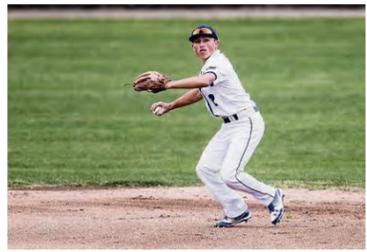


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Atwater Easter tournament is a highlight of the prep season 1B



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MERCED SUN-STAR

Parents slam school leader accused of biting officer during DUI arrest booking

BY THADDEUS MILLER tmiller@mercedsun-star.com

Multiple employees called for leniency this week from the Mariposa County Unified School District board of trustees, which put its recently arrested superintendent on leave, but district parents weren't so forgiving on Thursday.

Superintendent Robin Hopper, 54, on Sunday drunkenly crashed into a utility pole along Highway 140 just east of Planada at around 6:05 p.m., according to the California Highway Patrol. Hours later, while being processed into jail, she bit a corrections officer, according to Merced County authorities.

Saying "everyone makes mistakes" and "no one should be judged on one action," sever-

al people spoke on Hopper's behalf this week.

At the same time, some parents who made their voices heard encouraged the school board to make an example of Hopper because she works with impressionable children.

"We have Sober Grad Night coming up here. The older kids are going to see this as, 'well if the superintendent of schools can drink and drive, why can't



Robin Hopper

I?" said Teresa Gross, mother of a Mariposa student. "A lot of people want to treat this as if it's a boo-boo Band-Aid moment, and it's not. This is a serious situation."

Hopper offered no apologies following the meeting Thursday

VIDEO

For video, see this story at www.mercedsunstar.com.

in which she was placed on paid administrative leave through the end of her contract in June. She announced in December her intention to resign in June, according to the Mariposa Gazette.

Instead, she defiantly told the board of trustees that they could not put her on leave from her elected position. And, she may be right.

Mariposa's educational system is something of an oddity in California. Most school districts' superintendents are hired by a school board and then each county has a superintendent elected by voters. The county position oversees special pro-

SEE SCHOOL LEADER, 7A



STEPHANIE KEITH/NYT

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, a New York Democrat who chairs the House Judiciary Committee, says Congress must get the full, unredacted report to perform its constitutional responsibilities.

Subpoena for Mueller report is escalating Russia inquiry

BY LISA MASCARO Associated Press

WASHINGTON

The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee issued a subpoena Friday for special counsel Robert Mueller's full report as Democrats intensified their investigation of President Donald Trump, but leaders stopped short of liberal demands for impeachment proceedings.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has insisted on a methodical, step-by-step approach to the House's oversight of the Trump administration, and she refuses to consider impeachment without public support, including from Republicans, which seems unlikely. But in light of Mueller's findings, Democratic leaders are under mounting pressure from the party's rising stars, deep-pocketed donors and even a presidential contender to seize the moment as a jumping-off

point for trying to remove Trump from office.

Speaking Friday in Belfast as she wrapped up a congressional visit to Ireland, Pelosi declined to signal action beyond Congress' role as a check and balance for the White House.

"Let me assure you that whatever the issue and challenge we face, the Congress of the United States will honor its oath of office to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States to protect our democracy," she told reporters. "We believe that the first article - Article 1, the legislative branch - has the responsibility of oversight of our democracy, and we will exercise that."

That approach isn't enough for some liberals who see in

Trump's actions not just a president unfit for office but evidence of obstruction serious enough that Mueller said he could not declare Trump exonerated.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., is now signed on to an impeachment resolution from fellow Democratic Rep. Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, bringing new energy to the effort. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., a presidential candidate, said Friday the House "should initiate impeachment proceedings against the president." And billionaire Tom Steyer, a leading advocate of impeachment, has grown impatient with the House's pace of investigations and wants televised hearings to focus Amer-

icans' attention on Trump.

"Let's get the show on the road," Steyer said in an interview Friday. "The Mueller report very clearly outlined obstruction by the president and basically said, I can't do anything about it, it's up to Congress to hold the president accountable."

Democrats, though, may see greater power in pursuing an investigative effort, leaving impeachment on the shelf as a break-glass option.

The Judiciary chairman, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., said he expects the Justice Department to comply with the committee's subpoena for the full report by May 1.

That's the same day Attorney General William Barr is to testify before a Senate committee and one day before Barr is to appear before Nadler's panel. Nadler also has summoned Mueller to testify by May 23.

"It now falls to Congress to determine the full scope of that alleged misconduct and to decide what steps we must take going forward," Nadler said.

A Justice Department spokeswoman, Kerri Kupac, called Nadler's move "premature and

SEE MUELLER, 7A

Trump rips aides, calls statements they gave 'fabricated'

BY NANCY BENAC, CHAD DAY, ERIC TUCKER AND MICHAEL BALSAMO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump lashed out Friday at current and former aides who cooperated with special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation, insisting the deeply unflattering picture they painted of him and the White House was without merit.

In a series of angry tweets from rainy Palm Beach, Florida, Trump laced into those who, under oath, had shared with Mueller their accounts of how Trump tried numerous times to squash or influence the investigation and portrayed the White House as infected by a culture of lies, deceit and deception.

"Statements are made about me by certain people in the Crazy Mueller Report, in itself written by 18 Angry Democrat Trump Haters, which are fabricated & totally untrue," Trump wrote.

The attacks were a dramatic departure from the upbeat public face the White House had put on it just 24 hours earlier, when Trump celebrated the report's findings as full exoneration and his counselor Kellyanne Conway called it "the best day" for Trump's team since his election. While the president, according to people close to him, did feel vindicated by the report, he also felt betrayed by those who had painted him in an unflattering light - even though they were speaking under oath and had been directed by the White House to cooperate fully with Mueller's team.

The reaction was not entirely surprising and had been something staffers feared in the days ahead of the report's release as they wondered how Mueller might portray their testimony and whether the report might damage their relationships with Trump.

While Mueller found no

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