming.

CHAPTER 38

Over His Shoulder

An anonymous caller claimed Tic Tac had been seen at a Medford speakeasy. In Cannon Beach, someone had torn apart Freddy Dunn's empty house; his sister, Samantha, found it. Freddy cut through the alley where he died every night. Manager Sally Lindgren said his two friends were Owen and Tic Tac, who came in once after Freddy died. Walters didn't answer Mason's call, and she drove back to Roseburg.

CHAPTER 39

Eighty-Seven

A hiker on a closed trail found a body on a ledge at Crater Lake. It was Harlan Voss, stabbed eighty-seven times, and the FBI put Myers and Mason in charge; Trent Pryce was missing. Tess heard first from a source at the medical examiner's office. At the news conference she asked whether Owen and Karen Marsh were suspects — "Next question," Myers said. Walt shouted, "That's my girl!" Coyle and Walters watched without expression.

CHAPTER 40

More Than Lumber

Back in Roseburg, Tess found Agents Myers and Mason waiting at the Ledger, with Walt sitting in. Myers scolded her for naming Owen and Karen Marsh on TV, then laid out the FBI's theory: a ring of locals had shipped goods out of the closed Pryce mill, and now they were killing each other off. An anonymous caller had told the FBI the trucks kept rolling after 1991; Sheriff Coyle vouched for an endless inventory nobody inspected. Mason said someone is fixated on 1987. Tess finally told them Pryce's words: a hotel source for Room 118, money owed, "more than lumber... things hidden in the loads." When she said the story would run Monday, both agents shouted: "NO, TESS!" Walt said nothing.

CHAPTER 41

Nowhere but My Desk

That night, with the newsroom empty, Walt called Tess into his office and ordered her to hold the Pryce story: write it, but it goes nowhere except his desk. Deputy Walters cut his vacation short. Mason called him to ask about the friend she saw him with in Cannon Beach; he said it was an old friend and changed the subject to the weather. Myers and Mason told Sheriff Coyle the FBI was putting together a team to go through Pryce Lumber in a few days. Coyle said the inventory was long gone and that Trent Pryce had really run the place for three years. When Myers asked how he was involved, Coyle threw them out. Outside, Myers ordered his team to start watching the mill that night.

CHAPTER 42

Knock on Wood

Near midnight Saturday, an anonymous caller told hotel maintenance man Hollis Tate to come clean "before you take the rap on everything." Hollis called Sheriff Coyle, who picked him up at 1:30 a.m. Hollis said the mill's logs were hollowed out to hide things, and he feared he was the fall guy. At 2:03, with an FBI camera watching unseen, Coyle climbed a loaded truck and knocked — all solid. The logs were fresh-cut on a truck that hadn't moved in a year: someone had swapped the load. Coyle said nothing and drove Hollis home.

CHAPTER 43

Not Worth the Conversation

Hollis sat up all night: he had named no names, and someone had swapped the logs. Sunday morning at the Roseburg police department, Myers saw Coyle on the log truck and guessed the logs were hollow; Mason recognized Hollis in the cruiser. Myers ordered silence toward Coyle and a team on Hollis from Monday morning. Sunday night the same voice told someone Hollis was talking, pointing to an envelope with a photo of him getting into the sheriff's car. Monday, Hollis never came to work; Walters found his pickup in the yard, the porch light on — and no answer.

THE CASE BOARD

Where things stand through Chapter 43

THE DEAD

- Gordon Pryce — lumber baron. Found stabbed off Little River Road with a 1987 county knife (Ch. 24).
- Freddy Dunn — Owen's prison friend and alibi. Stabbed in a Cannon Beach alley (Ch. 16, 38).
- Harlan Voss — found on the Crater Lake shore, stabbed 87 times (Ch. 39).

MISSING · ON THE RUN

- Josh "Tic Tac" Foster — gone since October; a tipster puts him at a Medford speakeasy.
- Owen Marsh — can't be found.
- Karen Marsh — skipped work; FBI alert out.
- Trent Pryce — missing; Coyle says he has run Pryce Lumber for three years.

PERSONS OF INTEREST

- Owen & Karen Marsh — prints in the stolen car. FBI: "Next question."
- Sheriff Coyle — vouched for the mill; threw out the FBI; heard Hollis confess, told no one.
- Hollis Tate — told Coyle the logs were hollow. Now missing; truck still home.

THE CLUES

- Four 1987 county knives.
- A 1987 key; a box gone from 118's wall.
- "Ask them about August 1987." Harlan: 87 wounds.
- Pryce: "more than lumber."
- A swapped load: fresh logs on a dead truck.

OPEN QUESTIONS

- Who killed Gordon, Freddy and Harlan — the same hand?
- What was hidden in the loads — and what are "they" looking for?
- Where are Tic Tac and Trent?
- Who called Hollis — and who got the envelope?
- 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

Burlington, Vermont · 1989

Keith Destromp: The Old Grain Building

On May 30, 1989, Keith Destromp, 35, was found dead inside the abandoned Pease Grain building on Burlington's waterfront.

The area was then a gathering place for the city's homeless community, and Destromp spent time there.

He had suffered severe blunt-force trauma, and the chief medical examiner ruled his death a homicide.

"The case remains open and unsolved," state police say. Burlington Police and the VSP Major Crime Unit share it.

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit (anonymous), or text VTIPS to 274637; VSP 802-244-8727. (Vermont State Police)

CASE FACTS

NAME
Keith Destromp
AGE
35
FOUND
May 30, 1989
WHERE
Pease Grain bldg.
CASE
07A101467
STATUS
Unsolved
TIPS
802-244-8727

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

TROY — A 20-year-old Lowell man was ticketed after troopers said he passed a box truck on the crest of a hill on Route 101 Sunday evening — at 79 mph in a 40 zone. (VSP Derby)

WASHINGTON — A 41-year-old Washington man is charged with aggravated assault after a man was seriously hurt on Route 110 Saturday; he is due in court Wednesday. (VSP Berlin)

WEATHERSFIELD — A 21-year-old was arrested after a family dispute and cited for violating an abuse-prevention order. (VSP Westminster)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Vermont (federal) — A Vermont man behind a fraudulent camper-van business was sentenced to 20 months in prison. (Seven Days)

Vermont (federal) — A judge ordered the release of a Haitian nurse seeking asylum in Vermont, detained for weeks after a mistaken U-turn at the border. (WCAX)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

CHARLES PONZI

In 1920 a Boston businessman named Charles Ponzi promised investors 50 percent in 45 days by trading international postal reply coupons. In seven months about 30,000 people — fruit sellers, newsboys and police officers among them — handed him more than $10 million. Starting in July 1920, the Boston Post showed the scheme was impossible, winning the paper its first Pulitzer Prize. Ponzi pleaded guilty to mail fraud, served federal and state prison terms and was deported in 1934. (Mass Moments)

ON THIS DAY IN CRIME HISTORY

November 24

1963 — Ruby Shoots Oswald
In the basement of Dallas police headquarters, nightclub owner Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy — on live television.

1971 — "D.B. Cooper" Jumps
A hijacker calling himself Dan Cooper parachuted from a Northwest Orient 727 over the Pacific Northwest with $200,000 in ransom. His fate remains unknown.

2014 — Ferguson Decision
A St. Louis County grand jury declined to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the death of Michael Brown, and protests followed.

2021 — Arbery Verdicts
Three men were convicted of murdering Ahmaud Arbery, who was chased and shot while running through a Georgia neighborhood in 2020.

Source: AP "Today in History," Nov. 24.

SCAM ALERT

Outage Opportunists

After this month's string of outages at national chains and banks, Michigan's attorney general warns scammers will cash in with fake online stores, identity theft and malicious pop-ups. "Bad actors will use any opportunity to con consumers out of their hard-earned money," Dana Nessel said. (Michigan AG, Nov. 18)

Tips: keep antivirus and updates on; block pop-ups; don't open unexpected links; before buying from an unfamiliar store, confirm its phone number and address.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

Whose own fingerprints appeared on the cover of the first book on fingerprint science, published in London in 1892?

hor of "Finger Prints." His classification system was later adapted by E. R. Henry for police use. (Galton.org)

THE SNOW DESK

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

Day 24 OF 152

Totals through Monday, Nov. 23

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

20.0" · Hayden 2.3 NE, ID

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 3.4" · 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
—	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	3.4	−3.4	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	−0.3	0
Portland, Maine					report not available	
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	−6.8	0.0
Concord, N.H.					report not available	
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.4	−1.1	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	6.0	−5.7	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	−4.8	0.0
New York City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	−0.3	0.0
Erie, Pa.	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	−6.3	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	−1.1	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	−1.0	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	−4.5	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.0	0.7	0.7	4.7	−4.0	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska					report not available	

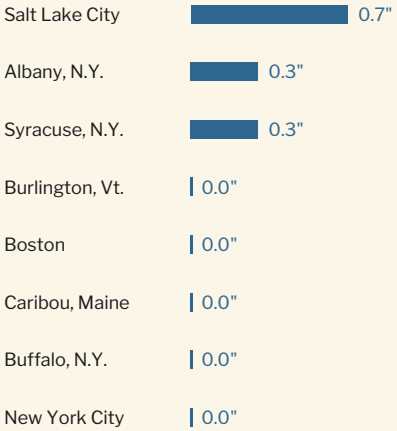
NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Hayden 2.3 NE, ID Elev. 2415 ft	20.0"
2	Evergreen 5.0 NW, CO Elev. 8241 ft	7.2"
3	Crater Lake National Park Hq, OR Elev. 6499 ft	7.0"
4	Kittredge 2.5 SSE, CO Elev. 8068 ft	5.5"
5	Evergreen 2.6 S, CO Elev. 7539 ft	5.5"
6	Genesee 1 SW, CO Elev. 7333 ft	5.0"
7	Golden 1.6 SW, CO Elev. 7297 ft	5.0"
8	Prairie City 0.2 NE, OR Elev. 3579 ft	5.0"
9	Conifer 5.2 WNW, CO Elev. 9429 ft	4.6"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES



SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Opening day in 1 days — Wed., Nov. 25 (target, weather permitting)

Now: Clear and 24° this morning — snowmaking weather.

Today: 38°, low 23° tonight.

Opening day: TOMORROW, Wednesday, Nov. 25: high 36°, low 24°.

Thanksgiving: 38°, 85% chance of precipitation.

Friday: High just 31°, 20% chance of snow.

Weekend: 40° Saturday, 48° Sunday with showers.

Countdown: One day to the Nov. 25 opening target.

SNOW NOTES

Day 24 — still zero. Burlington hit 59° Monday before the front. Normal snow by now: about 3.7" for the season; we have 0.0" (NWS).

Real cold at last. Highs in the mid-30s today and Wednesday, lows near 22° — and colder in the mountains: Stowe 18°, Jay Peak 17° Wednesday night.

Thanksgiving to Friday. Our forecast: 65% chance of precipitation Thursday, 70% Friday, highs 35–41° — mostly rain in the valleys, per WCAX.

Openings: Stratton Wednesday; Jay Peak, Bolton Valley, Smugglers' Notch and Bromley Friday (Ski Vermont).

PUZZLES & GAMES

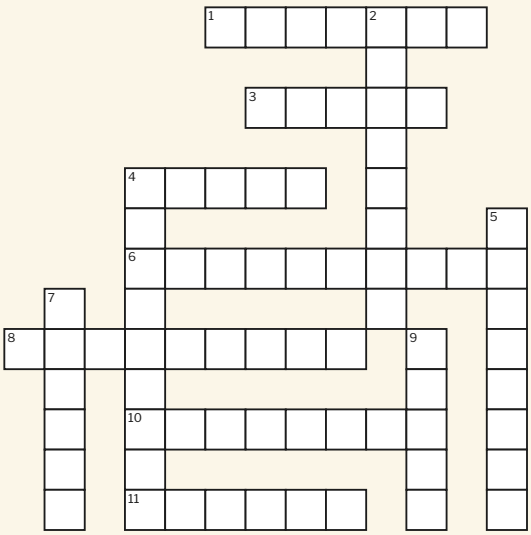
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · OLD FORESTER & ALL THINGS MUST PASS



ACROSS

1 Bruce, "The Way It Is," 72 today (7)
3 Oregon's Thanksgiving red (5)
4 Celtic with 27 Sunday (5)
6 Wild Turkey bottle with mesquite charcoal (10)
8 Tuesday's Beaver moon (9)
10 Texas barbecue wood (8)
11 Brattleboro cold case (6)

DOWN

2 1924 word for a lawless drinker (8)
4 Cat Stevens served him tea (9)
5 Six-time Killington slalom winner (8)
7 Whitey, caught via his girlfriend (6)
9 Ice pellets that bounce (5)

WORD SEARCH · THANKSGIVING TABLE

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

FIND 12 WORDS

CIDER
CRANBERRY
GRAVY
NAPKIN
PECAN
PIE
PUMPKIN
ROLLS
SQUASH
STUFFING
TURKEY
YAMS

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. How much did Nvidia rise Monday?

2. Which Vermont resort postponed Wednesday's opening?

3. How many flights does the FAA expect today?

4. Who did Washington beat Monday night?

5. When is Michigan–Ohio State?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

• The final episode of "M*A*S*H" airs.

• Maine's Joan Benoit sets a Boston Marathon record.

• Sally Ride becomes the first American woman in space.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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 24 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1941 — Pete Best, the Beatles' first drummer — 85.

1945 — Lee Michaels, singer-organist — 81.

1956 — Terry Lewis of Jam & Lewis — 70.

1962 — John Squire of the Stone Roses — 64.

1970 — Chad Taylor of Live — 56.

Also today: in 1991 Queen's Freddie Mercury died at his London home, a day after announcing he had AIDS. He was 45. (Smithsonian, History.com)



SPIN THIS

All Things Must Pass

George Harrison · U.S. release November 27, 1970

Seven months after the Beatles split, George Harrison released a backlog of songs at once — called the first triple album by a single act.

"My Sweet Lord" became the first solo Beatle No. 1, and the album topped the Billboard chart for seven weeks. (The Beatles Bible)

Best with: Old Forester 1910, neat.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Sun. Dec. 6 · Madigan Linnane, Foam Brewers

Fri. Dec. 11 · The Small Potatoes, Foam Brewers

Fri. Dec. 18 · Soul Porpoise, Foam Brewers

Thu. Dec. 31 · NYE Local Showcase, Foam Brewers

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Today's birthday boy Pete Best was the Beatles' drummer for two years. Who told him he was out in August 1962?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. About 31.5%. 2. Stratton. 3. More than 52,000. 4. Cincinnati, 22–20. 5. Saturday at noon. Name That Year: 1983. Music trivia: Manager Brian Epstein: "The boys want you out and Ringo in." (The Beatles Bible) **Yesterday's crossword:** 3A REEDING · 6A DRUNKOMETER · 9A CAPONE · 10A LINDHOLM · 11A SAGITTARIUS · 1D CHIANTI · 2D EGGNOG · 4D EZRA · 5D WEYMOUTH · 7D LAMONDA · 8D BEATLES

THE STARS

Your daily horoscope · written by the Courier, just for fun

Born today? You're a Sagittarius — and today's readings are for entertainment only.

★ ARIES — Mar. 21 – Apr. 19

Tonight's supermoon lights a fire under your plans. Pick one big goal for December and write it down.

LUCKY NUMBER 15 **COLOR** CRIMSON

★ TAURUS — Apr. 20 – May 20

Grocery run today beats the Wednesday crush. Treat yourself to one thing that isn't on the list.

LUCKY NUMBER 11 **COLOR** SAGE

★ GEMINI — May 21 – June 20

A text thread full of holiday plans needs a leader. Step up — they'll be grateful.

LUCKY NUMBER 23 **COLOR** SAFFRON

★ CANCER — June 21 – July 22

The full moon stirs up warm memories. Pull out a family recipe and make it your own.

LUCKY NUMBER 6 **COLOR** PEARL GRAY

★ LEO — July 23 – Aug. 22

You're the natural host this week. Delegate the dishes and keep the conversation flowing.

LUCKY NUMBER 19 **COLOR** AMBER

★ VIRGO — Aug. 23 – Sept. 22

A tidy kitchen tonight means a calm Thursday. Small chores add up to big peace.

LUCKY NUMBER 2 **COLOR** OLIVE

★ LIBRA — Sept. 23 – Oct. 22

Balance work and rest today. A short walk under the bright moon clears your mind.

LUCKY NUMBER 28 **COLOR** BLUSH

★ SCORPIO — Oct. 23 – Nov. 21

A surprise call brings good news. Say yes to the invitation that follows.

LUCKY NUMBER 13 **COLOR** GARNET

★ SAGITTARIUS — Nov. 22 – Dec. 21

Adventure calls, even close to home. A drive to see the moonrise could become a new tradition.

LUCKY NUMBER 9 **COLOR** VIOLET

★ CAPRICORN — Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

Finish the week's work early. Your future self will thank you on Friday.

LUCKY NUMBER 30 **COLOR** CHARCOAL

★ AQUARIUS — Jan. 20 – Feb. 18

A friend needs a sounding board. Listen more than you advise.

LUCKY NUMBER 4 **COLOR** SKY BLUE

★ PISCES — Feb. 19 – Mar. 20

Your intuition is sharp under this full moon. Trust it on a decision you've been putting off.

LUCKY NUMBER 21 **COLOR** SEA GREEN

TONIGHT'S SKY

Sun, moon and what to look for over Essex Junction

SUNRISE	**7:00 a.m.**
SUNSET	**4:17 p.m.**
DAYLIGHT	**9 hr 16 min**
CHANGE	**-1.9 min vs. yesterday**
MOON	**Full moon**

Times for Essex Junction, Vt.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Today: the Beaver supermoon is exactly full at about 9:54 a.m. — one of a run of supermoons. Watch it rise in the east-northeast near sunset tonight, in Taurus near the Pleiades. (EarthSky)

Wednesday: Uranus reaches opposition in Taurus; binoculars help, but the bright moon nearby makes it tough. (Universe Today)

Thanksgiving morning: Mars passes 1.7° above the star Regulus high in the south before dawn, with Jupiter close by. (When the Curves Line Up)

Clouds: tonight looks clear and cold — a good night for the moonrise. Thanksgiving night's storm will hide the sky. (Courier forecast)