ESSEX JCT. TODAY
38°
High 43° · Showers, gusty early
Drizzly weekend, then Monday rain

The Morning Courier

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

BILLS 13, CHIEFS 10
57
Yards: Bass's winner at 0:04
Buffalo is 10–1

VOL. I · NO. 65 · FREE TO JB | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2026 · ESSEX JCT., VT | SUNRISE 7:04 A.M. · SUNSET 4:15 P.M.

DOW FUT. +660 ▲+1.3% · **S&P FUT.** +2.0% · **NVDA PRE** +4% · **ANT*** $82.79 · **ADOBE** $12.9B today · **GAS** $3.56

NATION · AFTER THE STORM

900,000 in the Dark After the Storm

The nor'easter flooded the Jersey Shore, grounded flights and dropped snow on St. Louis. The Macy's parade goes Saturday.

BY THE NUMBERS

900K	Customers without power
56	MPH gust at LaGuardia
420+	Flights canceled
7.3"	Snow in St. Louis

BY THE COURIER NATIONAL DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEWS, WEATHER.COM, FOX 5 NY, YAHOO NEWS

Nearly 900,000 homes and businesses lost power Thursday evening as a Thanksgiving storm swept from the Midwest to the Northeast — more than 200,000 in Pennsylvania, 150,000 in Virginia and 100,000 in Missouri, according to PowerOutage.us. More than 420 flights were canceled and 2,000 delayed. (CBS News)

LaGuardia Airport gusted to 56 mph. High tides flooded parts of Staten Island and Long Island, and Avalon, N.J., had some of its worst flooding ever. Seawater breached the dunes on North Carolina's Outer Banks, and St. Louis got 7.3 inches of snow, its second-snowiest Thanksgiving storm. Memphis saw its first Thanksgiving snow in at least 76 years. (CBS News, weather.com)

The storm moves out today. The postponed 100th Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade steps off Saturday at 8:30 a.m., with gusts forecast near 19 mph — well under the limit for flying the giant balloons. (Yahoo News, NWS)

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

38°
Low tonight: 38°

Showers at times; gusty early. Steadier rain later. High 43°.

RAIN TODAY 20% | SNOW TODAY 0%
Rain for the tree lighting

THE WEEK AHEAD

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
43°	49°	48°	37°
R 30% S 0%	R 10% S 0%	R 75% S 0%	R 10% S 0%

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

FORECASTER'S NOTE

Thanksgiving's official high wasn't posted by press time. Record: 16–9.

VERMONT · SKI COUNTRY

Rain Pushes Back Opening Day

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCES: WCAX, WPTZ

Smugglers' Notch, Bromley and Bolton Valley now aim for next weekend, and Sugarbush and Stratton have no date. Jay Peak, Okemo and Stowe open Saturday. Overnight, a High Wind Warning covered Bennington and eastern Rutland counties, and WCAX reported many outages in the south and icy-road crashes in the Northeast Kingdom.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS	Futures jump for a half day.	2
VERMONT	Wind, ice, outages in the south.	3
SPORTS	Three Thanksgiving thrillers.	3
SERIAL	Chapter 44: a knock, then blood.	8
CRIME	On This Day in Crime.	12
STARS	Tonight's sky.	15

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Friday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	NOW	HI	LO	RAIN	SNOW
MIDDLEBURY, VT	38°	43°	38°	35%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	34°	36°	30°	32%	32%
SNOWSHOE, WV	31°	30°	29°	35%	35%
ROSEBURG, OR	53°	58°	51°	75%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	58°	58°	47°	20%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	39°	48°	39°	10%	
WILMINGTON, NC	49°	53°	45°	10%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	66°	68°	63°	10%	
FULTON, MO	33°	46°	32°	10%	
MIAMI, FL	66°	74°	63°	10%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
New today: Chapter 44, "He Talks Too Much." Pages 8–8A.

INSIDE TODAY

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

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MARKETS & MONEY

Futures jump · Asia rallies · Black Friday · Stocks close at 1 p.m. · Friday, November 27

LAST CLOSES (WEDNESDAY)

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT	DAY MOVE
Dow Jones Industrials	50,182.95	+165.06	+0.33%	
S&P 500	7,182.78	−18.00	−0.25%	
Nasdaq Composite	23,585.80	−147.14	−0.62%	
Russell 2000	2,704.06	+19.06	+0.71%	
JB'S WATCHLIST				
Nvidia (NVDA)	149.30	−6.06	−3.90%	
Palantir (PLTR)	153.73	−7.41	−4.60%	
Microsoft (MSFT)	489.93	−6.20	−1.25%	
BIG NAMES				
Anthropic (ANT)*	82.79	+0.90	+1.10%	

Markets were closed Thursday. Closes via Reuters, AP, Yahoo Finance; PLTR computed from a reported % move. *Written with hel

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

Dow futures +1.3%	+660
S&P futures 4 a.m.	+2.0%
Nasdaq-100 fut. 4 a.m.	+2.8%
WTI crude +2.8%	~$86
Bitcoin Fri.	~$61,700
10-yr Treasury Fri.	~4.85%
Kospi Fri.	+4.2%
Nikkei 58,629	+2.0%
Dec. 9 hike odds CME	~99%

THE WEEK AHEAD **FRI.** Stocks close at 1 p.m. **MON.** Cyber Monday **DEC. 1** Huang, House panel (closed) **DEC. 4** November jobs report

The Fed meets Dec. 8–9; futures put the odds of a rate hike near 99%. (CME FedWatch)

Yahoo Finance, Reuters, AP, Adobe, NRF, Salesforce, CME FedWatch, AAA

MARKETS · BLACK FRIDAY

Futures Jump Into a Short Session

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: YAHOO FINANCE, REUTERS, AP, ADOBE

Stock futures rose sharply before Friday's half-day session, which ends at 1 p.m.: Dow futures were up about 660 points and Nasdaq-100 futures 2.8% early. Nvidia was up nearly 4% before the bell. Asian markets rallied, and Reuters says the major indexes are on track for a weekly gain of about 4%.

Adobe expects $12.9 billion in online sales today, up 9.2%, and $15.1 billion on Cyber Monday.

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — Up nearly 4% before the bell. Huang faces the House Dec. 1 and the Senate Dec. 3.

Palantir (PLTR) — Fell about 4.6% Wednesday, near $154 (computed).

Microsoft (MSFT) — $489.93 Wednesday, −1.25%.

Anthropic (ANT)* — $82.79 — just under its $83 IPO price.

Black Friday — Adobe: $12.9B online today (+9.2%). NRF: $1.01 trillion for the season.

Cyber Week — Salesforce expects $357B in global online sales.

OVERSEAS

KOSPI	Seoul	+4.20%
SHCOMP	Shanghai	+3.20%
HSI	Hong Kong	+2.10%
DAX	Frankfurt (Thu.)	+2.10%
FTSE	London (Thu.)	+1.80%

Best of these: Kospi +4.2% Worst: —

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+9.1%
S&P 500	+5.1%
Dow	+4.3%
Nasdaq	+1.3%

Approx., through Wednesday.

GAS PRICES

Regular, per gallon

AAA · Nov. 26 · falling into the holiday weekend

NATIONAL	VERMONT	HIGHEST	LOWEST
$3.56	$3.85	$5.58	$2.88
U.S. average	state average	Hawaii	Indiana

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · IRAN

Two More Tankers Burn Near Hormuz

BY THE COURIER WORLD DESK · SOURCES: IRAN INTERNATIONAL, ANADOLU, EURONEWS

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said two tankers — one a supertanker carrying more than 2 million barrels of oil — hit naval mines and caught fire north of Oman's Khasab port on what Tehran called an "unauthorized shipping route." The claim could not be independently confirmed, and no ship names were released. (Iran International, Anadolu)

Kuwait said it intercepted Iranian drones aimed at a "vital facility"; falling debris injured at least four people. Iran denied involvement. President Trump said victory was "at hand." (Euronews, Anadolu)

ELSEWHERE

Ukraine. President Zelensky warned that Russia is "completing preparations for a new massive strike" on the power grid. (Reuters)

Yemen. The Saudi-led coalition said it destroyed 50 Houthi targets in Sanaa, Hudaydah and Saada. (Anadolu)

Memphis. The city saw its first Thanksgiving snow in at least 76 years. (weather.com)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

THE OVERNIGHT STORM

Wind, Ice and Outages in the South

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCES: WCAX, NWS, WPTZ

A High Wind Warning covered Bennington and eastern Rutland counties overnight, with east winds of 20 to 30 mph and gusts to 60 on the western slopes of the Greens. WCAX reported "many power outages in our region, especially south," early this morning, and freezing rain left icy roads and crashes in the Northeast Kingdom and northern New York. The First Alert Weather Day ends at 7:30 a.m.

Today turns quieter: morning showers, then steadier rain later in the afternoon and evening, highs in the low to mid 40s. Saturday is showery with a dusting to a couple of inches possible at the northern ski areas. Sunday is partly sunny; Monday brings rain that may end as snow, then colder air.

WORLD CUP

Killington Still a Go

The women's giant slalom is Saturday at 12:30 p.m. and the slalom Sunday at 1:30, on NBC and Peacock. Mikaela Shiffrin tapes her podcast live today at 4:45 p.m. outside the K-1 base lodge. FIS canceled next week's races at Tremblant, Quebec, for lack of snow. (Valley News, WPTZ)

STATEHOUSE

Lights for the Holidays

The Statehouse Christmas tree and menorah lightings in Montpelier are open to the public. (WCAX)

AROUND THE STATE

BURLINGTON — Bring an umbrella. The Santa Parade leaves City Hall at noon; the Church Street tree lights at 6 p.m. — showers likely. Small Business Saturday is tomorrow. (Church Street Marketplace)

CRAFTSBURY — Skis on. Craftsbury Outdoor Center opened its winter cross-country loop. (WCAX)

JAY — Day for the Devoted. Jay Peak opens today for passholders and employees, and to the public Saturday. (WCAX)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Damp, then colder

Thanksgiving: official high not yet posted.
Record: 16–9.
Snow: still 0.0" in Burlington.
Today: showers, 43°.
Tonight: rain; summit snow.
Saturday: showery, 43°.
Sunday: partly sunny, 49°.
Monday: rain, then colder.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Showers, 43°.
Tonight Rain.
Sat. Showery, 43°.
Sun. Partly sunny, 49°.
Mon. Rain, turning colder.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

39–38	Eagles over Cowboys
57	Yards: Bass's winner
0:09	Left on Bears' winning TD
10–1	Bills' record
3	Last-minute finishes

SPORTS

Three Thanksgiving thrillers · Leafs at Bruins 1 p.m. · Patriots at Chargers Sunday

BILLS 13, CHIEFS 10 · THANKSGIVING NIGHT · ORCHARD PARK

TEAM	1	2	3	4	F
KC	0	3	7	0	10
BUF	0	7	0	6	13

Bass FGs of 54 and 57 (0:04) · Cook TD run · BUF 166 rushing yds, ball for 36:55 · KC 241 total yds

THANKSGIVING

Three Finishes in the Final Seconds

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Bears 39, Lions 35: Caleb Williams threw for 345 yards and hit Rome Odunze for the winning touchdown with 9 seconds left. Jahmyr Gibbs scored three times for Detroit. **Eagles 39, Cowboys 38:** Philadelphia rallied from 38–24 down, with a blocked-punt touchdown, and Jake Elliott won it with a 59-yard field goal with 7 seconds left. (SportRadar)

Bills 13, Chiefs 10: Tyler Bass tied it from 54 yards and won it from 57 with 4 seconds to go.

NFL · WEEK 13

Patriots at Chargers Sunday

CHI at DET	39–35	F
PHI at DAL	39–38	F
KC at BUF	10–13	F
DEN at PIT	Fri. 3	
NE at LAC	Sun. 4:05	
NYJ at MIA	Sun. 1	
NYG at IND	Sun. 1	
SEA at SF	Sun. 4:25	
LV at CLE	Sun. 8:20	

Win probabilities via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	10-1	—
New England	5-5	4½
NY Jets	3-8	7
Miami	1-9	8½

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

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Leafs at Bruins, 1 p.m.

The Bruins (15–8–1) host Toronto this afternoon; the Celtics (12–6) host Atlanta at 8. UVM men play at Merrimack at 1. (SportRadar)

PATRIOTS WATCH

DeVito Prepares to Start

Sunday: Patriots at Chargers, 4:05. Tommy DeVito is preparing to start; Maye did not practice.

Chargers: Justin Herbert is in concussion protocol; DJ Uiagalelei may start.

TODAY ON TV (ET)

NHL Maple Leafs at Bruins, 1:00
NFL Broncos at Steelers, 3:00
NBA Hawks at Celtics, 8:00

THE BOURBON & WINE PAGE

MGP Chapter One · A $16 old-vine red · leftover-turkey gumbo with bourbon



BOURBON OF THE WEEK

MGP DISTILLERY · LAWRENCEBURG, IND.

Chapter One: Out of the Shadows

PROOF	AGE	MASH	PRICE
111	10 yrs	60/36/4	~$70

Out of the shadows: for years, MGP's whiskey went into other brands' bottles under the quiet label "distilled in Indiana." This is the first release with the MGP Distillery name on the front. (Breaking Bourbon)

Rickhouse G: master distiller Ian Stirsman blended barrels from what the company calls one of its most celebrated warehouses. It's MGP's well-known high-rye recipe. (Breaking Bourbon)

How it tastes: caramel, butterscotch and Red Hots; then brown sugar, cinnamon and cola syrup; a Cherry Coke and rye-spice finish. (Breaking Bourbon)



WINE OF THE WEEK

CLINE FAMILY CELLARS · CONTRA COSTA, CALIF.

Ancient Vines Red Blend 2023

GRAPES	REGION	VINTAGE	PRICE
Zin blend	Contra Costa	2023	~$16

A Black Friday bargain: VinePair rated it 92 as a value pick and put it on its Thanksgiving list. (VinePair)

Old vines: Zinfandel leads a blend of seven grapes from old Contra Costa County vineyards. (VinePair)

How it tastes: ripe, jammy blackberry and raspberry, a dollop of vanilla and some spice — "impressive intensity of flavor and balance for the price." (VinePair)

TODAY'S RECIPE

Made to go with a glass

BBQ Turkey Gumbo

Serves 4 to 6 · about 55 minutes

THE BASE

- 2 Tbsp oil + 3 Tbsp butter
- Celery, onion, green pepper, garlic
- 2 Tbsp fresh thyme; 1 bay leaf
- 3 Tbsp flour; 2 shots bourbon; 2 cups stock

THE FINISH

- 3–4 Tbsp hot sauce; 3–4 Tbsp Worcestershire
- 2 Tbsp brown sugar; 2 Tbsp cider vinegar
- 14-oz can tomato sauce
- 1–1½ lb leftover turkey, pulled; rice

METHOD

1. Heat the oil, melt in the butter, and cook the vegetables, thyme and bay leaf about 15 minutes.

2. Stir in the flour for a couple of minutes, then the bourbon and the stock; let it thicken.

3. Stir in the hot sauce, Worcestershire, brown sugar, vinegar and tomato sauce.

4. Add the turkey (and frozen okra, if you like) and simmer until thick.

5. Remove the bay leaf. Serve over rice, topped with scallions.

Courier tip: From Rachael Ray (Food Network). Chicken works too.

POUR WITH IT · BOURBON

Chapter One: cola syrup and cherry stand up to the smoky, tangy gumbo. (Courier pick)

POUR WITH IT · WINE

Ancient Vines: jammy fruit and spice for barbecue flavors. (Courier pick)

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Lion's Tail. Shake 2 oz bourbon, ½ oz lime juice, ½ oz allspice dram, 1 tsp simple syrup and 2 dashes Angostura with ice; strain into a chilled coupe. (Punch)

The story: It first appeared in London's 1937 Café Royal Cocktail Book. "Twisting the lion's tail" meant provoking the British — perhaps the work of an American "Prohibition refugee" tending bar abroad. (Punch)

BOURBON & WINE NEWS

Knob Creek Goes Camo

Knob Creek released a limited Trailmaster Edition of its 9-year-old, 100-proof bourbon in the brand's first camouflage packaging — a 375-mL bottle at about $22, for a limited time in the U.S. (The Whiskey Wash, Nov. 25)

Background: Booker Noe created Knob Creek in 1992; it dropped its age statement in 2016 and restored it in 2020.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT
Turkey gumbo and the old-vine red.

TONIGHT 8
Chapter One for Hawks–Celtics.

STOCKING STUFFER
Knob Creek Trailmaster.

THE CELLAR & RICKHOUSE GLOSSARY

Nine wine words, nine bourbon words

Old vines — older vines, deeper flavor.
Red blend — several grapes in one wine.
Zinfandel — California's jammy red.
Jammy — ripe, cooked-fruit flavor.
Value pick — great wine for the price.
Contra Costa — east of San Francisco Bay.
Alicante — a deep-colored red grape.
Carignan — an old-vine Mediterranean grape.
Vintage — the year the grapes grew.
High rye — lots of rye in the mash.
LDI/MGP — Indiana's big contract distillery.
Rickhouse — where barrels age.
Blender — chooses barrels to combine.
Allspice dram — spiced rum liqueur.
Coupe — a stemmed, shallow glass.
Angostura — classic aromatic bitters.
Gumbo — Louisiana stew.
Roux — flour cooked in fat.

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)

1:00 — Leafs at Bruins.
3:00 — Broncos at Steelers.
8:00 — Hawks at Celtics.
Sat. 8:30 a.m. — Macy's parade.
Sat. 12:30 — World Cup GS.
Sun. 4:05 — Patriots at Chargers.

AROUND VERMONT

Fri. noon — Santa Parade, Burlington.
Fri. 6 p.m. — Church St. tree lighting.
Fri. 4:45 — Shiffrin podcast, Killington.
Sat. — Small Business Saturday.
Sat. 7:30 — Chin Ho!, Higher Ground.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Fri. — Showers, 43°.
Fri. night — Rain; summit snow.
Sat. — Showery, 43°.
Sun. — Partly sunny, 49°.
Mon. — Rain, then colder.
Tue. — Sunny, 37°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

BURLINGTON

Restaurants Feed the Community

The Farmhouse Group — the family of Chittenden County restaurants behind Farmhouse Tap & Grill — served free Thanksgiving meals to Vermonters who couldn't afford a holiday dinner. (WCAX)

WINOOSKI

A Table for All

Papa Frank's hosted a community Thanksgiving, a tradition its owner started last year. (WCAX)

SOUTH ROYALTON

Hundreds of Meals

Volunteers at Vermont Law and Graduate School prepared hundreds of meals for the school's annual community Thanksgiving dinner. (WCAX)

ACROSS THE U.S.

"Pawsgiving"

Shelters served holiday feasts to adoptable animals — lettuce wraps for rabbits, whipped cream for dogs. In Kansas, a 10-year-old boxer mix named Waverly "kept jumping on the table trying to steal all the turkey!" (Good Good Good)

TULSA, OKLA.

Help After 5 p.m.

The BeHeard Movement is testing "smart lockers" for unhoused people: press a button and a volunteer anywhere in the world answers by video and unlocks socks, food or first aid. (Good Good Good)

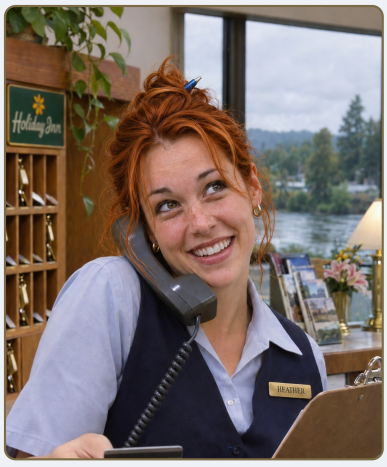
CHICAGO

Map Twins

Tonika Lewis Johnson's Folded Map Project pairs neighbors at matching addresses on the North and South Sides — now a documentary, a curriculum and a play. (Good Good Good)

MEET THE CAST

The Deepest Water



Heather

Front desk, the Holiday Inn

"Name's Marsh."
— Chapter 14

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

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Thanksgiving · NHL and NBA through Wednesday · 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	26	16	7	3	35
Tampa Bay	24	15	7	2	32
Montreal	26	14	8	4	32
Boston	24	15	8	1	31
Florida	25	14	8	3	31
Buffalo	25	11	10	4	26
Detroit	24	9	12	3	21
Toronto	26	9	14	3	21

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	25	19	3	3	41
New Jersey	25	17	8	0	34
N.Y. Islanders	24	12	7	5	29
N.Y. Rangers	24	13	10	1	27
Philadelphia	27	9	12	6	24
Washington	22	11	11	0	22
Columbus	23	9	13	1	19
Pittsburgh	24	7	15	2	16

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	27	18	4	5	41
Dallas	24	15	7	2	32
Colorado	24	14	7	3	31
Nashville	24	13	6	5	31
Winnipeg	26	13	9	4	30
St. Louis	25	13	9	3	29
Utah	26	13	10	3	29
Chicago	25	9	14	2	20

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	27	17	6	4	38
Vegas	26	15	6	5	35
Anaheim	26	12	13	1	25
Calgary	26	11	13	2	24
San Jose	27	11	14	2	24
Seattle	22	11	10	1	23
Los Angeles	22	8	12	2	18
Vancouver	27	6	20	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	15	4	.789	—
Boston	12	6	.667	2.5
New York	12	6	.667	2.5
Toronto	6	11	.353	8
Brooklyn	4	13	.235	10

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	11	6	.647	—
Cleveland	9	10	.474	3
Chicago	6	12	.333	5.5
Indiana	6	12	.333	5.5
Milwaukee	2	17	.105	10

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Atlanta	11	6	.647	—
Miami	10	7	.588	1
Orlando	7	10	.412	4
Washington	7	12	.368	5
Charlotte	4	13	.235	7

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	14	5	.737	—
Portland	12	6	.667	1.5
Denver	10	6	.625	2.5
Oklahoma City	10	9	.526	4
Utah	3	16	.158	11

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	15	3	.833	—
Golden State	10	8	.556	5
Phoenix	9	8	.529	5.5
LA Clippers	4	13	.235	10.5
Sacramento	2	16	.111	13

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	15	4	.789	—
Houston	14	5	.737	1
Memphis	14	5	.737	1
Dallas	11	7	.611	3.5
New Orleans	5	14	.263	10

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 (10–1) Beat Kansas City 13–10 on Thanksgiving night — best record in the AFC.

Bruins (15–8–1) Toronto visits today at 1, then Vancouver Sunday at 5.

Celtics (12–6) Home to Atlanta tonight at 8.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

Thanksgiving's Score Comes Saturday

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

We called 37° for Thanksgiving, but the weather service hadn't posted Burlington's official holiday high by press time. We'll score it Saturday. Beat the Forecaster stands at 16–9. Today's call: 43°.

A damp, gray Black Friday: drizzle and showers on and off, about 43° — and gusty early, especially on the western slopes.

Saturday stays drizzly near 43°; Sunday is the pick, near 49°. Monday brings a soaking rain (75%), then much colder: 37° Tuesday.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High — · Low —
SUNRISE	7:04 a.m.
SUNSET	4:15 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 11 min
CHANGE	-1.8 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	6 hr 21 min less light
MOON	Waning gibbous

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

TODAY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
43° / 37°	43° / 38°	49° / 38°	48° / 33°	37° / 26°	40° / 26°	49° / 37°
HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW
				FREEZE	FREEZE	
RAIN 20%	RAIN 30%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 75%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 10%
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

STOWE
Lamoille County
42° / 37° · 25%
Monday: sleet, 75%.

JAY PEAK
Orleans County
40° / 35° · 20%
Opens Saturday; snow, 35°.

KILLINGTON
Rutland County
38° / 33° · 35%
Sat. race day: sleet, 55%.

ST. ALBANS
Franklin County
43° / 38° · 20%
Mild and damp.

WHITE RIVER JCT.
Windsor County
42° / 37° · 45%
Sunday: 50°, dry.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 27

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

The Coast Dries Out

The nor'easter pulls away today. Cape Cod is near 58° and drying out, and Charlotte, Wilmington and Miami are dry for Black Friday. Snow showers dust Snowshoe, W.Va. (30°).

Roseburg, Ore., stays wet — a 75% rain chance today and again Sunday, highs in the upper 50s.

BEAT THE FORECASTER

Keeping Score on Ourselves

Each morning the Weather Desk calls today's high; the next day we check it against the official reading at Burlington's airport. Within 2° is a win.

Season record: 16–9 (64%)

Recent: Sat 59/61 W · Sun 57/61 L · Mon 55/59 L · Tue 36/40 L · Wed 40/41 W

Today's call: 43° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

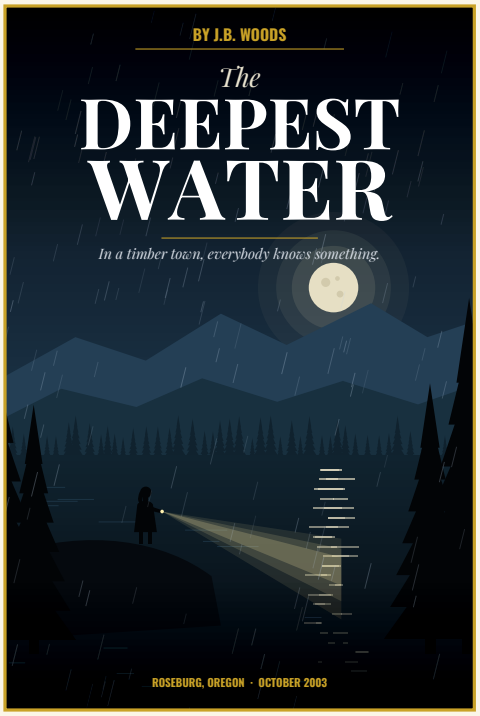
WEATHER WORD

Upslope Flow

"Air that flows toward higher terrain, and hence is forced to rise," NOAA says — often bringing low clouds and steady precipitation. It's the opposite of Wednesday's downslope wind. (NOAA)

THIS WEEK IN WEATHER

Late November 1883: Dust from the Krakatoa eruption painted sunsets so red that fire engines were called out in New York and New Haven, Conn., to fight blazes that didn't exist — on Nov. 27, by one weather-history account. (Univ. of Wisconsin)



CHAPTER 44

He Talks Too Much

Roseburg · November 2003

Previously: Hollis Tate never showed up for work. Sheriff Coyle sent Deputy Walters to check on him. The blue pickup sat in the yard, the porch light burned in daylight — and nobody answered the door.

> *"If I knew that, I'd have your job."*

CAL WALTERS STOOD on Hollis Tate's porch with his thumb on the radio.

"Sheriff, I'm at Hollis's house now," he said. "His truck is here, but he's not answering the door. His porch light's still on. I can't see anyone moving around inside."

The radio hissed. Then Coyle's voice: "I'll try calling him again and see if he picks up. Hang out a little bit, Cal. Check the back yard. See if you notice anything through those windows."

"Copy."

Walters stepped off the porch and followed the gravel around the side of the house. The grass was wet and gray with frost where the sun hadn't reached it. Out back, a small concrete step led up to the kitchen door, and beside it was a window with the curtain half open.

He cupped his hands against the glass.

It looked as if someone had driven a bulldozer through the kitchen. The table was on its side. Chairs were scattered and splintered, cabinet doors hung open, and broken dishes covered the floor. And on the cabinets, across the floor, up one wall — dark, dried spatter. A lot of it.

Walters stepped back from the window. His mouth had gone dry.

The radio crackled on his shoulder. "No luck," Coyle said. "He's not picking up."

"Sheriff, I need you here now." Walters heard his own voice go tight. "Something definitely happened in this house. We need to get in."

There was a short pause.

"I'm on my way."

* * *

Coyle's cruiser came up Alder Brook Road fast and slid to a stop on the gravel behind Walters'. The sheriff didn't say a word. He walked around back, looked through the kitchen window for a long moment, and walked back to the front door.

"Kick it," he said.

Walters put his boot into the door beside the knob. On the second kick the frame split, and the door banged open against the wall.

Both men drew their guns.

"Sheriff's office! Hollis!"

Nothing.

They went room by room, the way they'd been trained — living room, hallway, bathroom, the small back bedroom, the closets. The recliner by the front window had been shoved halfway across the room. In the hallway there was blood on the wall at shoulder height. More in the bathroom doorway. More in the kitchen than Walters had been able to see from outside.

"Clear," Coyle said at last, and lowered his gun. He stood in the middle of the wrecked kitchen with his hands on his hips and looked at the floor for a long time.

Hollis Tate wasn't there.

* * *

At the top of the hill across the road, a dark sedan with Portland plates eased onto the shoulder and stopped. The two agents inside had left Portland at first light. They had been told to watch one quiet house — and there were already two sheriff's cruisers in the driveway.

The agent behind the wheel picked up the radio.

"Agent Myers, we've got action at the guy's house. His truck's here. So are two cruisers from the sheriff's office. Front door's standing open."

"Stay put," Myers said. "Don't go near it. I'm on my way."

He switched channels. "Christine, meet me at Hollis's house. Our team just got there, and they're telling me Coyle has a couple of cruisers in the driveway." He was already reaching for his keys. "What the hell is going on, and why weren't we notified?"

"Maybe it's intentional," Mason said. "After what we saw in those photos yesterday."

* * *

Myers and Mason pulled in within a minute of each other. Walters came down the porch steps to meet them, and he looked pale.

"It's bad in there," he said. "The kitchen's torn apart. There's blood in the kitchen, the hallway, the bathroom — splatter in more than one room."

"Don't touch anything else," Mason said. "Nothing. We have a team nearby. They'll do the forensics."

"Did you find Hollis?" Myers asked.

"No, sir." Walters shook his head. "There was a struggle in there, that's for sure. We don't know who won. But he's missing."

The screen door creaked, and Sheriff Coyle came out onto the porch, pulling off a pair of rubber gloves.

"Good morning, Sheriff," Myers said. "What went on in there?"

Coyle looked at him for a long moment.

"If I knew that, I'd have your job," he said. "Better yet, you'd be working for me, and I'd be your supervisor." He snapped the second glove off. "Now *that* would be fun."

Myers didn't smile. "We'll take it from here with our team, Sheriff. We'll follow up with you if we have any questions."

The two men looked at each other. Then Coyle nodded once, walked down the steps to his cruiser and drove away. Walters followed him down the gravel.

Mason watched the dust settle.

"Well," Myers said. "He's always pleasant."

* * *

Back at the sheriff's office, Coyle shut his door behind them both, which he almost never did.

"His keys were on the counter," Walters said. "Truck keys. His wallet was right next to them. Sheriff, nobody walks out of his house and leaves his wallet and his keys behind."

"No," Coyle said. "He didn't go anywhere on his own."

"That much blood —" Walters stopped. "I don't think it all came from one person."

"Forensics will tell us that." Coyle sat down heavily behind his desk. "Or it'll tell the FBI, and

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

Continued on Page 8A ›

CHAPTER 44 · CONTINUED

He Talks Too Much

Roseburg · November 2003

they'll tell us whenever they feel like it."

He swiveled his chair toward the window and didn't say anything else. After a minute, Walters understood he'd been dismissed.

He drove two blocks, pulled into the lot behind the hardware store and picked up the phone.

"Tess, it's Cal," he said quietly. "You didn't hear this from me. Get out to Alder Brook Road."

* * *

By the time Tess Halloran's car came around the bend, yellow crime tape stretched from the mailbox to the fence post to the big oak beside the driveway. An agent in a windbreaker stood at the tape. Up by the house, people in white coveralls were carrying cases in through the broken front door.

Tess was out of the car with her notebook before the engine stopped ticking.

"Whose house is this?" she asked the agent at the tape. "Is someone hurt? Is anyone inside?"

"You'll have to talk to Agent Myers, ma'am."

She waited twenty minutes in the cold before Myers walked down the driveway. Mason was right behind him.

"Tess." Myers sounded tired. "How did you hear about this?"

"It's my job to hear about things." She held up her pen. "Whose house is this? What happened?"

"We're not saying anything today."

"Is somebody dead?"

"Not today, Tess."

She looked past him at the open front door, the blue pickup, the porch light still burning in the middle of the afternoon. "Then when is the press conference?"

Myers glanced at Mason.

"When we have something to tell you," Mason said. "You'll be the first call. I promise."

Tess closed her notebook. All afternoon she had learned exactly one thing, and it was that porch light. Somebody had left it on, and nobody had come home to turn it off.

* * *

The sun was nearly down when an agent called out from the edge of the back yard.

"Sir! Agent Myers! Over here."

Myers and Mason crossed the frozen grass to the line of trees behind the house. The agent stood beside an old Douglas fir, his flashlight pointed at the trunk.

"We found a knife," he said. "It's covered in blood."

"Show me."

The knife had been driven into the bark at eye level, so deep that it stood straight out on its own. A stag-horn handle. A broad, heavy blade, dark with blood. Pinned to the bark just beside the blade was a scrap of paper with three words printed in block letters:

HE TALKS TOO MUCH.

Myers leaned closer. He didn't need to read the engraving along the blade. He read it anyway.

DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987.

Mason let out a long breath. Nobody said anything.

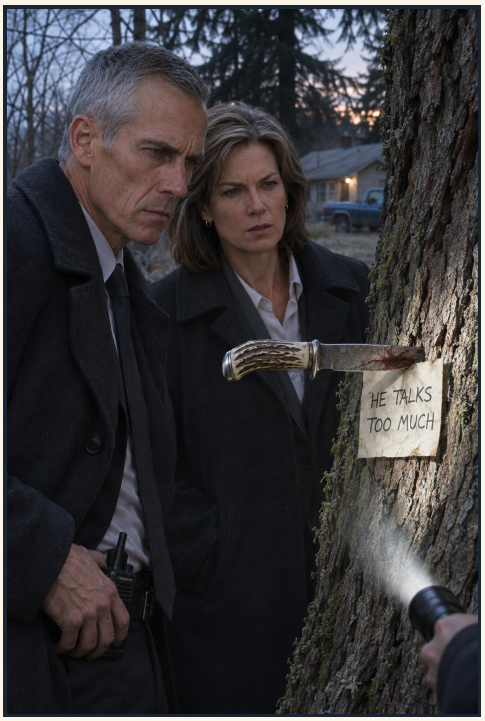
Then Myers unclipped the radio from his belt and turned away from the tree.

"Team at Pryce Lumber, this is Myers." His voice was low and very steady. "Listen carefully. I want everyone on high alert tonight. Nobody sleeps. Nobody leaves that mill out of your sight."

He looked back at the knife in the tree.

"Whoever did this," he said, "isn't finished."

HE TALKS TOO MUCH



Myers and Mason at the tree behind Hollis Tate's house · image by J.B. Woods

BLOOD EVIDENCE IN 2003

At the scene: investigators photograph every drop, swab samples and map the spatter. Its shape and direction can show where people stood and how a struggle moved.

Blood type first: a quick lab test can tell whether more than one person bled — two blood types means two people.

DNA takes longer: in 2003 a DNA profile from a state or FBI lab could take weeks, sometimes months.

Rule one: touch nothing. Everyone who walks through a scene leaves something behind.

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

End of Chapter 44 · Chapter 45 coming 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 28–44 (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 the tape showed a man from the bushes take the retiree's car in 30 seconds, and the "elderly" woman in the wheelchair stood up and walked off — in disguise. The boot prints matched standard deputies' Danners. At Rice Hill, Mason learned Sheriff Coyle had picked up Harlan's wallet himself and asked if anything else was left. At the Ranch Motel, the 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 found a Crater Lake map in the stolen Toyota — and the prints of Owen and Karen Marsh. Karen vanished; Myers put out an alert, and Owen couldn't be found. Walters told Tess that Harlan Voss had been driving, and Walt put it on Monday's front page. That night a stranger called Tiffany Voss: get them what they're looking for, or Harlan dies. Then a 1987 county knife hit her door. 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

With the newsroom empty, Walt ordered Tess to hold the Pryce story: write it, but it goes only to his desk. Walters cut his vacation short and dodged Mason's question about the friend she saw him with. Myers and Mason told Sheriff Coyle the FBI would go through Pryce Lumber in a few days; Coyle said the inventory was long gone and Trent had run the place for three years. When Myers asked how he was involved, Coyle threw them out. 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.

CHAPTER 44

He Talks Too Much

Walters found Hollis's kitchen wrecked and spattered with blood. He and Coyle kicked in the door and cleared the house: blood in several rooms, no Hollis. The FBI team arrived to find two cruisers in the driveway; Myers took over and Coyle left with a sarcastic jab. Back at the office, Walters noted Hollis's keys and wallet were left behind — he didn't leave on his own. Walters tipped Tess, who found crime tape and no answers. At sundown agents found a bloody 1987 county knife in a tree with a note: "HE TALKS TOO MUCH." Myers put the team at Pryce Lumber on high alert.

THE CASE BOARD

Where things stand through Chapter 44

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.
- Owen Marsh — can't be found.
- Karen Marsh — skipped work; FBI alert out.
- Trent Pryce — missing; ran Pryce Lumber.
- Hollis Tate — gone from a bloody house; keys, wallet left.

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.

THE CLUES

- Five 1987 knives — one in a tree at Hollis's.
- A note: "HE TALKS TOO MUCH."
- A 1987 key; 118's wall box.
- "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 took 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

Milton, Vermont · 1976

David Milizia: Off Watkins Road

David Milizia, 19, was last seen the night of Sept. 4, 1976.

He was found the next day in the woods off Watkins Road in Milton, about a dozen miles from Essex Junction. Investigators determined he was a homicide victim.

State police say evidence suggests "there may be more than one individual responsible for his death."

The case turned 50 this past September and remains open with the Vermont State Police Major Crime Unit.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the state police. (Vermont State Police)

CASE FACTS

NAME
David Milizia
AGE
19
LAST SEEN
Sept. 4, 1976
FOUND
Sept. 5, 1976
WHERE
Milton, Vt.
STATUS
Unsolved
TIPS
Text VTIPS

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

HARTLAND — Troopers checking on a possible parking issue on Shute Road arrested two men wanted on New Hampshire warrants. Both were held for court Monday. (VSP Royalton)

BERLIN — A crash closed both northbound lanes of I-89 between Exits 7 and 8 Thanksgiving night; they reopened by 11:33 p.m. (VSP Berlin)

HARTFORD — A crash closed I-91 South near mile 71 Thanksgiving evening, and troopers warned of ice on I-91 and I-89 near the junction. (VSP Royalton)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Windsor County — The two men arrested in Hartland are due in court Nov. 30. (VSP)

Vermont — Under state law, gift cards can't expire for at least five years, and most fees are banned. (Vermont AG CAP)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

BTK

A killer who called himself BTK killed 10 people around Wichita, Kan., starting in 1974, then went quiet for years. He resurfaced around 2003 and eventually mailed a floppy disk. Hidden data showed a file last saved by "Dennis" and links to Christ Lutheran Church. That led to Dennis Rader, a church officer; DNA confirmed it. He was arrested Feb. 25, 2005, and got 10 life sentences. (ABA Journal)

ON THIS DAY IN CRIME HISTORY

November 27

1924 — The First Parade

Macy's first Thanksgiving parade — billed as the "Macy's Christmas Parade" — stepped off at West 145th Street with floats, Santa and animals from the Central Park Zoo. About 10,000 watched.

1934 — Baby Face Nelson

In the "Battle of Barrington," northwest of Chicago, gangster Baby Face Nelson traded fire with federal agents Sam Cowley and Ed Hollis, who were both killed. Nelson, badly wounded, died that night.

1970 — A Dagger in Manila

A Bolivian painter dressed as a priest lunged at Pope Paul VI with a knife at Manila's airport. The pope was wounded; aides wrestled the attacker away.

1978 — City Hall

Former San Francisco supervisor Dan White shot and killed Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk inside City Hall. His "Twinkie defense" won a manslaughter verdict.

SCAM ALERT

Gift-Card 'Draining'

With more than half of shoppers planning to buy gift cards this season, watch for "draining": thieves take cards off store racks, copy the numbers and PINs, reseal the packs and put them back — then spend the balance as soon as the card is activated. (Money; National Cybersecurity Alliance)

Tips: check for peeled stickers or scratched PINs; buy from behind the counter or straight from the store's website; keep the receipt; tell the recipient to use it soon.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

Who first tried to blood-type a dried bloodstain — and when?

Sources: History.com, FBI, Inquirer, Time.

The NIJ calls it "the first partially successful attempt"; reliable stain typing took decades more. (National Institute of Justice)

THE SNOW DESK

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

Day 27 OF 152

Totals through Thursday, Nov. 26

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

3.4" · Haines #2, AK

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)

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.					report not available	
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	−0.5	0
Portland, Maine	T	0.0	0.0	1.7	−1.7	0.0
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	−8.3	0.0
Concord, N.H.	T	0.0	0.0	1.8	−1.8	0.0
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.9	−1.6	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	T	0.5	0.5	7.5	−7.0	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0	−6.0	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	7.6	−7.6	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	−1.4	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	−1.3	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.4	−5.4	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.0	0.7	0.7	5.7	−5.0	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska					report not available	

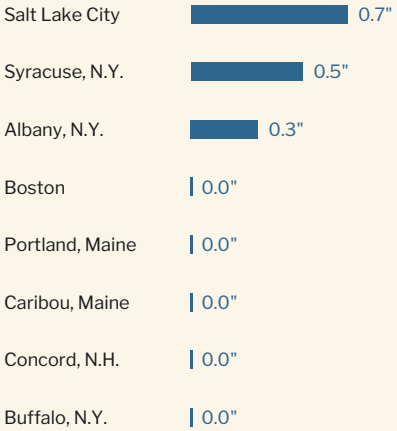
NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Haines #2, AK Elev. 108 ft	3.4"
2	Worthington 1.9 SW, MN Elev. 1585 ft	3.0"
3	Worthington 4.0 S, MN Elev. 1578 ft	2.5"
4	Sanborn 0.4 N, IA Elev. 1552 ft	2.2"
5	Sheldon, IA Elev. 1417 ft	2.0"
6	Crater Lake National Park Hq, OR Elev. 6499 ft	1.8"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES



SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Open for the season

Now: Cloudy and 31° before dawn.

Black Friday: Snow showers possible (35%), 30°.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, 39°.

Sunday: 46° with rain likely (65%).

Monday: Back to 29° with snow showers.

Next week: Warming to the 50s by Wednesday.

SNOW NOTES

Day 27 — still zero. Burlington has had no measurable snow this season; normal by now is about 4" (NWS). Thanksgiving's official report wasn't posted by press time.

Rain, not snow. The holiday storm came in mild — rain in the valleys, a little ice up high, and only light snow on the highest summits.

Monday's chance: A 75% chance of precipitation; sleet and snow possible at Stowe and Jay Peak before colder air arrives Tuesday (Jay: 26°).

Openings: Bromley and Smugglers' Notch today; Jay Peak Saturday; Bolton Valley Dec. 5 (resorts).

PUZZLES & GAMES

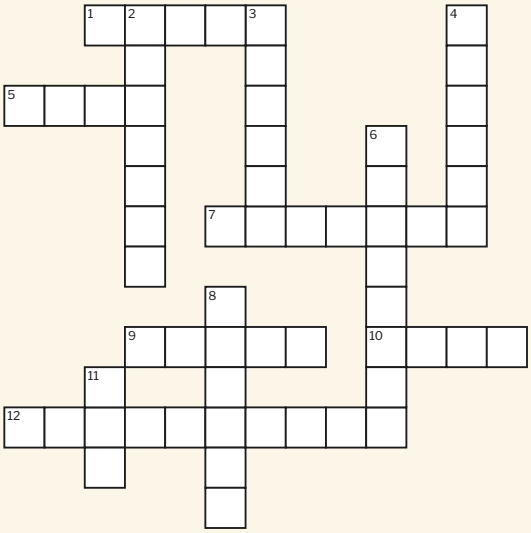
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · BLACK FRIDAY & HENDRIX



ACROSS

1 Today's leftover-turkey stew (5)
5 Bills kicker who won it (4)
7 Born Nov. 27, 1942 (7)
9 Ancient Vines winemaker (5)
10 The ___'s Tail cocktail (4)
12 All Along the ___ (10)

DOWN

2 ___ flow, today's weather word (7)
3 Bears' winning receiver (6)
4 Star near tonight's moon (6)
6 Jackson album, Nov. 30, 1982 (8)
8 Town in today's cold case (6)
11 Caught by a floppy disk (3)

WORD SEARCH · BLACK FRIDAY

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

FIND 12 WORDS

BARGAIN
CART
COUPON
CYBER
DEALS
GIFT
LEFTOVERS
RECEIPT
SALE
SHOPPING
STOCKING
WRAP

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. Who won Bills–Chiefs with a 57-yard kick?

2. How far was Jake Elliott's winning field goal?

3. How many lost power after the storm?

4. When is the Macy's parade now?

5. What did Adobe forecast for online sales today?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

- The Packers win the first Super Bowl.
- The Big Mac debuts for 45 cents.
- The Beatles release "Sgt. Pepper."

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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 27 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1942 — Jimi Hendrix — would have been 84.

1959 — Charlie Burchill of Simple Minds — 67.

1962 — Charlie Benante of Anthrax — 64.

1962 — Mike Bordin of Faith No More — 64.

1972 — Twista, rapper — 54.

Also today: on Nov. 27, 1967, American fans got "Magical Mystery Tour" as a full LP — with "Strawberry Fields Forever," "Penny Lane" and "All You Need Is Love" on Side Two. It went to No. 1. (Ultimate Classic Rock)



SPIN THIS

Thriller

Michael Jackson · released Nov. 30, 1982

Co-produced by Quincy Jones, it spent 37 weeks at No. 1 and won eight Grammys.

"Billie Jean" was the first video by a Black artist in heavy MTV rotation. Guinness credits at least 66 million copies sold. (Euronews, CNBC)

Best with: a Lion's Tail.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Sun. Jan. 17 · Felix da Housecat, Higher Ground

Wed. Feb. 10 · Liquid Stranger, Higher Ground

Fri. Apr. 16 · The Devil Makes Three, Higher Ground

Sat. Nov. 28 · Chin Ho! reunion, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Jimi Hendrix had just one U.S. Top 40 single. What was it — and who wrote it?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. Tyler Bass. 2. 59 yards. 3. Nearly 900,000. 4. Saturday, 8:30 a.m. 5. $12.9 billion. Name That Year: 1967. Music trivia: "All Along the Watchtower," written by Bob Dylan. It reached No. 20 in 1968; Dylan said it "blew him away." (American Songwriter) **Yesterday's crossword:** 5A PINOT · 6A PARADE · 8A RAMS · 10A ALICE · 11A GRADIENT · 12A RUBBER · 1D MAPLE · 2D CREAM · 3D GOLD · 4D FEATHERS · 7D JULEP · 9D SATURN

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

The doorbuster you wanted is gone. A better find is waiting one aisle over.

LUCKY NUMBER 19 **COLOR** RED

★ TAURUS — Apr. 20 – May 20

Leftovers taste better today than they did yesterday. Build yourself the perfect sandwich.

LUCKY NUMBER 2 **COLOR** OLIVE

★ GEMINI — May 21 – June 20

A group text turns into a plan for the weekend. Say yes.

LUCKY NUMBER 25 **COLOR** SILVER

★ CANCER — June 21 – July 22

Stay in, warm up and let the crowds do the shopping. Home is the best deal today.

LUCKY NUMBER 8 **COLOR** CREAM

★ LEO — July 23 – Aug. 22

A small gift for yourself is allowed. You earned it this week.

LUCKY NUMBER 33 **COLOR** AMBER

★ VIRGO — Aug. 23 – Sept. 22

Make a list, check it twice and stick to the budget. Future you will thank you.

LUCKY NUMBER 12 **COLOR** NAVY

★ LIBRA — Sept. 23 – Oct. 22

A friend needs a second opinion on a big purchase. Your honest eye saves the day.

LUCKY NUMBER 27 **COLOR** LILAC

★ SCORPIO — Oct. 23 – Nov. 21

A quiet walk after a busy holiday clears your head. Notice what you've been missing.

LUCKY NUMBER 4 **COLOR** BLACK CHERRY

★ SAGITTARIUS — Nov. 22 – Dec. 21

Book the trip you keep talking about. Black Friday fares are on your side.

LUCKY NUMBER 21 **COLOR** TEAL

★ CAPRICORN — Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

Back to work for some, a day off for others — either way, finish one thing you started.

LUCKY NUMBER 10 **COLOR** GRAPHITE

★ AQUARIUS — Jan. 20 – Feb. 18

An idea from yesterday's dinner table is worth chasing. Write it down.

LUCKY NUMBER 16 **COLOR** ELECTRIC BLUE

★ PISCES — Feb. 19 – Mar. 20

Give a little today — a donation, a kind word or the last slice of pie.

LUCKY NUMBER 29 **COLOR** SEA GREEN

TONIGHT'S SKY

Sun, moon and what to look for over Essex Junction

SUNRISE	**7:04 a.m.**
SUNSET	**4:15 p.m.**
DAYLIGHT	**9 hr 11 min**
CHANGE	**-1.8 min vs. yesterday**
MOON	**Waning gibbous**

Times for Essex Junction, Vt.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

The moon: a waning gibbous about 85% lit, rising in the northeast around 7:25 p.m. An hour later it sits just lower right of Pollux, with Castor, Pollux and the moon nearly in a line. (Old Farmer's Almanac, When the Curves Line Up)

Saturn is the evening planet — the brightest "star" in the southeast about an hour after sunset. (When the Curves Line Up)

Coming Monday dawn: the moon joins Jupiter, Mars and Regulus in one binocular field — a gathering that won't repeat until 2062. (When the Curves Line Up)

Clouds: showers and drizzle will likely hide tonight's sky; Sunday looks best. Last-quarter moon: Dec. 1.