

FINAL COPYWRITE DRAFT - NEWSCAST OCTOBER 22nd

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MADISON: Good evening, it's October 22nd, 2019; I'm Madison Smith

LUIS: I'm Luis Ortiz with a Manchester Community College News Nexus update!

Brand Boycotts in Hong Kong by Kevin Mead

MADISON: Protests in Hong Kong continue as the Hong Kong police, government, and mainland China refuse to back down.

In addition to boycotts, protesters have started vandalizing pro-China stores and restaurants, smashing windows and graffitiing walls. Some brands that have been targeted include Starbucks, whose Hong Kong franchise owner is a company called Maxim Group.

Also caught in the crossfire has been Activision Blizzard, who suspended a Hong Kong esports player for voicing support of the movement. This led dozens of Blizzard employees in California to stage a walkout, and fans organized an international boycott. His suspension was reduced to 6 months and his prize money was restored.

Climate crisis could cause more Ebola outbreaks - by Brett Loader

LUIS: In other international news, according to a study published in the journal "Nature Communications", the ebola virus may become more widespread as the climate crisis continues. The rate at which the virus spreads could increase from a 1.75 to a 3.2 fold increase by 2070. Additionally, due to international travel, these Ebola outbreaks could easily spread to countries outside of Africa, such as China, Russia, India, Europe, and our own United States. Currently, the Dominican Republic of the Congo has a reported 3,034 cases of ebola, with 1,992 deaths.

California Blackouts - By Dominik Gudyng

MADISON: Pacific Gas & Electric Corp began emailing and texting more than 200,000 customers in 15 Northern California counties to alert them that their power could be shut off for as long as 48 hours to prevent wildfires, starting Wednesday.

PG&E said the blackouts could be necessary due to strong, dry offshore wind gusts. The company said it found more than 100 "serious hazards" on its transmission lines from wind gusts during the shutdown two weeks ago. PG&E is rushing to upgrade its equipment after years of neglect, which it acknowledged has contributed to deadly wildfires in the last few years.

Representatives from the company told state regulators last week that power shut offs could possibly be needed for as long as another decade.

Metal found in Great Lakes Cheese products - by Brett Loader

LUIS: Do you like your cheese sharp? Many of us do, but not sharp like metal!

Price Chopper and Market 32 supermarkets have recalled Great Lakes white and yellow American cheese due to metal contaminants.

Following this discovery, Price Chopper and Market 32 supermarkets have removed all affected products off their shelves.

Which campaigns CT Residents donated to in Q3 - by Kevin Mead

MADISON: In other local news, as of Q3 of 2019 political fundraising comes to a close, Connecticut's top beneficiary is currently Pete Buttigieg, with President Trump close behind, raising approximately two hundred forty seven and two hundred forty six thousand dollars respectively.

Bernie Sanders may have been the top performing democrat in quarter 3 nationally, raising approximately \$28 million across the country, but he only earned about \$125 thousand in Connecticut.

Time to shift gears and talk about video gaming.

Riot celebrates 10th anniversary with multiple new announcements - by Brett Loader

LUIS: In an effort to expand into the lucrative mobile gaming market, Riot Games announced that they are working on mobile version for both League of Legends, called League of Legends: Wild Rift, and their more recent hit game, Teamfight Tactics.

Riot stated that the mobile version of League will specifically be designed with mobile platforms in mind. Another new game that was announced is Legends of Runeterra, a League themed card game that, due to pre-registration beta access, is already placing high on Twitch's most viewed games.

Now, onto business.

Opioid crisis settlement -by Dominik Gudyng

MADISON: Four drug companies have reached a \$260 million settlement deal with two Ohio counties over their role in the US opioid crisis. The companies involved include Israel-based drug-maker Teva and drug distributor AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson.

The companies, which have denied wrongdoing, are accused of ignoring suspicious orders and downplaying the risks of opioid painkillers, which have been linked to about 400,000 overdose deaths in the US between 1997 and 2017. In Monday's deal, they did not admit guilt. But McKesson Corp, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen Corp agreed to pay \$215 million, while Teva is paying \$20 million and will contribute \$25 million worth of treatment medication.

Girl Scouts Learn Trades by Kevin Mead

LUIS: Finally, this past Saturday morning, Girl Scouts from all over the state of Connecticut gathered in Meriden, CT to learn about a variety of trades including carpentry, electrical and metal work. The workshop is a part of the Annual Girl Scout Building Trades Day, which seeks to expose young women to work fields generally dominated by men.

The workshop was largely led by female leaders in these respective fields, in order to encourage the girls to explore these underrepresented industries and offer an alternative to getting a college degree.

LUIS: For M-C-C-N-N, I'm Luis Ortiz

MADISON: And I'm Madison Smith. Good night, and good news!

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