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3M wins earplug lawsuit

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

A federal jury in Florida sided with earplug manufacturer 3M that the company's product did not cause hearing loss for a veteran who used them while serving in the military.

The trial was the second of three scheduled this year that could impact the outcome of a lawsuit involving nearly 236,000 veterans who were issued the earplugs while in the service.

3M, a Minnesota-based company, lost the first trial April in which a jury awarded \$7.1 million to three Army veterans who said they suffered from hearing loss and tinnitus because of the earplugs. The second trial involved one veteran, Dustin McCombs, with a similar lawsuit.

The jury on Friday determined 3M was not liable, negligent or fraudulent when selling earplugs to the military, according to court documents.

"We are pleased with today's verdict and will continue to vigorously defend ourselves in upcoming trials. The Combat Arms Earplug Version 2 product is and has

SEE LAWSUIT ON PAGE 4



Spc. Coca Temoananui, assigned to the 311th Signal Command, puts in ear protection prior to a helicopter flight in 2012.



PHOTOS BY ZACHARY STAHLBERG/U.S. Army

U.S. soldiers assigned to 41st Field Artillery Brigade fire a rocket during an exercise at Novo Selo, Bulgaria, on Tuesday.

US flies Army artillery into Bulgaria in demonstration of mobility and firepower

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

NOVO SELO TRAINING AREA, Bulgaria — The only U.S. rocket artillery brigade in Europe moved rapidly across borders and launched its mobile weapons in Bulgaria, a display of speed aimed at reassuring NATO allies confronted by an increasingly assertive Russia.

About eight hours after departing Germany early Tuesday with its artillery systems, the contingent from the 41st Field Artillery Brigade fired six rockets at targets more than five miles away on a sprawling military range in the Bulgarian countryside.

The soldiers and their two 12-ton wheeled rocket launchers and

a support Humvee were gone soon after the smoke cleared. They were back at Ramstein Air Base in Germany before sunset, courtesy of the Tennessee Air National Guard.

The battalion practiced a rapid insertion with the intent to "get in, execute and then get right back out to minimize our signature and risk to the force," said Lt. Col. Anthony Brunner, commander of the 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery Regiment.

The operation led by U.S. Army Europe and Africa was part of the "Fires Shock" series of rocket exercises that began last month in Estonia. The command's artillery

SEE RAPID ON PAGE 3



A soldier looks at the C-17 aircraft that brought him home after Saber Guardian at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, on Tuesday.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Justices reject J&J appeal of \$2B talc verdict

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court is leaving in place a \$2 billion verdict in favor of women who claim they developed ovarian cancer from using Johnson & Johnson talc products.

The justices did not comment Tuesday in rejecting Johnson & Johnson’s appeal. The company argued that it was not treated fairly in facing one trial involving 22 cancer sufferers who came from 12 states and different backgrounds.

A Missouri jury initially awarded the women \$4.7 billion, but a state appeals court dropped two women from the suit and reduced the award to \$2 billion. The jury found that the company’s talc products contain asbestos and asbestos-laced talc can cause ovarian cancer. The company disputes both points.

Johnson & Johnson has stopped selling its iconic talc-based Johnson’s Baby Powder in the United States and Canada, though it remains on the market

elsewhere. But the company faces thousands of lawsuits from women who claim asbestos in the powder caused their cancer.

The lead attorney for the women during the trial, Mark Lanier, praised the court’s refusal to hear Johnson & Johnson’s appeal.

“This decision sends a clear message to the rich and powerful: You will be held to account when you cause grievous harm under our system of equal justice under law,” Lanier said.

EXCHANGE RATES			
Military rates		South Korea (Won)	
Euro costs (June 3)	\$1.19	Switzerland (Franc)	1,111.11
Dollar buys (June 3)	0.7986	Thailand (Baht)	0.8989
British pound (June 3)	\$1.38	Turkey (New Lira)	31.14
Japanese yen (June 3)	107.00		8.5908
South Korean won (June 3)	1,081.00	(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.)	
Commercial rates		INTEREST RATES	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3767	Prime rate	3.25
Britain (Pound)	1.4169	Interest Rates Discount rate	0.75
Canada (Dollar)	1.2062	Federal funds market rate	0.09
China (Yuan)	6.3837	3-month bill	0.02
Denmark (Krone)	6.0932	30-year bond	2.29
Egypt (Pound)	15.6756		
Euro	0.8194		
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7595		
Hungary (Forint)	283.49		
Israel (Shekel)	3.2501		
Japan (Yen)	109.67		
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3008		
Norway (Krone)	8.3184		
Philippines (Peso)	47.78		
Poland (Zloty)	3.66		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7506		
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3229		

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STARS AND STRIPES

RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at www.stripes.com/relo

MILITARY

Army probes storming of civilian factory

173rd Airborne Brigade accidentally rushed the building during a training exercise in Bulgaria

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Army is investigating how 173rd Airborne Brigade soldiers ended up storming a civilian factory building during a recent training drill in Bulgaria, which sparked a minor diplomatic stir after the embarrassing mishap came to light.

“We sincerely apologize to the business and its employees. We always learn from these exercises and are fully investigating the cause of this mistake,” U.S. Army Europe and Africa said in a statement Tuesday.

The incident happened May 11 during the Army’s Swift Response 21 exercise, which took place across numerous countries, including Bulgaria.

Soldiers simulated seizing and securing a

“We sincerely apologize to the business and its employees. We always learn from these exercises and are fully investigating the cause of this mistake.”

U.S. Army Europe and Africa statement

decommissioned airfield, which also involved clearing buildings at a training area in the town of Cheshnegirovo, the Army said.

Among the nearby buildings was a private business operated by civilians, which the soldiers thought was part of the training area, the Army said.

“No weapons were fired at any time during this interaction,” USAREUR-AF said.

Still, Bulgarian President Rumen Radev said the soldiers put lives in danger.

“It is inadmissible to have the lives of Bulgarian citizens disturbed and put at risk by military formations, whether Bulgarian or belonging to a foreign arm,” Radev said, as quoted by Bulgaria’s Novinite news agency.

“The exercises with our allies on the territo-

ry of Bulgaria should contribute to building security and trust in collective defense, not breed tension.”

USAREUR-AF said a video posted to social media by Bulgarian journalist Dilyana Gaytandzhieva that showed soldiers entering a building and identified the building as a factory where olive oil machinery is produced appeared to be authentic.

USAREUR-AF said it takes training seriously and prioritizes the safety of “soldiers, our allies, and civilians.”

“We will implement rigorous procedures to clearly define our training areas and prevent this type of incident in the future,” USAREUR-AF said.

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Rapid: Brigade’s show of speed aimed at reassuring NATO allies

FROM PAGE 1

units are showcasing their long-range precision rocket systems across two continents.

The drills, tied to the large Defender-Europe 21 series, will wrap up later this month in Morocco with the African Lion exercise.

The Grafenwoehr-based artillery brigade returned to Germany in 2018 as U.S. European Command sought to bolster its firepower on the Continent to counter more Russian activity and boost NATO’s collective defense.

The 1st Battalion employs both the M270 Multiple Launcher Rocket Systems, or MLRS, and the lighter M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS. The unit has deployed the HIMARS three times for a rapid insertion mission since activating last August, including twice to Romania.

Of the two rocket systems, the HIMARS packs less firepower. But it is mounted on an Army truck chassis and light enough to be transported by C-130 cargo plane, making it more mobile.

The system can defeat artillery, air defense concentrations and other targets, and move away before enemy forces can locate the launch site, according to Lockheed Martin. The company received a \$492 million contract in 2019 to produce the launchers and hardware for the Army, Marine Corps, Romania and Poland.

“It gives our senior commanders and our multinational partners more deterrence options for our regional threats in Europe,” Brun-

“I’m so pleased because I witnessed for the first time an event that happened on our territory. It’s perfect.”

Col. Petrov Yuliy
Bulgaria’s joint force commander said.

The system can fire a salvo of rockets within minutes of receiving a target location from a forward observer, he added.

On Tuesday, Bulgarian military observers and other spectators at Novo Selo had to wait more than a few minutes to see the artillery display.

Earlier that morning, more than a dozen soldiers along with two HIMARS and a support vehicle hitched a ride aboard a Tennessee Air National Guard C-17 from Ramstein to the military airfield at Bezmer in Bulgaria. They drove to the Novo Selo range, arriving around noon.

It took a couple hours and much maneuvering around the launch site before the first boom sounded.

The biggest challenge was the ridge the rockets had to clear, Brunner said.

“That was giving us some errors on our fire mission processing,” he said. “That’s why we had to move a few times to get to where



ZACHARY STAHLBERG /U.S. Army

U.S. soldiers assigned to Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery Regiment, 41st Field Artillery Brigade, fire a rocket during an exercise at Novo Selo, Bulgaria, on Tuesday.

Watch a video of the 12-ton wheeled rocket launchers at <https://bit.ly/3ibGVdX>

we eventually got to.”

One soldier explained to an observer that the system’s software has much tighter safety margins in an exercise, referring to it as “a peacetime constraint.”

But the display — the loud bangs, the soaring, inert projectiles and the white smoke — was impressive, observers said.

“I’m so pleased because I witnessed for the first time an event that happened on our territory,” said Col. Petrov Yuliy, chief of the joint training department for Bulgaria’s joint force command. “It’s perfect.”

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JENNIFER SVAN/Stars and Stripes

U.S. soldiers prepare to fire rockets at Novo Selo, Bulgaria.

MILITARY

Hilbert ‘excited to rejoin the team’

General back in Bavaria to lead 7th ATC as Norrie heads to new task force

BY IMMANUEL JOHNSON
Stars and Stripes
GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — Brig. Gen. Joseph Hilbert, who headed the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels until last year, has returned to Bavaria to assume command Wednesday of the Army’s largest overseas training area.

Hilbert, who arrived from the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga., took over the 7th Army Training Command from Brig. Gen. Christopher Norrie.

“We are excited to rejoin the team here,” Hilbert said. “I look forward to working with many of you again.”

The 7th ATC is responsible for providing and overseeing the training requirements for U.S. Army Europe and Africa soldiers, as well as troops from NATO and partner countries.

Norrie oversaw the Army’s response to the coronavirus pandemic in Bavaria, which once saw some of the highest case totals and strictest regulations in Germany.

“During the pandemic, I had to devote myself to the difficult task of making a selection from a list of



GERTRUD ZACH/U.S. Army

Brig. Gen. Joseph Hilbert, the incoming commander of the 7th Army Training Command, receives the 7th ATC guidon from Gen. Christopher Cavoli, U.S. Army Europe and Africa commander, during a ceremony on the parade field at Tower Barracks, Germany, on Wednesday.

consistently poor options,” Norrie said in an open letter posted on the command Facebook page. “My experience in this was, just like many others, that our common path through the pandemic has been difficult, paved with obstacles and deprivation.

“But I will leave with a feeling of

deep gratitude, grateful that our paths crossed with all of you here in Bavaria, combined with the honor of being a soldier here in this very special place.”

Norrie’s next assignment is to lead the Army’s People First Task Force at the Pentagon, which was created following an independent

review at Fort Hood, Texas, that found pervasive command climate problems and fear of retaliation for reporting sexual assaults, among other deficiencies.

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Nuclear refueling barge arrives in Ala. to be scrapped

BY LAWRENCE SPECKER
al.com
MOBILE, Ala. — A gigantic new fixture arrived on the skyline of the Port of Mobile on Tuesday: a U.S. Navy Surface Ship Support Barge that has made its final port of call.

The barge was used for dockside refueling of nuclear-powered vessels and for disassembly of spent nuclear fuel components. It has been deemed obsolete and in 2020, APTIM Federal Services LLC won a contract for the task of dismantling it, which will be done at the site of partner Alabama Shipyard. APTIM describes the job as a three-year, \$129 million project.

According to information released by the Navy in 2018, there is no nuclear fuel aboard the barge and efforts to reduce residual contamination have been under way since at least 2004. According to APTIM, the process will remove “all hazardous and radiological materials following proper disposal regulations. The majority of the waste from the project will be disposed of at Waste Control Specialists’ facility in Andrews, Texas.”

“This dismantlement and disposal of the SSSB represents a major step forward in NAVSEA’s campaign to reduce, in the most cost efficient and safe way, inactive nuclear reactors in both ves-



LAWRENCE SPECKER, AL.COM/TNS

A Navy vessel called the Surface Ship Support Barge, used to refuel nuclear-powered ships and dismantle spent fuel units, arrived in Mobile, Ala., on June 1. It will be scrapped in a three-year process.

sels and shore facilities,” said Alan Weakley, president of APTIM’s business unit overseeing the disposal of the SSSB. NAVSEA is a reference to the Navy’s Naval Sea Systems Command.

“APTIM is proud of our contribution to safely and efficiently dispose of this once strategic asset,” said Weakley. “We are also proud of our partnership with Alabama Shipyard and their impressive safety record.”

APTIM said the project will use “proven programs and controls to

prevent environmental releases. These include the use of containment systems and enclosures, environmental monitoring, on-site regulatory oversight by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), financial assurances for project completion with performance bond, liability insurance and pollution liability insurance, and proactive and transparent communications with the community.”

“The SSSB brings with it an exciting opportunity for the City of Mobile’s economy by paving the

way for tremendous job growth now and through future work in the dismantlement of Navy ships with highly skilled personnel,” said Mayor Sandy Stimpson, quoted in an APTIM news release. “APTIM has an exceptional record, and I look forward to seeing their continued success and the positive impact this project will make for our workforce in Mobile.”

The barge was delivered Tuesday to Alabama Shipyard after a 13-day tow aboard a “heavy-haul vessel” from Newport News Shipyard in Virginia. According to U.S. Navy information, it started life as a tanker and was converted to its nuclear use in 1964. It is about 268 feet long, displaces 4,813 long tons, and has a main deck “about 41 above baseline with a clean house hatched about 109 above baseline.”

Since the beginning of the effort to contract out the work, there has been speculation that the process used to dismantle the SSSB could serve as a partial model for the future breaking down of the carrier USS Enterprise, deactivated in 2012 and decommissioned in 2017. Mobile reportedly has been considered as a potential site for that project, expected to cost more than \$1 billion.

Lawsuit: Firm says military uses 4th version of its earplug

FROM PAGE 1
always been safe and effective to use,” 3M representatives said in a statement.

Nearly 236,000 veterans are part of the multidistrict lawsuit against 3M, which claims the company’s dual-sided earplug used by the military for more than a decade, including during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, could imperceptibly slip in the wearer’s ear. Work began on the earplugs in the 1990s and 3M sold them to the military until 2015.

The three trials scheduled for this year are bellwether trials, which are used to present a representative of the cases before a jury to gain useful information for potentially reaching a settlement for all cases. It can help both parties determine the costs of subsequent lawsuits.

McCombs’ lead attorneys — Bryan Aylstock of Aylstock Witkin Kreis & Overholtz PLLC, Shelley Hutson of Clark, Love & Hutson GP, and Christopher Seeger of Seeger Weiss LLP — said in a statement that they are “disappointed” in the jury’s conclusion, but look forward to the next bellwether case, which is scheduled to begin June 7 in Pensacola, Fla.

“We continue to believe that the evidence overwhelmingly demonstrates that 3M knew their [Combat Arms Version 2] earplugs were defective, yet allowed our service members who relied on them for hearing protection to suffer from preventable hearing loss and tinnitus,” the attorneys said. “We will continue to hold 3M accountable for the damage they have caused to those who served our nation.”

No recall was ever issued on the product and a fourth version of the earplug remains in use by the military, according to 3M.

In July 2018, the Justice Department announced 3M agreed to pay \$9.1 million to resolve allegations that it knowingly sold the earplugs to the military without disclosing defects that hampered effectiveness. That lawsuit was filed through the whistleblower provision of the False Claims Act, according to the Justice Department.

In settling the claim, 3M did not admit to wrongdoing, according to the company.

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WAR/MILITARY

Afghanistan withdrawal up to 44% complete

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — One month into the U.S. drawdown from Afghanistan, American forces have completed between 30% to 44% of the entire withdrawal process, chief Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said Tuesday.

Since the withdrawal's official start May 1, the military has re-

moved the equivalent of about 300 C-17 Globemaster III loads of material out of Afghanistan, Kirby told reporters at the Pentagon, citing information from U.S. Central Command.

Additionally, U.S. forces have turned over nearly 13,000 pieces of equipment in Afghanistan to the Defense Logistics Agency for destruction, Kirby said.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told House lawmakers Thursday that the overall drawdown was "slightly ahead" of schedule but provided no additional details about the efforts.

CENTCOM has been providing weekly updates but is withholding information about the number of U.S. troops remaining in Afghanistan, citing operational security.

Before the drawdown began, there were approximately 2,500 troops in the country.

In the last month, the U.S. also sent additional troops and other assets — including several hundred Army Rangers and 12 F-18 attack planes — to the region to help protect exiting forces as they leave Afghanistan.

Also helping protect the with-

drawing troops are six B-52 bombers based in Qatar and the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, which Austin directed to stay in the Middle East should extra force be needed.

The drawdown is expected to be completed by Sept. 11.

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RAHMAT GUL/AP

Afghan security personnel arrive at the site of a bomb explosion in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Tuesday.

NATO chief says Afghan exit is going well as several die in attacks

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said the military organization's pullout from Afghanistan is going well, as at least six people were killed Tuesday in a series of attacks that plunged the country's capital, Kabul, into darkness.

NATO has helped provide security in Afghanistan for almost two decades, but it now believes the government and armed forces it has trained are strong enough to stand on their own in the conflict-torn country without the help of international troops.

NATO took charge of security efforts in Afghanistan in 2003, two years after a U.S.-led coalition ousted the Taliban for harboring former al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden. Fewer than 9,000 troops remain, including up to 3,500 U.S. personnel, and they are scheduled to leave by Sept. 11 at the latest.

"The drawdown of our forces is progressing in an orderly and coordinated way. At every step, the safety of our personnel remains paramount," Stoltenberg told reporters after chairing virtual meetings of NATO's foreign and defense ministers.

While NATO troops will no longer be in Afghanistan, the 30-nation alliance and its partners will continue to provide funding to what Stoltenberg described as the country's "capable, strong security force."

It remains unclear exactly how money will be channeled to the Afghan army, which military experts have warned is made up of poorly trained, ill-

equipped troops whose loyalties waver between their country and local warlords.

The experts say the Afghan armed forces, which are meant to be the bulwark against Taliban insurgents who have stepped up their attacks in recent months, is rife with corruption, demoralized and struggling to hold on to territory.

Three explosions rattled Kabul late Tuesday. Two bombs exploded in quick succession in separate locations in a western neighborhood, killing at least 10 people and wounding a dozen others, according to the Afghan Interior Ministry. A third blast heavily damaged an electrical grid station in north Kabul.

NATO "will continue our civilian diplomatic presence in Kabul, to provide advice and capacity-building support to Afghan security institutions," Stoltenberg said. NATO diplomats said this week that it remains unclear who will protect those civilians or how Kabul's international airport will be secured.

The former Norwegian prime minister said that NATO is also studying ways to educate Afghan troops and train special forces soldiers outside the country. He said the ministers agreed that "this continued support is the best way in which we can all contribute to peace efforts in Afghanistan."

NATO's departure from Afghanistan will figure high on the agenda of a summit in Brussels on June 14 led by U.S. President Joe Biden. No Afghan leaders will take part in the meeting.

Report tells of sexual assault, racism at VMI

Associated Press

The Virginia Military Institute has tolerated and failed to address institutional racism and sexism and must be held accountable for making changes, according to a state-sanctioned report released Tuesday.

The 145-page report, put together by an independent law firm at the request of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, states that "racial slurs and jokes are not uncommon" and "contribute to an atmosphere of hostility toward minorities."

Some graduates welcomed the findings as long-overdue at a nearly two-century-old institution that carries the prestige of helping to educate Gen. George Patton but is also indelibly tied to the nation's history of racism and sexism. Others said the report mischaracterized "isolated" incidents that can happen at any school.

Among other findings, the report found that a racial disparity exists among cadets who have been dismissed by the school's student-run honor court. Cadets of color represent 23% of the corps but make up 41% of those dismissed since 2011.

The report also said that sexual assault is prevalent yet inadequately addressed at the nation's oldest state-supported military college. A survey found that 14% of female cadets reported being sexually assaulted, while 63% said that a fellow cadet had told them that he or she was a victim of sexual assault.

"The racist and misogynistic acts and outcomes uncovered during this investigation are disturbing," the report states. "Although VMI has no explicitly racist or sexist policies that it enforces, the facts reflect an overall racist and sexist culture."

The report includes several other concerns at the 182-year-old institution: VMI is less diverse than other schools. It maintains an "outdated" reverence for the Civil War and Confederacy. And a rift between athletes and non-athletes has led "to the incorrect perception that 'athlete' means 'African

American.'"

The report said the state should require VMI to submit quarterly reports on diversity and inclusion efforts, adding that VMI "will likely follow through on its promised reforms only if it is forced to do so."

The school's first Black superintendent, retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Cedric T. Wins, said the school has already been moving toward becoming more inclusive and welcoming. Those efforts include the removal of a prominent statue of Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson, who taught at VMI, in December.

Wins added that he developed an action plan following "deep dives" into VMI's policies that will help to better unify cadets.

"And so now it's up to us to take the report, along with our Board of Visitors, and look at it and understand what the recommendations are," Wins told The Associated Press during a phone interview. "And we'll certainly have conversations with state agencies ... and chart a path in terms of the direction that we need to go."

Shah Rahman, a 1997 VMI graduate, told the AP that Tuesday's report is "quite critical of VMI's minority and gender inequities, and rightly so."

But Rahman added that the report "is also an opportunity for VMI to correct its course."

Rahman said he's hopeful because Wins, who graduated from the school in 1985, has already made changes since becoming interim superintendent in November and then superintendent in April.

"Wins attending VMI as a man of color is an important part of the overall reason for my hope," Rahman said. "He has an understanding of the dynamics of the institution."

Other alums pushed back at the report, saying it relied on isolated incidents that failed to add up to structural biases.

"I would say that it is systemically hard — but it's hard for everybody," said Mathew Daniel, who graduated in 1985.

MILITARY

DPAA to ID 90% of USS Oklahoma unknowns

By WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — The Defense Department expects by year's end to have identified 90% of the exhumed remains of 388 sailors and Marines who died aboard the USS Oklahoma during the 1941 surprise attack on Pearl Harbor and were buried as unknowns in Hawaii.

"The identification of 338 individuals, to date, from the USS Oklahoma represents the first successful completion of a project of such scope and complexity," the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency said in a news release Tuesday.

The agency spearheads the nation's effort to identify and account for missing service members lost during World War II and all subsequent conflicts.

Active work on the USS Oklahoma project is expected to end later this year, the DPAA said in a statement provided to Stars and Stripes.

"Nearly 86% of unknowns from the USS Oklahoma have been individually identified and it is expected that 90% will be identified by the end of the project, surpassing the original projected estimate of 80%," the release said.

The USS Oklahoma was moored

on Battleship Row on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, when Japanese torpedo bombers descended on Pearl Harbor. Several made direct hits on the ship, capsizing it and killing 429 crew members.

After being moved to several gravesites, the remains of 394 sailors and Marines who died that day — all too badly burned, disfigured or decayed to identify — were laid to rest in 46 plots for the unknown in 1950 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu.

The remains might never have been identified if not for Ray Emory, a Pearl Harbor attack survivor who retired in Hawaii. In the late 1990s, he began researching information about the Oklahoma unknown graves and uncovered evidence of the identity of several of the remains.

In 2003, the Defense Department agreed to disinter one casket of commingled remains based on Emory's findings, and five sailors were identified at a DOD lab at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Emory, who died in 2018, pressed for more exhumations of Oklahoma unknowns, and in 2015 Defense Department officials approved disinterment of all unknown graves at the Punchbowl

associated with the Oklahoma.

Those remains — representing 388 sailors and Marines — were disinterred in 2015 and transferred to DPAA's lab in Nebraska for DNA testing.

"Since then, DPAA anthropologists and odontologists, located primarily at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, have worked to sort and analyze over 13,000 bones and associate them to missing Sailors and Marines," the agency said Tuesday.

"Genealogists from the Navy and Marine Corps Casualty Offices conducted research to find family members so that DNA testing could be conducted by scientists at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System, all of which were critical components in the identification process."

The Defense Department does not have DNA reference samples from next of kin for 11 of the service members still unaccounted for from the Oklahoma, the agency told Stars and Stripes.

"We have requested all the [family reference samples] for the unaccounted-for associated with the USS Oklahoma," the statement said.

As for remains of Oklahoma service members for whom DOD has no sample, the Navy cannot



U.S. National Archives

Rescue teams stand on the capsized hull of the USS Oklahoma on Dec. 7, 1941, in an attempt to save crew members trapped inside.

find a next of kin or the next of kin has declined to participate, according to the DPAA statement.

Work on some remains took longer than others because additional DNA testing had to be conducted by the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System, the statement said.

"For example, there were multiple sets of brothers missing from the incident, so DNA had to be joined with additional lines of evidence to resolve them individually," the statement said.

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Judge tosses lawsuit from former Marine who was jailed in Iran

By ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A judge has thrown out a lawsuit from a former Marine who was jailed in Iran for more than four years and then denied a multimillion-dollar payout from a special U.S. government victims' fund after an FBI espionage investigation into his travels.

Judge Richard Hertling of the Court of Federal Claims said in a ruling dated Friday that the court lacked jurisdiction to overturn decisions of the special master who oversees the fund. A lawyer for Amir Hekmati said Tuesday that he was disappointed by the ruling.

"We will, of course, pursue a prompt and vigorous appeal, and we are confident that ultimately the facts will prevail," said the attorney, Scott D. Gilbert.

Hekmati, who in 2016 was released as part of a prisoner swap, was initially awarded a default judgment after Iran failed to contest his allegations that he was wrongfully imprisoned and brutally tortured there on suspicion that he had been spying for the CIA. Such awards are made from a fund for victims of state-sponsored terrorism that is administered by the Justice Department through a special master and

that caps payments at \$20 million, the amount Hekmati and his lawyers say he was entitled to receive.

He was told in late 2017 that his claim was eligible for payment from the fund. But no money came, and the Justice Department told Hekmati's lawyers in 2019 that it planned to reconsider its earlier position that Hekmati was eligible for an award. Kenneth Feinberg, renowned for overseeing payments to victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, was reappointed special master of the fund for the purpose of reconsidering Hekmati's claim.

In January 2020, he told Hekmati's lawyers that he had concluded that Hekmati was ineligible for a payout. He cited documents revealing a decade-old FBI espionage investigation into whether Hekmati had traveled to Iran with the intent of selling classified information.

Feinberg said the records raised questions about whether Hekmati had misled the U.S. government when he said his primary purpose in traveling to Iran was to visit his ailing grandmother.

Hekmati has vigorously disputed the espionage suspicions and has never been charged.

Lawyers for Hekmati, who was raised in Michigan and served as an



AP

Amir Hekmati, a former Marine, was jailed in Iran for more than four years.

infantryman and interpreter in Iraq before being honorably discharged from the Marines in 2005, say any suggestion he could have been a spy for Iran is impossible to square with the way he was imprisoned and tortured there. They note that he was initially awarded payment from the fund well after the FBI investigation was underway, and that he's never faced any charges.

The ruling did not delve into specifics of the dispute; it simply turned on a legal question of jurisdiction.

Japanese police recommend that US sailor be charged in crash that killed pedestrian

By HANA KUSUMOTO

AND SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Japanese police have recommended a U.S. sailor assigned to Yokosuka Naval Base be charged with negligent driving resulting in death and injury following an accident Saturday that took the life of an elderly woman and injured two other people.

Lt. Ridge Hannemann Alkonis, 33, was arrested at 2:40 p.m. Saturday after police said he crashed his car into vehicles and pedestrians in Fujinomiya, a city in Shizuoka prefecture that's about two hours from the naval base.

Police allege Alkonis drove into a restaurant parking lot in the city's Yamamiya district around 1 p.m. and struck five vacant vehicles and three pedestrians. Alkonis since April has served as a weapons officer aboard the destroyer USS Benfold, according to his LinkedIn profile.

One of the pedestrians, an 85-year-old woman, died that afternoon at a nearby hospital. Also hospitalized were a man, 54, with serious injuries, and a woman, 53, with minor injuries.

Alkonis was not injured, accord-

ing to police.

Police upgraded the charges they recommended against Alkonis following the woman's death and sent the case to prosecutors on Monday, a Fujinomiya police spokesman said Tuesday.

A spokesman for the Shizuoka District Public Prosecutors Office in Numazu confirmed that the case was referred to them and that Alkonis remained in custody. Prosecutors, not police, decide formal charges under Japan's criminal justice system.

Some government officials in Japan customarily speak to the media on condition of anonymity.

Naval Forces Japan spokeswoman Cmdr. Katie Cerezo on Sunday said the Navy was cooperating with Japanese police. She declined to provide additional information about the case on Wednesday.

In October, Alkonis won first prize in an essay contest about mine warfare that was sponsored by the Mine Warfare Association and published in Proceedings, the U.S. Naval Institute's monthly magazine.

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VIRUS OUTBREAK

US military in Japan has 9 new cases

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes
CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The U.S. military in Japan reported nine new cases of COVID-19 as of 6 p.m. Wednesday.

The Marine Corps on Okinawa had eight people test positive for the coronavirus between Saturday and Tuesday: three each at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and Camp Hansen and two at Camp Foster, according to a Facebook post Wednesday by Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

The Marines have reported 53 cases of COVID-19 since May 1.

U.S. Army Japan reported that a recent arrival tested positive while still in the mandatory 14-day quarantine between May 26 and Tuesday, according to an Army news release Wednesday.

Japan reported 2,642 new coronavirus cases on Wednesday, down nearly 4,600 from the most recent peak of 7,237 on May 8, the Yomiuri newspaper reported. The government has counted 750,000 cases during the pandemic and more than 13,000 deaths, according to the World Health Organization.

Tokyo on Wednesday reported another 487 people coronavirus infections and 13 deaths, according to public broadcaster NHK. The number of new infections is 256 less than the same day last week, according to metro government data.

Osaka prefecture, the nation's



MATTHEW DICKINSON/U.S. Navy

A Navy hospitalman fills a syringe with the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine earlier this year at Naval Hospital Okinawa.

second-largest metro area, reported 213 new infections, according to NHK.

A month ago, the prefecture was experiencing its highest caseload of the pandemic. It had 1,057 new COVID-19 patients on May 2 alone, according to prefectural data.

Okinawa prefecture, now experiencing its worst phase of the pandemic, thus far, reported another 223 new infections Wednesday, according to NHK.

Due to the surge, hospitals in the

prefecture are restricting outpatient treatment and limiting inpatient admissions, NHK reported Wednesday.

Hospitals on Okinawa are close to 98% capacity for coronavirus cases and 93.5% for all other hospitalizations.

Tokyo and nine other prefectures, including Osaka and Okinawa, are in a state of emergency through June 20.

Japan, which has lagged other developed nations in vaccinating its population, is preparing to step

up inoculations ahead of the Olympic Games, scheduled to begin July 23, according to Japanese media reports.

Vaccine distributions will begin at seven state-run universities across Japan later this month, Kyodo News reported Wednesday. Japanese athletes, coaches and staff taking part in the Tokyo Olympics received their first doses Tuesday.

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Japan giving \$800M more to UN-backed vaccine deal

Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's prime minister announced Wednesday an additional \$800 million contribution to the U.N.-backed initiative to provide COVID-19 vaccines to poor countries, a four-fold increase of Japanese funding for the COVAX program.

The pledge by Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga comes as his government attempts to accelerate vaccinations in Japan, one of the world's least inoculated countries, only about 50 days before it hosts the Olympics amid a continuing surge in infections.

He spoke as Japan co-sponsored a fundraising event for COVAX with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, which helps run the program. The program managers are seeking about \$2 billion more to reach a target of \$8.3 billion for its effort to fund free vaccines for low- and middle-income countries around the world.

"Now is the time for us to act," Suga said, leading a parade of world and humanitarian leaders who announced pledges and commitments on Wednesday. He said the additional \$800 million will bring Japan's contribution to \$1 billion, second to the \$2.5 billion pledged by the United States.

Suga also announced plans to provide 30 million doses of a vaccine manufactured under license in Japan to other countries and regions in need. He did not specify the maker or recipients.

Officials have said Japan is considering providing the AstraZeneca vaccine to Taiwan as the island faces a resurgence of infections.

Japan has approved three foreign-developed vaccines and is currently using ones from Pfizer Inc. and Moderna Inc. It has no immediate plans to use the AstraZeneca vaccine, which is easier to store and transport than the other two vaccines, which require special freezers, officials said.

Suga also introduced a new vaccine strategy adopted Tuesday and vowed to develop Japan's own vaccines and provide them globally and to improve the clinical testing environment to prepare for future pandemics.

Under the long-term strategy, Japan will aim for the speedy development and rollout of new vaccines. In addition to a lack of locally developed vaccines, Japan's lengthy drug approval process was criticized as a major obstacle that delayed vaccinations during the pandemic.

The event was also attended by U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres and philanthropist Bill Gates.

Restrictions ease for US service members in Germany

By MARCUS KLOECKNER
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Movie theaters, entertainment parks and other businesses were allowed to reopen Wednesday, as several areas where U.S. forces live in Germany reported coronavirus incidence rates that allow local officials to ease federally mandated restrictions.

Restrictions on shopping and activities were pared down starting last month in communities that had a weekly average incidence rate of 100 new cases per 100,000 people, with additional allowances for areas with a rate of less than 50 new cases per 100,000 people.

The state of Rheinland-Pfalz, home to tens of thousands of U.S. service members, reported a weekly average incidence rate of about 32 new cases per 100,000 people Wednesday, a sharp drop compared to recent weeks.

That same day, the improved numbers allowed most of the state to open hotels to guests and indoor dining to patrons who can either show a negative test or proof of vaccination. Diners eating out-



Erik Slavin/Stars and Stripes

Restaurants and shops open up again to customers in Limburg an der Lahn, Germany, on Monday. Coronavirus restrictions have eased in much of the country as incidence rates have fallen in recent weeks.

doors at restaurants do not need a test. Swimming pools may also open at 50% capacity, according to the state rules.

Entertainment and cultural venues, including cinemas, are allowed to admit up to 100 people indoors and 250 people at once outside, the rules stated Wednesday.

"Since in past days the inci-

dence rate in Rheinland-Pfalz has declined significantly, we can continue to go this way carefully but also with confidence," state governor Malu Dreyer said in a statement.

The state government in Mainz said it expects to ease restrictions more in the second half of June. This would include opening flea markets and fairs, which have

been closed for several months.

The situation is similar in other German states where U.S. bases are located.

The incidence rate for Bavaria stood at 37.5 per 100,000 people on Wednesday. Weiden, a town with about 42,000 people near large U.S. Army training areas, had a rate of just 4.7 new cases per 100,000 people, which is the lowest rate in Bavaria.

In the southeastern state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, which hosts numerous U.S. installations, the incidence rate Wednesday was about 37 new cases per 100,000 people. In Stuttgart and the surrounding region, the rate was 43 per 100,000 people.

In Hesse, home to U.S. Army Europe and Africa headquarters in Wiesbaden, the incidence rate moved up slightly to 46 on Wednesday. A nighttime curfew was lifted in the city of Wiesbaden, where the rate stands at about 73. The number of cases there is higher than many cities in the region but much lower than a month ago.

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VIRUS OUTBREAK



AP

Jack Campise talks with his mother, Beverly Kearns, through her apartment window at the Kimberly Hall North nursing home, in May 2020, in Windsor, Conn. New coronavirus outbreaks, often traced to infected staff members, are still occurring in long-term care centers, causing continued havoc for visitation policies.

Nursing homes still endure outbreaks that limit visits

BY SUSAN HAIGH
Associated Press

Jeannie Wells had hoped that regular visits would resume at her elderly mother's New York nursing home once all the residents were fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Around Easter, her wish finally came true, and she was able to hold the 93-year-old's hand more than a year after bringing her mother to the facility for rehabilitation for a fractured hip and knee.

But that reunion was short-lived. Visits were quickly stopped for about six weeks after an employee tested positive for COVID, and Wells said visits are still far from normal even when there haven't been outbreaks.

COVID-19 vaccines have allowed nursing homes in the U.S. to make dramatic progress since the dark days of the pandemic, but senior care facilities are still experiencing scattered outbreaks that are largely blamed on unvaccinated staff members. The outbreaks and ensuing shutdowns have jolted family members who were just starting to enjoy in-person visits with loved ones for the first time in a year.

While the outbreaks inside nursing homes now are much smaller,

less frequent and less severe than during the height of the pandemic, there continue to be hundreds of deaths each week attributed to the coronavirus. According to federal data, 472 nursing home deaths were related to COVID-19 in the first two weeks of May, down from 10,675 in the first two weeks of January.

"There is this notion among some that vaccines were administered in long-term care, so we're done, and that would be a perilous mistake," said Dr. David Gifford, chief medical officer for the American Health Care Association, a national nursing home trade association, in a recent statement. "Nursing homes and assisted living communities have a constant flow of new residents, whether coming from the hospital or the community, and many of them haven't been vaccinated yet."

In addition, the CDC has warned that low rates of vaccination among health care workers in skilled nursing facilities raises risks of outbreaks.

A March outbreak involving a variant at a Kentucky nursing home, where most residents had been vaccinated for COVID-19, was traced to an infected, unvaccinated worker, according to a CDC report. Among

the 46 cases identified, 26 residents and 20 workers became infected, including 18 residents and four workers who were fully vaccinated 14 days before the outbreak.

Three of the nursing home's residents who contracted COVID-19 died, including two who were not vaccinated. So-called "break-through" infections among vaccinated individuals were also identified in nursing homes in Chicago, according to another recent CDC report.

Tim Brown, director of marketing and communications at Athena Health Care Systems, which operates 48 facilities in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, recently estimated about 50% to 60% of staff have been vaccinated so far, with as many as 80% in some buildings. If a staff member tests positive, he said, buildings are put under quarantine and visits are put on hold while another round of staff testing is conducted. Unvaccinated staff are being tested regularly.

"If there are no other cases, or if the employee did not work on a specific wing, then we allow visitation for that wing or for the wings that are not affected by the positive employee," Brown said.

Getting vaccine may lessen need for boosters

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

Scientists have found clues that the world's leading COVID-19 vaccines offer lasting protection that could diminish the need for frequent booster shots, but they caution that more research is needed and that virus mutations are still a wild card.

Critical studies are underway, and evidence is mounting that immunity from the mRNA vaccines made by Pfizer and Moderna does not depend exclusively on antibodies that dwindle over time. The body has overlapping layers of protection that offer backup.

Pfizer and Moderna have fueled booster questions by estimating that people might need yearly shots, just like with flu vaccinations, and the companies are working to have some candidates ready this fall. But companies will not decide when boosters get used. That will be up to health authorities in each country.

Other experts say boosters may be needed only every few years.

"I would be surprised if we actually needed a yearly booster shot," said Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine specialist at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia who advises the Food and Drug Administration.

They point to ways the immune system remembers the coronavirus so that once original antibodies fade, the body's defenses can swing back into action if a person is exposed again.

"I'm pretty optimistic. I wouldn't rule out the need for boosters, but the immune response so far looks actually quite impressive," University of Pennsylvania immunologist John Wherry said.

Antibodies that form after vaccination or natural infection do wane naturally, but there's evidence that those levels remain strong for at least six to nine months after mRNA vaccination and possibly longer.

They also appear effective against worrisome virus mutants, at least for now.

Scientists do not yet know what's called the correlate of protection, the level below which antibodies cannot fend off the coronavirus without additional help.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the U.S. government's leading infectious disease expert, told a Senate subcommittee last week that vaccine protection would not be infinite.

"I would imagine we will need, at some time, a booster," Fauci said. "What we're figuring out right now is what that interval is going to be."

To date, 62.8% of the adult U.S. population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and 133.6 million, or more than 40%, are fully vaccinated. The rate of new vaccinations has slowed to an average below 600,000 per day, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearing President Joe Biden's goal of 70% with at least one inoculation by July 4.

Infections and deaths continue to fall. The nation's seven-day average for daily new cases fell to less than 17,300 on Tuesday, down from more than 31,000 two weeks ago. Daily deaths declined to 588, down from 605, according to data from Johns Hopkins University. The virus has killed more than 595,000 people in the U.S.

So-called long-lived plasma cells are one of the body's backups. Immunologist Ali Ellebedy at Washington University in St. Louis found that nearly a year after people recovered from mild COVID-19, those plasma cells had migrated to the bone marrow where they were continuing to secrete antibodies. That's why although antibodies diminish with time, they have not disappeared. Now Ellebedy is hunting for the same cells in vaccine recipients. The research isn't finished, but he's finding hints that they're forming.

Beer is among latest vaccine incentives for Biden 'month of action'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Free beer is the latest White House-backed incentive for Americans to get vaccinated for COVID-19, as President Joe Biden planned to announce a "month of action" Wednesday to get more shots into arms before the July 4 holiday.

Speaking from the White House, Biden planned to update the nation

on the vaccination rollout and his plans to get 70% of adults partially vaccinated by Independence Day — essential to his goal of returning the nation to a pre-pandemic sense of normalcy this summer. The latest vaccine sweetener, provided by Anheuser-Busch, builds on other incentives like cash giveaways, sports tickets or paid leave, to keep up the pace of Americans getting

shots.

The White House said Biden's "month of action" will continue to use public and private-sector partnerships to encourage Americans to roll up their sleeves, drawing in businesses, social media influencers, colleges, celebrities and community organizations to help spread the word about the benefits of vaccination and to encourage

them to get shots.

To date 62.8% of the adult U.S. population have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and 133.6 million are full vaccinated. The rate of new vaccinations has slowed again to an average below 600,000 per day, down from more than 800,000 per day when incentives like lotteries were announced, and down from a peak of nearly 2

million per day in early April when demand for shots was much higher.

Anheuser-Busch announced Wednesday morning that it would "buy Americans 21+ a round of beer" once Biden's 70% goal is met through a promotional giveaway on its website that will provide \$5 credits to the first 200,000 people to respond when the nation reaches the vaccine threshold.

NATION

Charges after Capitol riot anger far-right groups

Associated Press

Former President Donald Trump's lies about a stolen 2020 election united right-wing supporters, conspiracy theorists and militants on Jan. 6, but the aftermath of the insurrection is roiling two of the most prominent far-right extremist groups at the U.S. Capitol that day.

More than three dozen members and associates across both the Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers have been charged with crimes. Some local chapters cut ties with national leadership in the weeks after the deadly siege. The Proud Boys' chairman called for a pause in the rallies that often have led to clashes with anti-fascist activists. And one Oath Keeper has agreed to cooperate against others charged in the riot.

Some extremism experts see parallels between the fallout from the Capitol riot and the schisms that divided far-right figures and groups after their violent clashes with counterprotesters at the "Unite the Right" white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va., in August 2017. The white supremacist



In this image taken from Capitol building security camera footage and released in a criminal complaint by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, Derek Jancart, circled by the source, joins other rioters who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 in Washington.

"alt-right" movement fractured and ultimately faded from public view after the violence erupted

that weekend.

"I think something kind of like that is happening right now in the

broader far-right movement, where the cohesive tissue that brought them all together — being

the 2020 election — it's kind of dissolved," said Jared Holt, a resident fellow at the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab.

But others believe President Joe Biden's victory and the Jan. 6 investigation, the largest federal prosecution in history, might animate the militia movement — fueled by an anti-government anger.

"We're already seeing a lot of this rhetoric being spewed in an effort to pull in people," said Freddy Cruz, a Southern Poverty Law Center research analyst who studies anti-government groups. "It's very possible that people will become energized and try to coordinate more activity given that we have a Democratic president in office."

Members of the Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers make up just a fraction of the more than 400 people charged so far. Prosecutors have narrowed in on the two extremist groups as they try to determine how much planning went into the attack, but authorities have said they're intent on arresting anyone involved.

US ends policy for asylum-seekers to wait in Mexico

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration on Tuesday formally ended a Trump-era immigration policy that forced asylum-seekers to wait in Mexico for hearings in U.S. immigration court.

A seven-page memo by Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas marked the end of the "Migrant Protection Protocols," which returned about 70,000 asylum-seekers to Mexico from January 2019 until it was halted on Presi-

dent Joe Biden's first day in office two years later.

The announcement appeared to be a foregone conclusion after Biden promised as a candidate to end the policy, known informally as "Remain in Mexico," but he left a window open by ordering a review before shutting it down permanently.

Mayorkas said keeping the policy intact or modifying it "would not be consistent with this Administration's vision and values, and would

be a poor use of the Department's resources." He said the costs would far outweigh any benefits.

The policy coincided with a sharp decline of asylum-seekers at the border, but critics noted that people were continually hampered by violent conditions in Mexico, lack of access to lawyers and difficulty making it to court. Mayorkas acknowledged those concerns by noting the high rate of denied claims for failing to appear in court and the lack of housing, income and

safety in Mexico.

Since Feb. 19, about 11,200 people with active cases have been allowed to return to the United States to wait for a ruling, a process that can take years in the backlogged court system. The administration has yet to say if tens of thousands more whose cases were either dismissed or denied will get another chance.

The top Republican on the House Homeland Security Committee lambasted the move as "a very seri-

ous mistake" that would hinder efforts to curb the numbers of migrants entering the U.S. The remarks by Rep. John Katko, R-N.Y., underscored the GOP view that the situation at the border remains a political liability for Democrats.

"The common thread across President Biden's continued actions is unwinding commonsense border security policies while putting our homeland security on the back burner," Katko said in a written statement.

Biden reverses Trump move, suspends oil leases in Alaska's Arctic refuge

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration on Tuesday suspended oil and gas leases in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, reversing a drilling program approved by the Trump administration and reviving a political fight over a remote region that is home to polar bears and other

wildlife — and a rich reserve of oil.

The order by Interior Secretary Deb Haaland follows a temporary moratorium on oil and gas lease activities imposed by President Joe Biden on his first day in office. Biden's Jan. 20 executive order suggested a new environmental review was needed to address possible legal flaws in a drilling pro-

gram approved by the Trump administration under a 2017 law enacted by Congress.

After conducting a required review, Interior said it "identified defects in the underlying record of decision supporting the leases, including the lack of analysis of a reasonable range of alternatives" required under the National Envi-

ronmental Policy Act, a bedrock environmental law.

The remote, 19.6 million-acre refuge is home to polar bears, caribou, snowy owls and other wildlife, including migrating birds from six continents. Republicans and the oil industry have long been trying to open up the oil-rich refuge, which is considered sacred by the

Indigenous Gwich'in, for drilling. Democrats, environmental groups and some Alaska Native tribes have been trying to block it.

Environmental groups and Democrats cheered the Interior Department order, while Alaska's all-Republican congressional delegation slammed it as misguided and illegal.

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NATION

Police release new body-cam video of rail yard shooting

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — A gunman who killed nine co-workers at a Northern California rail yard shot himself twice in the head as sheriff's deputies raced into a building, according to authorities who on Tuesday released body-camera footage of the tense encounter.

The nearly 4 1/2 minutes of footage is from one deputy who arrived minutes after the first shooting reports and while shots were still being fired at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority bus and rail yard in San Jose, where 57-year-old Samuel Cassidy opened fire before killing himself.

A "contact team" of deputies and San Jose police officers was immediately formed to find the gunman, who was reported to be

inside a building and armed with a handgun.

The body camera footage shows the team cautiously climbing stairs to the third floor, where a VTA supervisor comes out with arms raised and hands over his keycard so officers can get inside the building.

The five-member team then sweeps into the building, guns raised, using gun-mounted flashlights as they pass through rooms and corridors to a dispatch center.

Within minutes, they hear a gunshot, then another, followed by two more. As they come to another door, one of the team looks through a small window and says: "I've got somebody down" inside. The team opens the door and somebody shouts "Let me see your hands!"



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/AP

In this image from body-camera footage, deputies approach a set of doors with their weapons drawn inside a building at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority bus and rail yard May 26 in San Jose, Calif.

What might be two more shots are heard.

The footage shows a man slumped in a chair near a stairwell with a gun in his hand. He is across from a dispatch center door with a window shattered by gunfire.

The gunman had shot himself under the chin then put the gun to the side of his head, Santa Clara County Sheriff Laurie Smith said.

It wasn't clear whether Cassidy knew that law enforcement offi-

cers were closing in on him or not, but he may have seen their flashlights and heard them yelling to each other as they determined where the shooter and victims were as they moved through the building, Smith said.

The deputies and officers "hardly spoke a word to each other" when they entered the building because "they knew what their job was," she said, adding that they showed extraordinary courage.

Off-duty FBI agent charged in shooting on subway train

Associated Press

ROCKVILLE, Md. — An FBI agent has been charged with attempted murder in the off-duty shooting of another man on a Metro subway train last year in a Maryland suburb of Washington, D.C., according to court records unsealed Tuesday.

During a hearing, Montgomery County prosecutors outlined their account of how the Dec. 15 confrontation between the agent, Eduardo Valdivia, 37, and an unarmed passenger swiftly escalated from a testy exchange of words to a shooting on a train approaching Medical Center station in Bethesda.

Defense attorney Robert Bon-sib said Valdivia acted in self-defense as the man approached him at the rear of a train car.

After the hearing, the county's top prosecutor declined to explain why his office concluded that the shooting wasn't justified.

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Teen shoves bear that swatted family dog

CA BRADBURY — Hailey Morinico didn't hesitate when she saw a large bear facing off with her family dogs from the top of a wall in their Southern California backyard.

Home surveillance video aired by ABC 7 shows the mama bear perched on top of the wall, swatting at a large black dog on the ground. Two bear cubs are behind the bear while four smaller dogs are barking and darting around the yard.

The 17-year-old sprints into the frame, uses two hands to push the large bear off the wall, then picks up one of the smaller dogs. She and the other dogs then run out of the frame.

The bears disappear over a wall into a neighbor's yard.

Man accused of plotting Walmart attack arrested

TX KERRVILLE — Authorities in Texas arrested a man accused of plotting to carry out a mass shooting at a Walmart, and a search of the suspect's home turned up firearms, ammunition and materials officials described as "radical ideology paraphernalia."

Coleman Thomas Blevins, 28, was arrested in Kerrville and was charged with making a "terroristic threat to create public fear of serious bodily injury," the Kerr County Sheriff's Office said in a news release.

Investigators said they intercepted a message from Blevins indicating he was "preparing to proceed with a mass shooting," and that the threat included Walmart. Blevins was taken into custody the next day.

Park Police rescue dog that tumbled into gorge

NY CASTILE — A specialized police ropes team went down into a western New York gorge to rescue a dog that had fallen into it, state Park Police said.

The Labrador retriever, named Achilles, plunged about 150 to 200 feet into a gorge in Letchworth State Park in Castile, about 50 miles southeast of Buffalo, the park police said in a Facebook post . The dog broke his leg and was stranded.

The Genesee High Angle Rope Rescue team found Achilles and made their way down to the dog.

Police said that except for the broken leg and some minor injuries, he was healthy.

Boy, 7, swims an hour to rescue his dad, sister

FL JACKSONVILLE — A 7-year-old boy was credited for helping to save his father and 4-year-old sister by swimming to shore and calling for help after they got caught in a



RENEE JONES SCHNEIDER, (MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.) STAR TRIBUNE/AP

Slip sliding away

Shawnda Henderson, of Minneapolis, rode the Giant slide with her daughter Mira on the last day of the Kickoff to Summer at the Fair event at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in Falcon Heights, Minn.

strong current during a boating trip on Florida's St. Johns River.

The father, Steven Poust, told Jax4 television station that he anchored his boat in the river while he fished and his children played. Chase Poust said the current was too strong for his sister Abigail to hold onto the boat, and he also let go to stay with her. Only the girl was wearing a life jacket.

Their father jumped in the water to grab her. Chase then began swimming toward shore.

Chase kept swimming, doggie paddling and floating on his back to keep from tiring out. It took him about an hour to reach land. He ran to the nearest house for help.

Crews from the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission found the father and daughter about a mile from their boat.

Clerk pays extra postage to send wedding invites

AK WASILLA — An Alaska bride-to-be mailed out her wedding invitations last month and eagerly waited for friends and family to respond. And kept waiting.

THE CENSUS

62 The height in feet of a towering sculpture of a chicken in rural south Georgia. The framed outline of the giant chicken towers above nearby homes in the city of Fitzgerald. The finished product will be a gargantuan topiary, meaning the chicken will be sculpted from living plants growing on its frame. The plans call for a room inside the base of the chicken that can be rented to visitors. Mayor Jim Puckett said he's heard from newlyweds interested in booking it for a honeymoon suite.

"We were kind of wondering why we weren't receiving any RSVPs, but we really didn't think much of it," Crystle Lewis of Wasilla told news station KTUU-TV.

It turns out, they had incorrect postage on their invitations. Their style of invitation, with a wax seal on the back side of the envelope, required extra postage.

A notice had been sent to the post office box associated with the invitations, informing them about the postage due.

Wasilla Post Office window clerk Edward "Lee" Mayton noticed the letters and saw that the owner hadn't checked the P.O. box.

Mayton bought the extra postage needed to mail the 50 or so invitations and with the help of his co-workers, got them stamped and in the mail.

Lewis and her fiancé tried to repay Lee, but he wouldn't accept

their money. And the invitations were mailed well enough in advance of the September wedding.

Fire destroys historic train depot, museum

MS McCOMB — A massive fire wrecked a Mississippi city's train depot and museum, a beloved restored landmark that dates back to McComb's founding as a railroad town.

No cause was immediately determined for the fire that broke out in the north end of the building in which the museum's office and archives were housed. McComb Fire Chief Gary McKenzie told the Enterprise-Journal that a rigorous investigation will be done.

It's unclear what effect the fire will have on Amtrak train service.

The museum was formed in 2001 and opened in 2003. It expanded in 2013.

Woman charged after crash involving 6 kids

MI SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP — A 29-year-old woman was charged with drunken driving and child endangerment after crashing a vehicle carrying six children into a utility pole in western Michigan.

The Ottawa County sheriff's office said the Kentwood woman apparently lost control of the vehicle at a curve before crashing.

No one was hurt.

Man charged after tires slashed on vehicles

ME PORTLAND — A man was charged after tires were slashed on more than 30 vehicles in Portland's Old Port.

James Rozakis, 43, was charged with criminal mischief, trespassing and violating bail conditions, police said.

He was arrested after being spotted and attempting to run away.

Many of the targeted vehicles were near the Regency Hotel.

WORLD

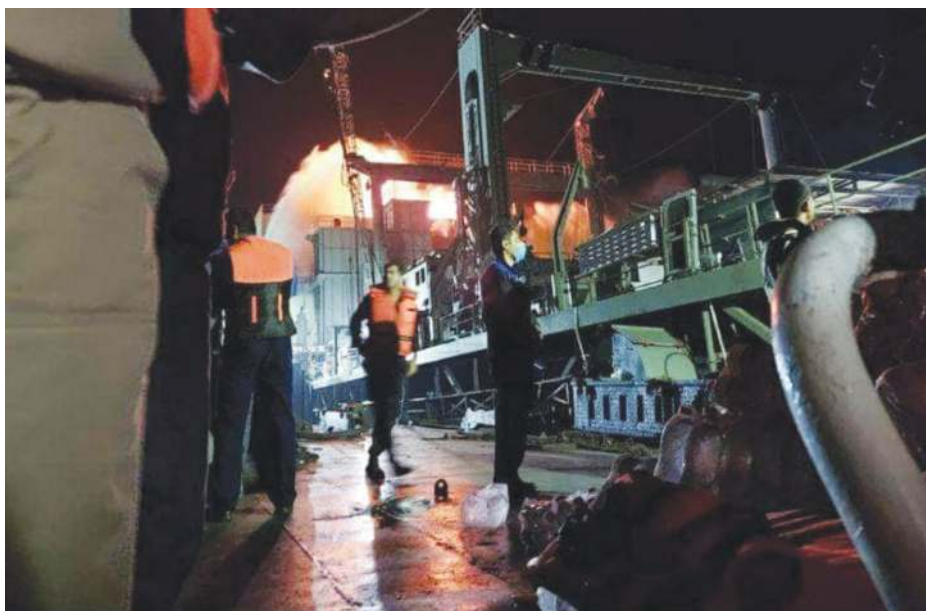
Iranian warship sinks after fire

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — The largest warship in the Iranian navy caught fire and later sank Wednesday in the Gulf of Oman under unclear circumstances, semiofficial news agencies reported.

The blaze began around 2:25 a.m. and firefighters tried to contain it, the Fars news agency reported, but their efforts failed to save the 679-foot Kharg, which was used to resupply other ships in the fleet at sea and conduct training exercises. State media reported 400 sailors and trainee cadets on board fled the vessel, with 33 suffering injuries.

The vessel sank near the Iranian port of Jask, some 790 miles southeast of Tehran on the Gulf of Oman near the Strait of Hormuz — the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf. Photos circulated on Iranian social media of sailors wearing life jackets



AP

Personnel stand on Iran's navy support ship Kharg after it caught on fire in the Gulf of Oman on Wednesday.

evacuating the vessel as a fire burned behind them.

Fars published video of thick, black smoke rising from the ship early Wednesday morning.

Satellite photos from Planet Labs Inc. analyzed by The Associated Press showed the Kharg off to the west of Jask on Tuesday.

Satellites from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that track fires from space detected a blaze at the site of the Jask that started just before the time of the fire reported by Fars.

The warship, built in Britain and launched in 1977, entered the Iranian navy in 1984 after lengthy negotiations that followed Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Iranian officials offered no cause for the fire aboard the Kharg, though they said an investigation had begun.

It comes after a series of mysterious explosions that began in 2019 targeting commercial ships in the Gulf of Oman.

The U.S. Navy later accused Iran of targeting the ships with limpet mines, timed explosives typically attached by divers to a vessel's hull.

Meat producer getting back online after cyberattack

Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — The world's largest meat processing company is getting back online after production around the world was disrupted by a cyberattack just weeks after a similar incident shut down a U.S. oil pipeline.

Brazil's JBS SA said late Tuesday that it had made "significant progress" in dealing with the cyberattack and expected the "vast majority" of its plants to be operating on Wednesday.

Earlier, the White House said JBS had notified the U.S. of a ransom demand from a criminal organization likely based in Russia.

JBS is the second-largest producer of beef, pork and chicken in the U.S. If it were to shut down for even one day, the U.S. would lose almost a quarter of its beef-processing capacity, or the equivalent of 20,000 beef cows, according to Trey Malone, an assistant professor of agriculture at Michigan State University.

The closures reflect the reality that modern meat processing plants are heavily automated, for both food- and worker-safety reasons. Computers collect data at multiple stages of the production process, and orders, billing, shipping and other functions are all electronic.

JBS, which has not stated publicly that the attack was ransomware, said the cyberattack affected servers supporting its operations in North America and Australia. Backup servers weren't affected and it said it was not aware of any data being compromised.

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A SALUTE
TO DODEA'S
CLASS OF



2021

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CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2021

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Brunssum, Netherlands

AFNORTH International School



AFNORTH CLASS OF 2021

I have been at AFNorth for seven years and I can confidently say that there is no other school I would have wished to have experienced both middle and high school at. The opportunities and life experiences that I have been given while a student here at AFNorth have been endless. Since AFNorth is an international school, I have gotten to meet and become friends with students from every end of the world as we share our differences as well as similarities together in a caring environment at school. The opportunities to play varsity sports and travel to various locations within Europe hold leadership positions in our student government. I have been able to participate in our National Honor Society, volunteer projects and be involved with the school for events such as our International Day, all while having assistance and support from teachers to remain focused on academics. That is what AFNorth is all about. Here, I have been able to strive in every aspect of what it means to be a successful student with my classmates, teachers, and staff being the first ones ready to help me reach my full potential. I know that when I graduate from AFNorth this June, I will have the life skills and qualities taught to me here to go on and pursue all that I wish to in life while still being able to look back at my memories from high school. Go Lions!

— Sydney Macauley,
Class of 2021

Juan Chapa
Stephanie Freundner
Ronnal Harris
Logan Hartman
Caleb Inman

Ammon Jones
Sydney Macauley
Isabella Mayfield
Maira Pallasigui
Nizhoni Palmer

Andrew Pfeil
Charles Thurston
Hadley Watts



Alconbury, England

Alconbury High School

Alconbury Middle High School has always been a small school, but we are beyond mighty. Completing high school in a small community was a challenge, mostly because even in “normal” times, we didn’t have those extravagant pep rallies, big football games or many food options on base like other big schools do. However, we figured out our own ways to make our time at Alco special, like participating in the extracurriculars to improve our school spirit and our community. The seniors also have been finding ways to beautify the school by painting murals, making class banners, and decorating the hallways.

We’ve had a senior year unlike any other—one spent wearing masks and socially distancing ourselves. We have faced disappointments,

such as not having homecoming, various sports, or being able to hang out with friends in or out of school. Things certainly did not turn out the way we imagined, but this pandemic has taught us to embrace what we have and make the most out of unexpected situations. The AMHS Senior Class of 2021 is beyond grateful for the parents, teachers, and staff that have constantly reinforced optimism and supported us through these hardships. Regardless of what the future holds, we will be successful on whatever journey we have chosen to take because our Alconbury community has taught us well. Once a Dragon, always a Dragon!

— Alyssa Beighle,
Senior Class President



Anderson, Benjamin
Auble, Ian
Beighle, Alyssa
Benton, Robert
Bishop, Natalie
Blackburn, Darian
Collins, Dilyn
Crowe, Jacob
Dietz, Joseph
Gray, Elena

Judson, Timothy
Keene, Ashley
Lee, Nicholas
Markarian, Aminah
McCutcheon, Kire’
McMurray, Gabriel
Meekins, Robert
Morris, Elijah
Polk, Jazmyn
Prendergast, Liam

Reyna, Kayla
Roman, Gavin
Schmitz, Donovan
Siegrist, Ivo
Snopkowski, Morgan
Trimer, Charles
Turner, Amity
Tye, Tre’von



Ankara, Turkey

Ankara High School



Reka Kinsco Bertalan
Milla Brown
Anja Eussen
Haine Jung
Kieran Kahler
Gabrielle Kern
Derek Kravetsky
Mateusz Malimon
Raquel Mandojana
Nuriye Maulenbay
Maciej Piasecki
Maryam Rana
Jerzy Rokicki
Turnisoy Salakhiddinova
Jason Savard
Kimora Smith
Andrew St. Laurent
Nichita Vasilica

They say all roads lead to Rome, however for me they all lead to Ankara. If you would’ve told my six-year-old self who just started kindergarten at Ankara EHS that one day I’ll be back and not only that but that I’ll be graduating from here as well, I probably would have laughed at you. But here we are, the class of 2021 getting ready to say our final goodbyes. And while this year has been anything but ordinary, that little time we did get to spend together will be treasured.

Sadly, many of the momentous high school events like senior prom, homecoming and, of course, all the sport seasons along with all the trips were ripped from us. Yet despite those setbacks, we never let our spirits down.

Our days have blurred into indoor activity seeking, aimless searching on Netflix, Google Classroom assignments, and different forms of virtual conversations. And even with all the technical problems, bad internet connections, and the many cases of accidental sleeping through online classes, we still managed to make it.

Ankara EHS has been far more than just simply a school for me. I’ve watched teachers, friends and even staff come and go, and for all the years that I have been here, it has changed me for the better, pushing me to try new things and revealing my true potential. I’ll forever cherish all the opportunities, memories, and lifelong friendships I was able to make through DoDEA. Thank you to everyone who has pushed and motivated us with their words of wisdom, encouragement, and their outpouring of love towards our class. While this isn’t how we imagined graduating, it’s time for a new chapter in our lives, and to quote Dr. Seuss: “Don’t cry because it’s over; smile because it happened.” Class of 2021, we did it. Congratulations to us all.

— Reka Kinsco Bertalan,
Class of 2021



Ansbach, Germany

Ansbach High School

Although only a class of 15, the seniors at Ansbach High School have definitely been seen, heard, and will be remembered. We took advantage of our small community and used it as a chance to gain leadership experience through many activities, such as National Honor Society, Student Council, Model UN, and Student to Student. We have made it our goal to make the most of our final year here and continue to strive for excellence despite the hardships we're all facing with COVID-19. Many of us may have imagined big assemblies and pep rallies to celebrate our accomplishments and journeys throughout our four years of high school, and although those visions were not exactly reached, we still somehow made this an extremely memorable year. We managed to hold a homecoming and spirit week to boost school morale and we are planning an amazing prom for the end of the year, thanks to the help of many teachers like Mrs. Rob and many other students who are volunteering their time to decorate a beautiful, yet COVID-safe environment. Additionally, many student athletes were able to participate in sports in the fall and spring, proving their resilience, hard work, and time-management skills as they juggled sports with other things like after-school work and AP classes. I am proud to say that most of the seniors averaged five AP classes throughout their high school career, and many took even more than that. We have challenged ourselves to engage in rigorous classes that will prepare us for our future and test our abilities to overcome mental obstacles. We seniors have a plan for our post-secondary adventures, so keep an eye out because we will definitely be making our mark on the world!

— Larina Miranda,
School Senior Class President



Alex Adams
Nathan Colon
Devin Collins
Nathan Griffin

Victoria Harding
Brenden Henderson
Emma Hocter
Rosalie Hodges

Railie Massari
Briana Miranda
Larina Miranda
Matthew Pregana

Eric Unger
Eliana Vales
Jessica Santos Watts
Tamara Woodberry



Aviano, Italy

Aviano High School



The class of 2021 at Aviano Middle High School has had a unique senior year. We have shown endless flexibility through months of transitioning between remote learning and in-person learning. Although our senior year has been different, we have thrived through virtual interactive events, limited fall sports, and various COVID-safe activities. This year has tested the resilience of our class. We came head-to-head with many obstacles and conquered them all. As military children, we have continued to adapt to any situation—no matter how tough—with vigor and optimism. Even though our class was denied the opportunity to experience many senior traditions, that did not stop us from creating our own. In fact, the class project for AMHS is the beginning of a new tradition.

Many seniors have fulfilled leadership roles throughout the school, from Student Government leadership to Future Business Leaders of America; the seniors have set an example for the rest of Aviano Middle High School. We made the most of our situation in our school and community. The compassion and empathy demonstrated by the senior class speaks volumes and will be remembered.

With all of the obstacles we have endured, the work will pay off as we plan for prom, the Senior Breakfast, a class pool party, and best of all, graduation. It has been an exciting journey, but this class has made an undeniable mark on Aviano Middle High School.

— Layla Hall,
Senior Class President

Altland, Nicholas
Barnes, Jaiden
Bouchard, Trenton
Bowen, Justin
Brown, Alora
Carroll, Halie
Cerde, Ruben

Cooper, Josiah
Cosseboom, Lucas
Double, Nathan
Emmons, Isabella
Evans, Miguel
Garcia, Madeline
Gibson, Taylor

Glover, Courtlyn
Green, Caiden
Hall, Layla
Hall, Makayla
Hamilton, Jayden
Hanretty, Elise
Harkley, Mikyla

Hwang, Brandon
Ledford, Shawn
Lehde, Braden
Mayberry, Madison
Merrill, Daniel
Patterson, Alanna
Polk, Juliet

Reynero, Alex
Rodriguez Surillo, David
Ruiz, David
Saenz, Trinity
Taylor, Victoria
Tonko, Spencer
Varnum, Payne

Villa, Zachary
Warren, Elijah
Wells, Xavier
Wetzel, Charles
Williams, Keyona
Yeager, Connor



Manama, Bahrain
Bahrain Elementary High School

We made it, Falcons! Bahrain School's Class of 2021 is a diverse family of future leaders excited to go out and change the world for the better. Graduates of Bahrain School have succeeded in every field, everywhere around the world. My classmates and I are honored to join the ranks of royals, business leaders, military personnel, and professionals of all descriptions who have graduated from our school.

We sincerely thank our parents, the NSA Bahrain and local community, and the faculty of Bahrain School for their support and guidance throughout our high school years. Without your love and encouragement, none of us would be where we are today, preparing to take the next great step in our lives.

In partnership with the Bahrain International School Association (BISA), Bahrain School is the only Department of Defense School in the Middle East and the only DoDEA School to offer both the American Diploma and the International Baccalaureate Diploma. This relationship signifies a long history of commitment to educational excellence and partnership with our host country. The international atmosphere of our campus has positively influenced our relationships and diplomacy founded on cooperation and mutual respect.

This year, our class has been separated with some students attending school brick and mortar, others attending virtual school, and others completing course work remotely while living in other countries. Yet, our dedication to each other and to our future success has allowed us to remain together with the common goal of completing our senior year successfully while forging lifelong friendships. Despite the physical distance between some of our classmates, the class has come together to host a senior breakfast, fundraisers, spirit week events, and new ceremonies such as College Signing Night and a Baccalaureate.

Our experiences from the first onset of the Coronavirus pandemic have taught us to see the good in the bad and make the best out of what seemed like unwinnable circumstances. By overcoming adversity, we have learned that perseverance is the key to success. To all my fellow classmates, let's keep going! We are the Bahrain School Class of 2021 and we are ready to change the world!

— Joseph Camuso,
Senior Class President



- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Kareem Abdallah | Mariam Baalbaki | Aanya Kaushal | Nur Shahira Sharizan |
| Mishal Abdulaal | Joseph Camuso | Khaled Kazim | Alexander Shu |
| Nadeen Abu-Al-Haj | Veruca Cornett | Ali Mahroos | Suhane Sood |
| Lydia Achab | Serj Culver | Molly Mince | Erin Storer |
| Claudia Agostinelli | Ege Demirelli | Khaled Nass | Isaiah Sutberry |
| Muhammad Ahmad Shah | Cody Kristan Escobar | Ray Nassar | Ibrahim Umar |
| Tareq Alessa | Demetrius Fulwiley | Tamara Nazir | Dilynn Wallace |
| Sulaiman Algosaibi | Hayato Gibo | Gage Nixon | Abigail White |
| Yara Alireza | Serine Guerouache | Hala Nooruddin | Camryn Whiteside |
| Fawaz Alkooheji | Leith Hansen | Omar Okosh | Nicole Widener |
| Layla AlSaad | Ahmed Hegazy | Elizabeth Paparo | Keyon Wilson |
| Alia Alsaie | Can Idemen | Giorgio Parodi | Aida Yasir |
| Shahla Alzayani | Theodore Jackson | Jordan Pierce | |
| Abdullah Amar | Izma Javed | Diego Rivera | |
| Omar Audih | Abdulla Kanoo | Jarod Rowland | |



Baumholder, Germany
Baumholder Middle High School

On June 3rd we will graduate, looking back on our experiences so far and looking forward to those yet to come. This year came with its challenges, but with the support and motivation from our peers, we learned to be innovative and stay positive. Perhaps most importantly, we learned how crucial it is to be strong with one another. Our memories of lasting friendships, significant milestones, and goals reached will resonate beyond those of the obstacles we faced. We are incredibly thankful to our Baumholder faculty and staff for their support, guidance, and perseverance with us despite many setbacks. It is because of the tireless efforts of our small, close-knit community that we were able to enjoy much of what makes seniors' final year in high school special. It couldn't have been done without our parents' organization, the USO's donations, our teachers' involvement, and our community's generosity. Going forward, we will attend college, join the military, spend time with family, work, or compete professionally, well-equipped for what lies ahead. Baumholder has created in us a sense of resiliency and Hilfsbereitschaft that we will carry with us long after June 3rd. We sincerely thank our family, friends, teachers, and community for making us who we are. We are Bucs. We are family. We are the Class of 2021.

— Lydia Coyour,
Class President



- Bankston, Brandon III
Becerra, Joseline
Coyour, Lydia
Greene, Kyi
Gregg, Jacob
Hernandez, Christopher
Kindberg, Seth
McCummings, Derrick
Orozco, Miguel
Pedigo, Grace
Pigge, Chandler
Pinzon Garcia, Jose
Quiles, Hector
Ridling, Regan
Saunders, Corbin
Smith, Carnilius
Spruill, Jayden
Turgeon, Wilbur
Yeoman, Veronica



Sterrebeek, Belgium

Brussels American School



Nikoloz Arakishvili
Aysha Atateva
Christabelle Barker
Olivia Bauer
Elizabeth Borchert
Caleb Burnett

Anneliese Christie
Hannah Crowson
Olivia Friedhoff
Victoria Geehreng
Brayden Gibbs
Hannah Hite

Lola Khakimova
Davit Markarian
Kileigh O'Toole
Lucas Petritz
Adrian Reed
Victoria Shore

Gabrielle Tomboc
Anja Urbanc
Darria Wells

— Victoria Geehreng,
Class of 2021



Hohenfels, Germany

Hohenfels Middle High School



Alokoa, Yosleen
Bamba, Joshua Alfred
Berryman, Alaina
Coker, Lealana
Colbert, Declan
Coleman, Zachary
Dick, Hannah
Fulford, Thomas
Grooms, Caroline

Kitchen, Nicole
McCollum, Abbie
Ngeenge, Monique
Oberman, James
Powers, Michael
Rice, Rachel
Roark, Nathanael
Robles, Ethan
Rodgers, Tiana

Rodriguez, Aidan
Rogers, Felicia
Rogers, Joseph
Rothbauer, Kristen
Serrano Velez, Jerry
Silva, Malia
Simon, Alexa-Skye
Smith, June
Stone, Avery

Trotter, Christean
Truax, Kaetlyn
Trull, Tyler
Velazquez-Lebron, Efrain
Vicente, Javier
Waiters, Ryanna
Whitty, Katelynn

— Malia Silva,
Class of 2021

The saying “there’s no crying in baseball” comes to mind when I think of the students at Hohenfels Middle High School. Despite the challenges they faced this year, the class of 2021 only came out stronger and more determined in the end. As military children, we are no strangers to change or sacrifices; stepping up to the plate and doing what needs to be done is the way of life for us. It’s because of this that we were able to immediately acclimate ourselves to the restrictions that seemed unbearable to the rest of the world. It’s because of our unique lifestyles that we can understand how we don’t have control of what occurs in life, but we know how to handle it and how to take care of ourselves and others. As military kids, the sacrifices we make feed our resiliency and it is why we’re able to face whatever challenges come our way. The senior class of Hohenfels Middle High School has displayed this tenacity and perseverance, proving to the future generations of seniors that what seems impossible in one season, is actually doable with enough hard work and grit. I have seen how the high school has been a home away from home for the seniors; a place where they have interacted with inspiring teachers and mentors for as long as they have been a part of the Hohenfels community. They have come to recognize it as a place that will always be welcoming; a place that holds all the great memories that were made between its walls. We want to congratulate the seniors for having the courage to jump into the next chapter of their lives and to cheer them on as they continue to grow into the new life ahead of them.



Kaiserslautern, Germany

Kaiserslautern High School



- Adeleye, Gabriel

Aldana, Daniel

Alger, Caitlin

Allen, Jahiem

Alsing, William

Andujar Rivera, Gabriel

Angulo, Isabel

Anlage, Christopher

Antoine, Tynazia

Arredondo-Alday, Anissa

Ayala, Isaiah

Baller, Cameron

Ballew, William

Barker, Jordan

Beasley, Daniel

Bifulco, Francesca

Biggins, Lashay

Bowden, Christopher

Bravo, Kaylee

Bredlow, Trey

Broyles, Aidan

Bryant, Shawn

Buys, Baylee

Cabrera, Amilia

Calixto, Ciana

Cayce, Emma

Christon, Montrel

Collins, Joshua

Contreras, Devon

Cox, Susanna

Daniels, Elijah

Davis, Darius

Davison, Ayanna

DeJesus, Lydianna

DeWitt, Robert
- Dickerson, Caleb

Dohn, Savannah

Donnelly, Kyle

Edward-Stuart, Sanaa

Edwards, Shaun

Elya, Gabriel

Espero, Julian

Fesagaiga-Yagin, Tia'rei

Fetter, Trey

Fox, Emmaleigh

Franklin, Deidre

Garcia, Medea

Garcia, Phix

Gerber, Madison

Glassman, Tanner

Gonzalez, Aydin

Gonzalez, Miguel

Graham, Tara

Gravett, Aiden

Green, John

Grossman, Alorah

Haag, Ricardo

Hall, Anyla

Harris, Joanna

Harris, Xayvion

Hill, Stephanie

Ilic, Madison

Irwin, Abbigail

James, Chinara

James, Jayden

Jenkins, Jessica

Johnson, Ahryana

Jones, Bryan

Lampert, Bryce

Lane-Volz, Amariyah
- Lim, Christian

Lopes, Iris

Lopez, Anthony

Lujan-Gonzales, Hali

Mackson, Brendan

Mayuri, Anthony

Messer, Savannah

Moreno, Diego

Morrow, Brandon

Morse, Gavin

Moss, Nono

Murray, Declan

Myers, Sophie

Nilsson, Julia

Njenga, Eve

Pajserova, Kamila

Parsells, Griffen

Pippen, Rachel

Powell, James

Preer, Tyrese

Punto, Michael Angelo

Quevedo-Lewis, Marcel

Quinn, Joleigh

Quintana, Alissa

Quinto, Ty

Ramey, Rebecca

Renkosiak, Eathan

Reynolds, Caleb

Ribeiro, Crystal

Roberts, Shaleah

Rojas, Tessa

Roscoe, Charlotte

Samuels, Joshua

Sanchez, Giulia

Schlaefel, Eric
- Schlaht, Elijah

Sexson, Meghan

Shafik, Omar

Shiozawa, Urua

Silver, Camden

Simms, Rebekah

Simons, Florence

Simons, Sophia

Smith, Christopher

Solano, Malia

Sosa, Maria

Stamper, Angelina

Standiford, Avery

Stone, Daniel

Thoman, Arianna

Thoman, Dylan

Thompson, Alex

Toews, Gabriel

Tomasulo, Matthew

Turner, Cameron

Vining, Brady

Vining, Laura

Washington, Brenton

Weston, Jada

Weston, Jeremy

White, Kelu hv

Whorton-Jones, Alyson

Wigton, David

Williams, Alexander

Williams, Julian

Willingham, Mina

Yaskulski, Jaiden

Youness, Nizam

This year the Class of 2021 has faced challenges unique to any other other class before it. It has been a hard year with all of the change that COVID-19 has presented, but these seniors could not have handled it with a better attitude or grace. This past year has taught us how to think creatively and how to make the best out of things. While at times it was a frustrating year, it was a year we made the most of, and could never forget. The common sentiment of going through something so difficult together has brought a sense of comradery to the class of '21 unlike any other. Many seniors this year will be going on to colleges on campuses and even states that they have never visited. While this is something most people would normally avoid, this is something only the class of '21 could feel confident doing. This year has helped us grow accustomed to the unknown. Only we could choose to take on the chal- lenges that we will come after we graduate. Although no one asked for our school year to be affected so greatly, we have taken it in stride. No class before us has had such an unprecedented year. Going to Kaiserslautern High School carries the expectation that you exemplify the R.A.I.D.E.R. values. This year more than ever, our class has been the embodiment of these values every single day. We have shown above all else how to have the strength to endure a constantly changing environment. We have adapted to every change asked of us, and we have thrived. We hope to take the challenges we have overcome this year and use it as encouragement for all future challenges. As we gradu- ate, we hope to leave behind a legacy of determination, courage, and ingenuity that will inspire all future Raiders.

— Giulia Sanchez,
Senior Class President

AVIANO HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations,
Shawn!

Your family is beyond proud of you. We can't wait to see what your future brings. We love you.

Julie, Kyle, Christin, Benjamin



Alanna!

Congratulations and well done! We will continue praying for you; for pride today, hope for tomorrow, and for love and support to go with you always.

Mom and Dad



Congrats, Josiah!

Go forth and do great things. May God bless and continue to guide you. We love you.

Mom, Dad and Sophia

BAUMHOLDER HIGH SCHOOL



Derrick!

You have grown into such a wonderful young man, and I am so proud of you. Congratulations on graduating!

Love, Mom



Chandler!

Wishing you many blessings in the next stages of your life.

Love Dad, Mom and Caleb.

BAUMHOLDER HIGH SCHOOL



Jacob!

We're so proud of you!
We love you beyond words.
Now go be an adult.
*Love, Dad, Mom, McKenzie,
and Chief*

KAISERSLAUTERN HIGH SCHOOL



Roni!

CONGRATS baby girl on all
your accomplishments!! I
can't wait to see you flourish
at UNG. *Love mommy, papi,
Mel, Joseph and Abby*

KAISERSLAUTERN HIGH SCHOOL



Congrats, Eve!

Great results come from
hard work. We are proud
of your accomplishments;
your future is bright!
Mom, Dad and Zowie



**Congratulations,
Ayanna!**

We are so very proud of you,
Monkey!!! Good luck in your
future endeavors!!!
We love you! Mom, Dad, & LJ



John!

Congratulations son,
we are so proud of you
and what you will bring
to the world!
Mom and Dad

RAMSTEIN HIGH SCHOOL



**Congratulations,
Alexander!**

We are overjoyed to celebrate
your achievement. May God
continue to bless you in all
of your future endeavors.
Dad, Mom, Abby, and Adalynn



Congratulations!

David, words cannot describe
how proud we are of you!
Your journey has just begun
but have achieved so much.
Can't wait to see what your
future holds.



**Congratulations,
Hunter!**

Hunter, this is it, buddy, the
world awaits! Time to forge
your path. Make good choices!
Love Mom and Dad.



Dakota!

We are so proud of you
and can't wait to see what
the future holds for you.
Love Mom, Dad and Lane



Lilly!

We are so proud of your
resilience and are excited
for all you will learn and
experience at USF! Go Bulls!
Love Mom, Dad, Evie & Jack



**Congratulations,
Jamie!**

Mom is watching over you.
We are all so proud of you!
*Love Dad, John, and
Cayman*



Josh!

Proud of your hard work
and fun attitude! Stay true
to yourself and your faith;
keep soaring higher.
Mom & Dad



Paige!

We are so proud of you for
all you have accomplished!
Keep Reaching for the Stars!
Love Always, Mom and Dad



Kayla!

Your hard work has finally
paid off. Keep reaching for
the stars and your dreams!
—Dad, Mami & Daniel



Christian!

So very proud of your
perseverance through
this unique senior year.
Let your strong faith guide
your future!
Love, Mom and Dad

SPANGDAHLEM HIGH SCHOOL



Abby!

May your determination
and ability to persevere serve
you well. We know you will
do well at Elon University!
You have made us proud.
Mom and Dad



Congratulations!

With God, family, initiative
and enthusiasm on your
side, you can achieve your
greatest dreams! Bravo Zulu!
*Mom, Dad, Lauren,
Victoria and Ross*



Congrats, Chasity!

We are so incredibly
proud of you! Continue
to keep God first, strive
for excellence, and show
your greatness.
Love Mom, Dad & Family



**Congratulations,
Jenna!**

We are so proud of you!
Clemson here you come!
Love, Mom & Dad



**Congratulations,
Jade!**

We are so proud of you and
wish you all the happiness
in your future!
Love Mom & Dad

SPANGDAHLEM HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations, Dylan!

We are so very proud of you! You're going to do wonderful at George Washington University!

STUTTGART HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations, Jarai!

You did it! You set a goal and you worked hard to achieve it. We are beyond proud of you! *We love you.*



Adam!

Congratulations on graduating from Stuttgart High School. We are excited for your next step at the University of Colorado - Boulder!
Mom and Dad



Congratulations!

Abbey-we are so proud of you! You continue to amaze us with your determination and success. Looking forward to watching you do great things! Good luck at App State!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Maddie



Congratulations, Juliette!

We are so proud of you and wish you all the best as you move forward through life! Happy Graduation!
Love, Mom and Dad



Brooklyn!

We are proud of you. May God continue to guide your steps.
Love Mom, Nigel, & Shannon



Elzbieta!

You make us proud, make our hearts smile and brighten our days! We wish you the best.
Love Always, Mom, Dad and Family



Congratulations DJ!

We are very proud of all your accomplishments. On to bigger and better.
Love Mom, Dad, and Isabella



Curt!

Act as if what you do makes a difference, IT DOES! All the best at Maine Maritime!
Love Mom & Dad



Congratulations Kyle!

We are so very proud of you. All the best at Harvard and keep being amazing you!
Love, Mom, Dad & Ryan

VICENZA HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations, William!

Our adventure with you began in Deutschland and now you're graduating high school here.
We love you, Mama, Dad and Jackson



Congratulations, Claire!

On graduating from Vicenza HS! Endicott College is lucky to have you in class and on the basketball court!
Love, Mom and Dad

WIESBADEN HIGH SCHOOL



Ryley!

Always remember the most difficult roads lead to beautiful destinations. We're proud of you & love our "grand finale!"
Love, Mom, Dad, Mack, Rea & Tanner



Congratulations, Natalie!

We love you so much! Good luck on this next chapter of life! *Love always, Dad, Mom, and Garrett*



Sam!

Your hard work and determination have paid off, and we couldn't be more proud of you! We love you!
Mom and Dad Emily, Richard & Rachel



Congratulations, Aiden!

Dream big! Trust God, lean on your family, be kind, work hard, and laugh often. Stay strong. You are brilliant! *Love Always, Dad, Mom, and Ethan*



Kaitlyn!

We are so proud of you on your graduation and look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish. #RollTide
Brendan, Sherri, Emily & Aiden Taylor



Kiana!

Her heart is in Germany, but life-goals lead to Georgia. After graduation from WHS, Kiana will attend UGA. CONGRATULATIONS!
Mom, Dad & Savannah



Congratulations, Dom Bivins!

Go into the world and do well. But more importantly, go into the world and do good! #GOHOKIES
Mama, Papa & Whitney



Josh!

We are so proud of you and know you are going to be an amazing student at the UNC-W! We love you!
Marco, MeLissa, Dakota and Dylan

This year the Lakenheath senior class of 2021 has had a unique high school experience to say the least. There have been many challenges this year such as not having a normal homecoming, prom, or sports season. However, the seniors remain resilient during the pandemic—whether communicating digitally or going to social distancing events such as a movie night—we’ve found ways to cope. The seniors at LHS aren’t only academically driven but are also very active in the community and school events. Seniors have participated in Model United Nations, National Honor Society, Red Cross Club, Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, and more. On top of that, about a third of the senior class has earned an Honors Diploma. The seniors have created a positive and kind environment in our school. We greet each other and the lower classes, making everyone feel welcome. Truly, I have never met a group of students as caring towards teachers and students as this year’s graduating class.

As we start a new chapter of our lives and have to start being an “adult,” I have no doubt that this year’s graduates will be successful whether they go further with their studies, enlist, or take a gap year. We all have the drive, ambition, and knowledge to go as far as we want to in life. However, I hope all the seniors remember to also live in the moment and have fun. Finding a job and working is important, but so is living. I encourage all seniors to travel, find love in people, and live life to the fullest.

Lastly, I would like to thank the parents and teachers of LHS. Thank you to all of the parents for believing in us and supporting us. The senior parents have tried their best to make this year feel special despite the circumstances. Thank you to the teachers who have given us the knowledge to last us a lifetime and a multitude of random facts to throw out at dinner parties. Beyond that, the teachers care about us. They care about our mental health and our life at home. They are the glue that holds us together, especially this year.

I wish the class of 2021 the best in life and I can’t wait for the reunion! Go Lancers!

— Marriam Chishti,
Class President



Lakenheath, England

Lakenheath High School



- Alblinger, Michael

Alsup, Mariam

Altadonna, Alyssa

Ambrosio, Maria Paula

Baily, Jacob

Bell, Jordan

Bills, Meghan

Bridges, Davis

Brooks, Shayne

Burger, Amy

Butler, Molly

Castrovinci, Ryan

Chishti, Marriam

Clore-Gregg, Alonna

Code, Ryan
- Colon-Marrero, Gabriella

Dinovo, Caelan

Dotson, Nissa

Dukart-Anderson, Jacob

Dupio, Anthony

Edmonds, Andrew

Edwards, Kyron

Frost, Dylan

Garriott, Tyler

Goodman, Aria

Gueits, Jocelyn

Gutierrez, Hana

Harrington, Joshua

Haselden, Reid

Hughes, Seth

Hunter, Giovanni
- Iraheta, Karina

Izor, Lilliana

Jensen, Logan

Kirkpatrick, Ian

Klimas-Benavidez, Lucas

Kochel, Andrew

Lausten, Aniesen Michaela

Ledesma, Diego

Lowe, Ethan

Mace, Selah

Marchini, Bruno

Marts, Sean

Mijares, Katelyn

Morris, Adrianna

Morris, Jibril

Patterson, Braden
- Payne, Zachary

Pettingill, Cayli

Piper, Samuel

Ramirez, Makayla

Roundy, Anneliese

Sass, Caeden

Smith, Braxton

Thomas, Caleb

Thompson, Cambria

Torres, Jovani

Velazquez Serrano, Faviola

Wendling, Chloe

William, Ashanti

Williams, Kai

Winchell, Connor

It would be easy for us to point out that our future is uncertain and that our final years in high school were dramatically changed because of COVID-19. Despite these facts, high school has been a period of productive struggle and growth.

Freshman year was a transition period in which we made the jump from middle school to high school. Sophomore year was our time to get involved at school. Whether it was running for student council, applying for ISLI, or going to Europeans, we all started to shape our individual interests.

Our junior year started out great. Wildcat sports teams placed in the top three at Europeans, many took on the challenge of balancing multiple AP classes, and we began focusing on our plans for after high school. Little did we know, the end of what we thought was going to be a normal year, was anything but. Our almost 90-day lockdown, the loss of spring sports, and virtual school combined to make a disappointing end to the year.

Prior to the start of senior year, we were given the choice to decide for ourselves if we wanted to go to school in-person or virtually. The majority of us elected to go in-person, a choice most students stateside did not have. This year we came together as a community and as a senior class. Although we did not have conventional fall sports, we had virtual competitions for cheerleading, cross country, tennis, and the new fitness games. A multitude of new clubs were established at our school, providing students at NMHS with new opportunities to get involved. This year has been unconventional and while many see it as a lost senior year, it allowed us to become even more resilient.

As excited as we are to face the world, it is important to remember that we will always have a supportive community standing behind us in case we falter. No matter what our individual futures have in store, we will always remember our time as Wildcats.

— Maya Cabrera and Hayley O’Harrah,
Class of 2021



Naples, Italy

Naples High School



- Acheson, Abigail

Adams, Joseph

Andrews, Colin

Bailey, Eleanor

Belka, Max

Buanne, Francesco

Cabrera, Maya

Canupp, Noemi

Cheuvront, Gavin

Clove, James

Coats, Ariana

Collins, Alyssa

Coltart, Jaden

Cooper, Kathleen

Crile, Jason

Cromwell, Diego

Dastrup, Madison

Davis, Erin
- Delacruz, Trixie Ann

Dimacutac, Hannah Joy

Fleming, Phoenix

Fleming, Rylie

Flemming, Elijah

Forney, Maya

Gilfoy, Michelle

Gonzalez, Pedro

Granville, Imani

Guinn, Ethan

Hall, Charis

Hays, Elizabeth

Hess, Anna

Hinds, Preston

Hunter, Tigus

Jenkins, Jada

Johnekins, Kaiya

Justice, Jade
- Keller, Rebecca

Kellum, Sterling

Khotsaeng, Thitiphong

Lambert, Danielle

Lambertson, Dirk

Larrivee, Thomas

Lensegrav, Ailana

Lord, Samuele

Maas, Emma

Markvart, Juliette

Mitchell, Grant

Mullen, Katherine

Mulrooney, Aidan

Myrick, LeiLany

Nagel, Sean

O’Brien, Annie

O’Connor, Fiona

O’Harrah, Hayley
- Ontiveros, Marisol

Oropallo, Antonia

Overvoll, Anna

Perez, Noah

Pickard, Martina

Presnell-Espinoza, Arianna

Rascoe, Kayla

Reid, Max

Reiman, Lorelei

Roe, Ayden

Saito, Gavin

Salata, Rocco

Sank, Joseph

Sasse, Roxanne

Scheel, Ramie

Scheel, Sydney

Silverstein, Garrett

Silvetti, Massimiliano

Simmons, Mark

Smith, Benjamin

Smith, Brendan

Steiro, Jens

Stoker, Maria

Thomas, Henry

Topper, Mason

Torrey, Jazmyn

Tudoran, Carmen

Uhl, Savannah

Vancil, Alexia

Ward, Jenna

Watson, Clarabelle

Weigelt, Eliza

Wienert-Breed, Mekhi

Williams, Paige

Woods, Jordan

Younger, Dominic

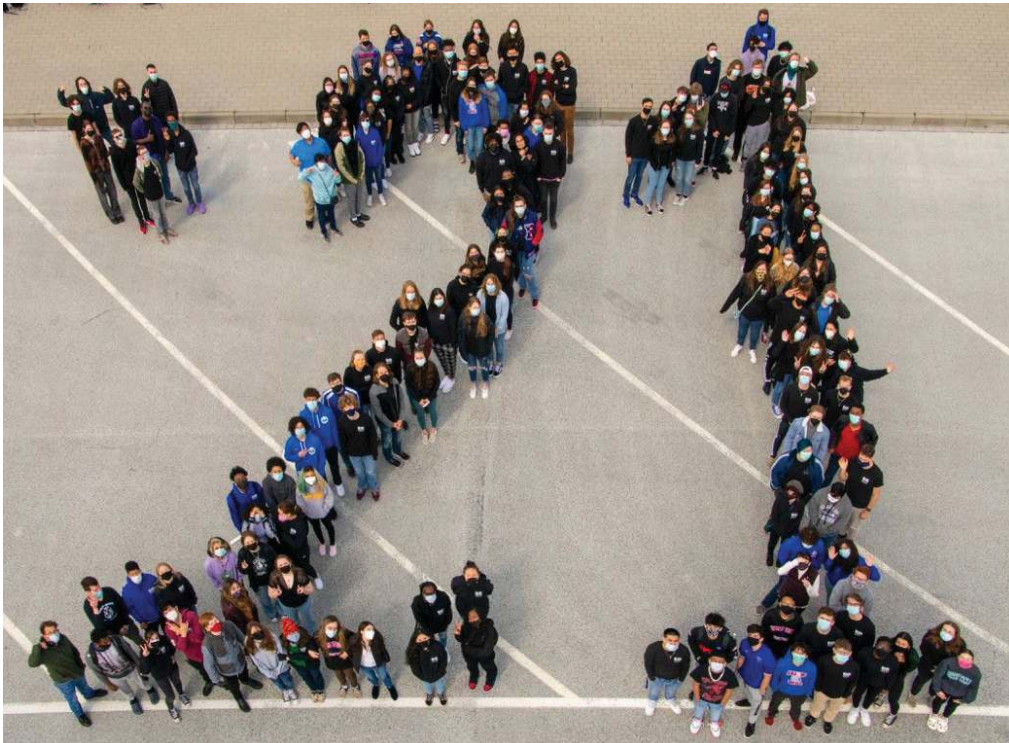
Zabinski, Carolina



Ramstein, Germany
Ramstein High School

With the ongoing global pandemic, thoughts of a traditional senior year were cut short before they even had a chance to begin. However, senior class officers made it their mission to work with administration to ensure the memories made this year were just as significant as those from years prior, with the strengthening of the school community being top priority. With a new school being built in the horizon, seniors came together with the help of Student Council for a final opportunity to participate in the tradition of adorning the senior hall with paintings and current memes representing childhood and Royal pride. With modifications, social distancing, and plenty of communication between the entire class, many events were planned including senior paintballing, a pizza party, and a holiday giveaway with over 40 donated gifts. At Halloween, the stadium was decorated with hand-painted decorations; at winter break, a Ramstein tree was planted in the center of the senior hall, and in early December, we were able to open a time capsule from the class of 2005 that was filled with nostalgia and personal belongings gifted from that generation. Although the class of 2021 was unable to have many of the traditional “last goodbyes” of high school, we participated in spirit weeks and planned events that strengthened morale among the graduates. The Ramstein High School senior class has been given the spotlight this year as the last graduating class from this building. As the school year comes to a close and the senior Sundays run low, there has been meticulous planning in graduation so that friends and family will be socially distanced and can watch their seniors cross the stage in person. Congratulations, Royals!

— Sophie Fields,
Class of 2021



Alderman, Jamya
Alford, Brandon
Alicea, Luis
Allen, Aryal
Allison, Douglass
Altman, Taylor
Andrews, Gavin
Anthes, Angel
Babbitt, Rachael
Banales, Matthew
Baquero, Nico
Bauch, Mia
Bean, Kimball
Beckett, Ethan
Bencivenga, Emilee
Bennett, Malia
Bickel, Lillian
Biggs, Izabell
Bishop, Ahmir
Boggs, Andrew
Boyles, Dakota
Bradley, Jeremiah
Butler, Paige
Cakolli, Urim
Casey, Jamisen
Cherrey, Dominick
Cheseldene-Culley, Harriet
Clark, Samuel
Coddington, Lydia
Colledge, Hope
Culbertson, Chloe
Cummings, Jayla
Daigle, Canaan
Daleney, Gillian
Daugherty, Jee Soo
Davis, Gabriele
Davis, Nathan

Davis, Samuel
Delanoy, Julio
Delgado, Leo
Diffenderfer, Matthew
Diggs, Charles
Douglas, Luna
Dukes, Shanya
Duncan, Christian
Duque-Lopez, Ariana
Edens, Emma
Edwards, Cammie
Engelbrecht, Chaetun
Faulkner, Jake
Fields, Sophie
Fish, Kyle
Flores, Esteban
Foster, Nia
Furqueron, Abigail
Gallagher, Reed
Gonzalez, Alexander
Granger, Chelsea
Green, Gillian
Gresham, Daniel
Griffin, Chasity
Haines, Michael
Hamilton, Adam
Harvey, Aletha
Hazen, Ryzun
Henderson, Elizabeth
Henderson, Tina
Hentrich, Christian
Hernandez, Gianna
Hill, Meili
Hobson, Nikolas
Hollenbeck, Abigail
Holt, Sarah
Ibrahim, Barakat

Jackson, Josiah
Johnson, Bradley
Johnson, Gavin
Johnson, Morgan
Juhasz, Sequoia
Jump, Jordan
Kaiser, Brooke
Kent, Colin
Kirby, Ryan
Kreger, Connell
Kryvenia, Matthew
Laguer, Annie
Lebakken, Caitlin
LeClair, Alison
LeClair, Jeremy
Lefebvre, Keegan
Letz, Ezra
Liotta, Sydney
Lobrecht, Malia
Lucas, Amor
Long, Payton
Lutz, Tsveta
Lyle, Brandon
Macaras, Kaylee
Maez, Jocelyn
Malone, Jaiden
Mariani, Ronald
Martin, Joseph
Marts, Dominic
Matsumoto, Brendan
McKinley, Mya
Medeck, Joseph
Meidlein, Matthew
Melton, Charles
Moore, Brayden
Moore, Jordan
Mosley, Joseph

Munoz-Hernandez, Jesus
Myers, Dylan
O'Donnell, Grace
Olander, Aaron
Olander, Ryan
Patrick, Emily
Pedersen, Delaney
Pena, Maylene
Peters, Owen
Phelps, Catherine
Phillips, Jalen
Pierson, Christina Cassandra
Porter, Holly
Potter, Alayna
Potter, Cadence
Prince, Natalie
Quinn, Natalie
Rakas, Angela
Rast, Grayson
Raszinski, Devin (Becky)
Raymer, Anij
Redd, Steven
Richards, Malia
Richardson, Aubree
Rimal, Giovanni
Robinson, Jahlan
Rogers, Brooke
Rothas, Lydia
Sandoval, Arianna
Scherzer, Megan
Schluth, Ana
Schultz, Elisabeth
Schultz, William
Scott, Alan
Scott, Kayla
Shaffer, Julia
Simon, JaZir

Smith, Ethan
Smith, Hunter
Smith, Joshua
Smith, Kayla
Spangler, Jenna
Springstube, Emily
Stenger, Makani
Stewart, Amari
Tackett, Anna
Teubner, Mia
Thatcher, Margaret
Thebodeau, Aidan
Tipton, Christa
Tisdale, Claudia
Todman, Benjamin
Treiber, Lena
Tribble, Mckayla
Tribble, Mckinley
Valentine, Ethan
Vaughn, Kamron
Velez, Adianna
Verango, Kyle
Von Willer, Amanda
Waite, Ammon
Walker, Alida
Ward, Theodore
Watts, Lizabeth
Webb, Micah
Werner, Joshua
Westhoff, Aaron
Wilde, Chloe
Wilkes, Donald
Wilson, Natalya
Worthington, Daniel
Yamazaki, Akina
Zelcs, Konstantins

WIESBADEN HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations!
Super proud of you Cyrus!
Your life adventures have just begun. We wish nothing but success to you. LOVE YOU!
Mom, Dad, Jeli, Ysa, JoJo, Eli, Nana, and Tata



Congratulations!
We are extremely proud of you. We are excited to see what the future holds for you! Love you.
Dad, Mom, DeVriant & Daleon



Congratulations, baby girl!
We are extremely proud of you! Now, go conquer the world! We love you!
Mom, Dad & Brandon



Isaac
Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of your efforts. Congratulations!
Love, Mom, Dad, Mykela, Kayleigh & Joshua



Congratulations, Diego!
If you can graduate during a global pandemic and your mom's deployment, you can do anything! So proud of you!
Mom & the crowd



Rota, Spain

Rota Middle High School



- Aitken, Ethan

Arnall, Isabella

Bonavita, Vincent

Bulusan, Jodie

Dalomba, Daryel

DeMeritt, Austin

Dillon, Emily Love

Dunn, Ethan

Everhart, Charles
- Fruchey, Lorelei

Gantt, Brianna

Gonzalez, Justin

Imras, Yassine

James, Alania

James, Kayla

Lamb, Campbell

Lewis, Anthony

Martie, Austyn
- McConnell, Brett

Megia, Daniel

Pazdyk, Tyler

Perez, Owen

Peters, Krescent

Ralston, Victoria

Raquino, Cristian

Rice, Zaine

Torres-Valentin, Gianixel
- Vega, Gabrielle

Ware, Shanyce

White, Keira Vida

Wildman, K' Jha

Wiley, Juliana

The DGF Rota High School class of 2021 started our final year in a remote learning platform, which indicated our senior year would be anything but normal. The COVID-19 protocols that were put in place to help ensure our safety on campus were eye-openers in response to the global pandemic—our living history in the making. The social-distancing, mandatory seating charts, hand sanitizing, masks and much more became a part of our regular school day, like backpacks and notebooks. We bounced back from no football and no homecoming in the fall to a familiar spring with outside sports including soccer, baseball, and track. We acknowledge that we are more than our senior year. We are more resilient and know we must adapt and accept changes to survive. Not only for our senior year, but also for the rest of our lives. As we overcome the fears we face of being on our own, we continue to strive for success. All 32 of us have buckled up and are ready for this ride in our new chapter. Some have gone the past 12 years together here in Rota, Spain, while others have experienced the nervousness that comes with being the new kid because of our military lifestyle. However, we all end this journey together on June 4th, venturing into new endeavors all around the world. As each of us head to college or to careers in the military or civilian workforce, we take school memories, friendships, and years of hard work with us. To my fellow seniors, I'm very proud of all we have achieved and our ability to be better than our challenges. We thank the Rota community, our teachers, staff, and parents. We wouldn't have been able to do it without your patience, leniency, support, and love.

— K'Jha T. Wildman,
Senior Class President



Casteau, Belgium

SHAPE American High School



The Shape American High School class of 2021 will make its mark on the world. I am sure of it. Our class is full of leaders, innovators, and creative individuals. Once we graduate, most of our class will go back to their home country, bringing with them everything they have learned here at Shape.

I have not been here nearly as long as some of the other students, but as soon as I arrived, I could feel a connection. We did not get to have an ideal senior year. We also lost out on an ideal junior year. While this year has not been what many imagined it to be, we did make new memories. Memories that will stick with us well into the future.

We have been SHAPE'd by the influential role models in our community. Our senior sponsors, teachers, administrators, coaches, parents, and more have made this year everything that it could possibly be. So, on behalf of the SHAPE American High School class of 2021, we thank you for making everything we have done...excellent!

— Nate Shears,
Senior Class President

- Agee, Keely

Alexopoulos, Dimitrios-Iosif

Atmatzidis, Pavlos

Avgoustopoulou, Maria Georgia

Barden, Mackenzie

Barden, Madison

Barnes, Devin

Bartosikova, Natalie

Bialkowska, Aleksandra

Birch, Emma

Boone, Miles

Buratynski, Hubert
- Calero Carrasquilla, Claudia

Chatzilefteri-Michala, Anastasia

Choma, Martyna

Cisneros Flor, Hugo

Cook, Akeem

Cota, Adela

Cureton, Joshua

Damoc, Daria

Del Valle Quijada, Ana

Diakova, Daria

Diaz Fuentes, Claudia

Digou, Skylar
- Dragone, Francesco

DuBois, Hunter

DuBois, Max

Fougias, Dimitrios

Gibson, Thomas

Gorczyca, Julia

Gross, Lilly

Gutierrez Prieto, Silvia

Hall, Giovanni

Hegedus, Bonita

Hess-Hawkins, Erik

Hickman, Kara

Jablonski, Jakub

Jackson, Curtis

Jodlowiec, Jakub

Joyce, Maghdalin

Karpontini, Aikaterini
- Keltner, Asa

Khosla, Kiran

Kleidaras, Dimitrios

Kluivert, Yentl

Konstanty, Jakub

Kundra, Megan

Lincon, Abbey

Lopez Valverde, Isaac

Matyja, Marta

Minor, Hope

Molina, Jonathan

Montilla Lores, Paula

Moreno Zas, Alfonso

Nelson, Eric

Nemeth, Levente Janos

Nojaim, Sofia

O'Neal, Jasmine
- Ochoa Picon, Santiago

Oleksa, Oliwia

Papadimitriou, Vasiliki

Pearce, Logan

Pejovic, Andjela

Perez, Paula

Phillips, Donald R

Plandowska, Marta

Rechenberger, Leander

Ruiz Castro, Oscar

Runner, Meagan

Ruszin, Romina

Sanchez Garcia, Diego

Sartzi, Argyro

Schuck, Elizabeth

Schuck, Jacob

Sepkus, Danielius
- Shears, Nathaniel

Sikorsky, Aaron

Stredie, Maria

Suarez Tezanos, Nicolas

Sugg, Adrian

Szczepanski, Wiktor

Sziksz, Dora

Teichgraber-Raesler, Maxwell

Thomas, Olivia

Tjeltveit, Amy An-Mei

Toevere, Henri

Trujillo, Damion

Whitfield, Maciah

Yañez Marquez, Diego

Zurdo Labrador, David

Zurdo Labrador, Guillermo

Zygmuntowicz, Patryk



Sicily, Italy
Sigonella Middle High School

“I’m gonna need a rain check on that dance.” A quote by Captain America in Captain America: The First Avenger, which essentially sums up the senior year of the class of 2021. Seniors are basically Steve Rogers before and after he goes into the ice. In the beginning of the pandemic, we were hopeful. We thought that maybe the class of 2020 was just unlucky, so they would need a rain check, and when it was our turn, we would have our dance.

As the world continued, we were frozen in ice. The things that define a seniors’ year couldn’t happen or didn’t go as we planned. For example, a senior prom, the last school dance, the symbol of the end of an era, was no longer safely possible. There weren’t any tours to colleges or traveling to play sports. Our plans were rescheduled and canceled, but the world continued on. We couldn’t experience what we had planned, but now as we rapidly approach graduation, we are taken out of the ice. Entering a new version of the world, and not just a post-COVID world but the adult world. We are entering a world that we couldn’t get to experience while frozen.

Our schools and colleges adapted to help us enter the new world, which was appreciated, but seniors struggle with hope. The hope isn’t as comforting as before because we know what we lost and what has changed. As military kids, we are used to change. Change has been a constant in our lives. So, after all, we do have a superpower like Captain America. We are super adaptable—it may not be as cool as super strength—but in this situation, it is the most valuable. Technically the class of 2021 is even better than Captain America.

— Isabella Mundy,
Class of 2021



- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Bachicha, Noah | Erno, Amanda | Mendoza, Jasmine | Plate, Philip |
| Balbo, Edward | Fernandez, Aneila | Moore, Eliza | Rogers, Allison |
| Barrera, Gabriel | Houston, Samuel | Mundy, Isabella | Roque, Abigail Justine |
| Caro, Christian | Jones, Qua’ Niya | Nagle, Rylee | Schauring, Naike-Simon |
| Chandler, Averi | Kentish, Shanyah | Nielsen, Mikkell | Soja, Kamila |
| Christensen, Regan | Kilday, Jordan | Ouellette, Olivia | Teran, Oscar |
| Clark, Lorenzo | MacPartland, Julian | Packhaeuser, Mia | Thompson, Gabriel |
| Colodro, Karylin | Marsilio, Nicholas | Payne, Katherine | Urbach, Julian |
| Davies, Owen | McCarthy, Emma | Perkins, Alyah | |



Spangdahlem, Germany
Spangdahlem High School

The Spangdahlem High School class of 2021 has had quite a journey these past four years. We were the first freshman class to attend Spangdahlem High School after the closure of Bitburg High School. After a two-year delay, we transitioned into the new building. We were fortunate to experience multiple sports championships, and unfortunate to experience the challenges brought onto us by the coronavirus pandemic. All of these experiences, combined with being a military child in a foreign country, has made us more resilient than your average teenager, and shaped us into who we are today.

We learned how quickly our lives could change during our junior year when the coronavirus pandemic made its way to Germany. We managed to adapt to the “new normal,” such as switching between remote and face-to-face learning, and not hosting sports on our new gym and fields. We missed out on traditional activities of homecoming, prom, drama productions, concerts, and socializing at lunch due to physical distancing rules. These were all sacrifices, but we were willing to make them to ensure the safety of those around us and the staff and faculty.

We as a class want to thank the Spangdahlem High School staff and military community for providing us a safe learning environment, and the tremendous effort they put into making this year as normal as possible. We are thankful for the modified sports and activities afforded to us, and grateful that we were able to attend school face-to-face. Our teachers truly care about us and have taught with passion. Although this year is not what we expected it to be, we could not ask for anything more. We are safe, healthy, and educated. Congratulations class of 2021 and go Sentinels!

— Melody Marino,
Senior Class President



- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Kainoa Bisquera | Anna Foerst | Emmanuel Lopez | Erik Snowsill |
| Molly Branson | Arley Garrison | Janelle Maharaj | Ian Steed |
| Leilah Cardwell | Eian Haacker | Melody Marino | Landen Taherimorovat |
| Julianna Chancey | Mattigan Harper | Kiana Montgomery | Aspen Thomas |
| Jalen Davis | Dylan Hayden | Victor Morales | Cheyenne Underwood |
| Antonio Dejesus | Taylor Kolbe | Joshua Pugh | |
| Heriberto Dejesus | Jason Lapierre | Jade Riba | |
| Haley Fadden | Katherine Loftus | Dayonna Saunders | |



Stuttgart, Germany

Stuttgart High School



At the very beginning of our education, all of our decisions were made for us. Our family chose to send us to kindergarten and separate themselves from us for eight hours a day. They shed tears while sending us off, yet they were still there at the end of the day to pick us up and ask us about our day. Coming home to share with them about the people we met and the things we did—that experience prepared us for the next thirteen years. In the beginning, there was fear that morphed into excitement. However, there was also a feeling that we are all too familiar with: fear and anxiety of leaving everything you know, while having great excitement for the new experiences yet to come.

Our high school years were not at all what we expected. From the March for our Lives walkouts during our freshman year, to the COVID-19 pandemic that started halfway through our junior year, we're all here on the same journey.

Who would have imagined that those few weeks of self-isolation would turn into over a year of loss? While watching the class of 2020 walk across the stage in an untraditional way, we never could have known that we would still be impacted in the same way as we approach our graduation day. We lost football games, homecoming, gatherings, travel, sleepovers, karaoke nights, plays, school trips, a senior trip, a senior picnic, movie nights; experiences that were previously taken for granted. We didn't choose to be isolated, to take classes online on-and-off over the course of the year, or to have attention drawn to us when we cough or sneeze in public. We didn't choose to lose so much.

But this is our time. The future choices are ours to make. Whether that choice is to go off to college, dive into the workforce, take a gap-year, join the military, or nothing at all; we have the power to choose what comes next. We have been formed by all of these experiences, and as seniors, our choices will impact the future. We have the power to see these realities as great losses or to cherish them as unique opportunities to grow and challenge ourselves in ways we never thought possible at this point in our lives. We are abundantly more prepared to face the future because we know we can do anything—fun in '21 and beyond! Panther Pride!

— Heaven Leigh Holford,
Class of 2021

- Anderson, Sydney

Andin, Jonathan

Andoh, Kweku

Andreescu, Vanessa

Atkins, Christopher

Barriger, Jackson

Benson, Lilli

Benson, Mira

Berg-Patton, Isabella

Bjerke, Jack

Black, Annabelle

Bond, George

Borrero Merced, Noelizmarie

Brady, Tyler

Brewer, Colby

Brewer, Kendall

Brockhausen, Kurt

Brown, Brice

Brown, Faith

Burnette, Juliette

Burns, Alexis

Butler, Emma

Butler, Julia

Caballero, Anthony

Calder, Heather

Cardona, Camila

Carter, Maya

Cavanagh, Brady

Clark, Jalen

Cleare, Alanah

Cordle, Jennings

Creer, Cade

Crouch, Clifford

Crowe, Gina

DaSilva Mathis, Skye

Del Rosso, Maya

Diaz, Kayelyn

Dickens, Mary

Donohew, Elzbieta

Eggers, Canaan

Eneinyang, Esidore

Engelke, Jack

Fager, Rori

Falcon, Anthony

Field, Adam

Florioiu, Gabriela

Flyte, Gabriel
- Fortin, Jackson

Forzano, Gina

Foster, Jaxon

Freds, William

Freeman, Sean

Fulcher, Ribh

Fullerton, Andrew

Galeon, Charles

Gante, Ava

Gavin, Megan

Graham-Wright, Trae

Guarderas, Amy

Hambleton, Lawrence

Hamilton, Aiden

Harris, Teauna

Healy, Tyler

Hein, Eric

Heinz, William

Held, Luis

Hoffmann, Sophie

Holford, Heaven

Holmes, Rachel

Huff, Simon

Husted, Chantz

Johnson, Maximillion

Johnson, Mya

Jones, Jarai

Jones, Lucas

Kadans, Alexis

Kalinowski, Eve

Kalobius, Nicholas

Kauffeld, Alexander

Keating, Jacob

Kenealy, Rebecca

Kenfield, Michael

Kiefer, Heinz

Kiefer, Robert

Kisby, Brienne

Kleber, James

Klopcic, Katrina

Knotts, Lydia

Koning, Kiersten

Krakar, Madison

Kuehl, Ethan

Lakich, Abigail

Landrum, Lucas

Lands, Katelynn
- LaRosa, Hailey

LaRosa, Hunter

Latham, Isabella

Lenhart, Eden

Lore, Mark

Lozano, Samuel

Lurvey, Adrian

Mackrell, Natalie

Makuch, Madeline

Mannings, Isabella

Mannings, Jairos

Manville, Levi

Marion, Jacob

Martin, Kaylee

Mattson, James

May, Daniya

Mayfield, Joseph

McCombs, Johnathan

McNerney, Hannah

Medeiros, Caitlyn

Metcalf, Abigail

Miller, Natalie

Mitchell, Isabelle

Montero, Sofia

Moore, Abigail

Morgan, Dylan

Morrow, Daniel

Moten, Noah

Mueller, Cooper

Munoz, Dominik

Musselman, Andrew

Ospina, Joceline

Pankratz, Kevin

Parker, Tristin

Patrick, Emilie

Perez, Alyssa

Phelps, Taigan

Prier, Joseph

Ratcliff, Jacob

Ray, Connor

Rhoden, Madeline

Rhoden, Rebecca

Rhodes, Aneysia

Robbins, Grace

Roberts, Ryan

Rodriguez Cajigas, Jimelvin

Rodriguez Torres, Franchesca

Roedl, Kenneth

Roesti, Skylar

Rogers, Hailey

Rogers, Jacob

Rojas, Mileena

Rossignol, William

Rozeveld, Katrina

Rush, Brooklyn

Russell, Alyvia

Sanchez, Aidan

Schmidt, Lauren

Schrank, Girma

Schroeder, Samantha

Segalla, David

Sharp, Lindsey

Sherman, Skyler

Shive, Matthew

Slinger, Brennon

Stephenson, Isabella

Stevenson, Kyle

Suddeth, Ciara

Swank, Benjamin

Templeton, David

Thompson, Emily

Thyer, Gabriel

Tomko, Damek

Traxler, Kelsey

Turner, Haley

Tyler, Sophia

VanHorn, Christian

Vavich, Aleksander

Velazquez, Hector

Vest, Samantha

Voronova, Alina

Wagner, Bettina

Walthall, Haleigh

Walton, Madelyn

Whitmore, Rosalee

Wilson, Aliyah

Wolfer, Cameron

Yamaguchi, Zachary

Young, William



Vicenza, Italy

Vicenza High School





VICENZA HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2021

VICENZA



Kenya Abante



Michael Ackley



Hiram Acosta Pabon



Da'Vion Archie



Dr. Karsten Warner
Principal



Theresa Urquilla
Senior Class Sponsor



Cheryl Tabbs
Assistant Principal



Deborah Ashwood



Yzabella Bartee



Samuel Beane



William Briggs



Jasmine Bright



Victoria Byrum



Karson Curtis



Alicia Deck



ShawnaKay Dudley



Ester Escobar



Paige Evans



Kathleen Ferro



Carys Gardner



Micah DeJardin



Angel Demartin



Keoni DeRosa



Emily Dettmer



Chadrick Jones



John Joseph



Natalia Knapp-Seale



Isabella Koch



Margot Latham



Alexandra Lindsey



Jacob Lorenz



Lily Marquez



Jordan Merritt



Madeline Mollner



Julian Munoz



Daniel Nunez Liman



Jonathan Otero-Colon



Cyan Quintana-Arana



Jean Carlos Ramirez-Figueroa



Alexander Ramos



Brealin Redecker



Jada Rixner



Jonathan Rohling



Trent Salyer



Cody Samsel



Lea Scavetta



Katharina Schultz



William Segulin



Nicholas Shaw



Vladislav Shin



Andrew Sibley



Afonso Silva



Thomas Smith



Shyanne Spencer



Darin Steele



Lika Sylla



Kaelyn Taylor



Nicholas Tolman



Claire Troiano



Amy Velazquez



Isabella Voicu



Wolf Wetzel



Angelica Williams



Aidan Wilson



Londyn Wilson

Photo Credit: Photography by INFOCUS

Since middle school, I had dreamed of high school. I dreamed of the dances and traveling for sports, I dreamed of growing up. During my junior year, I dreamed of my senior year. I dreamed of being a captain for the volleyball and softball teams, and I dreamed of seeing my family's proud face as I walked the stage to receive my diploma. Thanks to COVID-19, we have lost Friday night football games, homecoming, sports, powder puff, prom, a normal graduation, the list goes on. I think I'm speaking for most of the class of 2021 when I say that our senior year has been a disappointment.

I started my senior year with strict rules requiring social distancing, hand sanitizing, and mask wearing. On the first day of school, I wasn't able to hug my friends after a long summer of quarantine. All my excitement for my amazing senior year turned to sorrow. It wasn't until midway through the first semester that I stopped feeling pity for myself. I started to see some of the benefits of our situation. Because of COVID, I didn't have to take the ACT or SAT. Because of COVID, I was able to get a job. Because of COVID, I looked back on the memories I did have.

If you started out like me, a miserable girl just wanting to go to a prom, I hope you came to the same realization that I had. Yes, our senior year sucks. Yes, our dreams did not come true. But we still had good memories. I spent hours on a bus with smelly baseball boys all the way to Germany. I went to and met the most amazing people during ISLI (International Student Leadership Institute). I went to homecoming in Sicily. I sang with the European Honors Choir in a historic German building. I've had a lot of great memories in my short lifetime. In the end, we need to remember the memories we had, not the memories we lost.

— Londyn Wilson,
Senior Class President

Abante, Kaiya
Ackley, Michael
Acosta Pabon, Hiram
Archie, Da'Vion
Ashwood, Deborah
Bartee, Yzabella
Beane, Samuel
Briggs, William
Bright, Jasmine
Brown, Christian
Byrum, Victoria
Curtis, Karson
Deck, Alicia
DeJardin, Micah
Demartin, Angel
DeRosa, Keoni
Dettmer, Emily
Dudley, ShawnaKay

Escobar, Ester
Evans, Paige
Ferro, Kathleen
Gardner, Carys
Goodfellow, Sierra
Hammons, Hunter
Hartman, Oliver
Howard, Brooklyn
Howard, Jaden
Jones, Chadrick
Joseph, John
Knapp-Seale, Natalia
Koch, Isabella
Latham, Margot
Lindsey, Alexandra
Lorenz, Jacob
Marquez, Lily
Merritt, Jordan

Mollner, Madeline
Munoz, Julian
Nunez Liman, Daniel
Otero-Colon, Jonathan
Parrow, Brendan
Perry, Brandon
Perry, Kaitlyn Leigh
Persaud, Devesh
Quintana-Arana, Cyan
Ramirez-Figueroa, Jean Carlos
Ramos, Alexander
Redecker, Brealin
Rixner, Jada
Rohling, Jonathan
Salyer, Trent
Samsel, Cody
Scavetta, Lea
Schultz, Katharina

Segulin, William
Shaw, Nicholas
Shin, Vladislav
Sibley, Andrew
Silva, Afonso
Smith, Thomas
Spencer, Shyanne
Steele, Darin
Sylla, Lika
Taylor, Kaelyn
Tolman, Nicholas
Troiano, Claire
Voicu, Isabella
Wetzel, Wolf
Williams, Angelica
Wilson, Aidan
Wilson, Londyn



Vilseck, Germany

Vilseck High School



To all my teachers, administrators, coaches, families, friends, but most importantly to the class of 2021, I want to thank you for all that you have given me throughout my high school career. Without your encouragement, help, friendship, and overall kindness, my time in high school would have been very different. I am honored to be chosen to commemorate the memories, success, and accomplishments of our unique class.

As the great philosopher Kenny Chesney once said, “Don’t blink, just like that you’re six years old and you take a nap, and you wake up and you’re 25.” As seniors about to transition into the next stage of our lives, I ask us not to let our lives go by in a blink, but for us to remain present and appreciate each day. We wished and hoped for this day to come, so now we must enjoy it and resist the temptation to always look ahead. Likewise, let us not look back at days gone by as the “best of times” or “glory days.” Embrace the day we live in, not those beyond or behind.

Furthermore, I want to congratulate the senior class for our resilience despite the unique challenges these past 15 months. We don’t need reminders of all that has changed and all that we have lost out on due to the pandemic. The senior class has been through the deadliest pandemic in 100 years, yet despite all COVID has done to affect us, the senior class prevailed and is standing strong today. Well done.

To conclude, as Betty Reese once said, “If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in the dark with a mosquito.” No one is too small to not make a lasting impact on this world. Therefore, not a single senior is too small to change our world for the better. I encourage all of us to make our impact on this world. But as for right now, let’s focus on the fact that we graduated. Let’s celebrate and acknowledge the fact that all of our effort has brought us to this day. Let’s make the best of it by truly being engaged in this moment. I know I am.

— Rian Ritter,
Class of 2021

- Genesis Ayala

Maximilian Belanger

Shaun Boles

Brayden Booth

Autumn Buckley

Tyler Butterfield

Caleb Camejo

Sebastian Campbell

Eliel Candelaria

Vivien Carroll

Dominic Ceniseros

Ian Chaderton

Jack Cherry

Aylani Collins

Zachary Davis

Brayden Derr

Lillian DeVisser

Gloria Ruth Akouvi Dijnado

Marcus Escobedo

Ashley Estero

Bradley Farris

Benjamin Feldman

Cameron Gaetos

Matthew Gardner

Elizabeth Glass

Jean Carlo Gonzalez

Emili Green

Samantha Guerrero

Kevin Harmon

Noble Herald

James Hofeldt

Kaylee Huff

Victoria Hyten

Brinley Isaac

Natasha Jacobs

Zakary Kamara

Aniya Kannon

Nicholas Kinzie

Brianna Kloeckl

Zachary Klosterman

Karlynn Labarrete

Grace Lamb

Tywen Lambert
- Carolynn Lee

Alaina Lemon

Janae Lettley

Heather MacDonald

Abigail Maracle

Hannah Marr

John Mashburn

Kaytlynn McDonald

Liliana McDonald

Patrick McDuffee

Corinna-Joyce McNair

Zulimar Mercado

Anna Merriam

Jasmon Miller

Aubrience Monk

Kelly Morgan

Jeffrey Morrison

Glendon Nightengale

Tyler Norrie

Tamari Ocasio

Tamiera Ocasio

Kayla Ogle

Gabriel Patel

Brina Peters

Khamaria Poole

Nathaniel Rance

Rian Ritter

Marinna Salcido

Cameron Schrock

Teri Seabolt

Alina Sistek

Sydney Smith

Annastasia Stepanoff

Mariah Stojak

Kylie Thompson

Kai Tsan

Max Vazquez Perez

Alexana Voudouris

Elena Ward

Alaywah Wilson

Denajah Woodley

Tyanna Young



Wiesbaden, Germany

Wiesbaden High School



On behalf of Wiesbaden High School's class of 2021, we would like to express our gratitude to our families, friends, and teachers for their constant love, support, motivation, and guidance. Upon reflection of our time in Germany, we are incredibly thankful for this amazing opportunity we've been given. We feel so fortunate to have had the experience of living in Europe and having been exposed to people from all walks of life. It has made us more accepting and tolerant of those around us, which can only make us better equipped to address the issues our generation will face. Although our senior year has not gone as we had planned—and due to cancellations of sports, drama, and all other activities, it has had its fair share of disappointments—we hope that we've all taken advantage of this time to reconnect with our families and close friends with a new focus and perspective on the things that are important to us. In many ways, this experience has made us feel grateful to those around us who, despite obstacles, have planned prom and graduation ceremonies that are different, yes, but celebratory as well. The outpour of support and concern from our community has been constant, generous, and at times, overwhelming. We will never adequately express our appreciation. As we close this chapter in our lives, it is with confidence and hope that we face our future. We will always remember our time here fondly. Congratulations to the class of 2021!

— Senior Class Officers

- Samiaya Jenelle Adams

MJ Briggs Nahiolea Addington

Luke C. Adolphus

Dakota Lynn Allred

Samantha Lynette Amaya

Alyssa Grace Anderson

Jaden Karmel Anderson

Jade Eden Anderson

Ellen Meiling Anderton

Alexander Basil Arcila

Carter Kennady Bailey

Mackenzie Elizabeth Bainer

Aiden Ynosensio Banuelos

Erica Loren Betts

Dominique Charles Bivins

Jonathan Trey Braswell

Skyler Zen Broussard

Hannah Nicole Brown

Connor Joseph Buchheit
- Ryley Jaye Bullock

Kiana Jewel Bussa

Gilbert Elijah Bustillos

Aliya Nicole Butcher

Patrick Michael Carroll, III

Jahsim Mozhiah Casimir

Garrett A. Cheney

Sarah Elaine Chester

Jude Arlo Clum-Stockton

Jason Anthony Costa

Daniel Luis Crespo

Taylor Nicole Curtis-Davis

Joshua Andrew Daniel

Maya Simone Darby

Marina Elena Davatelis

Isabella Sofia Diaz

Kevin Tran Do

Ljah-Jacob Domingo Dumo

Cassandra Edwards
- Wyatt Christopher Newman Evans

Isaiah Duane Gassmann

Aiden Xavier Gerst

Natalie Ryann Gifford

Calvin Timothy Gillespie

Connor Aiden Gingrich

James Edward Gladding

Keelynn Michael-Cole Gonzales

Svenna Rullan Gonzalez-Escalante

Connor Bryce Harris

Noah Joshua Harris

Jaiden Alexander Harrison

Anna L. Hendrix

Elijah Bennett Hoenig

Tyler Brenden Houk

Samuel Edward Houston

Katherine Marie Howe

Callaway James Hudson

Nathan Roger Hughes
- Daniel M.J. Iverson

Heidi-Camille Reingardt Johnson

Nathanial Christian Johnson

Unwandus King Johnson-Hamlet

Natalie Leann Joyce

Chloe Jennifer Kaup

Zachary Austin Keener

Landon Michael Kerr

Charlotte Michawla Kordonowy

Thea Lauren Lehne-Carabajal

Michala Grace Maraccini

Lidia Jasmine Mason

Guglielmo Toye Moss

Meaghan Elizabeth O'Sadnick

Raymundo Angel Ochoa

Jalen Anthony Pearl

Izabella Michelle Pitaniello

Isabella Noemi Pizarro

Calen London Aloni Prevo

- Dominic Ramirez

Jane Madeleine Rider

Reyder Jeddriel Rivera-Sánchez

Oscar Rojas, Jr.

Wesley Giovanni Rosario-Gomez

Alondra Faviola Santiago

Jackson Andrew Schuyler

Zachary Clyde Shepard

Jeffrey Mark Shoemaker, Jr.

Serio Gabriel Silva

Kerri Elizabeth Sittenauer

Isaac Allen Smith

Sam Taylor Smith

Aiden Michael Springer
- Jackson Scott Springer

Jacob Anthony Strekha

Mary Renée Tanner

Kaitlyn Elizabeth Taylor

Christin Marie Tellen

Xavier Thibodeau

Makenna Grace Thomas

Rashaan Can Thomas

Joshua Elijah Thresher

Eric Raef Tignor

Anthony Carlos Tracey

Jazmin Katie Rose Wallace

Olivia Esmé Zargoza

Cyrus Julian Zayas

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FACES



Sara Phillips, a branch manager with Heights Libraries in Ohio, holds the Bob Dylan double album “Self Portrait” borrowed in 1973 by eighth grader Howard Simon. He returned the album recently after finding it in his collection.

Direction home: Dylan album is returned 48 years late

After nearly five decades of blowin’ in the wind, a double Bob Dylan album finally has a direction home: A man living in San Francisco has mailed the vinyl back to an Ohio library 48 years after it was supposed to be returned.

Howard Simon recently sent the album along with a letter to Heights Libraries apologizing for his tardiness, according to a news release from the library system outside Cleveland.

Simon checked out Dylan’s “Self Portrait” album in 1973 as an eighth-grader at a University Heights middle school. Simon says he found it between two other Dylan albums in his personal vinyl collection.

“As a recent retiree, I am taking the opportunity to turn my attention to some of the many vignettes of life that by dint of career and family have been neglected these many years,” Simon wrote. “I am returning with the letter an overdue item by my count, approximately 17,480 days overdue as of this writing.”

His letter says the album cover is a little battered after traveling with him from University Heights to San Francisco with various stops in between, but the library says the records themselves remain in “great shape.”

Simon also sent the library a \$175 replacement fee for “Self Portrait” along with an album he recorded, “Western Reserve,” for possible inclusion in the library’s collection.

The library bore no hard feelings, or sense that Simon wasted their precious time, essentially telling him in the press release don’t think twice; it’s all right.

“The funny thing about this is that we don’t charge overdue fines anymore — as long as we get the item back, we see no need to penalize people,” branch manager Sara Phillips was quoted as saying. “We’re grateful that Mr. Simon returned the record. I’d said we can now call it even.”

New this week: ‘We Are Lady Parts’ series, a third ‘The Conjuring’ movie

Associated Press

Here’s a collection curated by The Associated Press’ entertainment journalists of what’s arriving on TV, streaming services and music platforms this week.

Movies

■ Pride Month will be celebrated across many streaming platforms beginning this week. One standout new release is “Changing the Game,” Michael Barnett’s documentary about three transgender teens navigating high school athletics. The film, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2019, began streaming on Hulu on Tuesday, with some updated material. Amid swirling media attention, “Changing the Game” humanizes a sometimes fraught issue by staying close to the kids — a wrestler in Texas, a skier in New Hampshire and a Connecticut track star.

■ With old-school, trope-heavy, sturdily built horror tales, “The Conjuring” films have amassed a surprisingly vast franchise, with its many iterations and offshoots totaling nearly \$2 billion in worldwide box office. In “The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It,” the third in the flagship “Conjuring” series and the eighth film overall in the Conjuring-verse, paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren (Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga) are back for a 1981 murder trial in Connecticut considered to be the first known court case in which demonic possession was used as a defense. The film opens Friday in theaters and on HBO Max.

— AP Film Writer Jake Coyle

Music

■ Liz Phair last released an album of original songs 11 years ago, and she’s returning to the scene with “Soberish” on Friday. The 13-track album was produced by Brad Wood, who worked on Phair’s albums “Exile In Guyville,” “Whip-Smart” and “whitechocolatespaceegg.” Phair said this of the album’s title: “Soberish can be about partying. It can be about self-delusion. It can be about chasing that first flush of love or, in fact, any state of mind that allows you to escape reality for a while and exist on a happier plane. It’s not self-destructive or out of control; it’s as simple as the cycle of dreaming and waking up.”

■ It’s also been 11 years since Grammy-nominated rapper Lloyd Banks has dropped a solo album. On Friday, the former G-Unit member will release “The Course of the Inevitable,” a 18-track set featuring collaborations with Styles P, Benny The Butcher, Vado, Sy Ari da Kid, Roc Marci and Ransom.



This combination of images shows cover art for “Prayers,” a three-song EP by Joe Walsh and Amjad Ali Khan, left, and “Soberish,” a 13-track album by Liz Phair.



Vera Farmiga, left, and Patrick Wilson are pictured in a scene from “The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It.” The film opens Friday in theaters and on HBO Max.

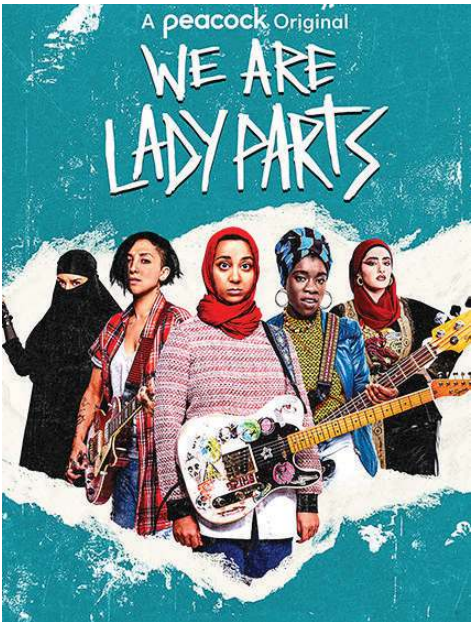
■ After playing together at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Mumbai, the Eagles’ Joe Walsh invited classical sarod player Amjad Ali Khan and his two sons to Los Angeles to record music at his home studio last year. The result is “Prayers,” a three-song EP being released Friday. The three tracks — “Healing Love,” “Goddess” and “Hope (We Shall Overcome)” — were inspired by frontline workers and social justice groups. And artist proceeds from the album will benefit global health nonprofit Intrahealth International.

— AP Music Editor Mesfin Fekadu

Television

■ A 1921 race attack that destroyed a prosperous Tulsa, Okla., business district known as Black Wall Street and killed scores of the community’s residents is getting unprecedented attention on its centennial. Among the TV entries: A two-part OWN special, “The Legacy of Black Wall Street,” debuting on consecutive Tuesdays on the channel (9 p.m. EDT) and the discovery+ streaming service. The first episode, which debuted Tuesday, tells of the pioneers who built Greenwood District and saw its destruction by mob violence, while the June 8 chapter details efforts by a new generation of entrepreneurs and others to resurrect what was lost.

■ The eye-catching title is just the start of the fun with “We Are Lady Parts,” a six-part, London-set series about a Muslim female punk band called — you’ve got it — Lady Parts. Anjana Vasan plays Amina, a microbiology student who is reluctantly pressed into service as the group’s lead guitarist by driven frontwoman Saira (Sarah Kameela Impey) despite the doubts of her bandmates (Juliette Motamed, Faith Omole) and manager (Lucie Shorthouse). Amina, captivated by the band’s spirit, uneasily finds it at odds with that of her uni-



“We Are Lady Parts,” a six-part series about a Muslim female punk band, premieres Thursday on Peacock.

versity pals and routine. The series debuts Thursday on the Peacock streaming service.

■ Netflix’s “Sweet Tooth,” based on writer-illustrator Jeff Lemire’s DC Comics series, is set a post-pandemic world in which children born as human-animal hybrids are feared and hunted. Gus (Christian Convery) is a deer-boy who emerges from his protected forest home and ends up in the company of a wanderer (Nonso Anozie), skirting danger as they both seek answers about themselves and what remains of America. The series makers, including husband-and-wife producers Robert Downey Jr. and Susan Downey, say it’s a work of hope meant for families to watch together. The eight-part series is out Friday.

— AP Television Writer Lynn Elber



Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Lt. Col. Marci Hoffman, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander

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Ernie Gates

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OPINION

Learn from Israel’s odd-couple arrangement

By DAVID IGNATIUS
Washington Post Writers Group
WASHINGTON

The United States could take a lesson from what’s happening this week in Israel, where two radically diverging wings of Israeli politics have united in opposing the polarizing government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Naftali Bennett and Yair Lapid couldn’t disagree more about big issues. Bennett is an Orthodox Jewish former settler leader who wants to annex the West Bank; Lapid is a secular Jew who favors a two-state solution to the Palestinian problem. Yet the two joined forces last weekend for what supporters call a “change government.” The mission is to oust Netanyahu and end the impasse in Israeli politics he helped create.

Netanyahu is the ultimate political survivor. He has remained prime minister for the past 12 years in part because of his genius at exploiting the divisions in Israeli society for his own benefit. He exploited “wedge politics” much like his political ally, former President Donald Trump. He has kept his post despite a 2019 indictment on charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust, and a trial that resumed in April, in which he has pleaded not guilty.

But this week, Netanyahu’s threats and bluster finally seemed to have lost their bite. Lapid and Bennett asked Israeli President Reuven Rivlin for a mandate to form a government, and they appear to have the Knesset votes to remove Netanyahu. We’ll know by Wednesday night whether they have succeeded.

What has happened in Israel to produce this extraordinary (if precarious) movement for national unity? Partly it’s frustration with the political impasse Netanyahu produced as he held office through four in-

They have competing visions of the future of the state. But they share a belief that the nation and its institutions come first.

conclusive elections over the past two years. Partly, it’s a feeling of disgust about Netanyahu continuing to hold power even as he stands trial on charges that he abused it.

Most of all, I suspect, Bennett and Lapid have come together because of a shared passion for the well-being of their country. And that’s the point that I wish Americans could learn from watching this episode. This seems to be a moment where Israel’s version of “red” and “blue” states — people who disagree about fundamental issues — have put those divisions aside because of something that’s more important: national survival.

Bennett, the religious conservative, put it this way: “Two thousand years ago, there was a Jewish state which fell here because of internal quarrels. This will not happen again. Not on my watch.” Lapid, the secular centrist, also stressed the search for unity, “to see if we can find in the coming days wise compromises for the sake of the big aim.”

One unsettling similarity between Israeli and U.S. politics is that Netanyahu’s die-hard supporters have been threatening violence in recent days, just as Trump’s supporters did in the Jan. 6 insurrection. Gideon Saar, a former Netanyahu ally who supports the change coalition, warned: “There is an incitement machine that is running . . . an incitement machine that has nothing to do with ideology, but only with anxiety about the loss of power.”

Avigdor Liberman, another former Netanyahu ally now backing change, specifically likened the threats and intimidation by Netanyahu’s supporters against those they view as traitors to the Jan. 6 insurrection.

“When I look at the legal attempt to torpedo the [coalition] government . . . I see what happened on the Capitol Hill happening here. I hope it’s just a nightmare scenario,” Liberman said.

I’ve watched Lapid and Bennett speak many times in Tel Aviv at conferences held by the Institute for National Security Studies. It’s hard to imagine two more different people — in style, temperament and ideology. They have competing visions of the future of the state. But they share a belief that the nation and its institutions come first.

“The country is paralyzed because [Netanyahu] only cares for himself,” argues Amos Yadlin, a retired Israeli air force general who headed military intelligence and recently retired as head of the Institute for National Security Studies. He argued that the tipping point wasn’t a disagreement about national security, where Israelis are united except for the Palestinian issue — it was exasperation with Netanyahu, known in Israel as “Bibi.”

“Bibi took our political norms to an unacceptable level . . . by inciting and dividing the people,” Yadlin told me in a phone interview Tuesday. The diverse coalition for change emerged, he said, because “Bibi put himself before the country,” and it was time “to normalize again our political system.”

The change coalition won’t solve all Israel’s problems. But it will reinforce the fundamentals of Israeli democracy — and the need for people to unite, even when they disagree bitterly over policy. Let’s hope Americans experience the same revelation before it’s too late.

China’s 3-child policy won’t reverse population decline

By DAVID FICKLING
Bloomberg Opinion

If China hopes to avert a fall in its population by raising the maximum number of children per mother from two to three, it’s going to have its work cut out.

That’s because declining fertility, once started, tends to be an inexorable force that few nations have managed to arrest, let alone reverse. Of the 85 countries where fertility had fallen to less than 2.1 births per woman in 2009 — the so-called “replacement level,” below which population decline tends to set in — only Tunisia had managed to just about creep back above replacement 10 years later.

Even that achievement could suggest a measurement problem more than genuine policy success. Women tend to have children later in life as education levels and employment prospects improve. That can sharply depress fertility in the early years of the demographic shift as women wait longer to have children, before leading to a modest rise in the birth rate later as they catch up in their 30s.

Apparent phenomena as diverse as declining fertility in northern Europe and the supposed higher fertility rate of Hispanic women in the U.S. are as likely to be the result of having children later rather than having fewer children. Birth rates in the European Union, for instance, barely changed in a gen-

eration once the shift to later maternity was complete.

A three-child policy will certainly help on that front. Given replacement levels of 2.1 births per mother, it’s by definition impossible to stabilize your population when you can’t have more than two children. Still, there are reasons beyond population policy that China may struggle to spark a baby boom.

Consider what’s happening in other countries in the region. Japan and the four Asian “Tiger Economies” of Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan have so strikingly few babies that the term “ultra-low fertility” has been coined to describe them. The four tigers, along with Macau, take out the bottom five places globally in the CIA’s latest ranking of countries by fertility rate, with Japan not far behind.

There’s evidence that this isn’t just about the delayed maternity that caused Europe’s fertility slowdown. The ongoing decline since 2000 in South Korea is being driven instead by women having fewer or no children, according to a 2018 study by Sam Hyun Yoo and Tomas Sobotka of the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital.

What can be done to reverse this? Reducing the human and financial cost of rearing children will be vital, as my colleague Clara Ferreira Marques has written. That means

not just funding for child care, schooling and parental leave, but a change in attitudes in the workforce, property law and the home so that women don’t shoulder all the burden of raising a family.

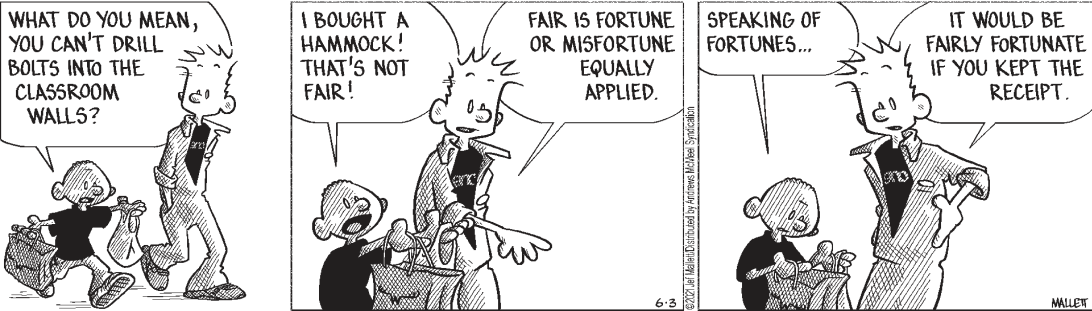
Measures to address this in China were announced alongside the three-child policy, though it’s unclear whether promised or even enacted changes will be enough. Japan has some of the world’s most generous paternal leave policies in an attempt to get fathers more involved in child care, but only about 3% of men take any time off at all.

Switching away from an economic model built on a constant cycle of real estate investment might also help. China’s major cities, where property is as expensive per square foot as in far richer global cities, aren’t particularly attractive places to raise large families.

The good news for China is that, given the right incentives, most people in the world seem to want to have the two or three children needed to balance populations for the long term. The only question is whether the two dozen 60-something men (and one woman) on the Politburo will have the insight needed to change nearly five decades of anti-natalist policy.

David Fickling is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering commodities, as well as industrial and consumer companies. He has been a reporter for Bloomberg News, Dow Jones, The Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times and the Guardian.

Frazz



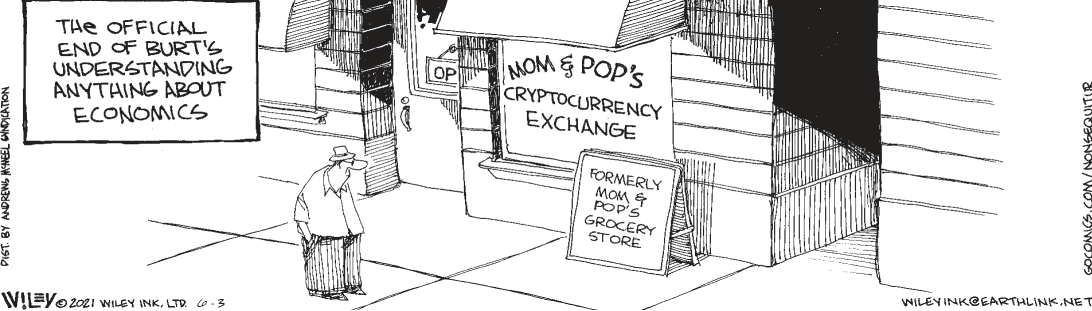
Dilbert



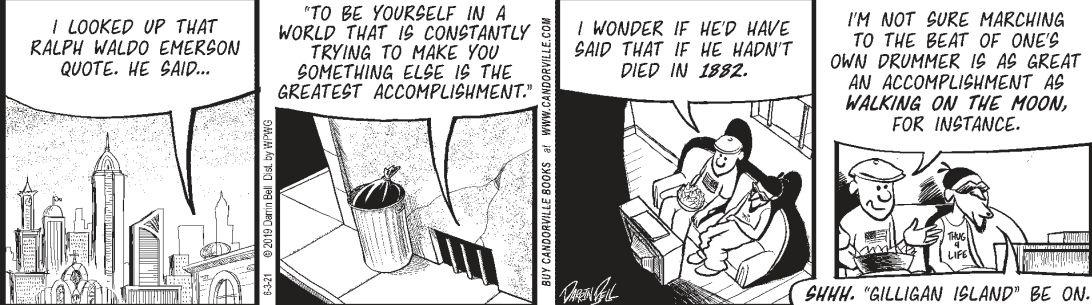
Pearls Before Swine



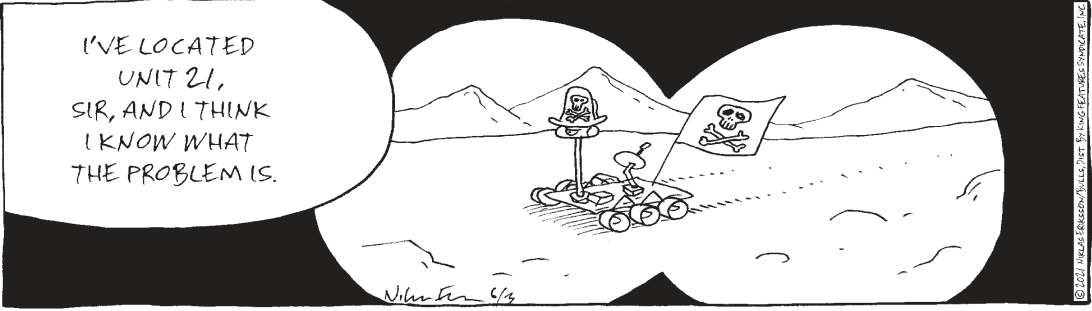
Non Sequitur



Candorville



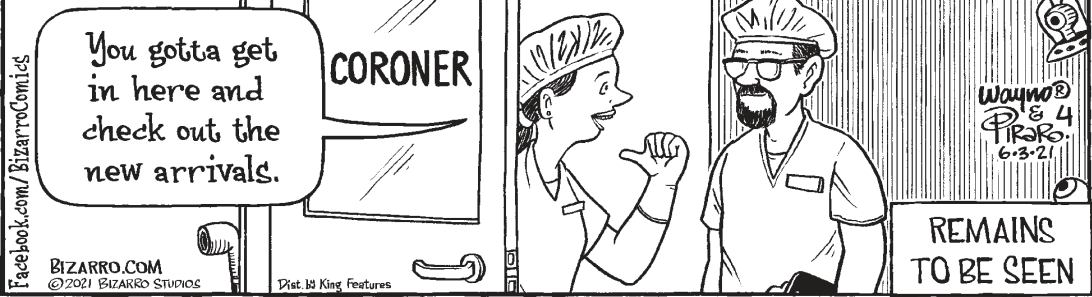
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19			20	21				
			22					23				
24	25	26			27	28	29				30	31
32					33					34		
35			36	37						38		
		39					40	41				
42	43				44		45			46	47	48
49					50	51			52			
53					54				55			
56					57				58			

- ACROSS
- 58 Gone to the bottom
- 24 Nourished
- 25 Poem of praise
- 26 Greyhound excursions
- 28 Spell-off
- 29 Places for alarm clocks
- 30 D followers
- 31 Bro's sib
- 36 Christie sleuth
- 37 Connections
- 38 Forbidden acts
- 41 Downing Street VIP
- 42 Rim
- 43 Maja painter
- 44 Snitch
- 46 Pakistan's language
- 47 Nobel Prize subj.
- 48 Unlit
- 51 "The Matrix" character
- DOWN
- 1 Cincinnati team
- 2 "ER" actor La Salle
- 3 Hindu title of respect
- 4 Size up
- 5 Office accessories
- 6 Paris pal
- 7 "Break My Heart" singer Dua
- 8 Designer Giorgio
- 9 Thailand's neighbor
- 10 Wicked
- 11 Jackknife, for one
- 19 @
- 21 Trench

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	O	C	H		S	I	S		F	A	D	E
A	M	M	O		A	S	H		A	N	E	W
R	A	I	N	O	N	M	E		I	S	L	E
D	R	I	E	R				A	I	R	W	A
				S	L	O	B		O	S	E	
W	H	E	T		D	A	M	N		R	C	A
H	E	X		B	O	N	E	S		M	A	P
O	R	C		A	R	T	S		T	E	M	P
			U	S	B			U	S	S	R	
R	E	S	T	E	D				K	E	B	A
A	R	E	A			O	K	A	Y	B	Y	M
M	I	M	I			W	O	W		L	E	A
S	E	E	R			N	I	L		E	S	T

6-3 CRYPTOQUIP

Y K G H W E L E R F R O O E F J

K G N W Y G N J F H E N J X I J N T F

E R Q K H H E Y J G N Y K V I J H K J L ' N J

Y E N T V U Q ? Y N J U X K - X E G H F .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I EXPECT THAT BIG-LEAGUERS WHO USED TO PLAY ON TAMPA BAY'S TEAM WOULD NOW BE CALLED EX-RAYS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals W

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SCOREBOARD

PRO SOCCER							
MLS							
EASTERN CONFERENCE							
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
New England	5	1	2	17	11	7	
Philadelphia	4	2	2	14	9	5	
Orlando City	3	1	3	12	8	4	
NYCFC	3	2	2	11	13	7	
CF Montréal	3	3	2	11	10	9	
Columbus	3	2	2	11	7	6	
Nashville	2	0	5	11	9	6	
Atlanta	2	1	4	10	9	7	
New York	3	4	0	9	10	10	
D.C. United	3	5	0	9	8	11	
Inter Miami CF	2	4	2	8	8	13	
Toronto FC	1	4	2	5	8	12	
Chicago	1	5	1	4	4	11	
Cincinnati	1	4	1	4	6	15	
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Seattle	5	0	3	18	14	3	
Sporting KC	5	2	1	16	15	10	
LA Galaxy	5	2	0	15	11	11	
Colorado	4	2	1	13	12	8	
Houston	3	3	2	11	11	12	
San Jose	3	5	0	9	11	12	
Portland	3	4	0	9	9	11	
Real Salt Lake	2	1	3	9	9	7	
LAFC	2	3	2	8	8	9	
Vancouver	2	4	1	7	6	9	
Austin FC	2	4	1	7	5	8	
Minnesota	2	4	1	7	6	11	
FC Dallas	1	3	3	6	8	11	
Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.							
Saturday, May 29							
CF Montréal 1, Chicago 0 New York 2, Orlando City 1 New England 1, Cincinnati 0 Columbus 2, Toronto FC 1 Nashville 2, Atlanta 2, tie New York City FC 2, Los Angeles FC 1 LA Galaxy 1, San Jose 0 D.C. United 3, Miami 0 Sporting Kansas City 3, Houston 2 Colorado 3, FC Dallas 0 Minnesota 1, Real Salt Lake 1, tie							
Sunday, May 30							
Philadelphia 3, Portland 0 Austin FC 0, Seattle 0, tie							
Saturday, June 12							
Austin FC at Sporting Kansas City							
NWSL							
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Orlando	3	0	1	10	6	3	
Washington	2	1	1	7	4	4	
Portland	2	2	0	6	8	4	
North Carolina	1	1	1	4	6	2	
Reign FC	1	1	1	4	2	2	
Gotham FC	1	1	1	4	1	1	
Houston	1	2	1	4	5	6	
Louisville	1	1	1	4	2	5	
Chicago	1	2	1	4	3	7	
Kansas City	0	2	2	2	2	5	
Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.							
Wednesday, May 26							
Orlando 2, Portland 1 Chicago 2, Kansas City 0 Washington 2, Houston 1							
Friday, May 28							
North Carolina 5, Louisville 0							
Saturday, May 29							
Houston 2, Chicago 1							
Sunday, May 30							
Portland 1, Gotham FC 0 Orlando 1, Kansas City 0 Washington 1, Reign FC 0							
Saturday's games							
North Carolina at Chicago Reign FC at Gotham FC Louisville at Portland							
COLLEGE SOFTBALL							
NCAA Division I World Series							
At USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium							
Oklahoma City							
Double Elimination; x-if necessary							
Thursday, June 3							
Oklahoma vs. James Madison Oklahoma St. vs. Georgia Alabama vs. Arizona UCLA vs. Florida St.							
Friday, June 4							
Oklahoma-James Madison winner vs. Oklahoma St.-Georgia winner Alabama-Arizona winner vs. UCLA-Florida St. winner							
Saturday, June 5							
Oklahoma-James Madison loser vs. Oklahoma St.-Georgia loser Alabama-Arizona loser vs. UCLA-Florida St. loser							
Sunday, June 6							
Teams TBD							
Championship Series							
Monday, June 7							
Teams TBD							
Tuesday, June 8							
Teams TBD							
Wednesday, June 9							
Teams TBD							

PRO TENNIS							
French Open							
Tuesday							
At Stade Roland Garros							
Paris							
Purse: Euro 16,404,509							
Surface: Red clay							
Men's Singles							
First Round							
Marco Cecchinato, Italy, def. Yasutaka Uchiyama, Japan, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4.							
Alex de Minaur (21), Australia, def. Stefano Travaglia, Italy, 6-2, 6-4, 7-6 (4).							
Ricardas Berankis, Lithuania, def. Ugo Humbert (29), France, 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.							
Aslan Karatsev (24), Russia, def. Jensen Brooksby, United States, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.							
Mikael Ymer, Sweden, def. Roberto Carballes Baena, Spain, 6-4, 0-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.							
Aljaz Bedene, Slovenia, def. Adrian Panarin, France, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2.							
James Duckworth, Australia, def. Salvatore Caruso, Italy, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2.							
Gael Monfils (14), France, def. Albert Ramos-Vinolas, Spain, 1-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-4.							
Facundo Bagnis, Argentina, def. Benjamin Bonzi, France, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.							
Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, def. Andrey Rublev (7), Russia, 6-3, 7-6 (6), 4-6, 3-6, 6-4.							
Andreas Seppi, Italy, def. Felix Auger-Aliassime (20), Canada, 6-3, 7-6 (8), 4-6, 6-4.							
Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 7-6 (3), 6-2, 2-6, 6-4.							
Diego Schwartzman (10), Argentina, def. Yen-hsun Lu, Taiwan, 6-2, 6-2, 6-3.							
Richard Gasquet, France, def. Hugo Gaston, France, 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.							
Federico Coria, Argentina, def. Feliciano Lopez, Spain, 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.							
Rafael Nadal (3), Spain, def. Alexei Popyrin, Australia, 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 (3).							
Matteo Berrettini (9), Italy, def. Taro Daniel, Japan, 6-0, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.							
Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, def. Lucas Pouille, France, 6-3, 6-1, 6-3.							
Kwon Soon Woo, South Korea, def. Kevin Anderson, South Africa, 7-5, 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (4).							
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Tennyson Sandgren, United States, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.							
Women's Singles							
First Round							
Ann Li, United States, def. Margarita Gasparyan, Russia, 6-0, 6-1.							
Jasmine Paolini, Italy, def. Stefanie Vogele, Switzerland, 7-5, 6-1.							
Ons Jabeur (25), Tunisia, def. Yulia Putintseva, Kazakhstan, 7-5, 6-2.							
Jennifer Brady (13), United States, def. Anastasija Sevastova, Latvia, 6-3, 6-3.							
Astra Sharma, Australia, def. Irina Bara, Romania, 7-6 (5), 6-2.							
Maria Sakkari (17), Greece, def. Katarina Zavatska, Ukraine, 6-4, 6-1.							
Fiona Ferro, France, def. En Shuo Liang, Taiwan, 6-1, 1-6, 6-4.							
Elina Svitolina (5), Ukraine, def. Oceane Babel, France, 6-2, 7-5.							
Barbora Krejickova, Czech Republic, def. Kristyna Pliskova, Czech Republic, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2.							
COLLEGE BASEBALL							
USA Today Coaches Poll							
The USA TODAY Sports Top 25 baseball poll, with team's records through Sunday in parentheses, total points based on 25 for first place through one point for 25th, ranking in last week's poll and first-place votes received.							
	Record	Pts	Pvs				
1. Arkansas (32)	46-10	800	1				
2. Tennessee	45-16	740	4				
3. Vanderbilt	40-15	728	3				
4. Texas	42-15	713	2				
5. Arizona	40-15	633	7				
6. Notre Dame	30-11	566	8				
7. Texas Tech	36-15	553	5				
7. Mississippi State	40-15	553	6				
9. Stanford	33-14	503	12				
10. TCU	40-17	498	14				
11. Mississippi	41-19	492	11				
12. Oregon	37-14	461	9				
13. Florida	38-20	445	13				
14. East Carolina	41-15	421	10				
15. Old Dominion	42-14	322	21				
16. UC Irvine	40-16	269	15				
17. North Carolina State	30-17	252	17				
18. Louisiana Tech	40-18	247	20				
19. Nebraska	31-12	154	25				
20. Southern Miss	37-19	151	16				
21. UCLA	35-18	125	27				
22. Gonzaga	33-17	124	18				
23. Oklahoma State	35-17	114	29				
24. Florida State	30-22	93	22				
25. Charlotte	39-19	77	19				
Dropped out: No. 23 Arizona State (32-20); No. 24 South Carolina (33-21).							
Others receiving votes: Others receiving votes: South Carolina (33-21) 75; Duke (32-20) 65; Liberty (39-14) 31; Miami (32-19) 30; Connecticut (33-17) 25; Arizona State (32-20) 19; Dallas Baptist (37-15) 19; Maryland (28-16) 18; Oregon State (34-22) 12; Virginia Commonwealth (37-14) 10; Fairfield (37-3) 9; Georgia Tech (29-23) 9; UC Santa Barbara (39-18) 8; Virginia (29-23) 7; Northeastern (36-10) 6; San Diego (33-12) 6; Wright State (35-11) 6; Indiana State (30-19) 3; LSU (34-22) 3; Michigan (27-17) 3; Central Michigan (40-16) 1; Grand Canyon (39-19) 1.							

PRO BASKETBALL			
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Scoreboard

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	35	21	.625	—
Boston	32	22	.593	2
New York	30	25	.545	4½
Toronto	28	25	.528	5½
Baltimore	18	37	.327	16½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	33	22	.600	—
Cleveland	30	24	.556	2½
Kansas City	27	26	.509	5
Detroit	23	32	.418	10
Minnesota	22	32	.407	10½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	32	25	.561	—
Houston	30	24	.556	½
Seattle	28	28	.500	3½
Los Angeles	25	30	.455	6
Texas	22	34	.393	9½
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	26	21	.553	—
Atlanta	25	27	.481	3½
Philadelphia	26	29	.473	4
Miami	24	29	.453	5
Washington	22	29	.431	6
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	31	23	.574	—
St. Louis	31	24	.564	½
Milwaukee	29	26	.527	2½
Cincinnati	24	29	.453	6½
Pittsburgh	20	34	.370	11
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	34	21	.618	—
San Diego	34	22	.607	½
Los Angeles	32	23	.582	2
Colorado	21	34	.382	13
Arizona	20	36	.357	14½
Tuesday's games				
Cleveland 6, Chicago White Sox 5				
Toronto 5, Miami 1				
Baltimore 7, Minnesota 4				
N.Y. Yankees 5, Tampa Bay 3, 11 innings				
Detroit 10, Milwaukee 7				
Houston 5, Boston 1				
Kansas City 10, Pittsburgh 5				
Colorado 3, Texas 2, 11 innings				
L.A. Angels 8, San Francisco 1				
Oakland 12, Seattle 6				
Philadelphia 17, Cincinnati 3				
Chicago Cubs 4, San Diego 3				
Washington 11, Atlanta 6				
Arizona 6, N.Y. Mets 5, 10 innings				
St. Louis 3, L.A. Dodgers 2				
Wednesday's games				
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland				
Minnesota at Baltimore				
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees				
Miami at Toronto				
Boston at Houston				
Texas at Colorado				
Oakland at Seattle				
Philadelphia at Cincinnati				
San Diego at Chicago Cubs				
N.Y. Mets at Arizona				
Washington at Atlanta				
St. Louis at L.A. Dodgers				
Thursday's games				
Tampa Bay (Yarbrough 2-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Cole 6-2)				
Boston (Pérez 3-2) at Houston (Odorizzi 0-2)				
Texas (Foltynewicz 1-5) at Colorado (Gray 4-5)				
Detroit (Mize 3-3) at Chicago White Sox (Keuchel 4-1)				
Minnesota (Happ 3-2) at Kansas City (Bubic 1-0)				
Seattle (Sheffield 4-4) at L.A. Angels (Canning 4-3)				
Washington (Corbin 3-4) at Atlanta (Anderson 4-2)				
Miami (Poteet 2-1) at Pittsburgh (Anderson 3-5)				
Arizona (TBD) at Milwaukee (Houser 3-5)				
Cincinnati (Castillo 1-8) at St. Louis (TBD)				
Chicago Cubs (Davies 2-2) at San Francisco (DeSclafani 4-2)				
N.Y. Mets (Walker 4-1) at San Diego (Darvish 5-1)				
Friday's games				
Boston at N.Y. Yankees				
Cleveland at Baltimore				
Houston at Toronto				
Tampa Bay at Texas				
Detroit at Chicago White Sox				
Minnesota at Kansas City				
Oakland at Colorado				
Seattle at L.A. Angels				
Miami at Pittsburgh				
Washington at Philadelphia				
L.A. Dodgers at Atlanta				
Arizona at Milwaukee				
Cincinnati at St. Louis				
Chicago Cubs at San Francisco				
N.Y. Mets at San Diego				

ROUNDUP

Mullins, Orioles end 14-game skid

His spectacular catch sparks Baltimore to 7-4 victory over Twins

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Cedric Mullins hustled over to right-center field and made a sliding, back-handed catch at the base of the wall.

It was still early, but by then, this night felt different for the Baltimore Orioles.

“I think that was the turning point in the game,” Orioles starter Bruce Zimmermann said. “Everybody saw that, we were ready to roll. You could see kind of a mental shift in our favor after that catch.”

Mullins got two hits and scored two runs to go along with his sensational catch, helping Baltimore snap its 14-game losing streak with a 7-4 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday night.

Pedro Severino and Maikel Franco both homered for the Orioles, who also ended a 16-game head-to-head skid against Minnesota. Zimmermann (3-3) allowed two runs and six hits in 5½ innings, striking out a career-high seven.

The Orioles used four relievers. Cole Sulser pitched the ninth for his first save of the season. He allowed the tying run to come to the plate with one out before striking out Alex Kirilloff and retiring Jorge Polanco on a flyout — Polanco hit a drive to right earlier in his at-bat that hooked just a bit foul.

It was tied at 1 in the third when, with a runner on first and two outs, Minnesota’s Nelson Cruz hit a drive to right-center. Mullins, the center fielder, had to make a long run before sliding along the warning track for a backhanded catch in front of the wall.

“Probably one of the best catches I’ve ever seen in pro baseball,” Zimmermann said.

Yankees 5, Rays 3: Clint Frazier hit a game-ending, two-run homer with two outs in the 11th inning after making a game-saving catch in the eighth, and slumping New York beat the visiting Tampa Bay Rays.

The righty-hitting Frazier turned on a slider from right-hander Andrew Kittredge (5-1) and stood at the plate to admire the drive, capping a tight finish in which both teams came up short on potential rallies.

One of those stalled efforts came in the eighth, when Frazier dove and needed every inch of his mitt to catch Joey Wendle’s soft-hit liner to strand two.

Cubs 4, Padres 3: Patrick Wisdom hit his third homer in two games, Willson Contreras also went deep and host Chicago beat



JULIO CORTEZ/AP

Baltimore Orioles center fielder Cedric Mullins makes a catch on a ball hit by the Minnesota Twins’ Nelson Cruz to end the third inning. Mullins also had two hits in the Orioles’ 7-4 win Tuesday in Baltimore.

San Diego after Padres star Fernando Tatis Jr. left with an injury.

Tatis exited because of right oblique tightness. He hit a fly to left field in the sixth inning and was replaced at shortstop in the bottom half by Ha-Seong Kim.

Cardinals 3, Dodgers 2: Edmundo Sosa hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning, Tyler O’Neill made a running catch for the final out and St. Louis won at Los Angeles.

O’Neill led off the ninth with a single against Blake Treinen (1-2) and stole second before Sosa hit a sharp grounder into left field.

Phillies 17, Reds 3: Odúbel Herrera and Andrew McCutchen each hit two of Philadelphia’s seven home runs in a rout at Cincinnati. Matt Joyce capped the rout with a grand slam in the ninth off Reds infielder Alex Blandino, who was on the mound to help spare the bullpen.

Nationals 11, Braves 6: Ryan Zimmerman and Juan Soto each

hit a two-run homer and Washington overcame Stephen Strasburg’s early exit to win at Atlanta.

Soto had three hits, drove in four runs and scored four times to lead the Nationals’ 14-hit outburst.

Indians 6, White Sox 5: AL MVP Jose Abreu grounded out with the bases loaded to blunt a ninth-inning rally against closer James Karinchak, giving Shane Bieber and host Cleveland a win.

Bieber (6-3) allowed two earned runs in seven innings, striking out seven to beat AL Central-leading Chicago for the second time this season.

Tigers 10, Brewers 7: Eric Haase and Jonathan Schoop each hit two home runs, Miguel Cabrera had three RBI and previously light-hitting Detroit won on the road to end Milwaukee’s five-game winning streak.

The Brewers’ Kolten Wong and Tyrone Taylor also hit two homers apiece in a game that saw nine home runs.

Astros 5, Red Sox 1: Luis Garcia threw a career-high seven innings, Jose Altuve homered and host Houston earned its third straight victory.

Garcia (4-3) permitted one run and six hits, retiring 11 of 12 batters over one stretch.

The right-hander struck out six and walked one in his fourth consecutive win.

Blue Jays 5, Marlins 1: Vladimir Guerrero Jr. keyed a career-best four-hit outing with his major league-leading 17th home run and Toronto celebrated the return to their temporary Buffalo home with a win over Miami.

Royals 10, Pirates 5: Andrew Benintendi hit a grand slam and drove in five runs to lead host Kansas City over Pittsburgh.

and eight hits in 5½ innings.

Rockies 3, Rangers 2 (11): Ryan McMahon scored on Brett Martin’s wild pitch in the 11th inning and host Colorado sent Texas to its 13th straight road loss.

Angels 8, Giants 1: Anthony Rendon drove in five runs, Max Stassi returned from a concussion and hit an RBI double and Los Angeles won at San Francisco.

Rendon hit a two-run single in the third to end an 0-for-10 funk and a bases-loaded double during a five-run fourth. He singled again in the ninth.

Athletics 12, Mariners 6: Matt Olson hit his 14th homer in the second inning and a two-run single in Oakland’s six-run seventh as it won at Seattle, ending the Mariners’ five-game winning streak.

Diamondbacks 6, Mets 5 (10): Josh Reddick hit a two-run double in the bottom of the 10th inning and host Arizona rallied to beat New York.



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

The New York Yankees’ Clint Frazier (77) celebrates with teammates after hitting a game-winning two-run home run in the 11th inning of a 5-3 win over the Tampa Bay Rays in New York.

FRENCH OPEN/SPORTS BRIEFS



MICHEL EULER/AP

Germany’s Alexander Zverev plays a return to Russia’s Roman Safiullin during their second-round French Open match Wednesday in Paris. Sverev won 7-6 (4), 6-3, 7-6 (1) to advance.

Zverev keeps it short, advances to 3rd round

German downs Safiullin in straight sets after needing 5 sets in previous round

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN
Associated Press

PARIS — Down 4-1 in the third set, Alexander Zverev decided it was time to shorten his match at the French Open.

He was determined to avoid another lengthy fight following a five-set battle in the previous round, so he applied pressure on qualifier Roman Safiullin. The sixth-seeded German won the next game at love, broke back by pushing his rival into unforced errors and was nearly flawless in the tiebreaker.

The reward was a 7-6 (4), 6-3, 7-6 (1) victory to advance into the third round at Roland Garros.

“I’m happy to be through in three sets. I’m happy not to have played another five-setter,” Zverev said. “I think it’s going to be important for me during the course of this tournament.”

Zverev, facing a rival he has known since their days in the boys’ categories, dropped his serve three times on Court Suzanne Lenglen but managed to catch up with Safiullin. It wasn’t smooth — he hit 10 double-faults and challenged several calls — but he kept his cool when it mattered.

A 25-shot rally in the final tiebreaker epitomized Zverev’s combative attitude. First on the defensive, Zverev turned it around and won the point with a passing shot. He took the next five points to seal the match and extend his perfect record against qualifiers to four matches on the Paris clay.

Zverev has been in excellent form in the buildup to the clay-court major. He is among the top contenders in Paris following his title in Madrid, where he beat Rafael Nadal.

Zverev was joined in the third round by qualifier Henri Laaksonen, who hit 53 winners to upset 11th-seeded Roberto Bautista Agut 6-3, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2. The 29-year-old Swiss had never beaten a top 20 player

before.

For the third straight year, Stefanos Tsitsipas also will be playing in the third round. The fifth-seeded Greek player excelled at the net and saved 11 break points to defeat solid baseliner Pedro Martinez of Spain 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Just another Grand Slam filled with five-setters for Kei Nishikori.

The former U.S. Open finalist rallied past 23rd-seeded Karen Khachanov 4-6, 6-2, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 on Wednesday to reach the third round of the French Open — after having also gone the distance to beat Italian qualifier Alessandro Giannessi in his opening match.

In the women’s draw, 2019 runner-up Marketa Vondrousova reached the third round with a 6-1, 6-3 win over wild-card entry Harmony Tan. Earlier, 10th-seeded Belinda Bencic’s campaign at Roland Garros ended with a 6-2, 6-2 loss to Daria Kasatkina, while Katerina Siniakova saved two match points to oust 29th-seeded Veronika Kudermetova 7-6 (7), 5-7, 7-5.

Ahead of the French Open, Siniakova made a deep run in Parma, where she upset top-seeded Serena Williams.

Williams, a year after she withdrew from the tournament before her second match because of an injured left Achilles, advanced to the third round Wednesday with a 6-3, 5-7, 6-1 defeat of Mihaela Buzarnescu of Romania.

Bencic struggled with her serve throughout and was broken four times by her Russian rival. The Swiss player has never progressed past the third round at the French Open in five appearances. Kasatkina made it to the quarterfinals in Paris in 2018, but it’s the first time this season that she has won consecutive matches on clay.

Venus Williams and 17-year-old Coco Gauff were beaten by 13th-seeded Ellen Perez and Zheng Saisai 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-3 in the first round. It marked the first time that Williams had played a Grand Slam doubles match with anyone but her sister.

BRIEFLY

Medina Spirit drug test confirmed; Derby victory is in jeopardy

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Bob Bafert’s lawyer said Wednesday that a split-sample test of Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit came back positive for the presence of the steroid betamethasone, which could lead to the horse’s disqualification and discipline for the Hall of Fame trainer.

Attorney Craig Robertson said the test showed 25 picograms of the steroid, after 21 were found initially. Even a trace amount of betamethasone is prohibited on race day in Kentucky and considered a violation.

Robertson said additional testing is being conducted to try to trace the source of the drug to an ointment to treat a skin infection and not an injection.

“At the end of the day, we anticipate this case to be about the treatment of Medina Spirit’s skin rash with Otomax,” he said. “We will have nothing further to say until the additional testing is complete.”

Source: Krzyzewski’s will coach final season

Duke Hall of Fame coach Mike Krzyzewski will coach his final season with the Blue Devils in 2021-22, a person familiar with the situation said Wednesday.

The person said former Duke player and associate head coach Jon Scheyer would then take over as Krzyzewski’s successor for the 2022-23 season.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the school hasn’t commented publicly on the decision. An announcement is expected later Wednesday.

Celtics replace Ainge with Stevens as president

The Boston Celtics shook up their front office on Wednesday, a day after they were eliminated from the playoffs, with president of basketball operations Danny Ainge retiring and coach Brad Stevens moving up to the front office to replace him.

The moves game about 12 hours after the 17-time NBA champions lost to the Brooklyn Nets in Game 5 of their first-round playoff series. The Celtics, who reached the conference finals in three of the previous four seasons, had flirted with a top-four seed in the East for much of the season before stumbling into the play-in round.

Celtics staff were informed Wednesday morning of the moves, which were first reported by

ESPN and The Athletic.

Ainge won NBA titles with the Celtics in 1984 and ‘86 and took over as the team president in 2003. He was voted the league’s top executive in 2008, when Boston won its 17th championship — a league record that has been matched by the Los Angeles Lakers.

In other Celtics news:

■ A plea of not guilty to a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon was entered on behalf of Cole Buckley, 21, of Braintree, Mass., in Boston Municipal Court. He was also ordered to stay away from the TD Garden after he threw a water bottle at Nets guard Kyrie Irving..

Bush among 1st-timers up for College Hall

Former Southern California star Reggie Bush, who had his Heisman Trophy victory in 2005 vacated for committing NCAA violations, is among the players making their first appearance on the College Football Hall of Fame ballot this year.

The National Football Foundation announced on Wednesday the players and coaches eligible for election into the Hall of Fame, and 26 of the 78 FBS players will be debuting on the ballot.

Hall of Fame ballots go to more than 12,000 NFF members and current Hall of Famers. The votes are considered by the NFF’s Honors Courts, which then deliberates and selects a class of about a dozen players and two or three coaches.

College Football Hall of Famer and two-time Heisman Trophy winner Archie Griffin from Ohio State is the chairman of the Honors Court, which includes athletic administrators, Hall of Famers and members of the media from all over the country.

Other first-timers on the ballot included quarterbacks Andrew Luck of Stanford and Kellen Moore of Boise State, Penn State star linebackers LaVar Arrington and Paul Posluszny and former California running back Marshawn Lynch.

Bush averaged 7.3 yards per carry in his career at USC, including 8.7 yards during his Heisman-winning season.

But his Heisman was later vacated after USC was hit with NCAA sanctions after it was found Bush and his family received money and gifts during his time with the Trojans from marketing agents who were hoping to represent the rising football star.

NHL PLAYOFFS/NBA PLAYOFFS



KARL B DeBLAKER/AP

Tampa Bay Lightning goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy watches the puck during the second period against the Carolina Hurricanes in Game 2 of their second-round playoff series Tuesday in Raleigh, N.C.

Vasilevskiy, Lightning take 2-0 lead over Hurricanes

BY AARON BEARD
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Andrei Vasilevskiy has spent two games turning nearly every shot away for the Tampa Bay Lightning. A couple more, and the reigning Stanley Cup champions could be headed to the next round.

Alex Killorn and Anthony Cirelli scored while Vasilevskiy carried a shutout into the final minutes, helping the Lightning beat the Carolina Hurricanes 2-1 on Tuesday night for a 2-0 lead in their second-round series.

As in the first round against Florida, Tampa Bay has opened a best-of-seven series with a pair of road wins. This time, it comes against the Central Division champion and a team that was in the Presidents' Trophy hunt until the final week of the regular season.

"We've been through (road playoff games) before," Lightning coach Jon Cooper said. "And we've got a group that believes in how to play and what you need to do to shut a game down. ... I think when you just have that overall mentality and everybody puts the team first, good things and magical things can happen. And that's what these guys are doing."

Now Tampa Bay heads home for two games, with Game 3 on Thursday, and a chance to sweep.

"It was rocking these last two games," Lightning captain Steven Stamkos said of PNC Arena with more than 16,000 rowdy fans. "To come in here and get both wins

NHL scoreboard

Second round	
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)	
Tampa Bay 2, Carolina 0	
Tampa Bay 2, Carolina 1	
Tuesday: Tampa Bay 2, Carolina 1	
Thursday: at Tampa Bay	
Saturday: at Tampa Bay	
x-Tuesday, June 8: at Carolina	
x-Thursday, June 10: at Tampa Bay	
x-Saturday, June 12: at Carolina	
Boston 1, N.Y. Islanders 1	
Boston 5, N.Y. Islanders 2	
N.Y. Islanders 4, Boston 3, OT	
Thursday: at N.Y. Islanders	
Saturday: at N.Y. Islanders	
Monday: at Boston	
x-Wednesday, June 9: at N.Y. Islanders	
x-Friday, June 11: at Boston	
Winnipeg vs. Montreal	
Wednesday: at Winnipeg	
Friday: at Winnipeg	
Sunday: at Montreal	
Monday: at Montreal	
x-Wednesday, June 9: at Winnipeg	
x-Friday, June 11: at Montreal	
x-Sunday, June 13: at Winnipeg	
Colorado 1, Vegas 0	
Colorado 7, Vegas 1	
Wednesday: at Colorado	
Friday: at Vegas	
Sunday: at Vegas	
x-Tuesday, June 8: at Colorado	
x-Thursday, June 10: at Vegas	
x-Saturday, June 12: at Colorado	

was huge. We know how hard it is to win this time of the year, period."

Vasilevskiy finished with 31 saves after being named one of three finalists for the Vezina Trophy presented annually to the league's top goaltender. That came two days after he made 37 stops in Game 1, including 15 saves in the opening period.

Both games ended the same way, with Carolina down 2-1 and spending the final minute with the empty net and extra attacker in a desperate tying attempt.

"It does make you sit an inch taller on the bench when you've got him back there," Cooper said of Vasilevskiy.

Andrei Svechnikov got the Hurricanes on the board with 1:30 left, taking a feed from Jordan Staal and finishing from the top of the crease.

Carolina had a 32-15 edge in shots on goal, but it also had more than double the giveaways (23-11) while Tampa Bay blocked 16 shots.

"It was a pretty good game, played pretty hard," Hurricanes coach Rod Brind'Amour said. "You're playing the best team in the world and we're going toe-to-toe, that's how it feels like, that's for sure. Certainly not getting overwhelmed. We just didn't get a break."

"Two games, we're just fighting and trying to find that one and we haven't been able to get it."

Finding the net

Killorn got the Lightning on the board 7:09 into the second period when he whipped a straightaway shot past Alex Nedeljkovic. The goaltender was shielded by teammate Jaccob Slavin tussling with Cirelli and didn't appear to see the puck until it was past him in the net.

Cirelli added to Tampa Bay's lead by taking Victor Hedman's stretch pass and shaking free from Brady Skjei before converting a backhand to make it 2-0 at 8:06 of the third.

Gun: Young joins elite company in postseason

FROM PAGE 40

skin of the Knicks and their fans.

"I love it," Young said. "This is a fun series."

He has become just the fourth player in NBA history to average at least 25 points and 10 assists in his first four career playoff games.

The others: Oscar Robertson, Kevin Johnson and Stephen Curry.

The 6-foot-1 Young has befuddled the Knicks with a dazzling array of moves and passes. When they sag into the lane, he'll pull up for the jumper. When they crowd him on the outside, he'll take it to the hoop. When others are open — and the Hawks have plenty of shooters — Young delivers passes in about every way imaginable.

"He really doesn't have a weakness," said interim Hawks coach Nate McMillan. "He takes what the defense gives him."

As good as he is as a shooter — Young's range is roughly just inside the half-court line — his passing may be even better.

He even amazes himself at times.

"I always know in my mind where I want to go with the ball," Young said. "Sometimes, it trips me out the way it goes. A couple of games ago, I did a behind-the-back pass to Tony (Snell) in the corner. I knew where I wanted to go with it. I just hoped it got there. The fact that it got there, I was pretty tripped out by that."

The charismatic Young has never shied away from the spotlight, making it clear from the day he arrived in Atlanta that he was more than willing to be the face of a team that has largely been a forgotten NBA outpost.

Even though the Hawks made the playoffs for the first time since 2017, most of the hype was on the Knicks — a flagship franchise in the league's biggest media market that ended an eight-year postseason drought of its own.

The underdog role suited Young well. He's often griped about how the team is overlooked, from a lack of national television appearances to him being passed over for a spot in this year's All-Star Game in his home city.

"We have been disrespected all this year and overlooked a lot," Young said.

With Young as the centerpiece of a massive overhaul, Atlanta went 49-100 during his first two seasons in the league. Last year, because of the pandemic, the Hawks were one of eight teams that didn't take part in the Disney World bubble.

It was tough for Young to watch. "I started training the first day everyone got in the bubble and started playing," he recalled. "Being at the house late at night, watching those games, seeing all those playoff games, seeing guys in the play-in games, even when they were just playing (the last few regular-season) games, for me it was frustrating. I wish I could have done more to help our team get there. For us to be here now means a lot to me. And this is just the beginning."

Young is seemingly picking up new fans with every stellar performance.

After Atlanta romped to a dominating victory in Game 4, Hall of Famer Isiah Thomas chimed in on Twitter.

"He's the real deal," Thomas wrote. "Let it be known!"

McMillan has worked with Young to cut down on his turnovers. After averaging 4.14 per game during the regular season, he's given up the ball only 11 times in four playoff games.

"He's showing growth in managing and running a team," the coach said. "He has to cut down the turnovers. He's too good of a passer to have five or six turnovers a game. Two is OK. But five or six is a big number for a guy who passes as well as he does."



BRYNN ANDERSON / AP

The Hawks' Trae Young, center, passes the ball against the New York Knicks' Derrick Rose, right, and Obi Toppin during the first half of Game 4 of their first-round playoff series Sunday in Atlanta.

NBA PLAYOFFS



Brooklyn Nets guard Kyrie Irving, right, shoots over Boston Celtics forward Aaron Nesmith in the Nets' series-clinching 123-109 Game 5 win Wednesday in New York.

Triumphant trio: Nets oust Celtics with Game 5 victory

By BRIAN MAHONEY
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving and James Harden had just eight games together in the regular season, few enough to wonder how good they could really be.

Five games against Boston provided some answers — and a chance to keep making up for all their lost time.

“We just don’t want to take any of this time for granted,” Irving said. “This doesn’t happen too often kind of in our culture, in our history, where three of the best scorers to ever play the game are on one team.”

Harden had 34 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for his first postseason triple-double with Brooklyn, leading the Nets into the Eastern Conference semifinals with a 123-109 victory over the Boston Celtics on Tuesday night in Game 5.

Irving scored 25 points and Durant had 24 for Brooklyn, which will face the Milwaukee Bucks in their first appearance in the second round since 2014. The No. 2-seeded Nets will host Game 1 against Giannis Antetokounmpo and the Bucks on Saturday.

“We’ve got our work cut out for us,” Durant said. “I mean, he’s a two-time MVP, Defensive Player

of the Year for a reason, so we’re looking forward to the challenge.”

Despite their limited time together during the regular season, Brooklyn’s three superstars showed how potent they can be in this series, particularly when they combined for 104 points in Game 4.

“We weren’t even worried about the playoff run yet, we were just happy to be on the court together,” Harden said. “So it’s great to get one series out of the way and like I said, we’ll take tomorrow off and we’ll recoup and get ready for a tough Milwaukee team.”

Suns dismantle Lakers, take 3-2 lead

By JOHN MARSHALL
Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Suns made LeBron James look away.

Riding an orange wave of support in the desert, the Suns sent the four-time league MVP to the locker room early and took control of their first-round playoff series with a 115-85 dismantling of the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

Phoenix leads 3-2, one win shy of becoming the first team in 15 tries to send James packing in the first round of the playoffs.

“There’s nobody that’s scared of the moment,” Suns guard Devin Booker said. “We’re a confident team.”

Phoenix won in Los Angeles on Sunday to tie the series and went right at the Anthony Davis-less Lakers in front of a revved-up crowd in Game 5.

Davis was out after suffering a groin injury in Game 4 and the Suns took advantage by attacking every chance they had. Los Angeles put up



Phoenix Suns forward Torrey Craig knocks the ball from Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James during the Suns' 115-85 win Tuesday in Phoenix.

little resistance, allowing Phoenix to score nearly at will while building a 30-point halftime lead — the Lakers’ largest halftime deficit in 25 years.

Booker scored 30 points after two quiet games, the Suns made 14 three-pointers and had just four turnovers.

Lillard scores 55 but Nuggets win in 2OTs

By ARNIE STAPLETON
Associated Press

DENVER — On Damian Lillard’s record-breaking night when he was hitting one shot after another from behind the arc and almost beyond belief, it was Michael Porter Jr. who quietly sank the biggest basket of all.

MPJ’s three-pointer from the left corner barely fluttered the net with 1:33 left in the second overtime and proved the game-winner as the Denver Nuggets squelched an epic comeback by the Portland Trail Blazers with a 147-140 win Tuesday night in Game 5 of their best-of-seven playoff series.

“That’s what playoff basketball is,” Porter said after the thriller that included a dozen lead changes and 11 ties, including long threes by Lillard that forced overtime and the second OT.

Lillard’s night included a franchise playoff record 55 points and NBA playoff record 12 three-pointers. He eclipsed the mark of 11 set by Golden State’s Klay Thompson at Oklahoma City on May 28, 2016.

“It was the best playoff performance I’ve ever seen,” Trail Blazers coach Terry Stotts said.

“At this point, all that matters is we can’t lose another game in the series,” Lillard shrugged.

And he, for one, isn’t going to dwell on his big night and even bigger letdown.

“If I don’t put it behind me, and hold onto it, it’s going to get in the way of what we need to do in the next one,” Lillard said.

Lillard scored 17 of Portland’s 19 points in the two overtimes, but he didn’t score again after his 12th three-pointer in 17 attempts put the Blazers ahead 140-138 with 3:47 left. And his teammates didn’t score again, either.

Nikola Jokic, who scored 38 points and came one assist shy of a triple-double, tied it at 140 with a layup and Porter broke the tie with a three from the left corner with 1:33 left off a sweet pass from Jokic.

Portland was within three points — and Lillard’s range — until a pair of costly mistakes sent it back home for Game 6 on Thursday night trailing the Nuggets 3-2 in the best-of-seven series.

First, Robert Covington missed a dunk with 41 seconds left and then CJ McCollum stepped out of bounds with 9.1 seconds left and Lillard setting up for another three.

“It’s a shame we wasted one of the all-time best performances by not being more supportive of him,” McCollum said.

Monte Morris, who scored 28 points off the bench, hit a pair of free throws with 8.8 seconds to seal it, and Shaq Harrison added two free throws with 3.8 seconds

Scoreboard

First Round (Best-of-seven) x-if necessary

Eastern Conference Philadelphia 3, Washington 1

Philadelphia 125, Washington 118
Philadelphia 120, Washington 95
Philadelphia 132, Washington 103
Washington 122, Philadelphia 114
Wednesday: at Philadelphia
x-Friday: at Washington
x-Sunday: at Philadelphia

Brooklyn 4, Boston 1

Brooklyn 104, Boston 93
Brooklyn 130, Boston 108
Boston 125, Brooklyn 119
Brooklyn 141, Boston 126
Tuesday: Brooklyn 123, Boston 109

Milwaukee 4, Miami 0

Milwaukee 109, Miami 107 (OT)
Milwaukee 132, Miami 98
Milwaukee 113, Miami 84
Milwaukee 120, Miami 103

Atlanta 3, New York 1

Atlanta 107, New York 105
New York 101, Atlanta 92
Atlanta 105, New York 94
Atlanta 113, New York 96
Wednesday: at New York
x-Friday: at Atlanta
x-Sunday: at New York

Western Conference Utah 3, Memphis 1

Memphis 112, Utah 109
Utah 141, Memphis 129
Utah 121, Memphis 111
Utah 120, Memphis 113
Wednesday: at Utah
x-Friday: at Memphis
x-Sunday: at Utah

Phoenix 3, L.A. Lakers 2

Phoenix 99, L.A. Lakers 90
L.A. Lakers 109, Phoenix 102
L.A. Lakers 109, Phoenix 95
Phoenix 100, L.A. Lakers 92
Phoenix 115, L.A. Lakers 85
Thursday: at L.A. Lakers
x-Saturday: at Phoenix

Denver 3, Portland 2

Portland 123, Denver 109
Denver 128, Portland 109
Denver 120, Portland 115
Portland 115, Denver 95
Tuesday: Denver 147, Portland 140, 2OT
Thursday: at Portland
x-Saturday: at Denver

Dallas 2, L.A. Clippers 2

Dallas 113, L.A. Clippers 103
Dallas 127, L.A. Clippers 121
L.A. Clippers 118, Dallas 108
L.A. Clippers 106, Dallas 81
Wednesday: at L.A. Clippers
Friday: at Dallas
x-Sunday: at L.A. Clippers

remaining. Lillard’s three-pointer with three seconds left in regulation tied it at 121, capping a 22-point comeback. His three with 6.4 seconds left in the first overtime tied it at 135 and that capped the Blazers’ comeback from a quick nine-point deficit in the extra period after Denver hit a trio of threes.

“We won and lost that game so many times before ultimately winning it,” Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. “... We never got down. Every time they threw a haymaker and got us down on the canvas, we got up and were able to pull it out in the end.”

Porter, who finished with 26 points, said it wasn’t hard to keep composed when Lillard kept hitting daggers to extend the game.

“It was 0-0. We knew there was only 5 minutes. We knew we couldn’t hang our heads,” Porter said. “It was a big game and we needed it.” When Jokic’s precision pass found Porter in the left corner in the second overtime, “I said I’ve got to make up for that buzzer beater than Dame hit. I got to make up for it,” Porter said.

SPORTS

Lightning strike

Vasilevskiy, Tampa Bay take 2-0 series lead over Carolina » **NHL playoffs, Page 38**



NBA PLAYOFFS



Hawks guard Trae Young reacts during Game 4 of his team's first-round playoff series Sunday against the New York Knicks in Atlanta.

CURTIS COMPTON, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AP



SETH WENIG/AP

The Knicks' RJ Barrett fouls Young during the second half of Game 1.

Young gun blazing

Hawks guard shines in first postseason

By PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

ATLANTA

When the Atlanta Hawks were excluded from the bubble last summer, Trae Young stewed at home.

He watched games on television, enviously tweeted about what he was missing, and longingly visualized what it would be like to play a starring role when

INSIDE

Nets finish off Celtics
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it really matters in the NBA.

Now, he's got his chance.

Talk about rising to the occasion.

Young has joined an extremely rare group of point guards and guided the Hawks to a 3-1 lead in their opening-

round playoff series against the New York Knicks.

Atlanta tried to wrap it up Wednesday night in Game 5 at Madison Square Garden, where a fan spit on Young as he inbounded the ball the last time he was in New York.

No worries on Young's end. That just shows how much he's gotten under the

SEE GUN ON PAGE 38

Baltimore ends losing streak at 14 games » MLB, Page 36

