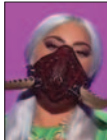


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MILITARY HISTORY

Who fired the final salvo of World War II? Depends who's calling the shots

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

The United States was thrust into World War II abruptly with the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941.

The Pearl Harbor-based destroyer USS Ward is credited with firing America's first shot in the war, sinking a Japanese mini-submarine as it attempted to enter the harbor shortly before the main attack began.

The end of fighting in the Pacific war was not as definitive, with Japan still occupying territory all the way from Manchuria in the north to as far south as New Guinea as of Aug. 15, 1945, when the emperor of Japan announced the country's surrender and ended the war.

Which U.S. Navy vessel fired the last salvo is less clear, though several ships contend for the title.

SEE SALVO ON PAGE 5

'As in almost every case of superlatives, it is often difficult to determine the first or the last for any event or action, because it would require searching and eliminating every other possibility.'

Timothy Francis
senior advisory historian at the Naval History and Heritage Command

SOUTH KOREA



Pocheon Fire Station

Emergency workers tend to the scene after a collision involving a U.S. armored personnel carrier and a civilian SUV that killed four South Koreans near the Rodriguez Live-Fire Complex in Pocheon, South Korea, on Sunday.

Crash halts training

4 South Koreans killed in collision with US armored vehicle, prompting military to suspend activity near northern range

By KIM GAMEL
AND YOO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — A crash involving a U.S. military vehicle killed four South Koreans, prompting U.S. Forces Korea to temporarily suspend training in the area, which is near the border with North Korea, officials said Monday.

An SUV carrying the four civilians rear-ended the armored personnel carrier — a tracked vehicle — at about 9:30 p.m. Sun-

day on a road near the Rodriguez Live Fire Complex in the city of Pocheon, local police and fire officials said.

The four civilians were pronounced dead at the scene, a fire official said. The two soldiers in the military vehicle were not seriously injured. One was taken to a nearby hospital for evaluation but was cleared and released back to his unit, according to the 2nd Infantry Division.

USFK expressed "its deepest condolences" to the families and loved ones of the deceased and said the military was fully

cooperating with the South Korean police investigation into the crash.

"USFK is aware of the fatal accident near the Rodriguez Live Fire Complex," the command said in a statement. "Out of respect to those killed and their families, Eighth Army is temporarily suspending training in the area."

Photos of the scene showed a camouflaged M577 Armored Command Vehicle that was mangled in the back, including damage to the right-side tracks.

SEE CRASH ON PAGE 4

BUSINESS/WEATHER

United to drop widely scorned ticket-change fees

By DAVID KOENIG
Associated Press

United Airlines said that it listened to customers and is dropping an unpopular \$200 fee for most people who change a ticket for travel within the United States.

"When we hear from customers about where we can improve, getting rid of fees is often the top request," United CEO Scott Kirby said in a video that was posted Sunday.

United's move will put pressure on American Airlines and Delta Air Lines to drop their change fees, also \$200 on domestic travel.

United said that it eliminated change fees for people who buy a standard or premium economy ticket for U.S. travel.

United also said that it will extend a broad waiver of change fees — including for international travel — through Dec. 31. Customers who pay the lowest fares, called "basic economy," can also

change tickets free because of the extended waiver announced Sunday.

And starting in January, it will let customers fly standby for free on other flights the same day as their booked flight.

The moves come as United and other airlines try desperately to lure people back to flying despite the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. U.S. air travel has recovered modestly since April, but passenger traffic remains down about 70% from a year ago.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		Switzerland (Franc)	0.9030
Euro costs (Sept. 1)	\$1.16	Thailand (Baht)	7.3107
Dollar buys (Sept. 1)	60.8170	Turkey (Lira)	7.3476
British pound (Sept. 1)	\$1.30	(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	
Japanese yen (Sept. 1)	103.00	Commercial rates	
South Korean won (Sept. 1)	1,152.00	Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3766
		British pound	\$1.3319
		Canada (Dollar)	1.3056
		China (Yuan)	6.8452
		Denmark (Krone)	6.2414
		Egypt (Pound)	15.4095
		Euro	\$1.1925/0.8386
		Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7503
		Hungary (Forint)	296.78
		Israel (Shekel)	3.3592
		Japan (Yen)	106.08
		Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3054
		Norway (Krone)	8.7489
		Philippines (Peso)	48.46
		Poland (Zloty)	3.69
		Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7504
		Singapore (Dollar)	1.3608
		South Korea (Won)	1,186.42

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.10
30-year bond	1.51

WEATHER OUTLOOK

TUESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



TUESDAY IN EUROPE



WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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WAR/MILITARY

Afghans who killed Americans to be freed

By SUSANNAH GEORGE

The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — Three Afghans accused of involvement in the deaths of American troops in so-called “insider” attacks are among more than 300 high-value Taliban prisoners that the Afghanistan government is set to release to facilitate direct talks with the militant group, according to a senior Afghan official and a Kabul-based diplomat briefed on the matter.

The United States has not publicly objected to the expected release of the three prisoners;

instead, negotiators are exploring other options, including temporarily placing the inmates under house arrest, the two officials said, both speaking on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the press.

The U.S. response puts it at odds with its Western allies: France and Australia have publicly opposed the release of at least three other prisoners accused of carrying out separate attacks against French and Australian nationals, including humanitarian workers.

Since a peace deal between the United States and the Taliban

was inked in February, U.S. officials have applied consistent, intense pressure on the Afghan government to quickly release all those remaining of the 5,000 Taliban prisoners cited in the deal as a precondition to talks.

It was unclear what attacks the three prisoners are alleged to have been involved in or how many Americans were killed. Insider attacks are assaults by Taliban infiltrators of the Afghan security forces against foreign forces.

The State Department does not respond to questions about the prisoners. Resolute Support, the

U.S. military command in Kabul, and the Department of Defense referred questions to the State Department, which also declined to comment. The Afghan government said it could not immediately provide further information on the matter.

A senior Afghan government official said he was “surprised” by Washington’s support for the release of Taliban prisoners linked to the killings of U.S. and foreign forces. But he said the consensus among Afghan government officials is that U.S. Afghan policy is now largely being dictated by the Trump administration’s desire to

show voters ahead of the November presidential election that it ending the war in Afghanistan.

“We understand the importance of the election, of the campaign, but our only question is, ‘At what cost?’” said the official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media. The release of the 320 Taliban prisoners remains one of the final hurdles before formal negotiations can start between the militant group and the Afghan government. Afghan officials have said the talks will begin next week, but no date has been set.

Russian jets fly within 100 feet of US bomber

By JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A U.S. B-52 bomber’s maneuvers above the Black Sea were restricted by two Russian fighter planes that flew in an “unsafe and unprofessional manner” when they crossed within 100 feet of the Air Force’s long-range bomber, the military said.

Two Russian Su-27 Flankers intercepted the B-52 Stratofortress bomber while it conducted “routine operations” Saturday over international waters, U.S. Air Forces in Europe said in a statement.

“The Russian pilots flew in an unsafe and unprofessional manner while crossing within 100 feet of the nose of the B-52 multiple times at low-altitude and while in afterburner causing turbulence and restricting the B-52’s ability to maneuver,” USAFE said in a statement.

The incident came as U.S. B-52 Stratofortresses and fighter escorts from several nations flew all 30 NATO member states as part of a training mission that launched Friday. Multiple bombers from the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., were in Europe for that drill.

“Actions like these increase the potential for midair collisions, are unnecessary, and inconsistent with good airmanship and international flight rules,” said USAFE boss Gen. Jeff Harrington in a statement. “While the Russian aircraft were operating in international airspace, they jeopardized the safety of flight of the aircraft involved.”

The incident is one of several examples in recent years of Russian intercepts of U.S. aircraft in the Black Sea and the eastern Mediterranean Sea.

In April and May, the U.S. accused Russia of multiple unsafe intercepts involving fighters fly-



JAMES CASON/U.S. Air Force

A Russian Su-27 Flanker intercepts a U.S. B-52 bomber over the Black Sea. Russian pilots flew in an unsafe and unprofessional manner while crossing within 100 feet of the B-52, the U.S. Air Force said.

ing as close as 25 feet from a U.S. Navy P-8A Poseidon reconnaissance aircraft over the eastern Mediterranean. Russia has also lodged complaints about U.S. operations near its borders.

In response to the latest Black Sea incident, U.S. European Command in a statement Sunday said that “one unsafe intercept is too many.”

“Whether in the sky or on the

ocean, we expect the forces of every country to maintain safe and professional behavior at all times,” EUCOM said.

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US bases prepare as typhoon barrels toward Okinawa

By MATTHEW M. BURKE

AND AYA ICHIHASHI

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — U.S. bases on Okinawa completed preparations Monday for Typhoon Maysak, a Category 4 storm expected to pass within 70 miles of Kadena Air Base on Tuesday morning, according to military spokespeople.

Maintenance and service personnel finished polishing base and unit facilities, boarded up buildings, tied down loose equipment and deployed sandbags to combat flooding, Marine Corps and Air Force officials said. Activities were postponed or canceled across the island.

Kadena Air Base declared Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness 1, Caution at 2:45 p.m. Monday, meaning winds of up to 45 mph were occurring. The 18th

Wing Weather Flight’s wind-forecast timeline indicated destructive winds of 58 mph or greater could be expected by 6 p.m.

The typhoon is expected to pass 64 miles southwest of Kadena at 5 a.m. Tuesday, according to the 18th Wing Weather Flight. Sustained winds could exceed 138 mph by 9 a.m., with gusts higher than 167 mph.

To prepare for typhoons, the facility maintenance branch and camp services at Marine Corps Installations Pacific boards up certain facilities and essential services, spokesman 1st Lt. Tim Hayes wrote in an email to Stars and Stripes on Monday.

At readiness condition 1, “non-essential personnel are released and advised to begin implementing safety protocols in their prospective areas of shelter in order to prepare for the incoming typhoon,” he wrote.

Hayes said service members, civilian employees and their families have been encouraged to follow posted typhoon readiness guidelines, such as stocking up on food, water and flashlights.

The 18th Wing said it has passed information to airmen through command channels, and the ATHOC interactive warning system, the Kadena Connect application, the Shogun Weather webpage and the Kadena Air Base Facebook page and would continue to do so until Maysak passes.

“Across the base, units prepared their facilities to withstand high winds by securing loose equipment, policing areas around their buildings, and placing sandbags at entryways,” spokeswoman Lt. Col. Christy Stravolo wrote in an email to Stars and Stripes. “Family housing members were also asked to tie down outdoor items that cannot be moved inside.”

Hayes said the Marine Corps expected no complications arising from the coronavirus during the storm. The Marines, who have recorded more than 300 infections, have experienced the bulk of virus cases on the island, although most have recovered.

“There is no indication that the coronavirus has any impact” on the Marine Corps’ typhoon protocols and procedures on Okinawa, Hayes wrote.

Stravolo wrote that any recent arrivals to Okinawa still in quarantine have necessary supplies to weather the storm and maintain contact with their units until the “all clear” is sounded.

Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki called Maysak the first “very strong” typhoon of the year to target Okinawa and cautioned residents in disaster areas and low-lying regions to beware of landslides from heavy rain, ac-

ording to remarks posted Sunday on the prefecture’s official website. He also called on people to stay away from the ocean and other waterways and to make adequate preparations.

“The ocean will stay very stormy until Tuesday and strong rain and high tides are expected,” Tamaki said. “Please use caution when the strong rain warning gets declared and follow the guidance when an evacuation is necessary.”

Tamaki said that if residents are instructed to evacuate, they should go to a friend or relative’s house rather than a public shelter due to coronavirus concerns. Approximately 180 flights have been canceled, impacting 9,200 people, Okinawa Times newspaper reported Monday.

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MILITARY



Pocheon Fire Station

Emergency workers tend to the scene after a collision involving a U.S. armored personnel carrier and a civilian SUV that killed four South Koreans near the Rodriguez Live-Fire Complex in Pocheon, South Korea, on Sunday.

Crash: S. Korea Defense Ministry pledges to help in investigation into deadly accident

FROM FRONT PAGE

South Korea's Defense Ministry also expressed condolences and promised to work with USFK and other relevant organizations to make sure "follow-up measures are able to be properly implemented in accordance with the results of the investigation into the accident."

The crash occurred in a sensitive area for the U.S. military. Residents in Pocheon, a mountainous area about 30 miles north of Seoul, have long complained about noise, unexploded ord-

nances and stray rounds from the range, which is used year-round.

In response, USFK has made a number of safety improvements to the 3,390-acre training complex, such as installing 16-foot berms behind targets and deploying explosive ordnance disposal troops to help excavate stray munitions in surrounding areas.

Some 28,500 American troops are stationed in South Korea, which remains technically at war with the North after their 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

Past accidents have stoked anti-American sentiment, especially the 2002 killing of two young South Korean girls who were crushed under a U.S. military vehicle in Yangju, north of Seoul.

Recent polls, however, have shown that public support is strong for the longstanding alliance between the countries despite recent disputes over defense cost-sharing and how to deal with the North amid stalled U.S.-led nuclear talks.

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Shipbuilders' return to Bath Iron Works after nine-week strike going smoothly

Associated Press

BATH, Maine — The return of shipbuilders after a nine-week strike is going smoothly at Bath Iron Works, and the union and company have already begun meeting to get back on track.

The mediated discussions are aimed at both restoring trust and promoting efficiency to get caught up on the production of warships. The General Dynamics subsidiary was already six months behind schedule on ship construction before the double whammy of the pandemic and strike, which officially ended Aug. 23.

Tim Suttler, spokesperson for Machinists Local 56, said the initial meeting that included union President Chris Wiers and shipyard President Dirk Lesko seemed to go well on Friday. The

committee will meet again in the coming week, Suttler said.

"We've got a road ahead of us, but both sides are committed to working toward progress together," Suttler said. "With the initial meeting, things look good."

The company has expressed a hope that the discussions in which a federal mediator is present will improve performance and ensure a smooth transition of the new contract.

"We are glad to be back to building ships for the U.S. Navy with a renewed focus and commitment to doing so together, on time, every time," company spokesperson David Hensch said.

Workers began returning to their jobs after approving a three-year contract that they said addressed concerns in the previous proposal over subcontractors,

work rules and seniority. Workers are receiving 3% raises each year, along with a signing bonus.

One of the sticking points is use of masks, which managers are required to wear at work. The company is recommending that production workers wear masks but they won't be required to do so until Oct. 5.

The mask issue has been a tricky one. Some workers have pushed back, saying masks impeded their work. Some even argued that a mask could pose a fire hazard in areas where welding takes place.

The 63-day strike was the first in two decades at the shipyard.

The shipyard on the Kennebec River is one of the Navy's largest shipbuilders, and it's also a major employer in the state with 6,800 workers.

Guardsmen deliver supplies, Fort Polk cleans up after storm

By COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Some 6,200 Louisiana National Guard members have spent recent days delivering tens of thousands of pounds of supplies to storm-stricken residents dealing with widespread power outages and damage from Hurricane Laura, which barreled into the Gulf Coast last week.

By Monday morning, troops had distributed more than 70,000 liters of water, 39,000 prepackaged military meals and 6,200 tarps throughout Louisiana, Guard officials said. Louisiana suffered the brunt of Laura's damage after the Category 4 storm made landfall at Cameron, bringing 150 mph winds to the small coastal town about 30 miles east of the border with Texas before continuing north.

Officials also reported that more than 300,000 Louisianians remained without power Monday primarily in south and central portions of the western half of the state. The storm was responsible for at least 18 deaths in Texas and Louisiana as of Monday, The Associated Press reported.

Louisiana's National Guard said it had evacuated about 2,000 people and 20 pets since the storm's arrival. It has also worked to provide logistical support for federal and state responders, clear roads, remove debris and provide engineering teams to assess damage.

The Guard was prepared to activate more troops to "support civil authorities safeguarding the population, saving lives and protecting critical infrastructure," if needed, officials said.

Active-duty soldiers at the Army's Fort Polk in central Louisiana spent the weekend clearing downed trees and other debris spread across post by the hurricane, officials said. The Army post, home to one of the service's primary training facilities, is about 70 miles north of Lake Charles, La., which saw some of the most extensive destruction caused by the storm.

Brig. Gen. Patrick D. Frank, the commander of Fort Polk and the Joint Readiness Training Center, wrote on Facebook late Sunday that JRTC was prepared to host its next rotation of troops for training in the coming days. Officials made the decision after the hurricane to cut training a few days short for some 4,500 troops

— mostly from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division — who will return home this week. Those soldiers were moved from the field into buildings on the installation last week ahead of the storm. Army officials said none of the soldiers were injured during the hurricane.

Fort Polk officials also reported damage to several buildings on post, including to some residences and Bayou Jones Army Community Hospital, which was open Monday only for inpatient and emergency services. They also reported that power crews were working Monday to fix several destroyed power lines on post, which remained partially without electricity.

On Facebook, Fort Polk officials said the installation's commissary and dining facilities were open Monday. The post's Army and Air Force Exchange Services was closed, as was its child and youth services, identification card office and on-post schools.

The officials said gasoline was available at the installation's Exchange-run gas station, and tap water on the installation was safe to drink. Much of the region around Fort Polk remained under an advisory to boil water before drinking, the officials said.

Barksdale Air Force Base, about 120 miles north of Fort Polk near Shreveport, was spared the brunt of the storm. A spokeswoman said Monday that debris scattered across base by the hurricane had been cleared and operations at Barksdale had largely returned to normal.

Louisiana officials said portions of the state could face power outages and other impacts from the storm for weeks longer. National Guard officials said they did not have an estimate for how long troops would remain focused on hurricane relief efforts or when some service members would return to coronavirus-focused operations, including supporting testing at drive-through banks.

"We're going to be working really, really hard on the power outages, on the water systems, on the housing," Louisiana Gov. John Bell Edwards said Sunday at a news conference. "None of this is going to be easy. It's not going to happen as quickly as most people would like, for sure."

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“We’re going to be working really, really hard on the power outages, on the water systems, on the housing.”

John Bell Edwards
Louisiana governor

MILITARY

Salvo: Historian says USS Concord probably fired last shot at shore

FROM FRONT PAGE

"As in almost every case of superlatives, it is often difficult to determine the first or the last for any event or action, because it would require searching and eliminating every other possibility," Timothy Francis, senior advisory historian at the Naval History and Heritage Command, said in a written response to a Stars and Stripes query about the last Navy ship to fire in the war.

The Concord patrol

The USS Concord, an Omaha-class light cruiser, "probably did" fire the Navy's last shot against a shore target, Francis said. The crew of the Concord certainly expressed little doubt about the ship's place in history.

The Concord, named for the New England town famed for the minutemen and the "shot heard 'round the world" that began the American Revolution, had for much of 1944 and 1945 prowled the northern Pacific as part of a large task force of destroyers and cruisers that fired upon Japanese ships and shorelines.

As Imperial Japan's ability to defend itself by sea and air diminished, the task force's assaults grew bolder on the Kuril Islands, a roughly 800-mile-long archipelago running from northern Japan to what was then the Soviet Union.

Navy crews operating far north could with frigid conditions.

The Concord's communication officer, who had survived the sinking of the USS Helena near the Solomon Islands in 1943, held no notions of surviving in the event of abandoning ship in the waters of the Northern Pacific.

"If we were ever to get it up here, I wouldn't even bother to go over the side," the officer is quoted in the ship's official history.

The U.S. dropped atomic bombs

on Hiroshima on Aug. 6 and on Nagasaki on Aug. 9 in 1945, and many, including the crew aboard the Concord, were speculating on whether the Japanese would finally concede defeat after such an onslaught.

On Aug. 12, 1945, the larger task group was divided into three "prowling" patrols, which were to sweep the Kurils and destroy any vessels they encountered. Then, at a predesignated time in the night, the patrols were to commence simultaneous bombardment of three separate islands.

The Concord patrol, however, was delayed in reaching Suribachi Wan for the appointed time of bombardment because it encountered, pursued and sank a six-vessel Japanese trawler group.

The Concord reached that northernmost Kuril island an hour late as a result, by which time the other two patrols were already wrapping up their bombardments.

"CONCORD blazed away with more than 500 rounds of 6-inch shells to help set nine fires, visible far at sea, at Suribachi Wan, important military, fishing and cannery center," wrote Concord Ensign R.P. Crossley in the official record.

The ship "fired the final naval gun salvo of World War II a few seconds after 8:06 P.M., August 12 (Japan time)," Crossley wrote.

In an account published in VFW Magazine, crew member Fred A. Lumb recalled the moments after the captain of the Concord ordered the cease-fire. A few minutes later, the guns on all ships bombarding the island fell silent.

"About a minute later," Lumb wrote, "Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Brand, the gunnery officer, high aloft in forward fire control, saw to it that one more round was fired by the Concord. Probably few who heard that shot really believed it



Photos provided by Harry and Jenni Olson

Crewmen of the USS Concord stand on the main deck below a statue of a minuteman mounted on the bulkhead, in this photo taken during the last 15 months of World War II.

to be a hangfire, but none doubted that it was the last round of the bombardment."

"It was this final shore bombardment that was the basis of the CONCORD crew's proud claim that the cruiser fired the last salvo of the war against a shore target — a claim which undoubtedly will long be the subject of mess-hall and wardroom debate," the ship's official history states.

Another possibility

The USS Heermann, a Fletcher-class destroyer, may have possibly shot down the last Japanese airplane of the war on Aug. 16, 1945.

The Heermann had entered service in 1943 and became a wartime legend after it and several other U.S. destroyers took on a far superior Japanese task force during the Battle off Samar in the Philippines in October 1944.

The Heermann was the only destroyer still afloat at battle's end. It was sailing off the southeast coast of Tokyo on Aug. 15, 1945, when the crew received word



A sailor aboard the USS Concord unloads a shellback initiation as the ship crosses over the equator in the Pacific Ocean during World War II.

that Japan had surrendered, according to an account published by Naval History and Heritage Command.

About an hour after that news, gunners on the destroyer spotted a Yokosuka D4Y Suisei carrier bomber break through the cloud bank. The plane had no bombs or torpedoes attached to it, but it went into a shallow dive just off the Heermann's port beam, indicating it was possibly a kamikaze suicide run.

The ship's 5-inch guns hit the plane, which went into a spin and crashed into the sea.

"The dive-bomber may have been one of the last Japanese planes shot down in the war," the Naval History account said.

But, as Francis notes, fighting continued in Manchuria, China and Southeast Asia for weeks after Aug. 15.

The last U.S. Navy action took place on Aug. 21, when two Chinese motorized junks, commanded by a U.S. Navy officer, "engaged a Japanese junk near Shanghai in the last Navy surface action of the war," Francis said.

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U.S. National Archives

The USS Concord sits in waters off the Panama Canal Zone on March 14, 1944.

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NATION

Court OKs probe into Flynn case dismissal

By ANN E. MARIMOW
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A federal judge can scrutinize the Justice Department's decision to drop the criminal case against President Donald Trump's former national security adviser Michael Flynn, a federal appeals court ruled here Monday, allowing the legal saga to continue.

The divided decision from the full U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit gives U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan the go-ahead to question prosecutors' unusual move to dismiss Flynn's case ahead of sentencing. The retired general twice pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about his Russian contacts before Trump took office in 2017.

In an 8-to-2 ruling, the court denied Flynn's request, backed by the Justice Department, to shut down Sullivan's planned review and appointment of a retired federal judge to argue against the government's position.

The decision by the full court reverses an earlier ruling by a three-judge panel of the same court that ordered Sullivan to immediately close the case.

Judge Thomas Griffith said it would be premature for the appeals court to intervene before Sullivan had rendered a decision.

"Today we reach the unexceptional yet important conclusion



MANUEL BALCE CENTA/AP

Michael Flynn, President Donald Trump's former national security adviser, leaves the federal court, Sept. 10, 2019, following a status conference in Washington.

that a court of appeals should stay its hand and allow the district court to finish its work rather than hear a challenge to a decision not yet made. That is a policy the federal courts have followed since the beginning of the Republic," Griffith wrote in a statement concurring with the court's unsigned per curiam order.

Judges Karen Henderson and Neomi Rao filed separate dissents.

In May, Sullivan refused to immediately sign off on the Justice Department's request to toss the case. Instead, he tapped John Gleeson, a retired New York federal judge, to oppose the Justice Department.

Sullivan's move prompted Flynn's defense team to petition the D.C. Circuit to get involved midstream and force the judge's hand. Sullivan hired his own lawyer to defend the court's authority to investigate whether dismissing the case is in the public interest.

The extraordinary legal battle has raised unsettled questions

about the power of the courts to check the executive branch. Federal rules require prosecutors to get permission from the presiding judge — or "leave of court" — to drop charges against a criminal defendant. Legal experts and former judges, however, disagree about the limits of Sullivan's authority, and in practice, judges typically defer to prosecutors.

But there is nothing typical about this case.

Flynn was the highest-level Trump adviser convicted in special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation. Instead of proceeding to sentencing, Attorney General William Barr ordered a review of the investigation into Flynn and his dealings with the Russian ambassador to the United States. He then moved to drop the long-running case, saying new evidence showed FBI agents did not have a valid reason to question Flynn, so any lies he told did not amount to a crime.

Flynn's lawyers told the appeals court that Sullivan had no discretion to continue the case once the government decided to drop it. They also asked the court to reassign the case, accusing Sullivan of bias in his choice of Gleeson to argue the other side. The retired federal judge called the Justice Department's attempt to undo the conviction politically motivated and a "gross abuse of prosecutorial power."

St. Louis officer dies after being shot by gunman

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — A St. Louis police officer who was a "hero" to his family died Sunday after being shot in the head by a barricaded gunman on the city's south side, authorities said.

Officer Tamaris L. Bohannon, 29, had been with the department for 3½ years.

A second officer who was shot in the leg was treated and released after the shooting around 6 p.m. Saturday in the South Grand neighborhood near Tower Grove Park, St. Louis Police Department spokeswoman Officer Michelle Woodling said.

The 43-year-old suspect was taken into custody Sunday morning, Woodling said.

Mayor Lyda Krewson said in a statement Sunday night that she was "heartbroken" at Bohannon's death. "I've had the privilege of spending some time with his family under these extraordinarily challenging circumstances. They're wonderful people and immensely proud of the way he selflessly served and protected our community with distinction and honor for more than three years."

"This is a horrific reminder of the dangers our brave men and women willingly face every day to keep us safe ... This is a terrible, senseless tragedy."

A photo of a note police said came from Bohannon's family was posted on the department's Twitter page after the announcement of his death. "He is a hero to many, but most importantly to his loving wife and three incredible children," read the note that referred to Bohannon as "Bo" and asked for "prayers and support in the days ahead."

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department Chief



DAVID CARSON, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/AP

St. Louis police officers line up and salute as the body of fallen Officer Tamaris L. Bohannon is brought to the morgue in St. Louis, on Sunday.

John Hayden said the gunman ordered a family out of their home at gunpoint and barricaded himself inside for almost 12 hours.

Officers were searching for another reported shooting victim when the gunman shot Bohannon in the head and the other officer in the leg, Hayden said.

While the man was barricaded inside, officers armed with rifles and a SWAT team assembled outside. Police closed surrounding streets and warned residents to stay inside. Police used a bullhorn to order the suspect out and fired tear gas into the house, but fired no gunshots, the department said.

The man was taken into custody around 5:30 a.m. Police have released no details about how the standoff came to an end.

House panel to subpoena USPS and DeJoy for records on mail delays

By JACOB BOGAGE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The head of the House Oversight Committee says the panel will issue subpoenas to compel the U.S. Postal Service and Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to turn over documents on slowdowns in mail service and any communications DeJoy might have had with President Donald Trump or members of his reelection campaign.

Committee Chair Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., plans to subpoena USPS on Wednesday after DeJoy refused to provide records requested last week by committee members during a hearing.

"I trust my Aug. 24 testimony before the Committee on Oversight and Reform clarified any outstanding questions you had regarding operational changes that I have implemented," he wrote in a letter to Maloney on Aug. 28, two days after the deadline the committee imposed for USPS to voluntarily submit documents.

A Postal Service representative did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

During the hearing, House members requested any analysis the Postal Service ran on the ef-

fect of the operational changes DeJoy instituted at the agency, which included eliminating extra mail delivery trips and stricter dispatch schedules that have caused mail and packages to pile up undelivered.

Postal workers from coast to coast and national union leaders also say workers were told overtime hours would be eliminated and that the directive was issued by the postmaster general. Memos circulated to mid-level managers and obtained by The Washington Post stated that DeJoy planned to eliminate overtime hours.

"Carriers were ordered off the streets at 5 o'clock whether you finished your route or you didn't finish your route," said Al Friedman, president of the Florida State Association of Letter Carriers. "That was everywhere. That was all over Florida."

A letter carrier in New Jersey told The Washington Post he was ordered to do the same thing.

DeJoy denied in sworn testimony that he'd ever given such an order and suspended some of the cost-cutting moves until after the November election.

VIRUS OUTBREAK



AKIFUMI ISHIKAWA/Stars and Stripes

A woman walks by a U.S. Navy police boat patrolling near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Thursday.

Tokyo's cases decline as US Navy in Japan reports 12 new infections

By JOSEPH DITZLER AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The number of new coronavirus cases in Japan's capital city fell to 100 on Monday, the lowest daily count in a week, according to public broadcaster NHK.

Meanwhile, the U.S. military in Japan reported 13 new infections Monday: 12 at Yokosuka Naval Base and one at the Marine Corps' Camp Courtney on Okinawa. All the individuals who tested positive were already in quarantine, according to those installations.

The new cases in Tokyo on Monday pushed the pandemic total to 20,817, according to NHK, which cited the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

The daily count has been higher than 100 for seven consecutive days; it peaked at 472 cases on Aug. 1. The metro area reported 95 cases on Aug. 24, according to the metro government website.

The seven-day moving average

of new cases in Tokyo fell from 275.9 on Aug. 20 to 197.7 on Sunday, according to the metro government website.

At Yokosuka, about 40 miles southwest of central Tokyo, seven new cases identified as close contacts tested positive for the virus, according to a base news release. Base spokesman Randall Baum said those seven were tested in quarantine.

Another five individuals had recently arrived in Japan and were in mandatory 14-day quarantine when they tested positive, the Yokosuka release said.

Okinawa prefecture reported 23 new cases Monday, according to the Ryukyu Shimpo newspaper, which cited a prefectural official.

On its website, the prefecture reported 31 new coronavirus infections on Saturday and 33 on Sunday. A man in his 80s died Saturday in Okinawa city, the 27th death linked to the virus on the island, according to the prefecture. The prefecture also

reported three recent false positives: one on Aug. 25 and two on Thursday.

Friday, Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki extended to Sept. 5 a state of emergency just before the Okinawa Obon holiday started Monday. The holiday concludes on Wednesday.

"Please this year, have a quiet Obon; do not go to meet your grandpa and grandma," Tamaki said during a press conference. Obon typically involves travel to visit family.

"We cannot afford to have another complete lockdown like April to May; our economy will not survive," Tamaki said. "We have to live with coronavirus, and we must keep preventing the spread of the virus."

Avoid crowded spaces, wash hands frequently and maintain social distancing "and maybe one day, we'll have zero coronavirus," he added.

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Kaiserslautern's schools still open despite infections

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Two more Defense Department school students in the Kaiserslautern area have the coronavirus, officials said Monday as seven new infections were reported over the weekend in the city and the surrounding district, four of them in the U.S. military community.

The two new school cases were closely linked to a Kaiserslautern Middle School student who tested positive for the virus last week, said Stephen Smith, Department of Defense Education Activity-Europe spokesman. They involved a student at Sembach Elementary School and a second case at KMS, he said.

School officials learned of the positive test at Sembach on Saturday and principal Barrett Smith notified families the following day, the DODEA-Europe spokesman said. KMS learned of the second case among its students late last week. The school was closed Friday for cleaning, while Sembach was cleaned over the weekend, he said.

Both schools were open Monday, Smith said.

Public health officials are contacting families of anyone who was in close contact with the infected students, Smith said. They will likely be told to quarantine for 14 days or until they can produce a negative test for the virus.

The number of people who are in isolation or quarantine as a re-

sult of the school cases cannot be made public under Defense Department policy, health officials said.

Most DODEA-Europe schools welcomed students back to the classroom a week ago Monday, but six schools — in Bahrain, Spain and Turkey — began the year with distance learning only, due to health concerns.

Schools have the option of reverting to remote learning if local health conditions worsen or an outbreak at a school forces it to close for six days or more, DODEA officials have said.

About 12% of the roughly 25,500 DODEA students in Europe opted to attend virtual school this fall, data provided by the Defense Department education system show.

A number of measures have been put in place to reduce the spread of the coronavirus in DODEA schools, including a requirement for face masks to be worn in places where students and staff can't be at least six feet apart. Parents had to sign a document agreeing to check their child's temperature and monitor them for other symptoms of the virus every morning before school.

There were 82 active coronavirus cases in Kaiserslautern and the surrounding district as of Sunday. Thirteen of the cases, including four that were reported over the weekend, were in the U.S. military community, district commissioner Ralf Lessmeister said in a Facebook post.

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Australia records its deadliest day; hot spot urged to reopen

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Australia recorded its deadliest day of the pandemic Monday as the government urged hot spot Victoria state to announce plans to lift a lockdown on the country's second-largest city.

Victoria's health department reported 41 deaths from COVID-

19 and 73 new infections in the latest 24-hour period. While the deaths were a state and national high, the tally of new infections was Victoria's lowest since 67 new cases were recorded on June 30 in the early weeks of the second wave of the pandemic, which has primarily been concentrated in the state capital, Melbourne.

Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews said only eight of the 41 fatalities occurred in the latest 24-hour period. The other 33 fatalities occurred in aged care since late July and were reported on Sunday following a tightening of reporting obligations and a review of previous reporting, Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton said.

A six-week lockdown in the city is due to be relaxed on Sept. 13. But the state government has not said how it will be relaxed or given any assurances that it won't be extended.

Victoria has recorded more than 19,000 cases, almost 80% of Australia's more than 25,000 cases, according to a tally by

Johns Hopkins University. The state also accounts for the vast majority of Australia's more than 650 deaths.

Australian Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said on Monday he disagreed with the Victorian government that it was too early to announce plans to reopen its economy.




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STARS AND STRIPES

VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

Acceptance of virtual classrooms may mean demise of snow days

Associated Press

RUTLAND, Vt. — Some Vermont educators are wondering if remote learning could mean the end of snow days, the unexpected days off when weather conditions make it too hard for staff and children to reach school.

Bryan Olkowski, the superintendent of the Washington Central Supervisory Union, recently floated the idea at a school board meeting.

He said he brought it up lightheartedly, but it could be possible. Many school districts are working to switch to at least part-time remote education this fall.

It's unclear if those systems could work with less than a day's notice.

David Younce, of the Vermont Superintendents Association, said he hasn't heard any formal conversations on the topic, but called the idea "common sense commentary."

"The ability to work and learn from home is going to become more and more normalized, I suspect," Younce told the Rutland Herald. "I think that makes it much easier to make a decision."

But he said any decisions to shift to remote learning for inclement weather should be made in advance, such as noon the day before, to provide time for teachers, students and families to plan accordingly.

Massachusetts

QUINCY — The city of Quincy fined a wedding venue on Saturday for violating limits on gatherings. The rules are intended to cut down the spread of the coronavirus.

The Neighborhood Club of Quincy received a \$300 fine, The Patriot Ledger reported. A spokesperson for the club said it was hosting an outdoor wedding when rain and thunder motivated the general manager to move it indoors.

Quincy Health Department Commissioner Ruth Jones said she received a call there were more than 50 people at the venue. Republican Gov. Charlie Baker issued an order in early August limiting indoor gatherings to no more than 25 in a single, enclosed space.

California

VENTURA — A study shows California's stay-at-home order in response to the coronavirus seems to have saved some wildlife, as decreased traffic resulted in fewer collisions with mountain lions, deer and other large animals.

A study by the Road Ecology Center at the University of California, Davis found traffic declined by about 75% after the

emergency health regulation went into effect in March, The Ventura County Star reports.

The number of animals struck and killed by vehicles also fell, including a 58% decrease in fatal crashes involving mountain lions between the 10 weeks before and 10 weeks after the order was in place.

Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS — A northern Indiana woman has filed a lawsuit against the distributor of a recalled hand sanitizer over the presence of toxic methanol, alleging her children had severe side effects.

The lawsuit, filed earlier this month in St. Joseph County, seeks penalties. It names Texas-based 4e Brands North America, which distributes Blumen hand sanitizer. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration found the product contained methanol, or wood alcohol, which can be deadly.

The company issued a voluntary recall in July.

The Osceola woman claims her children's side effects included headaches and vomiting. The lawsuit accuses the company of violating Indiana's Products Liability Act and Deceptive Consumer Sales Act and seeks class action status.

Iowa

DES MOINES — The numbers on Iowa's online coronavirus tracker varied widely this weekend because of a maintenance problem with the site.

The Iowa Department of Public Health reported Saturday morning that 1,108 Iowans had died from COVID-19. Later in the day, the number of deaths fell to 894 before rebounding Saturday evening to 1,109.

Several other key statistics also fluctuated on the state website Saturday. For instance, the number of cases of coronavirus dropped from 63,122 to 51,183 before being restored after 9 p.m. Saturday.

Department of Public Health spokeswoman Amy McCoy told the Des Moines Register that the problem appeared to be fixed.

North Dakota

BISMARCK — North Dakota reported one new death due to COVID-19, bringing the state's death toll to 142 since the coronavirus pandemic began.

The North Dakota Department of Health on Sunday reported a Burlington County woman in her 90s with underlying health conditions died.

Health officials also reported 219 newly confirmed cases on



Nancy Kuo, top left, and Manoela Wunder, of the musical duo Masked Strings, perform a concert for their neighborhood Sunday in the Atwater Village section of Los Angeles. Kuo and Wunder have been performing as the Masked Strings since May.

CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

Sunday, raising the total number of infections in the state to 11,702 since the pandemic struck the state in mid-March. The Bismarck Tribune reports the number of active cases in North Dakota now totals 2,481, a new record high.

A total of 68 patients were hospitalized Sunday in North Dakota, up three from the previous day.

Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA — Temple University has announced a two-week halt of in-person classes as Philadelphia officials called on all college and university students in the city to avoid all social gatherings with people outside their households.

Temple officials said Sunday that new test results over the weekend had pushed the number of active COVID-19 cases from the 58 reported Friday to 103 active cases, most of them among people with no symptoms and a small number with mild to moderate flu-like symptoms.

University president Richard Engler said officials believe they are seeing "new cases that result from small social gatherings happening off campus." He said that prompted the two-week "pause" in in-person classes and a contact tracing effort.

Temple said in-person classes were to go online starting Monday and continue online through Sept. 11, with only classes deemed es-

sential by college deans held in person.

Texas

AUSTIN — Texas health officials on Saturday reported the number of deaths due to COVID-19, the illness caused by the coronavirus, has surpassed 12,500 and the number of reported cases increased is now above 610,000.

There are 610,354 coronavirus cases and 12,510 deaths, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. The true number of cases in Texas is likely higher because many people haven't been tested and studies suggest people can be infected and not feel sick.

The number of reported cases rose by 3,759 and the total COVID-19 deaths is up by 90 from Saturday, the department said.

The department also reported an estimated 98,326 active cases, a decline of 2,863 from the 101,189 reported Saturday.

Utah

LOGAN — Utah State University plans to test nearly 300 students for COVID-19 after wastewater samples from four dormitories showed elevated levels of the coronavirus, school officials said Sunday.

The 287 students who were to be tested Sunday and Monday live in the Rich, Jones, Morgan and Davis dorms on the campus

in Logan. There have been no reported positive tests for COVID-19 in those residence halls so far.

Students in those dorms must quarantine until the test results are available, which could take up to four days. They are also asked to fill out a form to ensure they receive academic support, food deliveries and other resources.

Classes are scheduled to begin on Monday for about 28,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

Utah State is one of a small handful of schools using wastewater sampling to help safeguard against a COVID-19 outbreak, The Salt Lake Tribune reported.

Nebraska

LINCOLN — The Nebraska State Penitentiary in Lincoln has been placed under quarantine after 29 inmates tested positive for the coronavirus, officials said Sunday.

The positive cases were identified by tests that were done Friday. Nebraska Department of Correctional Services Director Scott Frakes said the positive cases included inmates in four different housing units, so the entire prison was placed under quarantine.

Officials said roughly 600 inmates were initially offered tests under the voluntary program, and 332 inmates agreed to be tested. The remaining inmates will be offered tests starting Sunday.

NATION

Ore. state police to return after deadly shooting

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Oregon State Police will return to Portland to help local authorities after the fatal shooting of a man following clashes between President Donald Trump supporters and counter-protesters that led to an argument between the president and the city's mayor over who was to blame for the violence.

Protesters were back on the streets for a demonstration Sunday night outside a public safety building. Police declared an unlawful assembly and detained several people after saying protesters were seen throwing projectiles.

After Trump called Ted Wheeler, a Democrat, a "fool" and faulted him for allowing mayhem to proliferate in the liberal city, the visibly angry mayor lashed out at the president during a Sunday news conference, addressing him

in the first person through the TV cameras.

"That's classic Trump. Mr. President, how can you think that a comment like that, if you're watching this, is in any way helpful? It's an aggressive stance, it is not collaborative. I certainly reached out, I believe in a collaborative manner, by saying earlier that you need to do your part and I need to do my part and then we both need to be held accountable," Wheeler said.

"Let's work together...Why don't we try that for a change?"

The testy news conference followed a chaotic 24-hour Portland that began when Saturday evening when a caravan of about 600 vehicles packed with Trump supporters drove through the liberal city and was met with counter-protesters. Skirmishes broke out between the groups and, about 15 minutes after the caravan left the city, a supporter of the right-



PAULA BRONSTEIN/AP

Portland police make arrests on the scene of the nightly protests at a Portland police precinct Sunday, in Portland, Ore.

wing group Patriot Prayer was fatally shot.

Patriot Prayer founder Joey Gibson identified the victim as Aaron "Jay" Danielson. He called the victim a "good friend," but provided no further details. Danielson apparently also went by the name Jay Bishop, according to Patriot Prayer's Facebook page.

"We love Jay and he had such a huge heart. God bless him and the life he lived," Gibson said in a

Facebook post.

Trump retweeted the victim's name and wrote, "Rest in peace Jay!"

It wasn't clear if the shooting was related to the clashes in Portland, which has become a flashpoint in the national Black Lives Matter protests since George Floyd was killed in May and an increasing centerpiece in Trump's law-and-order re-election campaign theme.

Late Sunday Oregon Gov. Kate Brown released details of a plan to address the violence in Portland while protecting free speech. She said the district attorney's office in Multnomah County, which includes Portland, will prosecute serious criminal offenses and the sheriff's office will work with other agencies to hold people arrested for violent behavior and ensure there is adequate jail space.

Wisconsin governor urges Trump not to visit Kenosha

BY JACLYN PEISER
The Washington Post

In a week of escalating conflict after a Kenosha, Wis., police officer shot Jacob Blake in the back, the city faced looting, arson, and a shooting at a protest that left two men dead and another seriously injured.

Now, Wisconsin Democratic Gov. Tony Evers says he worries that President Donald Trump's planned trip to Kenosha this week will inflame those tensions again. In a Sunday letter, Evers urged Trump to cancel the trip.

"I am concerned your presence will only hinder our healing," Evers wrote. "I am concerned your presence will only delay our work to overcome division and move forward together."

Despite the governor's plea, Trump still plans to visit Kenosha on Tuesday, the White House

said.

The White House has been humbled by the outreach of individuals from Kenosha who have welcomed the president's visit and are longing for leadership to support local law enforcement and businesses that have been vandalized," the White House said in a statement to The Washington Post. "President Trump looks forward to visiting on Tuesday and helping this great city heal and rebuild."

Trump has recently sought to turn the violence in Kenosha and elsewhere in his political advantage. The Washington Post reported on Sunday. The president has blamed rioting and looting at Democratic lawmakers, including Evers, and accused Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden of supporting the lawlessness, though he's repeatedly condemned destructive protests.

Trump also praised the armed civilians who have come to cities like Portland and Kenosha, where police said a 17-year-old killed two protesters on Tuesday.

On his visit to Kenosha, the White House said Trump will "survey damage from recent riots" and meet with police. It is unclear if the president plans to meet with Blake's family. Blake's lawyer, Benjamin Crump, said on "Face the Nation" Sunday that they had not yet heard from the White House. Blake's family spoke with Biden and his running mate, Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., for "about an hour," Crump said.

In his letter, Evers said a peaceful weekend in Kenosha made him optimistic that the city had moved beyond violent clashes. But Trump's visit could hinder that progress, he argued.

Police: Most of arrested at protest not from city

Associated Press

KENOSHA, Wis. — Most of the people arrested in demonstrations against police brutality since the shooting of Jacob Blake in Kenosha were not city residents, according to police.

Of the 175 people arrested during protests in Kenosha since Blake was shot in the back Aug. 23, leaving the 29-year-old Black man paralyzed, 102 have addresses outside of Kenosha, including 44 different cities, police said in a statement Sunday night.

Protesters have marched

in Kenosha every night since Blake's shooting, with some protests devolving into violence that has damaged buildings and vehicles. Authorities say a teenager from northern Illinois shot and killed two protesters in Kenosha on Tuesday night.

Many of the arrests were for curfew violations, and also included possible charges for burglary, possession of illegal drugs and carrying concealed weapons without a permit, officials said. More than 20 firearms have been seized.

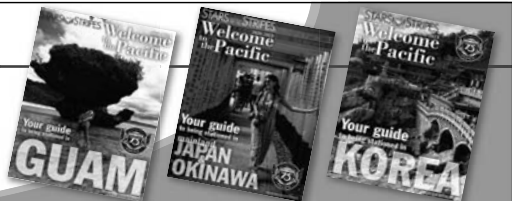
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NATION



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

A man draws an image of George Floyd during the funeral service for Floyd at The Fountain of Praise church in Houston.

Statue nominations for Trump's planned heroes garden are in

Associated Press

George Floyd. Sacagawea. The guy who invented air conditioning.

Americans' suggestions of suitable statues for President Donald Trump's planned National Garden of American Heroes are in, and they look considerably different from the predominantly white worthies that the administration has locked in for many of the pedestals. The outside nominations are more activist, browner and far more indigenous.

Well, for the most part, anyway. The administration is also leaving open the possibility of a statue of Trump himself in the Trump-created statue park after receiving what it said were "multiple nominations" of the president.

Trump ordered up the statue park during a Fourth of July speech at Mount Rushmore, and set up a task force on a 60-day deadline to get the idea going. He also muscled in a tweet that it would be a "good idea" to carve his own face into that memorial.

The task force charged with executing Trump's vision said it sent out thousands of requests to state and local officials for suggestions, both for possible sites around the country and for heroes to honor. Its findings are due to be given to Trump by Tuesday.

Many of the nominations stand in stark contrast to the list the Trump administration came up with, which mandated inclusion of a few dozen mainstream and conservative figures, from John Adams to the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman and a few other Black leaders made the Trump administration's hero list, but not anyone known for their Native American, Hispanic or Asian heritage.

Suggestions from many Republican governors, by contrast, were heavy with civil rights leaders, while many local officials pushed for a broader definition for what it

means to be a hero.

When Denver-area Douglas County Commissioner Lora Thomas got the solicitation for nominations, "For me and my fellow commissioners, it was immediately a unanimous decision."

They urged the task force to consider a statue to Kendrick Castillo, an 18-year-old high school senior shot to death last year while lunging at a gunman in his British literature class. Eight people were wounded in the attack in suburban Denver by two student gunmen at STEM School Highlands Ranch.

"A person of distinguished courage. Bravery. Good deeds. Noble," Thomas said in a phone interview, reciting the dictionary definitions of a hero. "Gosh darn it, if Kendrick Castillo isn't a hero, I don't know who is."

Lehigh County, Pa., Commissioner Amy Zanelli, meanwhile, suggested George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and other Black Americans whose killings by police sparked massive street protests.

The summer protests also spun off a debate over statues around the country honoring slaveholders and Confederates. Trump deployed federal forces to protect those monuments from protesters, embracing their defense as a law-and-order issue as he seeks reelection.

Most governors, including almost every Democrat, dismissed the Trump administration's request for suggestions, according to the Interior Department's website on Friday afternoon. It's the latest example of governors ignoring White House requests — ranging from statues, to school openings to nursing homes testing — amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"I haven't given it a moment's thought," Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly told The Associated Press. "I have other things to do." Some were highly critical of the effort as an ill-timed political

stunt. "We would encourage the White House to spend their time on the response to the coronavirus," said Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf's spokeswoman Lyndsay Kensingner.

The Trump administration said it received "robust, bipartisan responses" from around the country.

It's shame that some governors are unwilling to celebrate and recognize the significant achievements of their own residents who have heroically impacted our nation's history," Interior Department spokesman Ben Goldey said.

The list of heroes submitted by Republican governors included some obvious choices — civil rights hero Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, the first African American Supreme Court justice, and Sacagawea, the Lewis and Clark expedition's indispensable guide — that stuck out for their lack of inclusion in Trump's list.

Prominent Native Americans highlighted some state and local nominations.

"We have so much history in Montana and our country," said Yellowstone County Commissioner John Ostlund, a Republican, talking about his board's decision to nominate revered Crow Tribe leaders as well as cowboys, famous explorers and others.

"It was a conscious decision to include all sides of our history. All of the history ... I don't want to erase anything," Ostlund said.

The four federal agency heads that Trump specifically named to the heroes task force are white. Asked if that was appropriate for a diverse country, Goldey responded, "Your question is completely offensive."

Goldey stressed that the task force would not be making the final cut for heroes. He repeatedly declined to say who would be, however, including if it would be Trump making the pick.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Within President Donald Trump's campaign, some privately feared the worst heading into the national conventions.

They worried that a strong showing by Democrat Joe Biden, combined with an underwhelming performance by Trump, would lock in the certainty of a blowout loss that would essentially end the election by September.

But as the candidates move beyond trouble-free conventions and into the final phase of the 2020 election season, both sides acknowledge that the contest is tightening. And after months of running an almost entirely virtual campaign because of the pandemic, Biden has decided to launch a new phase of in-person events to help blunt any Trump gains.

"This campaign has always known that it's going to be a close race, it's going to be a tough race," Biden's senior adviser Anita Dunn said, noting that no Democratic presidential candidate has earned more than 52.9% of the vote since 1964.

She added: "It's a polarized nation, and we expect this kind of tightening."

That leaves Democrats and Republicans preparing for a 64-day sprint to the finish that is widely expected to be one of the most turbulent and chaotic periods in modern American history.

Each side cast the other as an existential threat to America's future as they offered voters starkly different versions of reality over the last two weeks of carefully scripted conventions.

Democrats attacked Trump as an incompetent racist with autocratic tendencies who is failing to protect the nation from the pandemic as he actively undermines democracy. Republicans largely ignored the pandemic while attacking Joe Biden as a senile lifetime politician controlled by his party's far-left wing and incapable of protecting suburban voters from mobs of protesters.

"America doesn't feel like one country with all the chaos and division," former Democratic presidential contender Pete Buttigieg said in an interview.

"We should be ready for literally anything in the next couple months," he said. "2020 isn't done serving up shocks and surprises."

Rarely have such dire variables loomed over the closing weeks of an election.

A pandemic that has already killed 180,000 Americans shows little sign of slowing. A scourge has pushed 28 million onto the unemployment rolls with

tens of thousands of businesses feared permanently closed. Continued police violence against unarmed Black people has sparked sweeping civil rights protests and new incidents of protest-related violence on the streets.

There are the natural disasters: A hurricane pummeled the Gulf Coast last week, massive forest fires are burning California and powerful derecho winds slammed Iowa's farming industry.

And what worries government watchdogs the most: Trump has been openly undermining the integrity of the election by raising unfounded concerns about voting by mail in order to avoid long waits at polling places during the pandemic.

Amid the chaos, Miles Taylor, a lifetime Republican who previously served as chief of staff in a Biden administration's Department of Homeland Security, warned there is nothing that the Republican president will not do or say to defeat Biden.

"Put nothing past Donald Trump," Taylor told The Associated Press. "He will do anything to win. If that means climbing over other people, climbing over his own people or climbing over U.S. law, he will do it. People are right to be concerned."

Among the many crises shaping the fall campaign, racial tensions have emerged as a critical factor that could decide Trump's fate.

Trump's campaign believes it is benefiting from sometimes violent protests in Wisconsin that followed a white police officer shooting Jacob Black, a Black man, seven times, leaving him paralyzed. The president has repeatedly cast protesters as angry mobs of African American victims. He plans to visit the site of the latest violence aimed at strengthening Trump's diminished standing with older voters and suburban women.

As part of his "law and order" message, Trump has consistently sided with police over their African American victims. He plans to visit the site of the latest violent clash, Kenosha, Wis., on Tuesday.

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King III likened Trump's rhetoric on race — and his party's efforts to make it more difficult to vote this fall — to the efforts of Republican leaders like Richard Nixon prior to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. It's unclear if 2020 America will have as much tolerance for the message that resonated a half century ago.

"It's just straight racism," King said of Trump's rhetoric and record. "The hands of the clock are going backwards."

Uncertainty marks final stretches of drive for presidency

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Memorial recalls 2019 tornado that killed 23

AL BEAUREGARD — A new memorial in Beauregard remembers the nearly two dozen people killed when a deadly tornado swept through the east Alabama county last year.

The names and images of the 23 victims who died during the storm are etched into main layer of the stone monument, WSFA reports. The second layer is dedicated to the first responders and volunteers. At the top is a cross and the saying, Beauregard Strong, an expression that the community used to rally together as they rebuilt from the storm.

"It's so beautiful, Tyessa Hart, who lost her 8-year-old daughter Mykhayla, told the station. "It gives me peace and solace."

The monument was constructed at Providence Baptist Church

White woman slapped Black child, used slur

FL BOCA RATON — A white woman is facing felony child abuse charges after police said she slapped an 11-year-old Black child and called him a racist slur after his go-kart bumped hers at a Florida amusement park.

Boca Raton police said in court records that Haley Zager, 30, and the boy were driving go-karts at the Boomers amusement park Saturday night when they accidentally collided. They said Zager confronted the child after the ride and, in the presence of three Boomers employees, slapped him in the face, using a racist slur to justify the strike to bystanders.

Court records said Zager admitted to officers that she struck the child, who had a swollen eye but denied using the slur. Police said they also found a container of pills in her underwear and charged her with illegal possession of prescription drugs.

Commuter bus slams into divider, 16 hurt

NY NEW YORK — A commuter bus slammed into a divider at New York City's main bus terminal on Saturday, injuring 16 people including one critically, the fire department said.

The New Jersey Transit bus crashed on an upper ramp at the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan, tossing passengers around and causing major damage to the vehicle's front end.

"There were multiple patients laying on the floor, around the vehicle and then multiple patients that were then trapped inside of the vehicle," EMS Deputy Chief Kevin Ramdayal said.

Eleven people were taken to hospitals for treatment, including one person who Ramdayal said had "severely critical" injuries. Others were treated at the scene.

The bus appeared to be leaving the terminal when it crashed, officials said. No other vehicles were involved, and the crash caused the temporary closure of all New Jersey-bound lanes of the Lincoln Tunnel.



VICKI VELLOSO BRINER, THE (HARRISBURG, PA.) PATRIOT-NEWS/AP

Like father, like son

Ray Davies, left, of Holden, Maine cleans his '82 Corvette while his son Robert Davies of Newton, Pa., cleans his '72 Corvette LT-1 during the annual Corvettes at Carlisle event in Carlisle, Pa.

Shortage of wood halts boardwalk re-decking

MD OCEAN CITY — Ocean City is postponing plans to re-deck its iconic boardwalk because of a lumber shortage caused by the coronavirus outbreak.

The Daily Times of Salisbury reported that the boardwalk, which stretches over 30 blocks, is typically re-decked every 10 years or so.

When city workers began making inquiries to potential suppliers, they learned that it might cost double the \$468,000 that had been budgeted for the first half of the project.

Lumber prices have more than doubled since April, as the coronavirus prompted both a supply shortage and a spike in demand as people stuck at home embarked on home-improvement projects. Tariffs on Canadian lumber have also contributed to the price increase, experts said.

Suspect arrested in \$1M poker champion theft

NV LAS VEGAS — Authorities in Nevada have arrested an Arizona woman on suspicion of stealing about \$1 million in cash, gambling chips and jewelry from an international poker champion and his father.

Svitlana Silva, 46, was charged with residential burglary and possession of stolen property valued at \$100,000 or more, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.

THE CENSUS

\$7K

The approximate amount a dog cost Mississippi county officials when it chewed a fiber optic cable to pieces. The cable connected a courthouse and a nearby Justice Court building in Amite County, Tim Wroten, the county's sheriff, told the Enterprise-Journal. The wire was mostly elevated but dipped to the ground by the front door of the Justice Court building, where the dog chewed it. The culprit was not caught in the act, but officials saw "his running mate" through the security camera, Wroten said.

Las Vegas police reported that poker champion Antonio Esfandiari and his father Bejan Esfandiari called authorities July 14 to report that several valuables were missing from their safe at their Panoramas Towers condominium near the Strip, including \$150,000 in cash and up to \$500,000 in poker chips.

Silva lived with Bejan Esfandiari on and off for several months and had been left alone in the condo multiple times, according to the police report. She also had regularly used his iPhone and iPad which had similar passwords to the key code on the safe, Bejan Esfandiari said.

Police said Silva used the cash and chips to gamble in high-stakes poker games and was tracked to a parking garage in Aria where she was arrested.

Shirtless man with spear cuts teen

NY NEW YORK — A shirtless man wielding a homemade spear sliced a 15-year-old boy in the forehead Friday in a brazen attack in New

York City's Times Square, police said.

Roland Pacheco, 52, is undergoing a psychiatric evaluation while awaiting arraignment in a Manhattan court on assault, weapon possession and menacing charges.

Pacheco fled after attacking the boy, who was hospitalized and treated with stitches, only to be caught slashing tires a few blocks away, police said.

Officers used a stun gun to subdue Pacheco after he started swinging the weapon — a pocket knife attached to a broomstick — at them, police said.

Woman mauled to death by dog, man hospitalized

FL MARGATE — Officials in Florida said an 84-year-old woman was mauled to death by her dog while a man was hospitalized with serious injuries.

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported the elderly woman Carolyn Varanese was pronounced dead at the scene while Joseph Varanese, 57, was taken to North-

west Medical Center in Margate, Fla., a Fort Lauderdale suburb.

The dog is now in the custody of the Broward County Animal Care and Adoption Center as police investigate the cause of the late Friday attack.

The dog's breed was not specified.

Streets to be named for 14 fallen Guard soldiers

ND BISMARCK — Streets in a housing development east of Bismarck have been dedicated to honor fallen North Dakota National Guard soldiers.

The Bismarck Tribune reported the streets will be named after 14 soldiers in the Clear Sky Addition.

Maj. Gen. Alan Dohrmann of the North Dakota National Guard and Sen. Kevin Cramer spoke at the ceremony Friday, which was hosted by Bismarck Mayor Steve Bakken.

Matt Geiger of Geiger Construction and Development said the development in the future will be home to Heroes Park, a public facility that will include a monument to the soldiers.

The ceremony and dedication of the streets are examples of ways to prevent a soldier's name from "fading off in the distance," said Harriet Goodiron. Her son, Cpl. Nathan Goodiron, of Mandaree, was killed in Afghanistan in 2006.

From wire reports

WORLD

1st direct Israel-UAE flight lands

By ARON HELLER
Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — A Star of David-adorned El Al plane has landed in Abu Dhabi after flying in from Israel, carrying a high-ranking American and Israeli delegation in the first-ever direct commercial passenger flight to the United Arab Emirates.

The Israeli flag carrier's flight Monday marks the implementation of the historic U.S.-brokered deal to normalize relations between the two nations and solidifies long-clandestine ties that have evolved over years of shared enmity toward Iran.

With the U.S. as matchmaker, Israel and the UAE agreed earlier this month to work toward normalization, which would make the UAE the third Arab nation to have full relations with Israel, after Egypt and Jordan.

Monday's three hour, 20 minute flight saw the El Al plane fly through Saudi airspace and over the Kingdom's capital, Riyadh.

That signals the possibility the kingdom could regularly allow these flights, which would make them viable commercially. Otherwise, flights would need to take seven hours to detour, burning



NIR ELIAS, POOL/AP

Israeli National Security Advisor Meir Ben-Shabbat, from left, U.S. President Donald Trump's senior adviser Jared Kushner and U.S. National Security Advisor Robert O'Brien board the Israeli flag carrier El Al's airliner at Ben-Gurion International Airport, near Tel Aviv, Israel on Monday.

more jet fuel.

The American delegation includes President Donald Trump's senior adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner, as well as national security adviser Robert O'Brien, Mideast envoy Avi Berkowitz and envoy for Iran Brian Hook. Is-

rael was represented by national security adviser Meir Ben-Shabbat and the director generals of several ministries, who will meet with their Emirati counterparts.

"While this is a historic flight, we hope that this will start an even more historic journey for

the Middle East and beyond," Kushner told reporters before boarding the plane.

Ben-Shabbat said he was excited about the trip and that the aim was to lay the groundwork for cooperation in areas like tourism, medicine, technology and trade.

Thousands trapped after train troubles in France

PARIS — Thousands of passengers were trapped overnight on high-speed TGV trains halted by electrical problems in southwestern France, some pleading for water, food or fresh air.

Frustrated travelers raised attention to their plight on social networks, posting images of children sleeping on floors and describing the challenge of staying masked for as much as 20 hours.

Several people were evacuated for medical reasons, broadcaster France-Info reported Monday.

National rail authority SNCF announced problems on multiple routes starting Sunday afternoon, including a "major electrical supply failure" that required extensive repair efforts.

770-pound crocodile caught in Australia

DARWIN, Australia — Wildlife rangers have trapped a 14.5-foot saltwater crocodile at a tourist destination in Australia's Northern Territory, the biggest caught in the area in years, a wildlife ranger said Monday.

The 770-pound male was caught in the Flora River at a remote nature park 75 miles southwest of the Outback town of Katherine, said Katherine senior wildlife ranger John Burke.

25 poisoned, 5 critical, at illegal Norway rave

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Some 25 people taking part in an illegal rave in a bunker in the Norwegian capital, Oslo, were poisoned by carbon monoxide given off by portable generators, police said.

Five people — including two police officers who were first on the scene — were hospitalized in critical condition but their lives are not in danger, the Norwegian news agency NTB said. Two of the five were released from intensive care on Monday, NTB reported.

Up to 200 partygoers had gathered for the rave.

From The Associated Press

Diplomat tapped to be Lebanese PM vows reforms

Associated Press

BEIRUT — A Lebanese diplomat was appointed to form a new government on Monday after winning the backing of major political parties in the crisis-hit country, which is still reeling from a devastating explosion that killed and wounded thousands of people.

President Michel Aoun asked Lebanon's ambassador to Ger-

many, Mustapha Adib, to form a new government after he secured 90 votes among the legislators in the 128-member parliament.

The consultations were being held hours before French President Emmanuel Macron was due to arrive for a two-day visit, during which he is expected to press Lebanese officials to formulate a new political pact to lift the country out of its multiple crises. At least 190 people died and 6,000

were injured in the Aug. 4 blast, which devastated the city's port and caused widespread damage to residential and commercial areas in the capital.

The government resigned less than a week after the blast.

Adib told reporters his number one priority will be to quickly form a government able to implement crucial reforms to regain the trust of the Lebanese and international community.

He said he will form a Cabinet of experts and will work with parliament to "put the country on track of improvement and to end the dangerous financial, economic and social drainage."

"The opportunity in front of our country is narrow, and the mission that I accepted is based on all political groups knowing that. The government should be formed very quickly," he added.

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STARS AND STRIPES
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WORLD

India says Chinese made moves close to disputed border

Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India — India said Monday that its soldiers thwarted “provocative” military movements by China’s military near a disputed border in the Ladakh region months into the rival nations’ deadliest standoff in decades.

Local military commanders from the two countries were meeting along the disputed frontier on Monday to resolve the issues, India’s defense ministry said. It said India was committed to dialogue, “but is also equally determined to protect its territorial integrity.”

The statement said China’s People’s Liberation Army on Saturday night “carried out provocative military movements to change the status quo” and “violated the previous consensus arrived at during military and diplomatic engagements” to set-

tle the standoff in the cold-desert region.

In Beijing, foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said border forces were communicating over recent matters but gave no details.

“Chinese border troops always act in strict compliance with the Line of Actual Control, and have never crossed the line for any activities,” Zhao told reporters at a daily briefing.

India’s defense ministry issued its statement after a gap of a day and did not give details of the nature of the new actions.

The statement said Indian troops “undertook measures to strengthen our positions and thwart Chinese intentions to unilaterally change facts on ground.”

It said the activity took place on the southern bank of Pangong



MUKHTAR KHAN/AP

An Indian army convoy moves on the Srinagar-Ladakh highway at Gangeer, northeast of Srinagar, India, earlier this summer.

Lake, a glacial lake divided by the de facto frontier between the rivals and where the India-China faceoff began in early May.

The disputed and unmarked 2,175-mile border between India and China stretches from the Ladakh region in the north to the Indian state of Sikkim. The two Asia giants fought a border war in 1962 that also spilled into Ladakh. The two countries have been trying to settle their border dispute since the early 1990s, without success.

The ongoing standoff high in the Karakoram mountains is over disputed portions of a pristine

landscape that boasts the world’s highest landing strip, a glacier that feeds one of the largest irrigation systems in the world, and a critical link to China’s massive “Belt and Road” infrastructure project.

The faceoff began at three places. Soldiers at Pangong Lake ignored repeated verbal warnings, triggering a yelling match, stone-throwing and even fist-fights. By June, it escalated and spread north in Depsang and Galwan Valley, where India has built an all-weather military road along the disputed frontier.

Saudis, allies foil attacks by Houthis

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — The Saudi-led coalition allied with Yemen’s government said Monday that it foiled two attacks launched by Iran-backed Houthi rebels, including an explosives-laden boat dispatched into the Red Sea near international shipping lanes.

Coalition spokesman Col. Turki al-Malki said in a statement that the remotely controlled boat was spotted late Sunday.

Yemeni officials said a blast killed at least three people and wounded five others.

Al-Malki described the attempted boat attack as a “terrorist attack” threatening commercial shipping routes in the vital Bab al-Mandeb strait, used for oil shipments from the Gulf to Europe and goods from Asia to Europe.

He said the coalition also intercepted and destroyed a drone carrying explosives over the Abha international airport in southwestern Saudi Arabia on Sunday. He said some of the debris from the drone fell on the airport but caused no casualties or damage, according to Saudi Arabia’s state-run news agency.

Stripes

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Transportation
944

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FACES

Gaga doesn't mask concerns

Singer encourages compliance while winning 5 VMA trophies

By MESFIN FEKAAD
Associated Press

Lady Gaga cleaned house at the 2020 MTV Video Music Awards, while The Weeknd took home the top prize — and both pop stars sent important messages to viewers about the current state of the world: “Wear a mask” and “Justice for Jacob Blake and Breonna Taylor.”

Gaga won five honors Sunday, most of them for her No. 1 hit with Ariana Grande, “Rain on Me,” which the pop stars performed live for the first time.

“Wear a mask. It’s a sign of respect,” Gaga said during one of her several appearances onstage as she accepted awards like artist and song of the year.

Gaga performed a medley of her songs, including “Stupid Love,” chronically “911.” She and Grande were joined by a

number of background dancers all wearing masks.

The Weeknd, the first performer of the night, paid tribute to Blake and Taylor — two Black people who were shot by police officers — after winning video of the year and best R&B for “Blinding Lights.”

“It’s really hard for me to celebrate right now and enjoy this moment, so I’m just going to say: justice for Jacob Blake and justice for Breonna Taylor,” he said. The VMAs kicked off with another touching moment, as host Keke Palmer told viewers the show was dedicated to Chadwick Boseman, who died Aug. 28 after privately battling colon cancer for four years at age 43.

“We dedicate tonight’s show to a man whose spirit touches so many. He’s a true hero, not just on-screen,” Palmer said. “His



MTV/AP

Shown in a video grab, Ariana Grande, left, and Lady Gaga perform “Rain On Me” on Sunday during the MTV Video Music Awards. Three of Gaga’s five awards were for the No. 1 hit.

impact lives forever.”

The Black Eyed Peas, who closed the two-hour-plus show with Nicky Jam and Tyga, ended their set by saying, “Black Lives Matter.” And R&B star H.E.R. won the video for good award for her protest anthem about police brutality and systemic racism, “I Can’t Breathe.”

“I’m super proud of everybody speaking out on social injustice,” H.E.R. said.

But most of the show was dedicated to fun performances

— some pre-taped, some filmed in various locations in New York City.

Pop all-stars BTS, who won four awards including best pop and best group, were top-notch during a pre-taped performance, which featured their signature, skilled choreography. The seven band members danced and sang in sharp suits, at some points with the backdrop of Times Square behind them.

Grande tied BTS with four wins. Her No. 1 duet with Justin

Bieber, “Stuck with U,” won best music video from home — one of two new awards MTV established as artists have made shifts because of the pandemic. CNCO won best quarantine performance for “MTV Unplugged at Home.”

Megan Thee Stallion won best hip-hop for “Savage” and Taylor Swift won best direction for “The Man.” Maluma of Colombia won best Latin singer, and Doja Cat was named Push best new artist.

See videos and full results online at mtv.com/vma.

Chadwick Boseman didn't just play icons; he was one

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

The image that keeps replaying in my head since the death of Chadwick Boseman is from early 2018. It was just days before “Black Panther” opened in theaters and the exhilaration aroused by this long-incoming cultural event was everywhere around Boseman. Flocked by fans, he repeatedly paused for pictures until he was handed a 6-month-old Black child whom he gently held, beaming.

Boseman’s family said that the actor, who died Aug. 28 at the age of 43, was first diagnosed with colon cancer in 2016. Did he know when he held that baby that he might not live long enough to see a child of his own raised? Did he know that in playing Jackie Robinson, James Brown, Thurgood Marshall and “Challa” — in so gracefully filling the screen with the dignity of Black lives — that he was helping to cradle another generation?

In a tragically brief but historically sweeping life as an actor, Boseman played men of public life and private pain. Before Friday, we didn’t know he, too, was bearing such a burden. That has only magnified his accomplishment, bringing him closer to the great figures whose shoes he wore on film. He played men who advanced a people’s progress, a trail he helped blaze himself. He played icons, and died one, too.

“There’s a lot to learn from Jackie Robinson. There’s a lot to learn from James Brown. There’s a lot to learn from Thurgood Marshall.” Boseman said that day 2½ years ago. “I would like to say that

APPRECIATION

some of those qualities have infused themselves into me at this point.”

Boseman started out as a playwright. He was raised in the manufacturing town of Anderson, S.C., the youngest of three boys. As a junior in high school, he wrote and staged a play inspired by the shooting death of a basketball teammate. Before he was a Hollywood star, he penned numerous hip-hop-infused plays: “Hieroglyphic Graffiti,” “Rhyme Deferred,” “Deep Azure” — and directed others. In New York, he performed with the National Shakespeare Company.

He compared his alma mater, Howard University, to his own personal Wakanda. “If you have a blanketed idea of what it means to be of African descent and you go to Howard University, you’re meeting people from all over the diaspora — from the Caribbean, any country in Africa, in Europe,” Boseman said. “So you’re seeing people from all walks of life that look like you, but they sound different.”

That early development of an expansive, historical understanding of African American identity surely fed the grace and humility of Boseman’s most famous roles. It wasn’t until he was in his mid-30s, after a handful of brief television appearances, that he landed his first leading role as Robinson in “42.” He was, from the start, a self-evident movie star with a rare, effortless charisma. Rachel Robinson, the Hall of Famer’s widow, said it was like seeing her husband again. Boseman’s power wasn’t asked for or



AP

Chadwick Boseman, shown arriving at the Academy Awards in 2018 in Los Angeles, died Aug. 28 after a four-year battle with colon cancer. He was 43.

worked up to. It was innate. It was there already. “When I hit the stage, people better be ready,” he says in “Get on Up.” “Especially the white folk.”

During the filming of “Black Panther,” Boseman said he was communicating with two boys who had terminal cancer. They were hoping to make it long enough to see the film. “I realized they anticipated something great,” Boseman said in a SiriusXM interview. The kids, Boseman said through tears, didn’t make it. But in his unjustly short career, Boseman held in his hands a world, illuminated on screen like never before.

‘Tenet’ theatrical debut a success

From wire reports

As Hollywood aims to relaunch moviegoing worldwide, Christopher Nolan’s highly anticipated “Tenet” earned more than \$53 million in its opening weekend across 41 international markets (including 32 in Europe, the Middle East and Africa) on more than 20,000 screens.

The result was the biggest opening for the director in nine countries including Holland, Ukraine and Hungary, the biggest industry opening in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with \$1.47 million and the second-biggest Hollywood film opening in Estonia, where the film was partially shot, with \$340,000 grossed over the weekend.

Nolan’s film represents the first blockbuster hopeful to be released during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

The sci-fi mind-bender begins U.S. sneak preview screenings Monday night, in areas where indoor theaters are open, ahead of an official opening on Thursday for Labor Day weekend.

After numerous release-date delays and savage reviews, 20th Century Studios’ “The New Mutants,” a spinoff of the long-running “X-Men” franchise, opened to \$7 million in 2,412 locations this weekend, which was enough to top the domestic box office. It added \$2.9 million in 10 international territories for a global debut of \$9.9 million, according to estimates from Comscore. Disney inherited the film in its takeover of 20th Century Fox.

More than 2,500 theaters were open this weekend in the U.S., and the number hits 3,000 with Canada included, per Comscore. That is nearly 50% of all locations open in the U.S. and Canada during the same period in 2019.

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



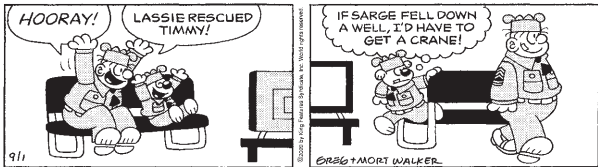
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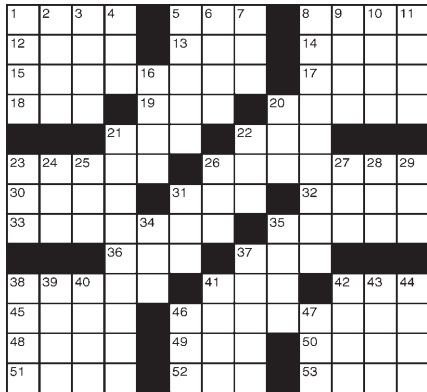
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



- ACROSS
1 Nada
5 "Today" rival, briefly
8 Ump's call
12 Persia, today
13 Tease
14 Here (Sp.)
15 Wrestling duos
17 "Breaking Bad" actress Anna
18 Terre Haute sch.
19 Roman 16
20 Tint
21 Method
22 M. Farrow
23 "Vamoosel"
26 Talkative birds
30 Couturier Cassini
31 Vacuum's lack
32 Use the oven
33 Alternative to calling
35 Wrinkle-reducing injection
36 Stable diet?
37 In favor of
38 Smith of "After Earth"
41 Bit of wit
42 Clean air org.
45 "Metamorphoses" poet
46 Judicial silencer
48 Jules Verne captain
49 Hosp. section 50 "La Dolce —"
51 Actor Kinnear
52 "My word!"
53 Wild guess
- DOWN
1 Tubular pasta
2 Eventful periods
3 Prego rival
4 Toronto's prov.
5 Turkey din — ner sauce
6 "La Boheme" role
7 Tummy muscles
8 2009 novel by Colson Whitehead
9 Blue hue
10 Pay for
11 Aachen article
16 Physical
20 Knight's address
21 1997 Dustin Hoffman/Robert De Niro film
22 Blemish
23 Drunkard
24 Browns, on scoreboards
- 25 "Toy Story" dinosaur
26 Potbellied pet
27 Feedbag tidbit
28 Ring decision
29 Gender
31 Whatever
34 007 creator Fleming
35 U2 lead singer
37 Bach com — position
38 "Fear of Flying" novelist Erica
39 Say it's so
40 Ten-cent piece
41 Marathoner's tempo
42 Redact
43 Anti-fur org.
44 Bedouin
46 Showbiz job
47 Motor homes

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	A	B		M	G	M		Q	U	A	D		
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Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals C

STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

Federal response to disasters expected

By ANDREW MORRIS
Special To The Washington Post

Even before Hurricane Laura surged through Louisiana and Arkansas last month, disaster policy veterans warned that federal response might be hobbled by a Federal Emergency Management Agency stretched to the limits by its front-line role in the coronavirus pandemic, California wildfires and damaging storms in Iowa.

While FEMA Administrator Peter Gagnor has sought to portray the federal agency as playing a "support role," with local and state emergency management taking the lead in disasters, it's also clear that most Americans have come to expect that the federal government will be there for them to respond to a disaster like Laura. And as President George W. Bush learned after Hurricane Katrina, there is a severe political cost to pay when the government fails to meet those expectations.

Questions about the role of the federal government in American disaster relief policy have roots in another hurricane tragedy that took place over 50 years ago.

On the night of Aug. 17, 1969, Hurricane Camille's nearly 200 mph winds drove a storm surge of up to 20 feet smack into the Mississippi Gulf Coast and coastal Louisiana. One of only three Category 5 hurricanes to hit the U.S. mainland in the 20th century, Camille killed more than 140 people in Mississippi. Another 113 died when the storm, downgraded to a tropical depression, triggered flash floods and mudslides in central Virginia.

The storm, which was smaller but more powerful than Hurricane Katrina, firmly shifted disaster relief from states, localities and the Red Cross to the federal government. Today, victims of major disasters expect that the federal government through FEMA will be there to help them rebuild their lives, a sentiment that we can trace to changes in the law brought about by Hurricane Camille and its aftermath.

It was a Democratic senator from Indiana who actually championed the idea that the federal government, not the states or volunteer organizations, would come to the relief of its citizens during natural disasters.

Sen. Birch Bayh had been pushing for a permanent federal disaster aid program since 1965, when the Palm Sunday tornadoes struck six Midwestern states, killing 137 and injuring 1,200 in Indiana alone.

Help for Hoosier residents was very limited.

"The state had a rudimentary, Band-Aid kind of thing," Bayh told me later. "... But they were limited compared to the great purse strings of Uncle Sam."

As President Lyndon Johnson launched his Great Society initiatives, Bayh also envisioned a greater federal role for helping disaster victims. He was further encouraged by the fact that Congress had passed a special law for extensive federal aid to the victims of the 1964 Alaska earthquake and would soon do the same for the victims of Hurricane Betsy.

Bayh's constituents, however, did not receive this sort of help from the federal government. The tradition of federalism in disaster relief, the lobbying of the Red Cross to retain its role in providing for disaster victims and the preferences of some in Congress to respond ad hoc to disasters (thus building up political capital with their grateful, disaster-struck colleagues), all worked against an expansive and permanent federal disaster safety net.

Four years later, however, Camille changed that policy conversation. Pragmatic politics and a desire to deliver much-needed aid to constituents propelled



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump, Vice President Mike Pence and Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Peter Gagnor listen during a Hurricane Laura briefing at FEMA headquarters in Washington.

the powerful Gulf Coast congressional delegation into action. Mississippians and Louisianians wrote their senators and representatives, pleading for federal aid and comparing their plight to the costs of the Vietnam War and the recent Apollo 11 mission.

One resident in the small Mississippi town of Waveland wrote Sen. James Eastland, D-Miss., chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, that the government should "use this moon landing monkey business spending to make our people decent here on earth."

Eastland and two other conservative segregationist Mississippi Democrats — Sen. John Stennis, chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Rep. William Colmer, chair of the House Rules Committee — were joined by House Majority Whip Hale Boggs of Louisiana. Together, they marshaled support from their colleagues for a bill specifically for Camille victims a few weeks after the storm.

Their efforts were also boosted by the endorsement of President Richard M. Nixon. Eager to burnish the president's credentials with conservative Southerners, Nixon's aides convinced him to stop on the coast on the way back from his summer sojourn at the Western White House, Nixon's California vacation retreat, in September.

The first president to visit Mississippi since Franklin Roosevelt, Nixon was met by an audience of thousands of rapturous Mississippians — one sign read "NOT MANY REPUBLICANS HERE BUT LOTS OF NIXONCRATS."

And yet, despite widespread political support for relief, the legislation for Camille victims still fell short of the permanent national policy that Bayh had envisioned. But the politics of disaster relief once again shifted that fall thanks to the work of local and national civil rights activists, who protested the way that the relief effort extended the segregation and discrimination they had been fighting in Mississippi for decades.

With Gov. John Bell Williams, the last openly segregationist governor of the state, heading state efforts, and with local Red Cross agencies dominated by white Southerners, there were plenty of examples of Black and poor victims of Camille being treated unfairly.

Activists revealed injustices ranging from state officials segregating buses car-

rying evacuees from the coast, to the Red Cross policy of restoring disaster victims only to the status quo ante — meaning, if your house didn't have indoor plumbing before the storm, you would still be stuck with an outhouse even after your house was rebuilt. In fall 1969, a report by the American Friends Service Committee publicized these problems, generating a firestorm of criticism about the discriminatory policy advanced at the state level and even by volunteer organizations.

The solution? A federal policy that ensured equal treatment to all recipients, and Bayh happened to have one.

Bayh's proposal offered a program of ongoing federal disaster aid that satisfied both liberal and conservative demands. It was more equitable but also offered the leadership of such states as Mississippi the promise of subsidized reconstruction of coastal economies the next time a hurricane struck.

As Stennis said in support of Bayh's bill, "It will give assurance to financial investors and bonds and the insurance problems and a great many other matters."

Civil rights and Sun Belt development were, for a moment, able to coexist in the bipartisan glow of disaster policy. As a result, the Disaster Relief Act of 1970 significantly raised Americans' expectations that the government would be there for them in times of disaster.

As Bayh said when he introduced the legislation, "I think the time has come when we should treat the citizens of this country more compassionately when they are hit by a disaster."

Among other policies still with us today, the act created the Disaster Unemployment Assistance program for disaster victims, the pot of money recently raided by the Trump administration to attempt to patch part of the hole left by the failure to negotiate an extension of the federal pandemic unemployment benefits.

Revised and expanded over the years, and paired with the newly created FEMA in 1979, the law has placed the federal government squarely in the middle of 21st-century disaster politics and policy — a framework now being tested by repeated disasters in 2020.

Andrew Morris is associate professor of history at Rutgers University in Connecticut, N.J., and the author of a book on Hurricane Camille and the politics of disaster relief, forthcoming with the University of Pennsylvania Press.

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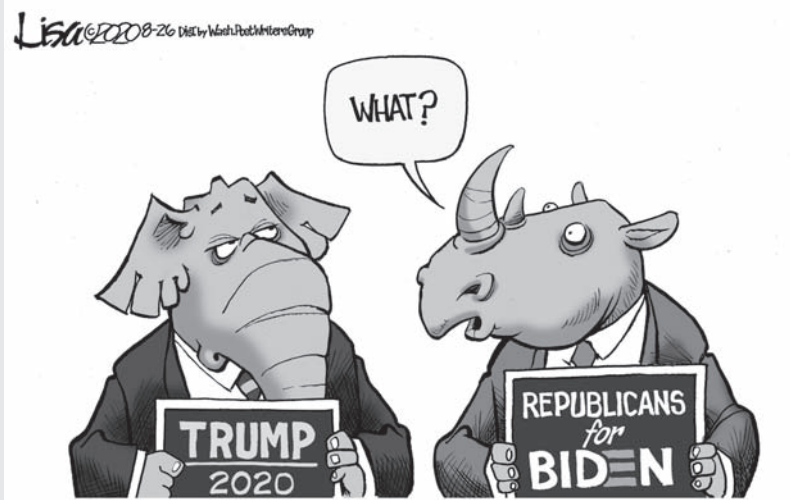
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Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



SPORTS BRIEFS/NFL

Briefly

Wheeling, dealing Padres bolster rotation, acquire Clevinger from Indians

Associated Press

The San Diego Padres acquired Mike Clevinger in a multiplayer deal with the Cleveland Indians on Monday, bolstering their rotation with another bold move ahead of baseball's trade deadline.

San Diego got Clevinger, outfielder Greg Allen and a player to be named from Cleveland for a package of young players that included outfielder Josh Naylor, right-hander Cal Quantrill and catcher Austin Hedges.

Led by Fernando Tatis Jr., San Diego is going for its first playoff appearance since 2006. The acquisition of Clevinger to the Padres' fifth trade since Saturday.

San Diego acquired veteran catchers Jason Castro and Austin Nola in a pair of deals Sunday, making Hedges expendable. First baseman Mitch Moreland came over in a trade with Boston, and the Padres added reliever Trevor Rosenthal in a deal with Kansas City.

The 29-year-old Clevinger strengthens a rotation that has had a few stumbles lately, including Garrett Richards going two or fewer innings in consecutive starts and opening-day starter Chris Paddack struggling before bouncing back with a strong performance on Sunday at Colorado.

Clevinger went 13-4 with a 2.71 ERA in 21 starts last year. The long-haired right-hander also is contractually controlled through the 2022 season.

Cleveland is in the mix for the AL Central title, but Clevinger may have wore out his welcome when he was caught breaking COVID-19 protocols a couple weeks ago, leading to a trip to the team's alternate training site.

Clevinger and teammate Zach Plesac left the team's Chicago hotel, socialized outside the team's "bubble," missed curfew and caused a rift inside the clubhouse. Clevinger returned to Cleveland's rotation on Wednesday, pitching six effective innings in a victory over Minnesota.

Clevinger is the third front-line starter traded away by Cleveland in the past year. Trevor Bauer was shipped off to Cincinnati at the 2019 deadline, and two-time Cy Young Award winner Corey Kluber to Texas in December.

The Indians also got infielder Gabriel Arias, left-hander Joey Cantillo and infielder Owen Miller in the Clevinger deal.

All-Star shortstop Francisco Lindor's future looms over the Cleveland franchise. He has turned down several contract extensions since the 2018 season but acknowledged it can't compete with what other teams can offer him as a free agent.

Lindor is under contractual control through 2021, so the Indians have to weigh chasing a World Series title — they haven't won since the 1954 — with deals for the popular star before he walks.



TONY DEAK/AP

The San Diego Padres acquired Indians pitcher Mike Clevinger, pictured, outfielder Greg Allen and a player to be named from Cleveland for a package of young players on Monday.

Ewan slaloms to sprint win; Alaphilippe leads

SISTERON, France — Australian rider Caleb Ewan slalomed through the bunch to win a sprint finish and claim the third stage of the Tour de France on Monday.

Julian Alaphilippe held onto the yellow jersey that he claimed with a dramatic stage victory a day earlier.

With about 100 meters to go, Ewan trailed five other riders before slinging himself through a narrow slice of road near the advertising barriers. Then — after more than five hours in the saddle — Ewan darted to the left to overcome Sam Bennett and claim his fourth career stage win in the Tour by more than a wheel.

Ewan's top speed in the finale reached 42.7 mph.

Bennett crossed second and Nizzolo came third — both with the same time as Ewan.

16 players will sit out next Auburn practices

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn expected to return to practice Monday minus 16 players sidelined after positive COVID-19 tests.

Coach Gus Malzahn said Sunday night that the Tigers had five positives early in the week and four more after additional testing Thursday. With contact tracing, seven others who had close contact with them face a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

"We had two position groups where we did not have enough guys," coach Gus Malzahn said Sunday night.

Malzahn said players didn't want to attend meetings Thursday after the police shooting of Jacob Blake in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

The Tigers are scheduled to open the season on Sept. 26 against Kentucky.

Jaguars waive RB Fournette

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Jaguars moved another step closer to purging Tom Coughlin's tumultuous tenure in Jacksonville.

The team waived running back Leonard Fournette on Monday, a stunning decision many outsiders view as the latest in a series of head scratches that could help the franchise tank the season and get the No. 1 draft pick.

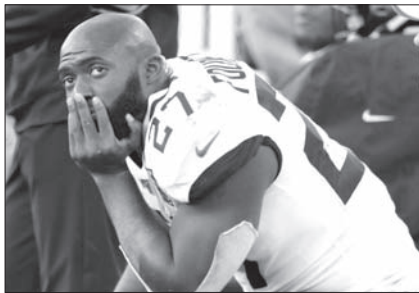
"If that's the case, then the re-allocation is if that happens, then I'm not going to be here," coach Doug Marrone said. "At the end of the day, if I don't win enough games or do enough with this team, I don't foresee me still being employed. I'm doing everything I can to make sure we have the best team to make sure we win football games. That's as simple as I can be on it."

Coughlin wanted Fournette as the centerpiece of his old-school, run-first philosophy. It worked in 2017, although it became clear that Fournette needed to be a better pro. He was fined repeatedly for being late and skipping mandatory functions.

The Jaguars spent months trying to trade Fournette, the fourth overall pick in the 2017 NFL draft who's coming off a career year. He was on the block during the NFL draft and again over the summer.

"We couldn't get anything, a fifth, a sixth, anything," Marrone said.

So they dumped the 25-year-old former LSU star one day after trading former Pro Bowl defensive



MARK ZALESKI/AP

After failing to find a trade partner for months, the Jacksonville Jaguars have waived 25-year-old running back Leonard Fournette, a decision that gets the team closer to purging Tom Coughlin's tenure.

end Yannick Ngakoue to Minnesota in exchange for a second-round draft pick in 2021 and a conditional fifth-rounder in 2020. Jacksonville also traded Jalen Ramsey, fellow cornerback A.J. Bouye and defensive end Calais Campbell in the last 10 months.

"It's going to fall to me as to who those best players are," Marrone said. "At the end of the day, I've got to be able to field a team that I believe gives us the best chance to win. That's what my role is and that's what I'm doing."

Still, no one expected Jacksonville to part ways with Fournette less than two weeks before the opener.

He is due \$4.17 million in guaranteed salary this season if someone claims him. If he clears waivers, he would become a free agent.

Last year was Fournette's best season. He topped 1,600 yards from scrimmage in 15 games, carrying 265 times for 1,152 yards and catching 76 passes for 522 yards. He scored only three touchdowns. He also fumbled just once in 341 touches.

Fournette has 2,631 yards rushing, 1,009 yards receiving and 19 touchdowns in three seasons since he was now-fired personnel chief Coughlin's first draft pick since returning to Jacksonville.

Step: Steelers' Watt brimming with confidence

FROM BACK PAGE

creative when it comes to team bonding.

Defensive end Cam Heyward opted to start a "Spikeball" league. The game, a mixture of volleyball and handball, pits pairs of teammates against each other.

Watt hooked up with defensive tackle Tyson Alualu and well, let's just say things have gone well.

"We are just point-blank unstoppable," Watt said with a laugh.

It's a descriptor Watt hopes applies to the Steelers defense in 2020. Watt and Dupree helped set the tone for a group that led the NFL in sacks and takeaways and with all but one starter returning, the stakes are high. Really high.

Another performance such as the one he put together last season could put Watt in line for a massive payday when the team approaches him about a contract extension next summer.

Cleveland's Myles Garrett and the Chargers' Joey Bosa both received nine-figure contracts during the summer, and Watt

has more sacks through his first three seasons (34½) than both of them.

Yet Watt demurs when pressed on what he might be looking to accomplish over the next five months.

"I'll never publish my individual goals," he said. "I just want to be able to be a game-wrecker. I want to be able to be somebody that the other team has to scheme around."

It's already happening in a way. Coach Mike Tomlin points out "Watt is a handful for one man on NFL playing surface," which in some ways can make it difficult to evaluate Okorofor and Banner's development. Most weeks, they won't be facing someone on the other side of the line of scrimmage quite like Watt.

Now, the youngest member of the Watt family is the one with the brightest future, one he isn't taking for granted. He spent most of his life trying to keep up with JJ and Derek. It taught him the discipline necessary to thrive. And that hasn't changed, no matter how brightly the spotlight might shine.

"I always had the plan that I wanted to enter the NFL," he said, "and I had the blueprint from both my brothers of just wanting to put my head down and work as hard as I possibly can."



Watt

MLB



SCOTT KANE/AP

St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Adam Wainwright threw a complete-game four-hitter on his 39th birthday in the Cardinals' 7-2 defeat of the Cleveland Indians on Sunday in St. Louis.

Roundup

Cards' Wainwright throws 4-hitter on his 39th birthday

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS—Adam Wainwright turned back the clock with a complete game on his 39th birthday as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Cleveland Indians 7-2 on Sunday.

Wainwright threw a four-hitter for his 23rd career complete game and first in four years. The Cardinals snapped a four-game skid in which they scored six total runs.

Dexter Fowler homered and had three RBIs for St. Louis, which stopped Cleveland's four-game winning streak. The Indians had won nine in a row on the road.

Wainwright (3-0) settled in after allowing Taylor Naquin's two-run homer in the second inning. The right-hander struck out nine and walked two, going the distance for the first time since July 2016 against the Marlins. He threw 122 pitches, most in the majors this season, and gave a much-needed breather to a Cardinals bullpen that worked 15²/₃ innings in the previous two games.

Dodgers 7, Rangers 2: Cody Bellinger and Los Angeles set the National League record for home runs in a month, powering its way to a win at Texas.

Bellinger's two-run drive gave the Dodgers 57 long balls in August after solo shots from Corey Seager and Will Smith.

White Sox 5, Royals 2 (10): Prized rookie Luis Robert hit his first game-ending homer, a three-run drive in the 10th inning that lifted Chicago to a win over visiting Kansas City.

Dane Dunning threw five no-hit innings before being pulled from his second major league start, and the surging White Sox won for the 11th time in 13 games

to move into a first-place tie with Cleveland in the AL Central.

Rays 12, Marlins 7: Willy Adames hit a grand slam, helping surging Tampa Bay finish a three-game sweep at Miami.

Joey Wendle, Yoshi Tsutsugo and Kevin Kiermaier also went deep for the Rays, who have won 12 of their last 14 to move an American League-best 13 games over .500.

Giants 4, Diamondbacks 1: Johnny Cueto pitched effectively into the seventh inning, Alex Dickerson homered and had two RBIs, and San Francisco won its first road series.

Cueto was sharp in his last start before the trade deadline, allowing a run on three hits in 6²/₃ innings.

Pirates 5, Brewers 1: Josh Bell and Gregory Polanco homered off Brandon Woodruff and Pittsburgh won at Milwaukee.

Bell broke a 1-all tie in the fourth with a towering, two-run blast that hit an SUV parked well above the wall in right-center as part of a promotion.

Padres 13, Rockies 2: Eric Hosmer started San Diego's power surge with his three-run homer in the first, Chris Paddock threw six efficient innings and the Padres rolled at Colorado.

Hosmer's homer was one of five for San Diego, which ranks second in the majors with 66 homers this season. Jake Cronenworth added a two-run drive in the seventh before Jurickson Profar and Trent Grisham lined solo shots in the eighth. Josh Naylor finished it off with a two-run shot in the ninth.

Cubs 10, Reds 1: Kyle Schwarber, Jason Heyward and

Ian Happ became the first starting outfield to hit multiple homers in the same game, and Chicago routed host Cincinnati for a split of their four-game series.

Schwarber hit the first and last of the Cubs' season-high six homers, belting a solo drive in the fourth inning against Luis Castillo (0-5) and a grand slam off Jose De Leon in the ninth.

Tigers 3, Twins 2: Jonathan Schoop hit a tiebreaking homer in the sixth inning, and host Detroit finished off a three-game sweep.

Tyler Alexander (2-1) pitched 3²/₃ scoreless innings of relief for the Tigers, who handed Kenta Maeda (4-1) his first loss of the year.

Blue Jays 6, Orioles 5: Teoscar Hernandez hit a two-run single with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting host Toronto to its fourth straight win.

Hernandez came up with the bases loaded and grounded a single into left field. Pinch runner Santiago Espinal scored easily and Randal Grichuk slid in safely just ahead of the throw by left fielder Mason Williams.

Red Sox 9, Nationals 5: Bobby Dalbec hit a two-run homer in his major league debut, leading host Boston to the win.

Mariners 2, Angels 1 (10): Pinch hitter Tim Lopes drove in Kyle Lewis with the tiebreaking run in the 10th inning, sending Seattle to the road victory.

Braves 12, Phillies 10: Austin Riley homered, doubled and drove in three runs in Atlanta's 10-run second inning, Dansby Swanson also went deep and the Braves held on for a wild victory at Philadelphia.

Sanchez's slam helps Yankees take 2 from Mets

By LARRY FLEISHER
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gary Sanchez and Aaron Hicks — among the few remaining regulars healthy enough to be in the Yankees' lineup — made sure the Bronx Bombers held serve at home.

Sanchez delivered the first pinch-hit, extra-innings grand slam in Yankees history, Deivi Garcia made a strong impression in his big league debut and New York beat the cross-town Mets 5-2 to complete a doubleheader sweep Sunday night.

The Yankees stormed back in the opener, erasing a five-run deficit with two outs in the seventh to win 8-7 in eight innings. Hicks lined a tying, two-run homer in the seventh, and Gio Urshela hit a game-ending single off Edwin Diaz an inning later.

Sanchez had been in a 1-for-18 slump and is still batting just .134 this season.

"I'm excited for him," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "He means so much to this team. I'm really happy for him to take the air out of one."

The Yankees won the final three games of this five-game Subway Series, snapping a seven-game skid. Sanchez blasted a 2-2 fastball from Drew Smith into the left field bleachers for a 5-1 lead. It was his first career pinch-hit homer and second career grand slam.

"I've been very anxious to contribute to the team," Sanchez said through a translator. "Especially when you're going through a rough patch and you're not helping the team."

Garcia took a shutout into the sixth until allowing Dominic Smith's tying single. Smith's hit

came after Jeff McNeil reached on an error by first baseman Luke Voit, who had the ball kick off the heel of his glove into right field.

Garcia allowed four singles, struck out six, walked none and threw 75 pitches in six innings. At 21 years, 103 days, Garcia became the youngest pitcher to start in the majors in the abbreviated 60-game game season.

Garcia got a huge hug from veteran batterymate Erik Kratz in the dugout after his outing was done — the 40-year-old Kratz caught Garcia often in Triple-A last year and thinks highly of the young right-hander. Kratz calls Garcia son and Garcia calls Kratz "padre," Garcia said.

Jonathan Holder (1-0) allowed an RBI single to Michael Conforto and in the eighth, Luis Cessa retired pinch-hitter Wilson Ramos with the bases loaded for his fourth career save. Mets' right-hander Seth Lugo allowed one run on four hits in 3²/₃ innings.

Tyler Wade homered in the third to give the Yankees a 1-0 lead. The Yankees left the bases loaded in the fourth and stranded two in the fifth.

In the first game, The Yankees trailed 7-2 with two outs in final inning of the seven-inning game before rallying against Jared Hughes and Diaz.

Mets third baseman Andres Gimenez made a throwing error, and Hughes walked a batter and plunked another to lead the bases before Luke Voit hit a check-swing, two-run single against the shift to pull within 7-4.

Another run scored on Diaz's wild pitch before Hicks lined a two-out, 3-2 fastball just over the wall in right for his third homer of the season.



ADAM HUNGER/AP

The Yankees' Gary Sanchez hits a grand slam off the Mets' Drew Smith during the eighth inning of the second game of a doubleheader on Sunday in New York. The Yankees took both games, 8-7 and 5-2.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL/NHL

Thompson, first Black coach to win NCAA title, dies

Coached Georgetown to 1984 championship

By JOSEPH WHITE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — John Thompson, the imposing Hall of Famer who turned Georgetown into a “Hoya Paranoia” powerhouse and became the first Black coach to lead a team to the NCAA men’s basketball championship, has died. He was 78.

His death was announced in a family statement released by Georgetown on Monday. No details were disclosed.

“Our father was an inspiration to many and devoted his life to developing young people not simply on but, most importantly, off the basketball court. He is revered as a historic shepherd of the sport, dedicated to the welfare of his community above all else,” the statement said. “However, for us, his greatest legacy remains as a father, grandfather, uncle, and friend. More than a coach, he was our foundation. More than a legend, he was the voice in our ear every day.”

One of the most celebrated and polarizing figures in his sport, Thompson took over a moribund Georgetown program in the 1970s and molded it in his unique style into a perennial contender, culminating with a national championship team anchored by center Patrick Ewing in 1984.

Georgetown reached two other title games with Thompson in charge and Ewing patrolling the paint, losing to Michael Jordan’s North Carolina team in 1982 and to Villanova in 1985.

At 6-foot-10, with an ever-present white towel slung over his shoulder, Thompson literally and figuratively towered over the Hoyas for decades, becoming a patriarch of sorts after he quit coaching in 1999.

One of his sons, John Thompson III, was hired as Georgetown’s coach in 2004. When the son was fired in 2017, the elder Thompson — known affectionately as “Big John” or “Pops” to many — was at the news conference announcing Ewing as the successor.

Along the way, Thompson said what he thought, shielded his players from the media and took positions that weren’t always popular. He never shied away from sensitive topics — particularly the role of race in both sports and society — and he once famously walked off the court before a game to protest an NCAA rule because he felt it hurt minority athletes.

“I’ll probably be remembered for all the things that kept me out of the Hall of Fame, ironically, more than for the things that got

By the numbers

1

NCAA men’s basketball titles for John Thompson at Georgetown. His Hoyas were 1-2 in NCAA championship games.

14

Consecutive NCAA tournaments his teams reached at Georgetown from 1979-92, including three Final Fours.

.715

Thompson’s winning percentage at Georgetown, with a 596-239 record that including 26 players who were drafted by the NBA.

SOURCE: Associated Press

me into it,” Thompson said the day he was elected to the Hall in 1999. Thompson became coach of the Hoyas in 1972 and began re-making a team that was 3-23 the previous season. Over the next 27 years, he led Georgetown to 14 straight NCAA tournaments (1979-92), 24 consecutive postseason appearances (20 NCAA, 4 NIT), three Final Fours (1982, 1984, 1985) and won six Big East tournament championships.

Employing a physical, defense-focused approach that frequently relied on a dominant center — Alonzo Mourning and Dikembe Mutombo were among his other pupils — Thompson compiled a 596-239 record (.715 winning percentage). He had 26 players drafted by the NBA.

Off the court, Thompson was both a role model and a lightning rod. A stickler for academics, he kept a deflated basketball on his desk, a reminder to his players that a degree was a necessary by-product of a career in basketball led on a tenuous “nine pounds of air.”



FRANK GUNN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

New York Islanders center Brock Nelson, far left, scores past Philadelphia Flyers goaltender Brian Elliott as Flyers defenseman Ivan Provorov defends during the third period of the Islanders’ 3-1 win Sunday in a Stanley Cup Eastern Conference playoff game in Toronto.

Islanders squeak past Flyers

Associated Press

TORONTO — Jean Gabriel Pageau scored the go-ahead goal 7:18 into the third period and the New York Islanders moved within one win of advancing to the Eastern Conference finals with a 3-2 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Sunday night.

Brock Nelson scored twice, both set up by Josh Bailey, and the Islanders gained a 3-1 lead of the best-of-seven second-round series with Game 5 set for Tuesday night. New York is seeking to make its first conference finals appearance since 1993, when the Islanders lost to Montreal to six games.

Backup goalie Thomas Greiss stopped 36 shots in making his first start of the playoffs.

Sean Couturier and Ivan Provorov scored for the East’s top-seeded Flyers, who were coming off a 3-1 loss on Saturday. Philadelphia lost consecutive games for the first time since an 0-3-1 skid from Dec. 31-Jan. 7.

Flyers goalie Brian Elliott stopped 30 shots in place of Carter Hart. It was Elliott’s third appearance during this postseason, and second start.

Stars 5, Avalanche 4: Radek Faksa had a goal and two assists, Roope Hintz scored the last of three power-play goals by Dallas and the Stars beat Colorado 5-3, Dallas’ 13th Colorado 4, Dallas 4 Sunday: Las Vegas 5, Vancouver 3 Tuesday: Game 5

Stars 5, Avalanche 4: Radek Faksa had a goal and two assists, Roope Hintz scored the last of three power-play goals by Dallas and the Stars beat Colorado 5-3, Dallas’ 13th Colorado 4, Dallas 4 Sunday: Las Vegas 5, Vancouver 3 Tuesday: Game 5

Dallas, which led 3-0 in the first period before the Avalanche had their first shot on goal, saw its margin cut to one before Hintz was patient with the puck about 7:15 minutes into the third period. There were only a couple of seconds left on a power play when he scored on the Stars’ seventh shot during that segment after initially waiting for some traffic to clear.

Dallas then got a gift goal only 32 seconds later when Colorado rookie defender Cale Makar, who had scored late in the second period, tried to clear a puck from

Scoreboard

Stanley Cup playoffs
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
At Toronto
(6) N.Y. Islanders 3, (3) Philadelphia 1
N.Y. Islanders 4, Philadelphia 0 Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Islanders 3, OT N.Y. Islanders 3, Philadelphia 1
Sunday: N.Y. Islanders 3, Philadelphia 1
x-Wednesday: Game 6
Tuesday: Game 5
x-Thursday: Game 6
x-Saturday, Sept. 5: Game 7
(2) Tampa Bay 3, (4) Boston 1
Boston 3, Tampa Bay 2
Tampa Bay 4, Boston 3, OT
Monday: Tampa Bay 3, Boston 1
Sunday: Tampa Bay 5 (AFN Sportsz. 1 a.m.)
Tuesday CET: 8 a.m. Tuesday JKT
x-Thursday: Game 7
WESTERN CONFERENCE
At Edmonton, Alberta
(1) Las Vegas 5, (5) Vancouver 1
Las Vegas 5, Vancouver 0 Vancouver 5, Las Vegas 2
Las Vegas 3, Vancouver 0
Sunday: Las Vegas 5, Vancouver 3
Tuesday: Game 5
x-Thursday: Game 6
x-Friday: Game 6
(2) Dallas 3, (2) Colorado 1
Dallas 5, Colorado 3
Dallas 5, Colorado 2
Colorado 6, Dallas 4
Sunday: Dallas 5, Colorado 4
Monday: Game 5
x-Wednesday: Game 6
x-Friday: Game 7

Sunday
Golden Knights 5, Canucks 3
Vegas 2, 0 3-5
Vancouver 1 2 0-3
First Period—6, Vegas, Pacioretty 4 (Theodore, Stone), 9:28 (PP), 2, Vancouver, Pettersson 6 (Hughes, Miller), 11:15 (pp), 2, Vegas, Stephenson 2 (Theodore, Martnez), 13:19.
Second Period—4, Vancouver, Horvat 9 (Elder, Miller), 4:07, 5, Vancouver, Toffoli 2 (Hughes, Miller), 11:26 (pp).

behind his own net and flubbed the attempt. Stars rookie Denis Gurianov knocked it in for a 5-2 lead.

Golden Knights 5, Canucks 3: Max Pacioretty scored twice and added an assist, and Vegas rallied for three goals in the third period and beat Vancouver in Edmonton.

The Golden Knights took a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven second-round series. With a win in Game 5 on Tuesday, Vegas can eliminate the Canucks, the last Cana-

Third Period—6, Vegas, Schmidt 2 (Sherrill, 2:52), 7, Vegas, Pacioretty 5 (Schmidt), 7:02, 8, Vegas, Karlsson 3 (Stone, Pacioretty), 8:25.
Shots on Goal—Vegas 11-14-33.
Power-play opportunities—Vegas 1-3, Vancouver 8-12-11-31.
Goalsies—Vegas, Fleury 3-0-0 (31 shots-28 saves), Vancouver, Markstrom 8-5-1 (33-28).

Stars 5, Avalanche 4
Colorado 0 0 2 2-4
Dallas 3 3 0 2-5
First Period—1, Dallas, Klingberg 2 (Faksa, Cormeau), 6:18, 2, Dallas, Farkas 3 (Niskanen, Hintz), 8:23 (pp), 3, Dallas, Benn 4 (Pavelski, Radulov), 10:45 (pp).
Second Period—6, Colorado, Nishichkin 1 (Makar, Burakovsky), 1:24, 5, Colorado, Makar 3 (MacKinnon, Rantanen), 19:28 (pp).
Third Period—6, Dallas, Hintz 2 (Faksa, Klingberg), 7:20 (pp), 7, Dallas, Gurianov 8, 8:02, 8, Colorado, Nishichkin 2 (Girard, Burakovsky), 11:24, 3, Colorado, Naimismigov 2 (Karr, Girard), 19:56.
Shots on Goal—Colorado 15-17-15-37, Dallas 10-11-25.
Power-play opportunities—Colorado 1 of 5; Dallas 3 of 5.
Goalsies—Colorado, Hutchinson 0-0-0 (3 shots-3 saves), Colorado, Francouz 2-4-0 (26-21), Dallas, Khudobin 7-4-0 (27-33).

Islanders 3, Flyers 1
Philadelphia 1 0 0-1
N.Y. Islanders 0 0 1-3
First Period—1, Philadelphia, Gionta 1 (Laughton, Niskanen), 14:18.
Shots on Goal—Philadelphia 9-6-12-27, N.Y. Islanders 10-15-4-29.
Power-play opportunities—Philadelphia 0 of 1; N.Y. Islanders 1 of 2.
Goalsies—Philadelphia, Hart 7-4-4 (29 shots-25 saves), N.Y. Islanders, Varlamov 9-2-0 (27-26).

dian team from the postseason. The Golden Knights’ Nathan MacKinnon, Nate Schmidt, and Chandler Stephenson also scored for the Golden Knights. Goalie Marc-Andre Fleury made 27 saves and earned his third win of the playoffs.

Shea Theodore added two assists, giving him four goals and 10 assists in the playoffs.

Bo Horvat, Elias Pettersson, and Tyler Toffoli scored for Vancouver. Jacob Markstrom, in his 14th start, made 28 saves in the loss.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Scoreboard

Playoffs

At Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

FIRST ROUND
Best-of-seven; 4-1 necessary
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Milwaukee 4, Orlando 1

Orlando 123, Milwaukee 110
Milwaukee 111, Orlando 96
Milwaukee 121, Orlando 107
Milwaukee 121, Orlando 106
Milwaukee 118, Orlando 104
Toronto 4, Brooklyn 0
Toronto 134, Brooklyn 110
Toronto 104, Brooklyn 99
Toronto 117, Brooklyn 92
Toronto 100, Brooklyn 122

Best of 4, Philadelphia 0

Boston 109, Philadelphia 101
Boston 128, Philadelphia 101
Boston 101, Philadelphia 51
Boston 110, Philadelphia 106
Miami 4, Indiana 0
Miami 113, Indiana 101
Miami 109, Indiana 100
Miami 124, Indiana 115
Miami 99, Indiana 97

WESTERN CONFERENCE

L.A. Lakers 4, Portland 1
Portland 100, L.A. Lakers 93
L.A. Lakers 111, Portland 88
L.A. Lakers 116, Portland 108
L.A. Lakers 135, Portland 115
L.A. Lakers 131, Portland 122
L.A. Clippers 4, Dallas 2
L.A. Clippers 118, Dallas 110
Dallas 127, L.A. Clippers 114
L.A. Clippers 130, Dallas 122
Dallas 135, L.A. Clippers 133, OT
L.A. Clippers 154, Dallas 122
Sunday: L.A. Clippers 111, Dallas 97

Utah 3, Denver 3

Denver 117, Utah 107
Utah 124, Denver 105
Utah 124, Denver 107
Utah 133, Denver 127
Denver 117, Utah 107
Sunday: Denver 119, Utah 107

Houston 3, Oklahoma City 2

Houston 112, Oklahoma City 108
Houston 112, Oklahoma City 98
Oklahoma City 119, Houston 107, OT
Oklahoma City 117, Houston 114
Houston 114, Oklahoma City 80
Monday: Game 6
x-Tuesday, Sept. 7

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-seven; 4-1 necessary)

Eastern Conference
Milwaukee vs. Miami
Monday: Game 1
Wednesday: Game 2
Friday: Game 3
Sunday, Sept. 6: Game 4
x-Tuesday, Sept. 8: Game 5
x-Wednesday, Sept. 9: Game 6
x-Saturday, Sept. 12: Game 7

Western Conference
Sunday, Sept. 1, Toronto 0

Toronto 112, Toronto 94
Tuesday: Game 2
Thursday: Game 3
Saturday: Game 4
x-Monday, Sept. 7: Game 5
x-Tuesday, Sept. 8: Game 6
x-Friday, Sept. 11: Game 7

Sunday

Nuggets 119, Jazz 107

Denver — Grant 6-9 2-2, Millsap 1-3 2-5, Jokic 7-15 5-22, Morris 4-6 2-2 10, Murray 17-24 7-9 50, Crain 2-3 3-8, Porter Jr. 1-7 0-2 0, Plumlee 0-0 0-0 0, Harris 1-4 2-4, Totals 39-73 22-36 111
Utah — Ingles 1-4 2-2 5, O'Neale 1-4 2-4 5, Gobert 3-8 5-11 11, Conley 7-13 3-4 21, Mitchell 14-27 4-8, Bradley 0-1 0-0 0, Morgan 0-0 0-0 0, Niang 3-6 2-2 10, Clarkson 5-14 0-0 11, Totals 34-75 21-30 107
Denver 30 31 27 31-19
Utah 36 25 28-107
Three-Point Goals—Denver 18-38; Murray 9-12, Grant 4-7, Jokic 3-5, Crain 1-2, Millsap 1-2, Harris 0-2, Porter Jr. 0-1, Utah 18-36 (Mitchell 9-13, Conley 4-6, Niang 2-4, O'Neale 1-3, Ingles 1-4, Clarkson 1-0); Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Denver (Porter Jr.) 12, Utah (Gobert) 11, Assists—Denver 22 (Jokic 9), Utah 20 (Conley 6), Total Fouls—Denver 24, Utah 20.

Clippers 111, Mavericks 97

L.A. Clippers — Leonard 14-23 4-4 33, Morris Sr. 4-5 0-0 9, Zubac 6-8 3-3 15, George 6-19 1-2 15, Shamet 3-7 0-0 8, Coffey 0-2 0-0 0, Mann 0-0 0-0 0, Green 3-5 1-1 7, Harrell 2-4 0-0 4, McGrudder 0-0 0-0 0, R.Jackson 5-9 0-0 14, Williams 1-9 3-5, Totals 44-91 12-31 111.

Dallas — Finney-Smith 6-11 2-3 16, Hardaway Jr. 4-15 0-0 10, Kleber 3-10 1-2 9, Donic 2-10 2-5 6, Duncanson 15-28 4-8 38, J.Jackson 0-1 1-2 1, Kidd-Gilchrist 1-1 0-0 2, Reeves 0-0 0-0 0, Marjanovic 1-7 0-0 8, Cleveland 0-0 0-0 0, Curry 3-7 0-0 7, Totals 38-90 10-17 97.

L.A. Clippers 29 28 28 26-111
Dallas 34 17 23 23-97
Three-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 11-29 (R.Jackson 4-7, Shamet 3-6, George 2-7, Leonard 1-4, Williams 0-4), Dallas 11-37 (Donic 4-8, Finney-Smith 2-5, Kleber 2-6, Hardaway Jr. 2-11, Curry 1-3, Burke 0-2); Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Clippers 52 (Leonard 14), Dallas 42 (Burke, Donic 9), Assists—L.A. Clippers 27 (George, Leonard 7), Dallas 20 (George 9), Total Fouls—L.A. Clippers 21, Dallas 15.

Celtics 112, Raptors 94

Boston — Brown 6-18 2-3 17, Tatum 9-18 1-1 21, Theis 3-8 7-7 13, Smart 6-10 4-4 21, Walker 6-11 2-2 18, Lyles 0-0 0-0 0, Ojeleye 1-5 0-0 3, Poirier 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 0-0 0-0 0, Wilton 0-0 0-0 0, D. Williams 11-5-0-20, Wanamaker 2-6 1-2 7, Totals 39-83 17-21 112.
Toronto — Anunoby 4-6 3-4 12, Siakam 2-16 3-4 13, Gasol 3-7 1-2 7, Lowry 5-12 6-9 17, VanVleet 3-16 3-4 11, Hollis-Jefferson 0-0 0-0 0, Boucher 1-1 0-0 2, Ibaka 4-10 4-14 15, Davis 2-4 2-2 7, Powell 4-12 0-0 10, Thomas 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 31-84 22-29 94.

Boston 39 20 20 21-112
Toronto 23 19 31 21-94
Three-Point Goals—Boston 17-39 (Smart 5-8, Poirier 4-7, Brown 3-9, Wanamaker 2-4, Tatum 2-5, Ojeleye 1-3, Theis 0-2), Toronto 10-40 (Ibaka 3-7, Powell 2-5, VanVleet 3-16, Anunoby 1-3, Davis 1-3, Lowry 1-5, Gasol 0-3, Siakam 0-3); Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Boston 50 (Theis 15), Toronto 40 (Ibaka 9), Assists—Boston 25 (Walker 10), Toronto 22 (Lowry, VanVleet 8), Total Fouls—Boston 22, Toronto 24.



The Denver Nuggets' Jamal Murray dives for a loose ball behind Utah Jazz's Mike Conley (10) Sunday, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Murray had his second 50-point game of the series as the Nuggets attempt to become the 12th team to rally from a 3-1 deficit to win a series and the first since 2016, when the Cleveland Cavaliers completed the only one of those comebacks that came in the NBA Finals.

Murray, Nuggets force Game 7

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — The Jamal Murray-Donovan Mitchell duel will be settled in the first Game 7 in the bubble.

Murray extended his torrid run with 50 more points, leading the Denver Nuggets to a 119-107 victory over the Utah Jazz on Sunday night.

Murray had his second 50-point game of the series to equal Mitchell, who finished with 44 in this one. No player has ever had more in an entire postseason.

They will go to it one more time Tuesday night, with the winner advancing to face the Los Angeles Clippers.

Mitchell was disappointed the Jazz had missed a chance to wrap up the series in Game 5, but understands the interest in seeing he and Murray square off in the ultimate contest.

"As a fan perspective I see it and I respect it, but I can't tell you as a player that I want to play Game 7 if we're up 3-1," he said. "I don't think anybody wants to do that but we're here, so play the hand that you're dealt and we're going to go out there and execute and do what we've got to do."

Mike Conley had 21 points for the Jazz, but Rudy Gobert and Jordan Clarkson were each held to 11.

A seventh game between the

third-seeded Nuggets and No. 6 Jazz seems fitting. Though Denver won all three meetings during the regular season, the total margin was just 11 points.

The Jazz came into the day topping all teams in the postseason in field goal percentage and three-point percentage, and ranking third in scoring with 121.8 points per game.

It will be the third straight Game 7 for the Nuggets, who beat San Antonio before losing to Portland last year.

50-50: Michael Jordan (twice), Wilt Chamberlain and Allen Iverson are the only other players with two 50-point games in the same postseason.

Roundup

Leonard leads Clippers past Donic, Mavs to reach 2nd round

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — The Los Angeles Clippers knocked him around and shut his teammates down, and still Luka Donic kept coming.

Kawhi Leonard wasn't worried, because nothing rattles him in the postseason.

"This is playoff basketball and everything is not going to go your way," Leonard said. "You're going to have downs and ups. Just got to keep playing."

Now his team will keep playing into the second round.

Leonard had 33 points and 14 rebounds and the Clippers eliminated Donic and the Dallas Mavericks with a 111-97 victory Sunday in Game 6 of the first-round series.

Donic capped a superb first postseason with 38 points, nine rebounds and nine assists, keeping it interesting into the fourth quarter even while playing without injured teammate Kristaps Porzingis.

But with Leonard reaching the 30-point mark for his career-best fifth straight playoff game and a strong defensive effort, the Clippers simply had too many answers.



The Los Angeles Clippers' Kawhi Leonard fouls the Dallas Mavericks' Luka Donic Sunday at Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Leonard had 33 points and 14 rebounds in the Clippers' 111-97 series-clinching Game 6 victory.

"I'm proud of our team, how we fight," Donic said. "I think we fought until the end. The Clippers have an amazing team so it was hard, but I think we gave everything."

The No. 2 seed in the Western Conference advanced to a second-round meeting with either Denver or Utah. Game 7 of that series will be played Tuesday.

Leonard also had seven assists and five steals. The Clippers said he was the first player in at least the last 20 postseasons with 30 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and five steals in a game.

Celtics 112, Raptors 94: Jayson Tatum and Marcus Smart each scored 21 points, Kemba Walker added 18 points and 10 assists and Boston beat Toronto in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

The Celtics improved to 4-1 against the Raptors this season — no other team has beaten the reigning NBA champions more than twice — and both of their meetings in the NBA's restart bubble at Walt Disney World have been one-sided. The Raptors are 11-0 at Disney against everybody else.

Kyle Lowry had 17 points for defending champion Toronto.

ASHLEY LANDIS/AP

SPORTS



Bubble buckets

Murray scores 50 as Nuggets force Game 7 with Jazz » Page 23

NFL

High Wattage

Steelers linebacker Watt ready to step into spotlight

By WILL GRAVES
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH

T.J. Watt reads the stories from his rookie year in 2017 and can't help but laugh a little. Sure, the Pittsburgh Steelers outside linebacker is more reserved than older brother JJ — the high-profile defensive end for the Houston Texans — but then again, who isn't?

Still, Watt looks back at his words (or lack thereof) and admits his reticence was part of his master plan and not necessarily a distillation of his personality.

"I was very shy and didn't want to say a lot at all," Watt said on Tuesday. "I just wanted to work and soak up as much information as I possibly could and gain the trust of my teammates."

Funny how reaching the Pro Bowl twice in your first three seasons and developing a reputation

'I just want to be able to be a game-breaker.'

TJ Watt

Steelers' two-time Pro Bowl linebacker

as one of the most relentless edge rushers in the NFL has a way of getting you to loosen up.

The player who spoke only in benign platitudes is slowly pulling back the layers. Check your TV for proof. Yes, that was Watt starring alongside brothers JJ and

Derek and mom Connie in a series of Subway commercials. Yes, that was Watt playing co-host on the game show "Ultimate Tag."

Watt says he's just "dipping his toe in the water" and he's quick to point out that he's determined not to let his budding celebrity overshadow the importance of his day job.

"First and foremost, it will always be me being a football player," Watt said. "When it comes to me doing those shows and the Subway commercials and things along those lines, obviously, I've seen J.J. (Watt) do that stuff for years, and it's fun to put myself out of my own comfort zone and try new things."

That goes for on the field as well as off it. Watt racked up a career-best 14½ sacks in 2019, his No. 90 often a blur on its way to the quarterback. Still, he believes he remains a work in progress. He and fellow

SEE STEP ON PAGE 19

AP photo



Influential Hoyas coach Thompson dies at 78 » Page 22

