

Trump: China trade deal delivers economic justice

By KEVIN FREKING and PAUL WISEMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump signed a trade agreement Wednesday with China that is expected to boost exports from U.S. farmers and manufacturers and is aimed at lowering tensions in a long-running dispute between the economic powers.

Trump said during a White House ceremony that the deal is “righting the wrongs of the past.” He promoted the signing as a way of delivering economic justice for American workers and said, “We mark a sea change in international trade” with the signing.

Chinese leader Xi Jinping, in a letter to Trump that was read by Beijing’s chief negotiator Liu He, said concluding the first phase of the trade deal was “good for China, the U.S. and for the whole world.”

But the Phase 1 trade agreement would do little to force China to make the major economic changes, such as reducing unfair subsidies for its own companies, that the Trump administration sought when it started the trade war by imposing tariffs on Chinese imports in July 2018.

The White House ceremony gave Trump a chance to cite progress on a top economic priority on the same day that the House voted to send articles of impeachment to the Senate for a trial.

“Our efforts have yielded a transformative deal that will bring benefits to both countries,” Trump said. He added: “Keeping these two giant and powerful nations together in harmony is so important for the world” and said “the world is watching today.”

The agreement is intended to ease some U.S. economic sanctions on China, while Beijing would step up purchases of American farm products and other goods. Trump cited beef, pork, poultry, seafood, rice and dairy products as examples.

The deal would lower tensions in a trade dispute that has slowed global growth, hurt American manufacturers and weighed on the Chinese economy.

In remarks to an audience of administration officials, lawmakers and business leaders, Trump said before the signing that the “unbelievable deal” would benefit both countries and “lead to even a more stable peace throughout the world.”

Thornier trade-related issues are expected to be taken up in future rounds of negotiations. But it’s unclear when those talks might begin, and few observers expect much progress before the U.S. presidential election in November.

“It is imperative that we develop trade and economic rules and practices that allow us both to prosper. The alternative is not acceptable for either of us,” said Trump’s chief trade representative, Robert Lighthizer.

His Chinese counterpart said “the world is now at a critical historical crossroads” facing choices of how to promote country-to-country cooperation.

“Cooperation is the only right choice,” said Liu, the vice premier.

Larry Kudlow, Trump’s chief economic adviser, said the agreement vindicated the president’s strategy of using tariffs in trade negotiations, though not in every instance. “I think with China he was exactly right,” Kudlow said. “I think the tough tariffs hurt their economy and made them much more amenable to a good deal.”

Most analysts say any meaningful resolution of the main U.S. allegation — that Beijing uses predatory tactics in its drive to supplant America’s technological supremacy — could



Evan Vucci/AP Photo

Vice President Mike Pence speaks as President Donald Trump and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He listen in the East Room of the White House on Wednesday.

require years of contentious talks. Skeptics say a satisfactory resolution may be next to impossible given China’s ambitions to become the global leader in such advanced technologies as driverless cars and artificial intelligence.

This first phase “hardly addresses in any substantive way the fundamental sources of trade and economic tensions between the two sides, which will continue to fester,” said Eswar Prasad, a Cornell University economist and former head of the International Monetary Fund’s China division.

“Phase 2 — I wouldn’t wait by the phone,” said John Veroneau, who was a U.S. trade official when George W. Bush was president and is now co-chair of the international trade practice at the law firm Covington & Burling. “That is probably a 2021 issue.”

The U.S. has dropped plans to impose tariffs on an additional \$160 billion in Chinese imports, and it cut in half, to 7.5%, existing tariffs on \$110 billion of goods from China.

Beijing agreed to significantly increase its purchases of U.S. products. According to the Trump administration, China is to buy \$40 billion a year in U.S. farm products — an ambitious goal for a country that has never imported more than \$26 billion a year in U.S. agricultural products.

The deal may be most notable for what it doesn’t do. It leaves in place tariffs on about \$360 billion in Chinese imports — a level of protectionism that would have been unthinkable before Trump took

office. Beijing’s retaliatory tariffs affect more than half of American exports to China. The average U.S. tariff on Chinese imports has risen from 3% in January 2018 to 21% now.

The administration argues that the deal is a solid start that includes Chinese commitments to do more to protect intellectual property, curb the practice of forcing foreign companies to hand over sensitive technology and refrain from manipulating their currency lower to benefit Chinese exporters. In advance of Wednesday’s signing, the Treasury Department on Monday dropped its designation of China as a currency manipulator.

By maintaining significant tariffs on Chinese imports, the administration retains leverage to force Beijing to abide by its commitments — something the United States says Beijing has failed to do for decades.

The administration contends that however narrow the first phase may be, it represents a significant breakthrough.

Derek Scissors, China specialist at the American Enterprise Institute, said the trade war has already delivered a benefit for Trump, even if it hasn’t forced Beijing to make major changes to its economic policy: Trump’s tariffs have reduced Chinese exports to the United States and narrowed America’s trade deficit with China.

‘OUR EFFORTS HAVE YIELDED A TRANSFORMATIVE DEAL THAT WILL BRING BENEFITS TO BOTH COUNTRIES. KEEPING THESE TWO GIANT AND POWERFUL NATIONS TOGETHER IN HARMONY IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THE WORLD.’

President Donald Trump

OBITUARIES

David Galloway Bowman

Warrenton

Jan. 15, 1937 — Jan. 14, 2020

David Bowman, of Warrenton, Oregon, passed away peacefully on Jan. 14, 2020. He was one day from his 83rd birthday on Jan. 15.

David was born in Evanston, Illinois. He was the son of the late Wesley and Peg Bowman, of Kenilworth, Illinois.

Dave attended New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois, and graduated from Denison University in Granville, Ohio, in 1959. He went on to get a master’s degree in history and education from the University of Chicago.

David moved to Warrenton in the early 1960s and taught history and photography at Astoria High School. He was also a track

coach. After he retired, he spent much time restoring classic cars. Dave also loved music, especially jazz, and played the trumpet in many orchestral groups from grade school up until three years ago. He last played in the Columbia River symphonic band.

David is survived by his nephew and niece, Wesley “Brick” Brown and Patricia Brown, of Belton, Texas; and his sister, Margaret “Bonnie” Bowman (Brown), of Georgetown, Texas, formerly of Cannon Beach.

There will be no service.



David Bowman

Valerie Ann Waddell

Portland

Aug. 1, 1963 — Dec. 16, 2019

Valerie Ann Waddell, 56, died at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Portland on Dec. 16, 2019.

Valerie was born Aug. 1, 1963, in Astoria, Oregon, to Kenneth Waddell and Jane (Huhtala) Waddell. Valerie grew up in Astoria and graduated from Astoria High School in 1981.

Later Valerie attended Clatsop Community College and worked as a waitress. She moved to California for a short while. Later she moved to Portland, Oregon, and lived there until her death.

Valerie is survived by her father, Ken-

neth Waddell, and stepmother, Chandra Waddell; stepfather, Phil Bainer; half-sisters, Melanie Waddell Harper,

Kamala Clark, Leena Waddell, Anandhy Waddell and Angela (Bainer) Hubbell; half-brother, Jeff Bainer; her significant other, George Frey, of Portland; and many uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews and nieces.

Valerie was preceded in death by her mother, Jane (Huhtala) Bainer.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020, at her father’s home, 89467 Saddle Mountain Road in Astoria.



Valerie Waddell

OBITUARY POLICY

The Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at DailyAstorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria.

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
43 31	43 37	49 43	51 42	50 42	50 41	50 41
A bit of snow and rain	Cloudy with a shower	Rain	Cloudy	Rain	Showers possible	Showers possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Tuesday

Temperatures

High/low 39/32
Normal high/low 50/38
Record high 61 in 2018
Record low 17 in 1950

Precipitation

Tuesday to date 0.07"
Month to date 8.04"
Normal month to date 4.84"
Year to date 8.04"
Normal year to date 4.84"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2020

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight’s Sky: After sunset, high above the western horizon is planet Venus, at magnitude of -4.04.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:54 a.m.
Sunset tonight 4:57 p.m.
Moonrise today none
Moonset today 11:34 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Jan 17	Jan 24	Feb 1	Feb 8

TODAY’S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
5:34 a.m.	8.4	11:50 a.m.	2.1	
5:33 p.m.	7.2	11:54 p.m.	1.0	
Cape Disappointment				
5:13 a.m.	8.4	11:06 a.m.	2.5	
5:29 a.m.	7.0	11:06 p.m.	1.2	
Hammond				
5:22 a.m.	8.7	11:22 a.m.	2.3	
5:18 p.m.	7.6	11:27 p.m.	1.1	
Warrenton				
5:29 a.m.	8.8	11:34 a.m.	2.2	
5:28 p.m.	7.6	11:38 p.m.	1.1	
Knappa				
6:11 a.m.	8.6	12:06 a.m.	0.2	
6:10 p.m.	7.5	12:51 p.m.	1.8	
Depoe Bay				
4:27 a.m.	8.5	10:35 a.m.	2.5	
4:18 p.m.	7.2	10:34 p.m.	1.1	

NATIONAL CITIES

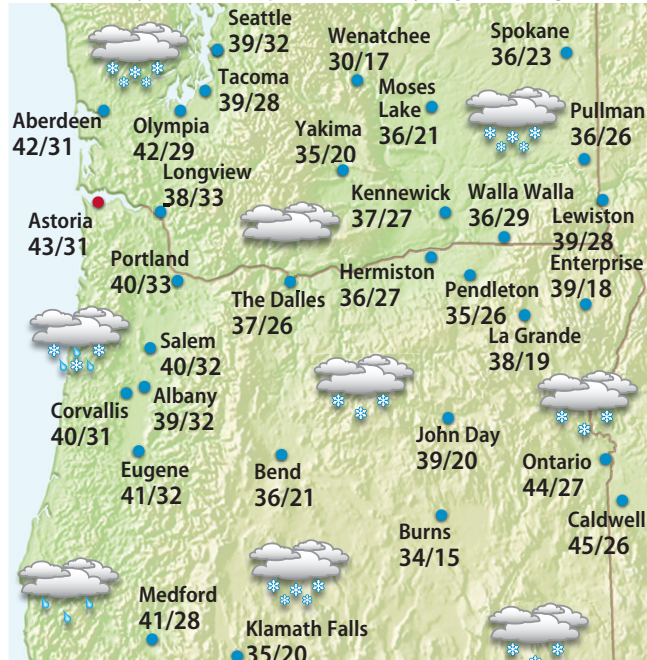
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	64/41/c	55/40/pc
Boston	48/18/sh	28/16/s
Chicago	24/15/s	32/29/sn
Dallas	51/45/r	63/52/t
Denver	46/30/c	52/21/pc
Honolulu	81/68/r	80/69/pc
Houston	76/64/c	76/65/pc
Los Angeles	59/46/r	63/46/s
Miami	82/68/s	79/69/pc
New York City	49/22/pc	32/22/s
Phoenix	70/50/c	65/46/c
San Francisco	52/42/r	55/45/c
Wash., DC	53/29/pc	41/27/s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

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REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	38/21/sn	34/22/c
North Bend	46/35/r	49/41/c
Brookings	45/37/r	48/44/c
Roseburg	44/32/r	47/41/c
Ilwaco	43/35/c	43/40/c
Seaside	44/33/c	43/39/c
Newberg	39/31/sn	43/39/c
Springfield	39/32/c	47/40/c
Newport	45/34/c	45/40/c
Vancouver	37/33/sn	42/37/c