



Williams brings top-tier experience to Cyclones

SPORTS, 1B

The Des Moines Register

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Democrat believes he can win top office in red Iowa



Iowa State Auditor and gubernatorial candidate Rob Sand greets attendees during a campaign event in New Hampton on Oct. 21. ZACH BOYDEN-HOLMES/THE REGISTER

Sand’s leap of faith to be put to the test

Brianne Pfannenstiel
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

NEW HAMPTON – At every campaign stop, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rob Sand asks the crowd to sing the opening verse of “America the Beautiful” — no matter if a few dozen people or a few hundred fill the room. Sand urges someone in the audience to pick a note and start the song. “I will not kick us off,” he says, usually to laughs.

“I want people to have a feeling that we can come together.”

Rob Sand
Democratic gubernatorial candidate

For a half a beat or longer, people look around, unsure of the request, wondering who will be the first to sing out. There’s always a chance nobody will make the leap. But in 100 town halls across 100 county seats, Sand says someone has

always risen to the occasion, lifting those first notes and prompting others to join in with this makeshift choir. “I want people to have a feeling that we can come together,” Sand told the Des Moines Register as he wrapped up his campaign’s first statewide tour in late October. “I want them to have an understanding that we don’t have to be told by these two private clubs that we should hate people who live in our own communities,” he said. “And when you

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Shutdown appears closer to ending

U.S. House expected to return in coming days

Zachary Schermele, Kathryn Palmer, Zac Anderson, Bart Jansen, Maureen Groppe and N’dea Yancey-Bragg
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The longest-ever government shutdown is on the verge of ending, as food aid benefits are in limbo and flight cancellations and delays disrupt travelers. The U.S. Senate on Nov. 9 took the first big step toward voting on a bipartisan deal reached between some Democrats, Republicans and President Donald Trump’s White House that would fully reopen the government until Jan. 30. The agreement would include full-year funding for several agencies and programs, including food aid and veterans’ benefits. Funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Women, Infants and Children program would continue through September at higher levels. That means those programs wouldn’t be vulnerable to being cut off in another shutdown if lawmakers reach an impasse on Jan. 30. Another component of the agreement includes a commitment to a vote in the second week of December on a bill to potentially extend expiring Affordable Care Act subsidies. The tax credits, which millions of Americans rely on for help paying premiums, have been the issue at the center of the shutdown fight.

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Inside: Wahls, Sage call on Schumer to step down as Democratic leader. **6A**

Iowa experts point to climate change as insurance rates rise

Donnelle Eller
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

Climate change is fueling higher insurance rates for Iowans, increasing the costs of farming, running a business and owning a home, according to university science, economic and medical

experts. A letter released Monday, Nov. 10, signed by 179 researchers and educators from 26 Iowa universities and colleges, says a warming climate in the state is linked to more frequent and destructive springtime weather, including increased heavy rainfall, hail and floods. “Over the past 40 years, billion-dollar

disasters in the region encompassing Iowa have more than doubled,” said the group, comprised of scientists from Iowa’s four largest universities — Iowa State, Iowa, Drake and Northern Iowa — and other private and public higher education institutions. “These Midwest events are part of an emerging global trend of shattered

long-term climate records, with growing losses of life and property, resulting in higher insurance costs,” the group said in its 15th annual letter addressing climate concerns. Iowa has experienced 86 floods, derechos, winter storms and other

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