

Obama issues scathing critique of Trump, ‘politics of fear’

By **JUANA SUMMERS AND SARA BURNETT**
Associated Press

URBANA, Ill. (AP) — Former President Barack Obama issued a scorching critique of his successor Friday, blasting President Donald Trump’s policies and his pattern of pressuring the Justice Department.

Obama also reminded voters that the economic recovery — one of Trump’s favorite talking points — began on his watch.

Obama’s speech at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was delivered less than two months before midterm elections that could determine the course of Trump’s presidency. The remarks amounted to a stinging indictment of political life in the Trump era.

“It did not start with Donald Trump,” Obama said. “He is a symptom, not the cause. He’s just capitalizing on resentments that politicians have been fanning for years.”

Noting the history of former presidents avoiding the rough and tumble of politics, Obama acknowledged his sharp critique of Trump was something of a departure from tradition. But he said the political moment required a pushback and called for better discourse.

“Appealing to tribe, appealing to fear, pitting one group against another, telling people that order and security will be restored if it weren’t for those who don’t look like us or don’t sound like us or don’t pray like we do — that’s an old playbook,” he said. “It’s as old as time. And in a healthy democracy, it doesn’t work. Our antibodies kick in and people of good will from across the political spectrum call out the bigots and the fear-mongers and work to compromise and get things done and promote the better angels of our nature.”

But, Obama added, when there is a vacuum in democ-



Former President Barack Obama speaks in Foellinger Auditorium on the University of Illinois campus in Urbana, Ill., on Friday, Sept. 7, 2018. Obama will receive a medal for the Paul H. Douglas Award for Ethics in Government at a private ceremony following the speech.

racy, “other voices fill the void. A politics of fear and resentment and retrenchment takes hold.”

Trump, meanwhile, claimed he fell asleep watching Obama’s speech. “I found he’s very good for sleeping,” Trump said at a campaign appearance in Fargo, North Dakota. He said Obama was trying to take credit for this “incredible thing that’s happening to our country.”

Even as he has largely remained out of the spotlight, Obama made clear he’s paid close attention to the steady stream of headlines chronicling the Trump administration and said the news is a reminder of what’s at stake in the November midterm elections.

“Just a glance at recent headlines should tell you this moment really is different,” Obama said. “The stakes really are higher. The consequences of any of us sitting on the sidelines are more dire.”

He later added, “This is not normal.”

He was especially stern in his condemnation of Trump’s pattern of pressuring law enforcement officials, including Attorney General Jeff Sessions. The president has repeatedly called on Sessions to fire special counsel Robert Mueller and earlier this

week blamed the Justice Department for indicting two incumbent Republican members of Congress, arguing the moves could jeopardize their seats.

“It should not be a partisan issue to say that we do not pressure the attorney general or the FBI to use the criminal justice system as a cudgel to punish our political opponents,” Obama said. “Or to explicitly call on the attorney general to protect members of our own party from prosecution because an election happens to be coming up. I’m not making that up. That’s not hypothetical.”

As Obama spoke, Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One that he believed Sessions should investigate the identity of the author of an anonymous *New York Times* opinion piece that was sharply critical of his leadership, saying the essay was a “national security issue.”

Obama, reacting to the op-ed account, said, “That’s not how our democracy is supposed to work.”

“The claim that everything will turn out OK because there are people inside the White House who secretly aren’t following the president’s orders, that is not a check,” Obama said. “I’m being serious here. ... These people aren’t elected. They’re not accountable.”



Firefighters monitor a backfire while battling the Delta Fire in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Calif., on Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018. The wildfire that erupted Wednesday has now burned more than 34 square miles of timber and brush, prompted evacuation orders for rural homes and closed 45 miles of Interstate 5 through the weekend south of the Oregon state line.

BRIEFLY

Senate concludes Kavanaugh hearing; confirmation likely

WASHINGTON (AP) — After two marathon days questioning Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, senators concluded his confirmation hearing Friday by listening to others talk about him — friends stressing his fairness and warmth but opponents warning he’d roll back abortion rights and shield President Donald Trump.

One of the Democrats’ star witnesses was John Dean, Richard Nixon’s White House counsel who cooperated with prosecutors during the Watergate investigation. He told lawmakers that the high court with Kavanaugh on it would be “the most presidential powers-friendly court in the modern era.”

Senators on the Judiciary Committee are likely to vote on Kavanaugh’s confirmation on Sept. 20 with a vote by the full Senate the following week. Republicans hope to confirm the judge, who would nudge the high court further to the right, in time for the first day of court’s new term, Oct. 1.

Under DeVos, full loan relief rare for for-profit students

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration is granting only partial loan forgiveness to the vast majority of students approved for help because of fraud by for-profit colleges, according to preliminary Education Department data obtained by The Associated Press.

The figures demonstrate the impact of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos’ new policy of tiered relief, in which students swindled by for-profit schools are compensated based on their earnings after the program.

Of the roughly 16,000 fraud claims approved thus far by the Education Department under DeVos, slightly more than 1,000 students received full forgiveness on their loans, according to an AP analysis of the data.

DeVos has been pushing to ease regulations for the for-profit sector and raise the

bar for students seeking relief for fraud. Critics say DeVos, who has hired officials from the for-profit sector to top positions in her agency, is favoring industry interests. But DeVos counters that the previous approach was unfair to taxpayers who ended up paying for those forgiven loans. She says the new process will enable students to get their claims considered more quickly and efficiently and will be more balanced instead of an “all-or-nothing” approach.

Ex-Trump campaign adviser sentenced to 14 days in prison

WASHINGTON (AP) — George Papadopoulos, the Trump campaign adviser who triggered the Russia investigation, was sentenced to 14 days in prison Friday after he told a judge he was “deeply embarrassed and ashamed” for lying to the FBI about his contacts with Russian intermediaries.

Papadopoulos, the first campaign aide sentenced in special counsel Robert Mueller’s ongoing investigation, acknowledged that his actions hindered an investigation of national importance, a move that the judge in his case said resulted in the 31-year-old putting his own self-interest above that of his country.

“I made a dreadful mistake, but I am a good man who is eager for redemption,” Papadopoulos said.

The punishment was far less than the maximum six-month sentence sought by the government but more than the probation that Papadopoulos and his lawyers had asked for.

Papadopoulos, who served as a foreign policy adviser to President Donald Trump’s campaign, has been a central figure in the Russia investigation dating back before Mueller’s May 2017 appointment. He was the first to plead guilty in Mueller’s probe and is now the first Trump campaign adviser to be sentenced. His case was also the first to detail a member of the Trump campaign having knowledge of Russian efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election while it was ongoing.



Workers with Rod Anderson Construction work at the site of the new Oregon State Police crime lab on Friday in Pendleton.

LAB: New site could entice forensic talent

Continued from 1A

police did not want to close or move the lab, he said, and Eastern Oregon lawmakers and district attorneys made the case for the lab to stay.

“Eastern Oregon will continue to have a crucial component of our criminal justice system,” Hansell said, which means investigations and prosecutions can avoid

delays that would come with shipping evidence across the state to the other labs.

Umatilla County District Attorney Dan Primus also was part of the effort to keep the lab in Pendleton. He said the need for the lab was a common topic among his fellow prosecutors in Eastern Oregon.

Primus also said the new, better lab could attract foren-

sic talent to consider careers in Eastern Oregon, which has been another obstacle for the forensic division.

Lora Elliott, Pendleton permit technician, said the city will issue a second permit when Fortis is ready to start putting up the building.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

SECRETARY OF STATE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Oregon Department of Agriculture, Nursery, Christmas Tree, & Hemp Programs, Administrative Rules Chapter #603, Sean Fornelli, Rules Coordinator, (503) 986-4758.

ADOPT: OAR 603-048-0125, 603-048-0150, 603-048-0225, 603-048-0550, 603-048-0625, 603-048-1100, 603-048-1500; **AMEND:** OAR 603-048-0010, 603-048-0100, 603-048-0200, 603-048-300, 603-048-0400, 603-048-0600, 603-048-0650, 603-048-0700, 603-048-0700, 603-048-0800, 603-048-0900, 603-048-1000, 603-048-2305.

RULE SUMMARY: The 2018 legislative assembly passed HB 4089(OL 2018, Ch. 116), which made substantial revisions to industrial hemp statutes, ORS 571.300 to ORS 571.348. It is necessary for the Oregon Department of Agriculture (department) to adopt permanent rules to revise the rules to align the regulatory scheme with HB 4089 revisions. Some of the changes in HB 4089 that make it necessary for the department to revise its rules include: The direction for the department to administer the hemp program for the purpose of carrying studying the growth, cultivation and marketing of industrial hemp in the state; Explicit authority to charge a fee for pre-harvest testing; Permission for registrants to transfer industrial hemp and industrial hemp products and commodities to Oregon Liquor Control (OLCC) licensees under certain circumstances; Expansion of the requirement for testing of commodities and products prior to transfer; The requirement that industrial hemp products containing more than 0.3% THC may only be sold by an OLCC-licensed retailer; Expanded authority for the department to adopt rules establishing public health and safety standards and industry best practices.

The department proposes to adopt these rules to address HB 4089's changes to the hemp program and to otherwise clarify existing rules. To summarize, the proposed permanent rules; Add definitions of grow site, handling site, harvest lot identifier, hemp item, OLCC, process lot, produce, production area, and process lot identifier; Clarify when an individual must be registered, who a registration applies to, and when a new application is required due to change in business structure; Require that products containing more than 0.3% THC may only be sold through the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC)'s marijuana regulatory system; Clarify who a registrant may transfer or sell industrial hemp to within the state; Restructure the grower registration application process and fees; Restructure handler registration application processes and fees and adds the option for registration by reciprocity for OLCC-licensed processors certified to process industrial hemp; Add requirements for registrants to report certain information to the department for research purposes; Clarify requirements for agricultural hemp seed producer registrations to match that of growers and handlers and increases fee; Clarify and update recordkeeping and reporting requirements including provisions to better identify harvest and production lots; Add requirements for transportation of industrial hemp; Require that when a grower uses a private lab for pre-harvest THC testing, that the laboratory first attended department-provided training; Add the option to remediate through resampling if a harvest lot fails pre-harvest testing; Revise sampling procedures for pre-harvest THC testing; Establish a fee for submission of change form; Adopt a fee for department-provided pre-harvest THC testing; Clarify circumstances when the department may detain, seize, embargo, and dispose of industrial hemp or industrial hemp products and commodities; Restructure and classify violations for purposes of imposing civil penalties; Require that registrants also certified or licensed by OLCC comply with applicable OLCC rules; Identify requirements for individuals making retail sales of industrial hemp in Oregon; and Clarify purpose of testing rules.

Hearing date: September 25, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. Location: Hearings Room, Oregon Department of Agriculture, 635 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR. Last day for public comment is October 5, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.



Required class to get an Oregon or multi-State permit. Class includes:

- Fingerprinting & photo
- Oregon gun laws
- Washington gun laws
- Interstate travel laws
- Interaction with law enforcement
- Use of deadly force
- Firearm / ammunition / holster selection

CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT CLASS

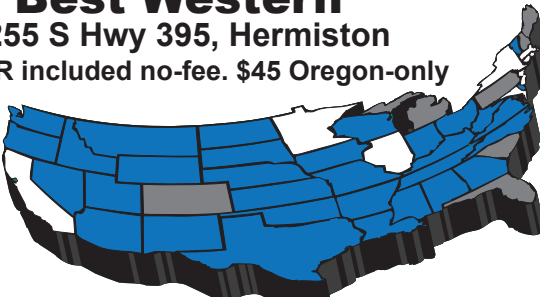
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