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Ellen Comfort and U.S. Army Lt. Col. Ken Ates, Special Operations Command Para-Commando, skydive March 13 in Zephyrhills, Fla. Comfort is the Gold Star mother of Capt. Kyle Comfort, an Army Ranger who died during combat operations in Afghanistan in 2010.

BARRY STEELE/U.S. Army

'I feel like I'm with him'

Gold Star mothers skydive in memory of their sons

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CAMERON PINSKE/U.S. Navy

The aircraft carrier **USS Dwight D. Eisenhower** transits the Suez Canal on Friday. The canal was blocked for six days when a commercial ship ran aground last month.

Carrier group transits Suez after container ship is freed

BY CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

The USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group has sailed through the Suez Canal from the Mediterranean Sea, making them the first U.S. warships to pass through the maritime chokepoint since a nearly weeklong blockage of the waterway.

The aircraft carrier, the cruiser USS Monterey and the destroyers USS Mitscher and USS Thomas Hudner entered the Red Sea on Friday, the Navy's 5th Fleet said in a statement over the weekend.

"We appreciate the government of Egypt and Suez Canal Authority's efforts to ensure the safety of navigation in this critical waterway for all ships, and in allowing the IKE CSG to transit so quickly," 5th Fleet commander Vice Adm. Samuel Paparo said.

The canal had been blocked to all traffic for six days starting March 23, when the container ship Ever Given ran aground in the middle of the waterway. During the blockage, more than 400 ships were stranded at the canal, which links the Mediterranean to the Red Sea.

SEE CARRIER ON PAGE 5

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Facebook account data found online

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Details from more than 500 million Facebook users have been found available on a website for hackers.

The information appears to be several years old, but it is another example of the vast amount of information collected by Facebook and other social media sites, and the limits to how secure that information is.

The availability of the data set was first reported by Business Insider. According to that publica-

tion, it has information from 106 countries including phone numbers, Facebook IDs, full names, locations, birthdates, and email addresses.

Facebook has been grappling with data security issues for years. In 2018, the social media giant disabled a feature that allowed users to search for one another via phone number following revelations that the political firm Cambridge Analytica had accessed information on up to 87 million Facebook users without their

knowledge or consent.

In December 2019, a Ukrainian security researcher reported finding a database with the names, phone numbers and unique user IDs of more than 267 million Facebook users — nearly all U.S.-based — on the open internet. It is unclear if the current data dump is related to this database.

“This is old data that was previously reported on in 2019,” the Menlo Park, Calif.-based company. “We found and fixed this issue in August 2019.”

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (April 6)	\$1.15
Dollar buys (April 6)	0.8292
British pound (April 6)	\$1.34
Japanese yen (April 6)	108.00
South Korean won (April 6)	1099.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain(Dinar)	.3770
Britain (Pound)	1.3869
Canada (Dollar)	1.2523
China(Yuan)	6.5669
Denmark (Krone)	6.3042
Egypt (Pound)	15.7060
Euro	.8476
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7763
Hungary (Forint)	305.72
Israel (Shekel)	3.3136
Japan (Yen)	110.27
Kuwait(Dinar)	.3023
Norway (Krone)	8.5078
Philippines (Peso)	48.41
Poland (Zloty)	3.89
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7487
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3421

South Korea (Won)	1126.13
Switzerland (Franc)	.9386
Thailand (Baht)	31.33
Turkey (NewLira)	8.1215

(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.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Interest Rates Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.07
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	2.34

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RELOCATION GUIDE

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MILITARY

Officer criticized for letter calling sailors 'perverts'

By ERICA EARL
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — An officer at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, is under investigation for purportedly writing a complaint to the base housing office about the “deviant nature” of enlisted sailors who pose a danger to his family.

The letter, allegedly authored by Lt. Nathanael Allison of Naval Hospital Yokosuka, states that living in the Ikego Housing Detachment in an apartment building for enlisted families is “unacceptable.” The message, filled with spelling and grammatical errors, condemns enlisted sailors as “perverts” and accuses them of egregious behavior such as rape, involvement in drug cartels and attacking each other with hatchets.

“There are often drunk and often hostile sailors hanging around enlisted housing,” the letter states. “Housing with enlisted greatly increases the risk to my family. I have a good-looking family, a wife and two daughters, ages 3 and 4. They are prime targets to be victims for these enlisted deviant activities.”

According to screenshots, the letter was sent Feb. 8 via a Google email account to housing. It began circulating last week on military community Facebook pages, and a YouTube video about the letter has garnered over 300,000 views as of Monday.

The Yokosuka housing office declined Stars and Stripes’ requests for comment. Allison did not respond to attempts to reach him by email.

The base hospital is investigating the letter for the strong remarks and language used, according to a response from Naval Hospital Yokosuka commanding officer Capt. Carolyn Rice posted

Sunday by the hospital’s Facebook page.

“I am aware of the recent allegation that a member of our staff sent a letter to the housing office with comments disparaging to enlisted service members,” she wrote. “We are conducting an internal investigation into the matter and if any allegations are found to be true, we will take appropriate actions.”

Allison’s command is working with the housing office to confirm the letter’s authorship, hospital spokeswoman Erika Figueroa told Stars and Stripes in a phone call on Monday.

“It is under investigation, as is any case when someone allegedly acts in a way that is counter to our standards of behavior,” she said.

The letter states that officers are “more respectable” than enlisted members and that Allison’s children should “only be friends with officers’ children” and his wife “only friends with officer wives.” He also expressed concern that his officer colleagues would not want to visit him in enlisted housing.

The letter struck a nerve in some service members, who said in Facebook comments they were disappointed that people in leadership positions may have such low opinions of them.

“Understandably, emotions are high because some extremely offensive things were said,” military spouse and former Ikego resident Amy Hayes said in a Facebook message to Stars and Stripes on Monday. “Any trust community members could have possessed for this man to serve hospital patrons without bias has been obliterated.”

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ALEXANDER KUBITZA/U.S. Navy

An officer checks sailors on the USS Boxer amphibious assault ship in the Arabian Sea on Sept. 20, 2019.

For Navy grooming standards, ‘faddish,’ ‘outrageous’ are out

By THERON GODBOLD
Stars and Stripes

Sailor feedback has prompted the Navy to change grooming standards terms that are considered vague and sometimes arbitrarily applied, according to a recent Navy administrative message.

A series of changes are coming to hair standards, especially, that are aimed at “enhancing clarity, interpretation and application of uniform policies,” according to Naval Administrative Message 072/21 issued Thursday.

Terms like “faddish,” “good taste” and “outrageous” will be deleted from the regulation, according to the message. Other terms like “professional appearance,” are being revised, or added, like “professional military ap-

pearance.”

The message comes after a Navy review of its hair and grooming standards in the summer and fall of 2020. The service assembled focus groups of sailors, male and female, officer and enlisted, and asked them whether the existing standards are racially biased, the message states.

The Navy found no bias, but sailors cited many instances of inconsistent application and policy enforcement because of vague terms in the grooming standards.

“Overall, with grooming standards, we found that there were none that were discriminatory,” Vice Adm. John Nowell Jr., the Navy’s chief of personnel, told the Navy Times in February. “But the way that some were written, it was too subjective, as a commanding

officer looked at the interpretation and carrying out what those regulations were.”

The message states that the update is “forthcoming” and that until the Navy’s uniform regulations are updated, the naval administrative message should serve as a reference to those upcoming changes.

“I think the changes were very needed, especially with the experiences of my peers,” Petty Officer 3rd Class Belen Saldana, who works for American Forces Network at Yokota Air Base, Japan, said Monday. “It helps protect sailors and better defines what sailors can and can’t do with their hair.”

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Japan F-35 squad could help defend Senkaku Islands claimed by China

By SETH ROBSON
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Japan may base F-35B Lightning II stealth fighters in the southern part of the country where they could defend remote islands that are claimed by China, according to local media.

The short-takeoff, vertical-landing aircraft could fly out of Nyutabaru Air Base in Miyazaki prefecture, Kyodo News reported Monday, citing anonymous gov-

ernment sources.

A Defense Ministry spokesman confirmed to Stars and Stripes, in a telephone interview the same day, that deploying the jets is under consideration but no decision has been made. Japanese government spokespeople typically ask not to be quoted by name.

Eventually, Japan plans to acquire 105 F35As — the conventional takeoff and landing version of the fighter — and 42 F-35Bs, which will operate from the heli-

copter carriers Izumo and Kaga, which are being upgraded to support them.

The deployed planes would be operational in 2024 and boost defense capabilities in the Senkaku Islands, which are administered by Japan but also claimed by Taiwan and China, Kyodo reported.

The aircraft would conduct exercises alongside U.S. F-35Bs from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni in Yamaguchi prefecture, the report said.

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin affirmed that the U.S. military would respond to any attack on the Senkakus, during a January telephone conversation with his Japanese counterpart, Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi.

Japanese F-35A stealth fighters are already deployed at Misawa Air Base in Aomori prefecture, northeastern Japan.

Kishi met with U.S. Forces Japan commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Schneider and 35th Fighter Wing

commander Col. Jesse Friedel at Misawa on Saturday, the wing said in a statement that day.

The group discussed ways to make their air forces unpredictable to potential adversaries and the importance of Misawa as the premier location for Japanese pilots training in the fifth-generation aircraft.

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MILITARY

Gold Star mothers skydive in sons' memory

By BRIAN FERGUSON
Stars and Stripes

Two Gold Star mothers experienced a slice of their sons' best moments, courtesy of Special Operations Command's elite parachute demonstration team.

Ellen Comfort and Sandee Rouse, whose sons served in the 75th Ranger Regiment, skydived from 13,500 feet last month with the Para-Commandos at Skydive City in Zephyrhills, Fla., the Army said Friday.

The tandem jumps allow families of fallen service members to connect more closely with their loved ones, the statement said.

Ellen Comfort's son, Capt. Kyle Comfort, was killed May 8, 2010, by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Sandee Rouse's son, Pfc. Jim Markwell, died in 1989 during ground operations in Panama.

Both Comfort and Markwell were airborne-qualified soldiers.

"People used to ask him all the time why he wanted to jump," Rouse said in the statement. "He would say, 'because of the rush.' So, I thought I would try and jump out of a perfectly good airplane to feel his rush."

Ellen Comfort called her son an "adventurous soul and spirit," and said she thought her son would have encouraged her to take the leap.

"I can't just sit here and not do anything," Comfort said. "When I'm around people who are jumping from airplanes and doing all the things he did, I feel like I'm closer to him, I feel like I'm with him."

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STEVEN SMITH/U.S. Marine Corps

Sandee Rouse, Gold Star mother, and Army Sgt. Maj. Jose Vazquez, Special Operations Command Para-Commando, skydive March 13, in Zephyrhills, Fla.



RYAN DeCAMP/U.S. Air Force

U.S. Special Operations Command Para-Commandos prepare to tandem skydive with Gold Star mothers Sandee Rouse and Ellen Comfort.



Courtesy photo

Ellen Comfort, her son, Army 1st Lt. Kyle Comfort, and his wife, Brooke Comfort, in March 2010.



Courtesy photo

Army Pfc. Jim Markwell poses in his service uniform in 1989.

Army allows ribbons and unit mark on Class B suit

Stars and Stripes

Soldiers may wear an insignia and some accouterments on their Class B service uniforms, the Army announced in an update to uniform regulations.

The change allows a soldier to wear up to six ribbons in two rows on the left side of the Class B Army Green Service Uniform, along with one badge or metal tab replica, the update released Wednesday said. Previously, soldiers could only wear their ribbons on the Class A version of the uniform, which includes a jacket.

The wearer may also opt to include a regimental insignia on the right side of the Class B uniform.

The insignia and accouterments are mandatory when the service uniform is worn as a dress uniform substitute in hot weather, which can be authorized at a commander's discretion.

The Army began issuing the



U.S. Army

The Army now allows a soldier to wear up to six ribbons in two rows on the left side of the Class B Army Green Service Uniform, along with one badge or metal tab replica. A soldier may wear a regimental insignia on the right.

World War II-inspired uniform to soldiers completing basic training this year. Soldiers have until 2027 to acquire the uniform, service officials said last year.

news@stripes.com

Marine Osprey squadron arrives in Spain for AFRICOM mission

Stars and Stripes

A Marine Corps Osprey tiltrotor squadron has arrived at Moron Air Base in Spain for a rotation in support of U.S. Africa Command's North and West Africa Response Force, which conducts contingency and crisis operations throughout the two regions.

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 261 (Reinforced) took over the support mission from Squadron 266 on Thursday, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe and Africa said in a statement.



YURITZY GOMEZ/U.S. Marine Corps

Cpl. Austin Eslinger observes the landing zone at Hunter Army Airfield, Savannah, Ga., for an MV-22B Osprey on Dec. 10, 2020.

Both squadrons are based at Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C.

VMM-261 will work "alongside the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team to accomplish our shared crisis response mission in North and West Africa, supporting our allies and partners in the region," the squadron's commanding officer, Lt. Col. Travis Stephenson, said in the statement. He described the mission as "incredibly important" one.

Known as the "Raging Bulls,"

VMM-261 flies MV-22 Osprey transport aircraft.

Countries in the response force's area of operations include Libya, where civil strife and fighting have contributed to chronic instability since 2011.

Violence in West Africa's Sahel region by militants linked to the Islamic State and al-Qaida has been on the rise in recent years.

Four Green Berets and four Ni-

gerien troops were killed in an ambush by ISIS-linked militants in Niger in 2017, in what was the largest loss of American lives in combat in Africa since the Battle of Mogadishu in 1993. And last week, four United Nations peacekeepers were killed by Islamic militants in Mali, which has been trying to contain an insurgency since 2012.

news@stripes.com

MILITARY

US closes Guantanamo unit, moves prisoners

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A once-secret unit within the Guantanamo Bay detention center that had fallen into disrepair has been closed and the prisoners moved to another facility on the American base in Cuba, the U.S. military said Sunday.

The prisoners at Camp 7 were transferred to a facility adjacent to where the other detainees on the base are held as part of what U.S. Southern Command said in a statement was an effort to “increase operational efficiency and effectiveness.”

Miami-based Southern Command, which oversees the detention center at the southeastern edge of Cuba, did not say how many prisoners were moved. Officials have previously said about 14 men were held in Camp 7. There are 40 prisoners at Guantanamo.

Southern Command said the Camp 7 prisoners were moved to Camp 5 “safely and without incident,” but did not say when the transfer occurred. Camp 5, which was largely empty, is next to Camp 6, where the other detainees are held.

Camp 7 opened in December 2006 for prisoners previously held in a network of clandestine CIA detention facilities, often referred to as “black sites,” where they were subjected to brutal interrogation techniques. The military ran it under an agreement with CIA, and Southern Command said intelligence agencies were involved with the transfer.

The military long refused to even acknowledge the location of Camp 7 on the base and has never allowed journalists to see the inside of the facility. Officials had said that unit, which was never designed to be permanent, had structural issues and needed to be replaced, but the Pentagon dropped plans to seek money for the construction.

Among those held at Camp 7 were the five prisoners charged with war crimes for their alleged roles planning and providing logistical support for the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

President Joe Biden has said he intends to close Guantanamo, but that would require approval from Congress to move some prisoners to the United States for trial or imprisonment.



BRENNAN LINSLEY/AP

The sun rises over the Guantanamo detention facility on the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba, on May 13, 2009.

Marine held at base in connection with missing ammo

The Orange County Register

A 28-year-old Reconnaissance Marine is being held in the brig at Camp Pendleton after he was charged with six counts of larceny and military property-related offenses involving missing ammunition from the base, military officials said Friday.

The charges against Sgt. Gunnar Naughton, with 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, follow an Article 32 fact-finding hearing held on

March 19 at the Western Judicial Circuit Court, said 2nd Lt. Kyle McGuire. If Naughton’s case is referred to a general court-martial, a redacted charge sheet will provide more details on the materials that are missing, McGuire said.

A second, unidentified Recon Marine is awaiting a similar Article 32 hearing, McGuire said, adding he couldn’t discuss specific details on possible charges or the Marine’s identity prior to the hearing.

McGuire added that the Camp Pendleton investigation is unrelated to 10 pounds of C-4 explosives that were reported missing from Marine Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms in March.

More details are not being released because the case is under investigation by the Naval Criminal Investigation Service.

An ABC 10News report in San Diego on March 25 stated, “At least five reconnaissance Marines al-

legedly stole thousands of rounds of military-grade ammo and explosives. Then, one Marine allegedly tried to sell the ammo online but got caught in a sting operation that was set up by federal agents.”

McGuire said he could confirm that only Naughton is being held in custody on the base.

According to military records, Naughton, of Kansas, started as a recruit at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in January 2015.

In May 2015, he went to training at US Army Training Center, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

From September 2015 to November 2019, he trained as part of the Chemical Biological Incident Response Force, Marine Corps Forces Command, Indian Head, Md. There he trained as a chemical, radiological and nuclear specialist. He joined the elite 1st Reconnaissance Battalion at Camp Pendleton in November 2019.

Carrier: Eisenhower to continue supporting Inherent Resolve after clearing Panama Canal

FROM PAGE 1

The cruiser USS Philippine Sea was the first Navy ship to make a northbound trip through the canal Saturday, 5th Fleet said Monday on Twitter.

While sailing in the eastern Mediterranean last week, the Eisenhower strike group had already started flight operations to support the anti-Islamic State campaign in Iraq and Syria. Known as Operation Inherent Resolve, the coalition carried out more strikes against ISIS in Iraq last month than in all of 2020.

The Eisenhower is expected to continue support to Inherent Resolve while operating and training alongside regional and coalition partners, the Navy said.

“Our strike group is excited to sail and fly in the conduct of our operations in the Red Sea,” said

Rear Adm. Scott F. Robertson, the strike group’s commander.

U.S. officials have declined to discuss the effect of the canal blockage on operations in the region, but Pentagon spokesman and retired Rear Adm. John Kirby told reporters last week in Washington that the U.S. military has “any number of alternate ways” to fulfill its missions in the region.

Kirby credited local authorities for “amazing work” to free the 200,000-ton Ever Given from the canal bank.

The reopening “will certainly facilitate greater movement,” he said, but added that the United States has long factored the possibility of chokepoint blockages into its planning.

The U.S. 5th Fleet’s area of operations, spanning 2.5 million square miles in the Persian Gulf,

Gulf of Oman, Red Sea and parts of the Indian Ocean, includes three critical chokepoints.

While the blockage did bog down ship traffic, it wasn’t expected to cause significant delays to replenishment and logistics support, officials with both the Defense Logistics Agency and the Navy said.

As the Eisenhower entered the region, the 15th Marine Expeditionary Group, embarked on the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group, announced Saturday that it would end its support to the anti-ISIS coalition from the Indian Ocean. The Makin Island ARG had been in the 5th Fleet area of operations since January.

Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II joint strike fighters with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 164 (Reinforced) conducted nine mis-



SOPHIE PINKHAM/U.S. Navy

The cruiser USS Monterey, left, and the destroyer USS Thomas Hudner sail behind the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower during a Suez Canal transit Friday.

sions from the USS Makin Island, the 15th MEU said, including long-range strikes and counter-air missions in Iraq and Syria.

Coalition airstrikes and Iraqi ground operations “have left Daesh with no sanctuaries & crippled its ability to resurge,” coali-

tion spokesman Army Col. Wayne Marotto said Saturday on Twitter after airstrikes destroyed four enemy hideouts and killed two terrorists in Salahuddin province.

NATION

Poll: Problems at border dent Biden approval

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More Americans disapprove than approve of how President Joe Biden is handling waves of unaccompanied migrant children arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border, and approval of his efforts on larger immigration policy falls short of other top issues — suggesting it could be a weak point for the new administration.

A new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research also shows that solving the problem of young people at the border is among Americans' highest immigration priorities: 59% say providing safe treatment of unaccompanied children when they are apprehended should be a high priority, and 65% say the same about reuniting families separated at the border.

Former President Donald Trump built his presidency

around hard-line policies that expanded and fortified border walls, made it tougher for people fleeing drug violence and other desperate circumstances in Mexico and Central America to seek U.S. asylum and separated immigrant families.

Biden has tried to seize political momentum on the issue by promising a more humane and orderly system, but his administration has struggled to cope with rising numbers of migrants coming to the border, especially unaccompanied children.

Overall, 40% of Americans disapprove of Biden's handling of children reaching the nation's southern border without their parents, compared with just 24% who approve. Thirty-five percent don't have an opinion either way.

"I don't know how to politically correctly say this: I do feel that, because there's this new adminis-



DARIO LOPEZ-MILLS, POOL/AP

Young unaccompanied migrants, from ages 3 to 9, watch television inside a playpen at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection facility, in Donna, Texas, on March 30.

tration, that people feel that they can come to the country," said Mindy Kiehl, a 40-year-old real estate agent in Erie, Pa., who otherwise approves of Biden's handling of the presidency so far.

"I get it. They're seeking refuge," Kiehl added. "But bringing these children, it's not good for the children, it's not good for the families. I don't know how that's going to solve the problem."

Biden said at a recent news conference that "we're sending back the vast majority of the families that are coming." But his struggles on the issue go beyond unac-

companied minors.

Just 42% of Americans say they approve of how the president is handling immigration in general, and a similar share, 44%, say they approve of how he's handling border security. Both are significantly lower than the 61% of Americans who say they approve of how Biden is handling his job overall and fall short of the president's rating on some other issues, including his response to the pandemic and the economy.

That gap comes despite the White House endorsing the most ambitious overhaul of the nation's

immigration system in a generation on Biden's first day in office. It has stalled in Congress, though, and Republicans and even some top Democrats say passage will be difficult.

The plan would provide an eight-year path to citizenship for the estimated 11 million people in the U.S. illegally, but the poll shows doing so isn't high on the public's priority list. Only 29% of Americans overall, including 42% of Democrats and 14% of Republicans, called legal status for people in the country illegally a high priority.

Biden infrastructure bill hits McConnell, GOP blockade

By LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans in Congress are making the politically brazen bet that it's more advantageous to oppose President Joe Biden's ambitious rebuild America agenda than to lend support for the costly \$2.3 trillion undertaking for roads, bridges and other infrastructure investments.

Much the way Republicans provided no votes for the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill, they plan to sit on the sidelines for this next big lift by the White House, forcing Democrats to take full ownership of the massive package of spending and corporate tax hikes that Biden wants approved over the summer. The tension could mount this week as Biden shows no signs of adjusting to satisfy Republican leaders, instead appealing directly to their constituents for support.

"I think the Republicans' voters are going to have a lot to say about whether we get a lot of this done," Biden told reporters at the White House.

That leaves Biden and congressional Republicans on a collision course, the outcome of which could define the parties and his presidency. The GOP strategy is reminiscent of the Obama-era



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., shown last month at a hearing on voting reform legislation, declared last week that he will fight President Joe Biden's agenda "every step of the way."

blockade that helped sour voters on the Democratic president more than a decade ago. Then and now Republicans are intent on saddling Democrats with responsibility for all the taxes and spending to come, much as they did the 2009 rescue after the economic crisis, framing it as government overreach that piles on debt.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell set the defining tone for his party when he flatly declared last week he will fight Bi-

den's agenda "every step of the way."

But it's not at all certain the GOP playbook that worked more than a decade ago will produce the same political gains this time around. Voters appear tired of the partisan stalemate in Washington, live amid the country's run-down spots and signal they are initially supportive of Biden's approach to governing, at least on the virus aid package.

Recent polling by The Associat-

ed Press-NORC Public Research Center found Americans have responded favorably to the president's approach, with 73% approving of his handling of the pandemic. That includes about half of Republicans.

Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., a member of Senate GOP leadership, said Sunday a smaller package of about \$615 billion, or 30% of what Biden is proposing, could find bipartisan backing from Republicans if the White House found a way to pay for it without raising the corporate tax rate. He pointed to potential user fees on drivers and others.

"There's an easy win here," Blunt said on "Fox News Sunday."

Rather than shy from a new era of big government, Democratic leaders in Congress are embracing it, believing they can bypass the GOP blockade on Capitol Hill and make the case directly to Americans hungry for investments in homes, communities and livelihoods, especially as China and other rival countries make advancements.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi compared Biden's plan to the far-reaching aims of presidents before him — from Thomas Jefferson's efforts to build the Erie Ca-

nal to Teddy Roosevelt's designs on a national park system.

"Now, in this century, President Biden is undertaking something in the tradition of thinking big," Pelosi said at a news conference.

As Congress hunkers down to begin drafting the legislation for Biden's proposal, both parties will be put to the test.

In the House, lawmakers will be invited to submit requests for projects in their home districts — roads and other infrastructure that could be "earmarks" eligible for federal funds. It's a way to entice bipartisan participation and ensure the funds are spent on agreed-upon needs.

Republicans will be forced to either participate or disengage, often with pressure from elected officials and other constituents clamoring for funds to upgrade sewers, airports and countless other infrastructure systems.

Peppered in Kentucky with questions about money that could be potentially flowing for home-state road, bridge and housing projects after the president unveiled his plan, McConnell batted them back one by one.

Biden's package "is not going to get support from our side," McConnell said.

NATION

Doctor theorized that lack of oxygen stopped Floyd's heart

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The emergency room doctor who pronounced George Floyd dead after trying to resuscitate him testified Monday that he theorized at the time that Floyd's heart most likely stopped because he didn't get enough oxygen.

Dr. Bradford Langenfeld, who was a senior resident on duty that night at Hennepin County Medical Center, took the stand at the beginning of Week Two at former Minneapolis Officer Derek Chauvin's murder trial, as prosecutors sought to establish that it was Chauvin's knee on the Black man's neck that killed him.

Langenfeld said Floyd's heart had stopped by the time he arrived at the hospital. The doctor said that he was not told of any efforts at the scene by bystanders or police to resuscitate Floyd but that paramedics told him they had tried for about 30 minutes.

Under questioning by prosecutor Jerry Blackwell, Langenfeld said that based on the information he had, death by asphyxiation was "more likely than the other possibilities."

Chauvin, 45, is charged with murder and manslaughter in Floyd's death May 25. The white officer is accused of pinning his knee on the 46-year-old man's neck for 9 minutes, 29 seconds, as Floyd lay face-down in handcuffs outside a market, where had been accused of trying to pass a counterfeit \$20 bill for a pack of cigarettes.

The defense argues that Chauvin did what he was trained to do and that Floyd's use of illegal drugs and his underlying health conditions caused his death.

Chauvin attorney Eric Nelson questioned Langenfeld about whether some drugs can cause hypoxia, or oxygen deprivation. The doctor acknowledged that



RICHARD TSONG-TAATARI, STAR TRIBUNE/AP

Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo is expected to testify in the Derek Chauvin trial. Arradondo fired Chauvin and three other officers the day after George Floyd's death.

fentanyl and methamphetamine, both of which were found in Floyd's body, can do so.

The county medical examiner's office ultimately classified Floyd's death a homicide — that is, a death at the hands of someone else.

The full report said Floyd died of "cardiopulmonary arrest, complicating law enforcement subdual, restraint, and neck compression." A summary report listed fentanyl intoxication and recent methamphetamine use under

"other significant conditions" but not under "cause of death."

Under cross-examination from Nelson, Langenfeld said Floyd's carbon dioxide levels were more than twice as high as levels in healthy person, and he agreed that that could be attributed to a respiratory problem. But on questioning from the prosecutor, the doctor said the high levels were also consistent with cardiac arrest — the stopping of the heart.

Langenfeld also testified that neither he nor paramedics admin-

istered a drug that would reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. The doctor said giving Narcan once a patient is in cardiac arrest would provide no benefit.

Prosecutors in the second week of the trial are also expected to zero in on Chauvin's training in the use of force. Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo was expected to testify Monday. Arradondo, the city's first Black chief, fired Chauvin and three other officers the day after Floyd's death, and in June called it "murder."

Supreme Court rules for Google in closely watched tech copyright case

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Monday said Google did not violate copyright law when it developed its Android mobile operating system using code from Oracle.

The court ruled 6 to 2 in favor of Google in the highly anticipated ruling. The case was argued before Justice Amy Coney Barrett joined the court and so she did not take

part in the decision.

"We assume, for argument's sake, that the material was copyrightable," Justice Stephen Breyer wrote for the majority. "But we hold that the copying here at issue nonetheless constituted a fair use. Hence, Google's copying did not violate the copyright law."

Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito dissented.

Oracle has alleged in the decade-

old case that Google infringed on copyrights related to using roughly 11,000 lines of code from the Java programming platform to develop Android. Oracle, which acquired Java in 2010 when it bought Sun Microsystems, has sought \$9 billion in damages, arguing that Google used the code without its permission.

Google argued that weaving that code into Android was protected under the "fair use" doctrine that

allows the unlicensed use of copyright-protected work in circumstances, such as this case, when there is no other way to do it.

The dispute centers on the technical way software developers use application programming interfaces, or APIs. That's the computer code which enables websites and applications to work together. APIs also reduce the amount of basic computer coding developers need

to write with each program.

Google won the support of several tech companies, including Microsoft, which argued in its own brief that the appeals court ruling in Oracle's favor "risks upsetting long-settled expectations" that have allowed the tech industry to flourish by enabling programs to interoperate.

The Department of Justice supported Oracle.

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NATION

Schools weigh how to spend new federal aid

By COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

With a massive infusion of federal aid coming their way, schools across the U.S. are weighing how to use the windfall to ease the harm of the pandemic — and to tackle problems that existed long before the coronavirus.

The assistance that was approved last month totals \$123 billion — a staggering sum that will offer some districts several times the amount of federal education funding they receive in a single year. The aid will help schools reopen and expand summer programs to help students catch up on learning. It also offers a chance to pursue programs that have long been seen as too expensive, such as intensive tutoring, mental health services and major curriculum upgrades.

“This feels like a once-in-a-generation opportunity for us to be able to make critical invest-

ments,” said Nathan Kuder, chief financial officer of Boston Public Schools, which is expecting \$275 million.

But the spending decisions carry high stakes. If important needs are overlooked — or if the money does not bring tangible improvements — schools could face blowback from their communities and from politicians who influence their funding. At the same time, schools must be wary of dreaming too big and taking on long-term costs they cannot sustain.

Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said the assistance allows schools to “hit the reset button” and confront challenges that have long plagued the nation’s education system. He said schools can train teachers in social and emotional learning and work to close persistent racial disparities in education.

“With successful implementation, our students are going to



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Freshman Hugo Bautista eats lunch separated from classmates by plastic dividers, Wednesday, at Wyandotte County High School in Kansas City, Kan., on the first day of in-person learning.

have a better experience than they did before the pandemic,” Cardona said in an interview.

Districts with higher concentrations of poverty will get the largest sums. Public schools in some cities are expected to receive more than \$1 billion, including Los Angeles and Philadelphia. The new money joins more than \$67 billion made available to schools in other relief packages during the pandemic.

Schools must reserve 20% for summer programs and other ef-

forts to address learning loss, but they expect to have wide flexibility in how to use most of the aid. With more than three years to spend the new money, school leaders are thinking big.

Even though the funding brings a bonanza for some districts, questions loom around other sources of financial support. Some states have already slashed education budgets as they face steep revenue losses, and other states are likely to follow, which could diminish the effect of the federal

dollars.

To keep future costs in check, many schools are avoiding big hiring increases, and few are pursuing programs that carry heavy personnel costs. Instead, many will consider adding teachers under short-term agreements or hiring contractors to provide social and mental health services.

And while the funding is largely intended to reverse the setbacks caused by a year of remote learning, there’s also a push to sustain virtual options.

Possible 2nd Fla. breach found as leak continues

By AMY HOLLYFIELD
Tampa Bay (Fla.) Times

PALMETTO, Fla. — Around 2 a.m. Monday, an infrared drone “identified what could be a second breach” in the plastic lining surrounding a reservoir at the former Piney Point phosphate plant, Manatee County officials said Monday.

Jake Saur, director of Manatee County public safety, appeared with Rep. Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., and other officials to update the threatening situation. He said the Army Corps of Engineers and other specialists are on site trying to assess the findings of the drone.

He said they have four major lines and smaller pumps moving water out of the site. Evacuation orders remain in place.

Buchanan said he took a helicopter tour of the area and was committed to getting the right resources on this problem.

“To see the reality of (it) is very concerning to me,” he said. “To see the water spewing out it looked very contaminated to me.”

The congressman emphasized the need to “bring all the resources we can” and said those plans were in motion.

“I am concerned about the threat to public safety, homes, as well as businesses and, of course, marine life,” Buchanan said. “I really hate to see what’s happened.”

“When I see water flowing into Tampa Bay, it makes me sick about it.”



TIFFANY TOMPKINS, THE BRADENTON (FLA.) HERALD/AP

Specialists are trying to determine the state of the plastic lining surrounding a reservoir at the former Piney Point phosphate plant in Bradenton, Fla.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis was on site for a tour Sunday and he and county officials laid out their plan to prevent the 77-acre wastewater pond from total collapse after a plastic lining is believed to have torn last week. The reservoir sits among phosphogypsum stacks — high berms made of a substance monitored for its radioactivity.

Acting Manatee County administrator Scott Hopes and others suggested that extreme measures were working to pump out the water before an uncontrolled collapse. More resources are expected to come in from across the country.

In addition to ordering the evacuation of residents in the surrounding areas of the plant, Manatee County Sheriff’s officials evacuated about 345 inmates from the county jail’s first floor. The Manatee County Central Jail is in the northwest corner of the evacuation zone.

New law to require Utah dads to pay half of pregnancy costs

By SOPHIA EPPOLITO
Associated Press/
Report for America

SALT LAKE CITY — Biological fathers in Utah will be legally required to pay half of a woman’s out-of-pocket pregnancy costs under a new law unique to the state that critics say doesn’t do enough to adequately address maternal health care needs.

The bill’s sponsor has presented the measure as an effort to decrease the burden of pregnancy on women and increase responsibility for men who have children. But some critics argue the new legislation won’t help women who are most vulnerable and could make abusive situations even more dangerous for pregnant women.

Utah appears to be the first state to mandate prenatal child support, according to the state’s Planned Parenthood association and the bill’s sponsor. But a few states, including Wisconsin and New York, have provisions that can result in fathers being financially responsible for pre-birth expenses.

Gov. Spencer Cox, a Republican, recently signed the proposal, which received widespread support in the GOP-controlled Legislature.

Republican Rep. Brady Brammer said he decided to sponsor the measure because he had grown frustrated with the number of anti-abortion measures going through the Legislature and wanted to pursue legislation that would make it easier to bring life into the world.

“We want to help people and actually be pro-life in how we do it as opposed to anti-abortion,” Brammer said. “One of the ways to help with that was to help the burden of pregnancy be decreased.”

The bill would apply to a pregnant woman’s health insurance premiums and any pregnancy-related medical costs, Brammer said.

If the paternity of the child is disputed, fathers won’t be required to pay until after paternity is established.

VIRUS OUTBREAK

US troops based on Okinawa see cases surge for 4th week

By JOSEPH DITZLER
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — U.S. military bases on Okinawa reported 16 new coronavirus patients over the weekend.

A surge in new cases at bases on the island that prompted commanders to reimpose restrictions on off-base dining and other measures is nearly a month old. While a concern to military health authorities, the surge is creating only a fraction of the hundreds of new cases generated by outbreaks on Okinawa last summer.

The Marine Corps had 10 people test positive for COVID-19, the coronavirus respiratory disease, between Friday and Monday, according to a Facebook post by Marine Corps Installations Pacific. The command reported three new cases at Camp Foster, two each at Camps Hansen and Kinser and one each at Camps Schwab and Courtney and Marine Corps Air

Station Futenma.

Kadena Air Base had six people test positive, according to a base Facebook post Friday evening. Four of those individuals had close contact with a previously infected person; the remaining two became ill with COVID-19 symptoms and isolated themselves. Air Force public health authorities have finished contact tracing and have quarantined an unspecified number of close contacts, the base said.

One of the new patients is a commissary employee who quarantined a week before testing positive, the base said.

Kadena reported on March 30 that another commissary employee had tested positive for the coronavirus. In that case, the base said the patient had no close contacts with service members, Defense Department civilian employees, contractors or family members.

Japan is experiencing a corona-



MATTHEW M. BURKE/Stars and Stripes

American Village, a popular entertainment district on Okinawa, was quiet on March 30. U.S. military bases on Okinawa reported 16 new coronavirus patients over the weekend.

virus resurgence, posting more than 2,000 cases each day between Thursday and Saturday, the latest numbers available from the World Health Organization.

In the Osaka, Miyagi and Hyogo prefectures, new “quasi-emergency” measures took effect Monday, including mask requirements and fines for restaurants that fail to adhere to shorter business hours, according to Kyodo News.

Osaka, also the second largest city in Japan, reported a one-day pandemic high of 666 people newly infected with the coronavirus Saturday, according to its COVID-19 data website. It reported 593 on Sunday.

Osaka is off-limits to anyone at-

tached to U.S. Army Japan, Yokosuka Naval Base, Sasebo Naval Base, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Kadena Air Base and the Marines on Okinawa.

Tokyo, the nation’s capital, reported 249 people tested positive Monday, according to public broadcaster NHK. Monday typically yields the lowest one-day count of the week in the city.

The seven-day moving average for the past week in Tokyo was higher by nearly 60 people on Monday than it was a week earlier, according to Tokyo Metropolitan Government data.

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UK eyes ‘vaccine passports’ as it eases lockdown rules

LONDON — Britain’s slow but steady march out of a three-month lockdown remains on track even as coronavirus cases surge elsewhere in Europe, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced Monday, as he confirmed that businesses from barbers to bookstores will be allowed to reopen next week.

Johnson said it’s too soon to decide, however, whether U.K. residents will be able to have summer trips abroad. He confirmed that the government will test out a contentious “vaccine passport” system — a way for people to offer proof they have protection from COVID-19 — as a tool to help travel and large events return safely.

Four weeks after England took its first step out of lockdown by reopening schools, Johnson said Britain’s vaccination program was proceeding well and infections were falling. He said the next step would come as planned on April 12, with the reopening of hairdressers, beauty salons, gyms, nonessential shops and bar and restaurant patios.

“We set out our road map and we’re sticking to it,” Johnson said during a news conference. But, he added, “We can’t be complacent.”

From The Associated Press

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VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

Hundreds of Special Olympics athletes in Hawaii get vaccine

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Hundreds of Special Olympic athletes with intellectual disabilities have received their first dose of the coronavirus vaccine at a facility in Hawaii.

Physicians and medical employees from Kaiser Permanente worked in tandem with Special Olympics Hawaii to administer shots at Consolidated Theatres Kapolei on Saturday.

More than 250 people attended to receive their first shot of the Pfizer vaccine.

The Special Olympics athletes and coaches said they decided to receive the vaccine because they felt it was important to do their part for society.

"I think it's important to get this because if you don't, you cannot go out, but if you do have one vaccination you still got to keep your distance and wear a mask," said Cassilly Woll, a Special Olympics athlete.

Kaiser Permanente hosted the vaccination clinic to inoculate community members who are at higher risk of severe illness after contracting the virus, Hawaii News Now reported.

"One of the challenges that individuals with intellectual disabilities have is social isolation, so you can imagine the effect that COVID has had on this community," said Daniel Epstein, president and CEO of Special Olympics Hawaii.

Alaska

BETHEL — Alaska tribes will receive over \$1 billion from the most recent \$1.9 trillion federal coronavirus relief bill.

The tribes can take as long as three years to spend these funds, unlike a similar bill that was passed in 2020, which had a shorter deadline, KYUK-AM reported Wednesday.

Teresa Jacobsson from the Alaska Tribal Administrators Association said tribes will have more leeway on how to spend the funds compared to previous legislation. But, the government will not just give tribal members checks without a reason.

"You have to show a need, which is show basic living essentials like housing and rent expenses, utilities, internet connectivity, personal cleaning and sanitation products," Jacobsson said. "You have to tie the money to a COVID-related need."

Connecticut

STORRS — The University of Connecticut has put five dorms

under quarantine after an outbreak of COVID-19 that officials said may be related to several large, off-campus parties last weekend.

Thirty-five positive cases had been identified on campus in the two days leading up to Friday, the Hartford Courant reported. Residents at the five dorms are able to receive meals at designated dining halls, but aren't allowed to attend in-person classes or events.

Officials said the quarantine will likely last until the end of this week, when students are scheduled to leave for spring break and learn remotely the rest of the semester.

On March 27, state police arrested two people after breaking up an off-campus house party involving more than 100 people. Another party involving as many as 200 maskless revelers was shut down earlier in March for violating state restrictions in gatherings.

Delaware

DOVER — All Delawareans above the age of 16 will soon become eligible to sign up for the coronavirus vaccine.

The Delaware State News reported that the expanded eligibility begins Tuesday. People can sign up for the state's waiting list at vaccinerequest.delaware.gov.

The state has fully vaccinated more than 174,000 people, according to the Delaware Division of Public Health. That's more than 17% of Delaware's total population.

At the same time, Delaware has administered nearly half a million vaccine doses.

Florida

GAINESVILLE — Starting Monday, any adult in Florida is eligible to receive the coronavirus vaccine. In addition, the state announced that teens ages 16 and 17 can also get the vaccine with parental permission.

In an effort to get students inoculated, the University of Florida's Athletics Department is working with UF Health and the local health department to administer the vaccine at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. University and health officials plan to inoculate up to 5,000 people, starting at 11 a.m. Monday.

Officials hope to meet a goal of vaccinating 20,000 per week, a news release said. The event is open to anyone eligible for the vaccine.

On Sunday, the state reported



DARIN OSWALD, IDAHO STATESMAN/AP

After organizing a prayer rally in front of a magistrate court judge earlier in the day, supporters of Ammon Bundy gather in front of the Ada County Courthouse, in Boise, Idaho, on Saturday to protest Idaho Gov. Brad Little's handling of the coronavirus pandemic, trespassing arrests and, most recently, a failure to appear in court by Bundy for not agreeing to wear a face mask.

that 3,660,880 Floridians had been completely inoculated, and another 2,638,758 had received the first dose of the vaccine, according to the state's Department of Health dashboard.

Illinois

CHICAGO — Illinois logged 2,449 new cases of COVID-19 and 14 more deaths on Sunday, state health officials announced.

The Illinois Department of Public Health said the confirmed and probable cases were among the more than 1.2 million COVID-19 infections since the start of the pandemic.

The death toll in Illinois from COVID-19 is 21,373. The preliminary seven-day statewide test positivity is 4.3%.

At the same time, more than 6.3 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered. Illinois is set to expand vaccine eligibility to all state residents age 16 and older later this month.

Maryland

BALTIMORE — Health officials in Maryland have reported 1,669 new cases of the coronavirus as well as eight more virus-related deaths.

The Baltimore Sun reported Sunday that the state posted its highest number of daily coronavirus cases since Jan. 31. On that day, state health officials had reported 1,747 cases.

The total number of coronavirus cases in Maryland is now more than 417,000. More than 8,000 people have died. Both figures come from the Maryland Department of Health.

More than 1,100 people are also hospitalized in the state due to complications from the virus. That's 67 more people than on Saturday.

urday.

Michigan

DETROIT — A historic Detroit church reopened its doors Easter Sunday for in-person services for the first time in over a year, a move that comes amid a statewide COVID-19 surge.

Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, which was closed last Easter for the first time in its more than 100-year history, limited worshipers and required masks Sunday. Christians worldwide marked a second Easter Sunday marked by pandemic precautions.

"We believe that the church should be a part of the resurrection of our society, and an effort to return to a sense of normalcy," the Rev. Charles Christian Adams told The Detroit Free Press. "We know that other sectors of society are doing it. Restaurants have reopened, they're letting people in to athletic events, the malls are open and all of those people are laying it all on the line to get society going again. And we feel that the church should not sit on the sidelines, and wait until all is well to reopen. ... People need the church."

Hartford was hit hard by the pandemic: At least 14 congregants died from COVID-19.

Michigan's number of new COVID-19 cases topped 8,400 Saturday for the highest daily total since early December, according to the state's Department of Health and Human Services. Michigan doesn't report new COVID-19 data on Sundays.

Texas

DALLAS — The count of people hospitalized with COVID-19 in Texas has continued to decline, even as state health officials re-

ported more than 1,600 new cases of the disease caused by the coronavirus Sunday.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 21 new fatalities from COVID-19 on Sunday along with 1,465 confirmed cases of the virus and 219 probable cases.

There were 2,817 people in state hospitals with the disease Saturday, the most recent day for which data is available. That's fewest since June of last year.

The lower hospitalization count comes as more than 15% of Texans have been fully vaccinated, according to Johns Hopkins University data. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 27% of the state's population has received at least one dose.

Vermont

MONTPELIER — Vermonters age 40 and over are now eligible to make appointments to be vaccinated against the virus that causes COVID-19.

The Vermont Health Department website will begin accepting appointments at 8:15 a.m. Monday. A week later, the age limit drops to age 30 and over. On April 19, all adult Vermonters will be eligible to be vaccinated.

The presence of the virus in Vermont has been increasing in recent weeks. Officials have said the state is in a race to vaccinate as many people as possible to help stop the spread of the virus. Officials blame the increase on a number of more transmissible variants of the virus that are being found in Vermont, and among young people who are more socially active but not yet eligible to be vaccinated.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police find \$20K of cocaine in man's car

WISSEO — A Chicago man is in trouble with the law after police in western Wisconsin discovered \$20,000 worth of cocaine in his car.

The La Crosse Tribune reported that court documents show a Trempealeau County Sheriff's deputy stopped 33-year-old Dajuan Cortez Thomas on Interstate 94 near Osseo on Monday for multiple traffic violations.

A police dog alerted to narcotics in the car. A search of the vehicle revealed 300 grams of cocaine.

Online court records show Thomas has been charged with possession of cocaine with intent to deliver. He posted a \$20,000 cash bond on Tuesday and is due back in court for a preliminary hearing April 19.

30 dogs were abandoned at park in last 2 weeks

NV RENO — Authorities said more than two dozen dogs were abandoned at Sun Valley Regional Park in the last two weeks. Investigators are asking for the public's help in identifying anyone involved in the incidents.

Washoe County Regional Animal Services officials said there were initially about 10 to 15 dogs found abandoned at the park. That number grew to 27 dogs within the last two weeks.

The Reno Gazette Journal reported that by Friday, three more dogs were captured and that pushed the total to 30.

Authorities suspect the person or people involved have been leaving the dogs at the park during the cover of darkness. They also believe the dogs may be from the same household.

Couple leaves \$144K to wildlife and K-9 programs

NH CONCORD — A couple who enjoyed New Hampshire's outdoors left \$144,000 from their estate to the state Fish and Game Department for its K-9 and endangered wildlife programs.

Clarence and Gertrude Sleeper, of Littleton, traveled through New England and other areas, skied, gardened, and had three dogs. They died in December 2019 in what was determined to be a murder-suicide after both had suffered health issues and limited mobility, the Caledonian-Record reported.

Late last month, the Executive Council authorized the department to accept the donation to help the programs survive. It came as "a complete surprise to us," said Col. Kevin Jordan, the department's top law enforcement officer.

The K-9 teams are used in search-and-rescue missions and finding missing people, such as stranded hikers. The Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program monitors and manages more than 400 species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians not hunt-



GREG EANS, THE MESSENGER-INQUIRER/AP

Just like new

Ethan Reheman of Evansville, Ind., cleans the windshield of his 1947 Studebaker truck while showing it during the Sunset Cruisers' ninth season of its Downtown Cruise-in on Saturday in Owensboro, Ky. Reheman restored the car himself from the frame up.

ed, trapped or fish, as well as thousands of insect species.

Omelette festival returns after pandemic break

LA LAFAYETTE — Louisiana's Giant Omelette Celebration is returning this fall after taking a year off because of the coronavirus pandemic.

KATC-TV reported that the event, which features a giant omelette cooked by multiple chefs in front of crowds in Abbeville, will be held Nov. 6 and 7. Organizers announced the festival's return by saying: "We are soooo Egggcited!!"

The Vermilion Parish festival — which celebrated its 35th anniversary in 2019, the last time it was held — draws people from around the country.

The Abbeville recipe started years ago with 5,000 eggs — with one more egg added each year. Also used in the dish are 50 pounds of onions, 75 bell peppers, gallons of onion tops and parsley, gallons of cooking oil and milk, 52 pounds of butter and boxes of pepper and salt. The omelette is served free to all who gather to watch with a side of French Bread.

In addition to the cooking of the omelette, the festival includes music, contests, a charity walk and an

THE CENSUS

32 The number of years the Massachusetts College of Art and Design will have held its annual auction when the next one takes place from April 10-11. MassArt will be holding a virtual auction for the second year in a row, with the live auction taking place on the evening of April 10 and the silent auction portion of the fundraising event ending at noon on April 11. The auction is held to help support student scholarships. Artists who have had their works juried into the auction donate either 50% or 100% of the sale price to support MassArt scholarships. The two auctions will feature over 300 works from MassArt students, graduates, members of the faculty and others.

arts and crafts show.

Inmate damages unit during escape attempt

CO HUGO — A Lincoln County Jail inmate who tried to escape from a housing unit was caught and tried to escape again while being transported to another facility.

The inmate, 33-year-old Nathaniel Gallion, of Arriba, is facing multiple felony charges, according to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.

The jail declared an emergency at 8:15 p.m. Thursday in the male housing unit after deputies discovered that an inmate used a desktop that had been bolted to the wall as a battering ram. During his escape attempt, he destroyed windows and equipment inside the housing unit, officials said.

At about 11 a.m. Friday, sheriff's

deputies and the Colorado State Patrol were taking the inmate to another facility when he got around security measures and became armed with a metal object. A regional emergency was declared and members from across the area responded to help contain and control of the inmate.

Investigators looking into how horse got rabies

NC CHERRYVILLE — Investigators in North Carolina are trying to figure out how a horse contracted rabies.

The Charlotte Observer reported Sunday that rabies in horses is uncommon in the United States.

The rabid horse was at a farm in Cherryville in Gaston County, about 30 miles northwest of Charlotte. The infection was discovered by a veterinarian who was treating "a sick horse" last week.

The farm's other horses are being given a rabies vaccination and are being observed.

Piece of SpaceX rocket debris lands at state farm

WA EPHRATA — A piece of burning rocket debris seen streaking across the Pacific Northwest sky last week crashed on a farm in east Washington state, authorities said.

After the March 25 event, a farmer discovered a nearly intact piece of rocket in a private field, The Tri-City Herald reported.

The approximately 5-foot composite-overwrapped pressure vessel used for storing helium left a nearly 4-inch dent in the ground, Grant County sheriff's spokesman Kyle Foreman said. No one was hurt, he said.

The farmer, who authorities said didn't want to be identified, suspected the debris may have come from the rocket and left a message with the sheriff's office over the weekend, Foreman said. Deputies responded Monday and contacted SpaceX officials. SpaceX confirmed it was part of the rocket and has since retrieved it, Foreman said.

WORLD

In court, editor says boss pressured him to praise Netanyahu

By ILAN BEN ZION
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s corruption trial resumed Monday, with a key witness painting a picture of an image-obsessed Israeli leader forcing a prominent news site to flatter his family and smear his opponents.

The testimony came as Netanyahu’s chances of securing another term in office following last month’s parliamentary elections appeared to be dwindling in high-stakes political talks hosted by the country’s figurehead president just a few miles away.

In a nationally televised address, Netanyahu accused prosecutors of persecuting him in an attempt to undermine the will of the voters and to drive him out of office.

“This is what a coup attempt looks like,” he said.

Taken together, the court testi-

mony and political consultations pointed to an increasingly uphill struggle for Netanyahu as he fights for his political life.

In a post-election ritual, President Reuven Rivlin was consulting with the various parties elected to parliament before choosing a candidate to form a new government. With a majority of lawmakers opposed to giving Netanyahu another term, Rivlin could give the task to a different candidate, possibly as soon as Monday night.

Netanyahu has been charged with fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes in three separate cases. Monday’s proceedings, the first in two months, marked the beginning of the evidentiary phase, in which a long line of witnesses are to take the stand against the prime minister.

The session focused on the most serious case against Netanyahu — in which he is accused of promoting regulations that de-



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, center, comes out of the courtroom during a hearing evidence stage for his trial over alleged corruption crimes at the Jerusalem district court in Salah El-Din, East Jerusalem, on Monday.

livered hundreds of millions of dollars of profits to the Bezeq telecom company in exchange for positive coverage on the firm’s popular news site, Walla.

Ilan Yeshua, Walla’s former chief editor, described a system in which Bezeq’s owners, Shaul and Iris Elovitch, repeatedly pressured him to publish favorable things about Netanyahu and smear the prime minister’s rivals.

The explanation he was given by the couple? “That’s what the

prime minister wanted,” he said.

In another case, Netanyahu is accused of accepting gifts worth hundreds of thousands of dollars from wealthy associates, including Hollywood film mogul Arnon Milchan and Australian billionaire James Packer. In the third case, Netanyahu is accused of trying to orchestrate positive coverage in a major Israeli newspaper in exchange for curbing distribution of a free pro-Netanyahu tabloid. Netanyahu denies all charges.

Turkey detains ex-admirals for statement on straits treaty

Associated Press

ANKARA — Turkish authorities on Monday detained 10 former admirals after a group of more than 100 retired top navy officers issued a mid-night statement that government officials tied to Turkey’s history of military coups.

The 10 retired admirals were detained as part of an investigation, launched by the chief prosecutor in Ankara on Sunday, over suspicions that they had reached “an agreement with the aim of committing a crime against the security of the state and the constitutional order,” the state-run Anadolu Agency reported.

Four others were not detained because of their advanced ages but were asked to report to the authorities within three days, Anadolu reported.

A total of 103 retired admirals signed the statement declaring their commitment to an international treaty that regulates shipping through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits, which link the Mediterranean Sea to the Black Sea. The 14 suspects are believed to have organized the declaration.

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SCAN FOR THIS SPECIAL OFFER

WORLD

Jordan prince remains defiant in new audio

BY BASSEM MROUE
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Jordan's Prince Hamzah says he has been threatened by the country's security agencies but does not plan to follow their "unacceptable" orders that he remain confined at home and cut off from public communication, according to a new voice recording released Monday.

The recording, which circulated online, indicates that tensions are running high be-

tween Jordan's King Abdullah II and his half brother Hamzah, a former crown prince. The United States quickly sided with Abdullah, a close Western ally in a volatile region.

Jordanian authorities said on Sunday they had foiled a "malicious plot" by Hamzah to destabilize the kingdom with foreign support. Hamzah has denied being part of any plot and says he is being targeted for speaking out against corruption and poor

governance.

"The army chief of staff came to me and issued threats in the name of heads of security agencies," Hamzah says in the recording. "I recorded his comments and distributed them to my acquaintances abroad as well as my family in case something happens."

"I don't want to escalate now, but of course, I will not abide when he tells me, 'You are not allowed to go out, tweet or con-

nect with people and you are only allowed to see family members,'" he said. "When an army chief of staff says that, this is something that I think is unacceptable."

An individual close to the prince confirmed the authenticity of the recording, speaking on condition of anonymity because of security concerns. The individual said the recording is a few days old and was made after the army chief threatened the prince.

Damage, rain hamper rescuers in Indonesia

Associated Press

LEMBATA, Indonesia — Rescuers were hampered by damaged bridges and roads and a lack of heavy equipment Monday after torrential rains caused multiple disasters on remote eastern Indonesian islands as well as in East Timor.

At least 73 people died and dozens are missing in Indonesia, and 27 deaths were reported in East Timor. A tropical cyclone causing the damage is expected to continue affecting the Southeast Asian

nations for days while moving south toward Australia.

Mud tumbled down from surrounding hills onto dozens of homes in Lamenele village shortly after midnight Sunday on Adonara island in East Nusa Tenggara province. Rescuers recovered 38 bodies and at least five people were injured, said Lenny Ola, who heads the local disaster agency.

Flash floods killed at least 33 people elsewhere and at least 70 are missing in the province, according to the National Disaster

Mitigation Agency. Severe flooding also has been reported in Bima, a town in the neighboring province of West Nusa Tenggara, killing two people and submerging nearly 10,000 houses.

The rains also caused solidified lava to tumble down the slopes of Ili Lewotolok volcano and hit several villages. That disaster on Lembata island killed at least 14, while at least 42 others were still buried under tons of solid lava, said Lembata district chief Elias-Yentji Sunur.



Ricko Wawo/AP

Indonesians scavenge items from the ruins of their house hit by a landslide in East Nusa Tenggara province, Indonesia, on Monday.

Stripes

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



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Arthur I. Cyr is Clausen Distinguished Professor at Carthage College and author of "After the Cold War."

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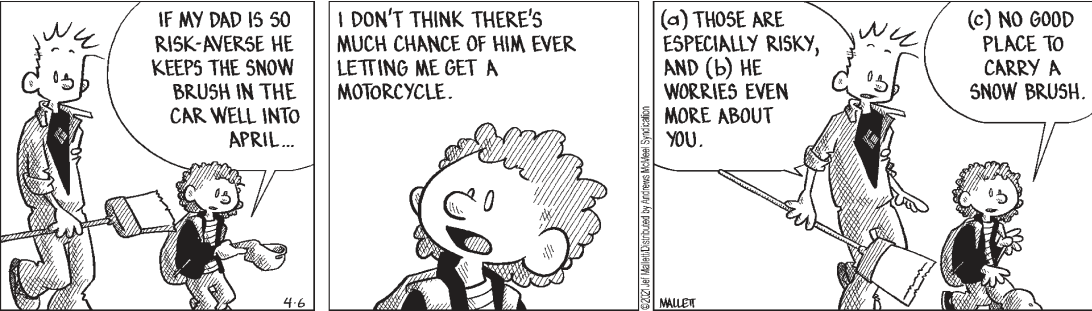


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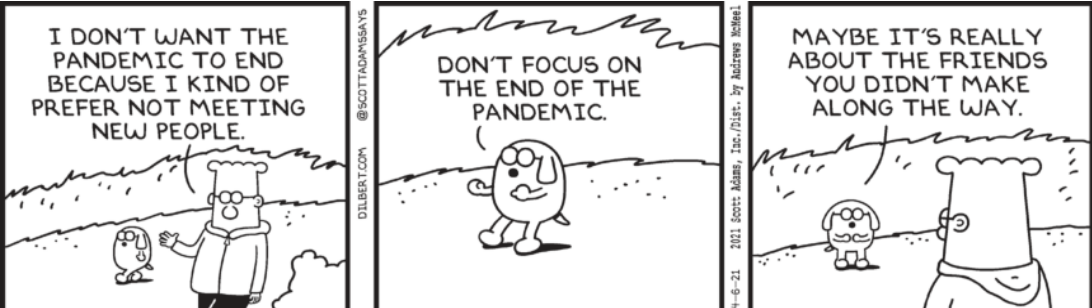
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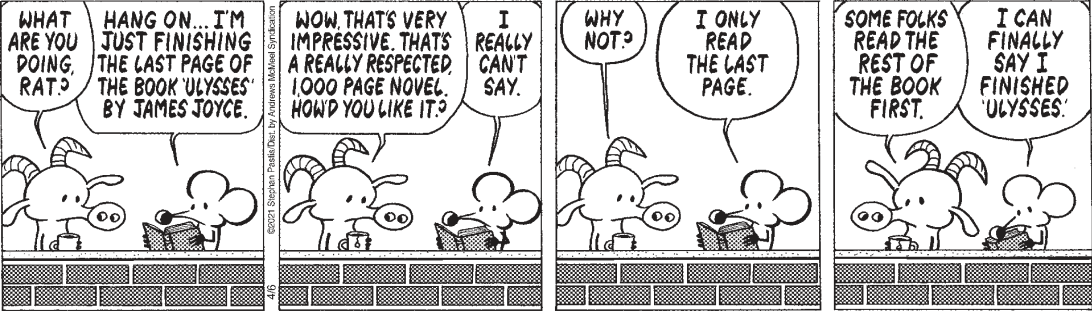
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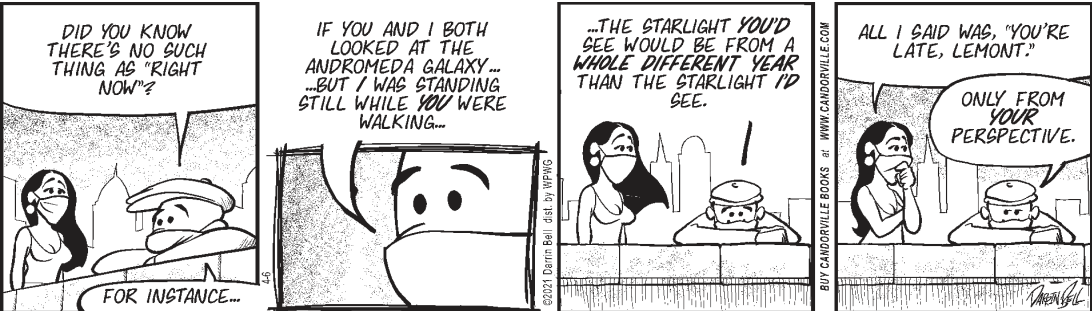
Pearls Before Swine



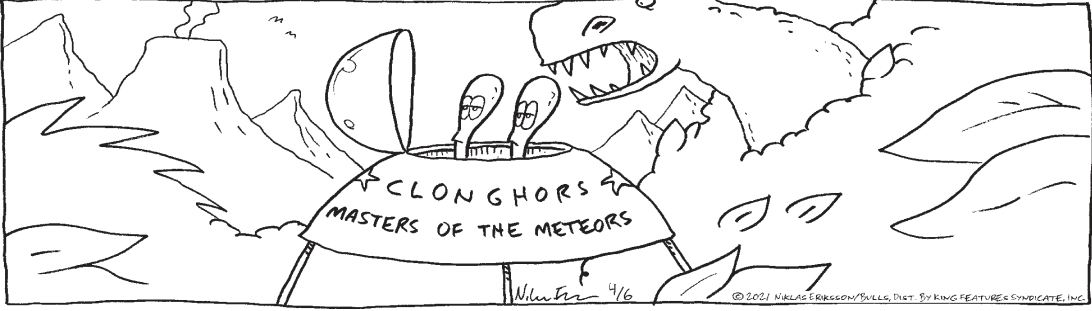
Non Sequitur



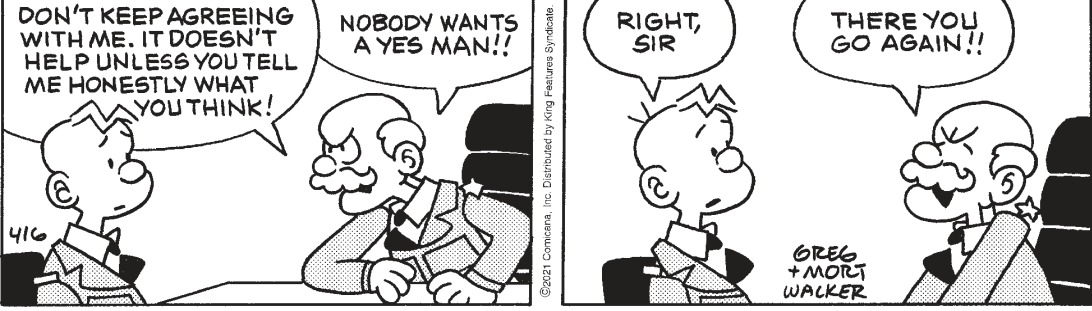
Candorville



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			
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25					26					27	28	29
30				31						32		
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			36					37				
38	39	40					41					
42					43	44				45	46	47
48					49				50			
51					52				53			

- ACROSS
- 53 Japanese noodles
- 22 Austen novel
- 23 Banister
- 24 Talk a blue streak?
- DOWN
- 1 Pajama-clad mag founder
- 2 Wall St. debut
- 3 Fragrant tree
- 4 Fridge forerunner
- 5 Pisa farewell
- 6 ICU pros
- 7 Place to surf
- 8 Relief org. for kids
- 9 Snack
- 10 Hand (out)
- 11 Linear, for short
- 16 "The A-Team" actor
- 20 Heroine in a Hardy title
- 21 Essence
- 26 Reacted with loud laughter
- 27 Woody's son
- 28 Distort
- 29 Animated figure
- 31 Relaxing resorts
- 34 Kind of benefit
- 35 Cash alternatives
- 37 Junior
- 38 Sudan neighbor
- 39 Sci-fi prefix
- 40 "Topaz" author
- 41 Tiny branch
- 44 Discoverer's call
- 45 Year in Spain
- 46 Weep
- 47 TV schedule abbr.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

4-6 CRYPTOQUIP

LKAF HKA GAUXXS CRATHOIUX

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FACES

‘Kung Fu’ debut

Actress Liang excited about opportunity
TV show provides for Asian Americans

By ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

Up-and-coming actors will sometimes claim to know a variety of skills to be considered for roles, but Olivia Liang set a boundary early in her career.

“When I started off in the industry, people would ask me why martial arts wasn’t on my résumé because it was such a typecast for Asians to do martial arts roles,” said Liang. “So I made a promise to myself. I was like, ‘I’ll never learn martial arts until someone pays me to learn martial arts.’”

Liang kept that promise. She learned martial arts as the lead of The CW’s new series “Kung Fu” — and she’s getting paid for it.

“Kung Fu” is inspired by the 1972 series starring David Carradine. It stars Liang as Nicky Shen, who, while visiting China, joins a monastery where she is taught Shaolin values and martial arts. When her mentor is killed, she returns home to find her community disrupted by a local gang. She must use the martial arts skills she learned to protect her neighborhood and family, and soon discovers she’s being targeted by the same assassin who killed her Shaolin mentor.

Liang, 27, says what makes “Kung Fu” different than the superhero shows The CW is known for is that Nicky is not a vigilante.

“Nicky is heroic, but she doesn’t see herself as a hero. She doesn’t have a hero complex where she is going out to find bad guys. She sees bad things happening and feels like she needs to do something about it.”

The series has a mostly Asian American cast with an Asian American showrunner and execu-

tive producer, Christina M. Kim.

“I’m so excited that I get to give some people this opportunity to shine,” said Kim. “When I was on set for the first time, we did a camera test and I literally was staring at the monitor and it just hit me. I was like, ‘I’ve never seen the screen filled with Asian American faces like this is.’”

Kim says her writers room is also diverse. She has five writers of Asian descent on staff. Half of the writers are women, which Kim says is a novelty. “Usually it’s just me and one other woman in a room,” said Kim.

“Kung Fu” premieres Wednesday stateside on The CW.

Tzi Ma, who plays Nicky’s father, Jin, says it’s remarkable to have so many people with Asian backgrounds working on the show, because he doesn’t have to explain the Asian experience to people who are making creative assumptions about what that’s like.

“Not only is there representation on screen, but we back it up from our writers room to all our guest directors. It is an amazing sight to behold. ... I have never seen this kind of makeup,” said Ma.

Ma hopes the authenticity of the series will help to change the public consciousness at a time when hate crimes against Asian Americans are on the rise.

“The camera is a very interesting instrument. I want the audience to have the opportunity finally to see what real reputation representation is like. And when they get educated ... they will begin to develop their taste of what’s good, what’s real and what’s true,” said Ma.



CW/AP

Olivia Liang stars as Nicky Shen, whose character learns martial arts in China and then returns to the U.S., in the new TV show “Kung Fu.”

Valerie Soe, a professor in the Asian American Studies Department at San Francisco State University, says the series is a win overall because it’s one more example of an Asian American story being told.

“There’s a phrase called ‘narrative plentitude’ that Viet Thanh Nguyen the author uses — about having a lot of different stories out there to pick from so we don’t have to just like obsessively focus on

one. Like, ‘Is ‘Crazy Rich Asians’ going to represent us accurately? Is ‘Joy Luck Club’ going to represent us accurately?’ It’s like, ‘Well, if that one doesn’t, then we’ve got this other one,’” she said.

“The more the merrier. I think not everything’s going to be fabulous and not everything’s going to be exactly what we want. But, if you have a lot of different choices, then you don’t expect everything from one.”

‘Godzilla vs. Kong’ achieves pandemic-best opening record

From wire reports

A week after Warner Bros.’ international rollout of “Godzilla vs. Kong” set a new pandemic record for a Hollywood film, its North American release continued to hint at a forthcoming return to the box office with a pandemic-best opening of \$48.5 million over five days since its March 31 debut and \$32.2 million this weekend, according to estimates from measurement firm Comscore.

The previous benchmark for a pandemic-era domestic opening was the debut of “Wonder Woman 1984” in December, with \$16.7 million over the three-day Christmas weekend. “Godzilla vs. Kong,” which simultaneously debuted domestically in theaters and on HBO Max, played in 3,064 locations, the most since the pandemic began more than a year ago. It currently stands at \$285.4 million in global receipts.

DMX on life support after heart attack, lawyer says

DMX is in grave condition at a White Plains, N.Y., hospital after a heart attack, according to his longtime attorney and friend Murray Richman.

Richman told The Washington Post that the rapper, whose real name is Earl Simmons, is on life support, surrounded by family members including his ex-wife, current partner and children.

Richman said he had no knowledge that Simmons, 50, suffered a drug overdose, as reported by TMZ. A representative for Simmons told TMZ that he was rushed to the hospital on April 2 after collapsing at his home.

The rapper burst on the music scene in 1998 when his debut album “It’s Dark and Hell is Hot” became a platinum-selling success.

‘Trial of the Chicago 7’ takes top honors at SAG Awards

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

The starry cast of Aaron Sorkin’s 1960s courtroom drama “The Trial of the Chicago 7” took the top prize Sunday at a virtual Screen Actors Guild Awards where actors of color, for the first time, swept the individual film awards.

The 27th SAG Awards, presented by the Hollywood actors’ guild SAG-Aftra, were a muted affair — and not just because the red carpet-less ceremony was condensed to a pre-recorded, Zoom-heavy, one-hour broadcast. The perceived Academy Awards frontrunner — Chloé Zhao’s “Nomadland” — wasn’t nominated for best ensemble, making this year’s postponed SAG Awards less of an Oscar preview than it is most years.

Still, the win for Netflix’s “The Trial of the

Chicago 7” marked the first time a film from a streaming service won the guild’s ensemble award. Written and directed by Sorkin, “The Trial of the Chicago 7” had been set for theatrical release by Paramount Pictures before the pandemic hit, leading to its sale to Netflix.

Frank Langella, who plays the judge who presided over the 1969 prosecution of activists arrested during the 1968 Democratic National Convention, drew parallels between that era’s unrest and today’s while accepting the award on behalf of the cast.

“God give us leaders,” said the Rev. Martin Luther King before he was shot down in cold blood on this very date in 1968 — a profound injustice,” said Langella, citing events leading up to those dramatized in “The Trial of the Chicago 7. “The Rev. King was right. We need leaders to guide us to-

ward hating each other less.”

The win came over two other Netflix releases — “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” and “Da 5 Bloods” — as well as Amazon’s “One Night in Miami” and A24’s “Minari.”

The SAG Awards are a closely watched Oscar harbinger. Actors make up the largest branch of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, and SAG winners often line up with Oscar ones.

Those awards this year went entirely to actors of color: Chadwick Boseman, best male actor for “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”; Viola Davis, best female actor for “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”; Yuh-Jung Youn, best female supporting actor for “Minari”; and Daniel Kaluuya, best male supporting actor for “Judas and the Black Messiah.”

Davis’ win was the most surprising in a

category that has often belonged to Carey Mulligan (“Promising Young Woman”) or Frances McDormand (“Nomadland”). It’s Davis’ fifth individual SAG award.

The Academy Awards frontrunner, “Nomadland” missed out on a best-ensemble nomination possibly because its cast is composed of largely non-professional actors. Zhao’s film previously won at the highly predictive Producers Guild Awards, as well as at the Golden Globes.

In television categories, the ensembles of “Schitt’s Creek” (for comedy series) and “The Crown” (for drama series) added to their string of awards. Other winners included Anya Taylor-Joy (“The Queen’s Gambit”), Gillian Anderson (“The Crown”), Jason Sudeikis (“Ted Lasso”), Jason Bateman (“Ozark”) and Mark Ruffalo (“I Know This Much Is True”).

SCOREBOARD/NBA

DEALS

Sunday’s transactions

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Reinstated RHP Shawn Armstrong from the paternity list and placed him on the 10-day IL.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Activated LHP Aroldis Chapman.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Selected the contract of LHP Tommy Milone from the alternate training site. Optioned RHP Joel Payamps to the alternate training site. Placed RHP Kirby Yates on the 60-day IL.
National League
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Recalled RHP Dennis Santana from the alternate training site. Placed RHP Tony Gonsolin on the 10-day IL retroactive to April 1.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Activated RHP Kyle Crick from the COVID-19 IL. Placed INF Ke’Bryan Hayes on the 10-day IL. Optioned RHP Wil Crowe to the alternate training site. Selected the contract of INF Wilmer Difo from the alternate training site. Designated RHP Tyler Bashlor for assignment.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
MILWAUKEE BUCKS — Agreed to terms with G Jrue Holiday on a four-year contract extension.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Recalled LW Jesper Boqvist from the taxi squad.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled D Ben Thomas and G Christopher Gibson from the taxi squad.

GOLF

Texas Open
PGA Tour
Sunday
AtSan Antonio, Texas
Purse: \$7.7 million
Yardage: 7,494; Par: 72
Final Round

Jordan Spieth, \$1,386,000	67-70-67-66—270-18
Charley Hoffman, \$839,300	75-66-65-66—272-16
Matt Wallace, \$531,300	69-68-67-70—274-14
Lucas Glover, \$377,300	73-67-70-66—276-12
Anirban Lahiri, \$315,700	71-69-69-69—278-10
Chris Kirk, \$259,875	72-72-67-68—279 -9
Brandt Snedeker, \$259,875	72-67-72-68—279 -9
Gary Woodland, \$259,875	71-72-67-69—279 -9
Patton Kizzire, \$209,825	71-74-70-65—280 -8
Cameron Tringale, \$209,825	66-69-73-72—280 -8
Tom Hoge, \$171,325	68-76-66-71—281 -7
Matt Kuchar, \$171,325	70-70-70-71—281 -7
Corey Connors, \$140,525	71-74-67-70—282 -6
Kyle Stanley, \$140,525	71-68-72-71—282 -6
Erik van Rooyen, \$140,525	71-68-72-71—282 -6
Rickie Fowler, \$105,875	76-68-69-70—283 -5
Brandon Hagy, \$105,875	70-70-72-71—283 -5
Luke List, \$105,875	73-71-70-69—283 -5
Keith Mitchell, \$105,875	72-69-71-71—283 -5
Ryan Palmer, \$105,875	72-71-70-70—283 -5
Camilo Villegas, \$105,875	64-76-71-72—283 -5

ANA Inspiration Open
Sunday
At Rancho Mirage, Calif.
Purse: \$3.1 million
Yardage: 6,865; Par: 72
Final Round

Patty Tavatanakit, \$465,000	66-69-67-68—270-18
Lydia Ko, \$287,716	70-69-71-62—272-16
Sei Young Kim, \$151,615	72-71-68-66—277-11
Nelly Korda, \$151,615	71-70-70-66—277-11
Nanna K. Madsen, \$151,615	72-68-71-66—277-11
Shanshan Feng, \$151,615	70-73-65-71—279-11
Jin Young Ko, \$79,025	69-70-71-68—278-10
Inbee Park, \$79,025	70-69-70-69—278-10
Ally Ewing, \$79,025	71-70-66-71—278-10
Megan Khang, \$59,333	68-73-71-67—279 -9
Moriya Jutanugarn, \$59,333	68-69-73-69—279 -9
Mirim Lee, \$59,333	69-70-68-72—279 -9

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Saturday's scores
EAST
Bucknell 6, Lehigh 0
Delaware St. 37, Howard 28
Fordham 40, Colgate 8
Villanova 44, Maine 17
SOUTH
Ark.-Pine Bluff 24, MVSU 17
Austin Peay 34, Murray St. 31
ETSU 24, VMI 20
Kennesaw St. 35, Robert Morris 0
McNeese St. 43, Nicholls 31
Mercer 26, Furman 14
Monmouth (NJ) 48, Gardner-Webb 19
Presbyterian 26, Stetson 3
SC State 14, Alabama St. 7
SE Louisiana 42, Lamar 12
SE Missouri 21, UT Martin 16
Southern U. 34, Jackson St. 14
Tennessee Tech 24, Tennessee St. 10
The Citadel 28, Wofford 24
MIDWEST
Jacksonville St. 44, E. Illinois 23
Morehead St. 35, Butler 14
Valparaiso 10, Drake 7
W. Illinois 27, Youngstown St. 24
FAR WEST
Davidson 31, San Diego 25
E. Washington 32, UC Davis 22
Idaho St. 24, Idaho 22
Weber St. 19, S. Utah 16

ROUNDUP

Clippers rout short-handed Lakers

Associated Press
LOS ANGELES— Marcus Morris scored 22 points as the Los Angeles Clippers dominated the short-handed Los Angeles Lakers in a 104-86 victory on Sunday to end a two-game skid.

Kawhi Leonard had 19 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, and Paul George added 16 points for the Clippers.

“We set the tone early defensively, we were physical and got into bodies,” Clippers coach Tyronn Lue said.

The Lakers trailed the entire game in which they were without injured All-Star duo of LeBron James and Anthony Davis, as well as Andre Drummond and Wesley Matthews. They’ve dropped six of nine.

Montrezl Harrell led the Lakers with 19 points against his old team. Marc Gasol was the only starter in double figures with 11 points.

Kyle Kuzma’s shooting typified the Lakers’ offensive woes. He was held to six points as one of four starters who combined to shoot 12 of 41.

“We got to play the right way on the offensive end,” Kuzma said. “Defensively, we’ll be all right. Offensively, we got to find ways to play together. Can’t win games scoring in the 80s and 90s. Got to find ways to incorporate everyone.”

The Clippers built a double-digit lead midway through the second that the Lakers never reduced to single digits the rest of the way.

“Credit the Clippers’ defense,” Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. “They got up into us and we didn’t handle their pressure at all and we had a tough shooting night. We got to play through their pressure and physicality better than we did.”

Five different Clippers powered a 12-3 run to start the third, with George’s three-pointer capping the spurt that created their largest lead of 24 points. They matched that lead later in the quarter on a three-pointer by Luke Kennard, who scored 12 of his 15 points in the fourth.

The Clippers stretched their lead to 20 points in the second, running off 10 in a row that ended with back-to-back three-pointers by Marcus Morris.

Grizzlies 116, 76ers 100: Grayson Allen had 11 of his 15 points during a game-changing third quarter, lifting visiting Memphis over short-handed Philadelphia, which was without All-Star center Joel Embiid.

Dillon Brooks scored 17 points and Jonas Valanciunas had 16 points and 12 rebounds for the Grizzlies, who began play ninth in



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

Los Angeles Clippers forward Kawhi Leonard shoots over Los Angeles Lakers forward Kyle Kuzma during the first half on Sunday in Los Angeles. The Clippers coasted to an easy victory.

the Western Conference.

Tobias Harris scored 21 points for the 76ers, who have played 11 of their past 12 games without Embiid.

Embiid returned from a 10-game absence due to a bone bruise in his left knee in Saturday night’s victory over Minnesota, but he didn’t play in the second game of a back-to-back in order to recover from that outing.

Pelicans 122, Rockets 115: Lonzo Ball had 27 points and a career-high eight three-pointers as visiting New Orleans defeated Houston to end a two-game skid.

Ball was on fire early, making all four of his three-point attempts in the first quarter in his return after missing seven games with a hip injury. He had nine assists, and his 27 points tied a season-best.

Kelly Olynyk had a season-high 26 points in his second 20-point game in the five games since he was traded to Houston from Miami. The Rockets lost their fourth straight.

Bulls 115, Nets 107: Nikola Vucevic had 22 points and 13 rebounds, Zach LaVine added 25 points and host Chicago beat Brooklyn to snap a six-game losing streak.

Tomas Satoransky had a season-high 19 points and 11 assists as Chicago won for the first time since acquiring Vucevic before the trade deadline.

Kyrie Irving had 24 points and 15 assists to lead short-handed

Brooklyn, which played without James Harden and Kevin Durant. The Nets had won 10 of 12.

Hawks 117, Warriors 111: Clint Capela had 24 points and 18 rebounds, Danilo Gallinari scored 25 points and host Atlanta beat Golden State for its third straight win.

Stephen Curry and Draymond Green returned after injuries forced both to miss an embarrassing blowout against Toronto on Friday. The Warriors were a different team, but they still couldn’t close out the Hawks.

Curry, returning from a tailbone injury, had 37 points as the Warriors lost their seventh in the last eight games.

Celtics 116, Hornets 86: Jayson Tatum had 22 points and eight rebounds, and host Boston blew past short-handed Charlotte.

Terry Rozier led Charlotte with 22 points and seven assists

Charlotte was without LaMelo Ball (fractured right wrist), Malik Monk (sprained right ankle) and Gordon Hayward, who went on the injured list Friday after he sprained his right foot during a win at Indiana.

Nuggets 119, Magic 109: Aaron Gordon scored 24 points against his former team, rallying host Denver past Orlando.

Gordon scored Denver’s first dozen points, then helped the Nuggets erase an 18-point halftime deficit for their 14th win in 17 games and their 10th straight over the Magic.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	34	16	.680	—
Brooklyn	34	16	.680	—
New York	25	25	.500	9
Boston	25	25	.500	9
Toronto	19	30	.388	14½
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	26	24	.520	—
Miami	26	24	.520	—
Charlotte	25	24	.510	½
Washington	17	31	.354	8
Orlando	17	33	.340	9
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	32	17	.653	—
Indiana	22	26	.458	9½
Chicago	20	28	.417	11½
Cleveland	17	32	.347	15
Detroit	14	35	.286	18
Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	27	21	.563	—
Memphis	24	23	.511	2½
San Antonio	24	23	.511	2½
New Orleans	22	27	.449	5½
Houston	13	36	.265	14½
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	38	11	.776	—
Denver	31	18	.633	7
Portland	30	19	.612	8
Oklahoma City	20	29	.408	18
Minnesota	12	38	.240	26½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	34	14	.708	—
L.A. Clippers	33	18	.647	2½
L.A. Lakers	31	19	.620	4
Golden State	23	27	.460	12
Sacramento	22	28	.440	13
Saturday's games				
Dallas 109, Washington 87 New York 125, Detroit 81 Miami 115, Cleveland 101 Philadelphia 122, Minnesota 113 Utah 137, Orlando 91 Indiana 139, San Antonio 133, OT Portland 133, Oklahoma City 85 Milwaukee 129, Sacramento 128				
Sunday's games				
Chicago 115, Brooklyn 107 L.A. Clippers 104, L.A. Lakers 86 Boston 116, Charlotte 86 Memphis 116, Philadelphia 100 Atlanta 117, Golden State 111 New Orleans 122, Houston 115 Denver 119, Orlando 109				
Monday's games				
Cleveland at San Antonio Detroit at Oklahoma City New York at Brooklyn Sacramento at Minnesota Utah at Dallas Washington at Toronto Phoenix at Houston				
Tuesday's games				
Chicago at Indiana L.A. Lakers at Toronto New Orleans at Atlanta Philadelphia at Boston Memphis at Miami Detroit at Denver Milwaukee at Golden State Portland at L.A. Clippers				
Wednesday's games				
Minnesota at Indiana Washington at Orlando New Orleans at Brooklyn New York at Boston Charlotte at Oklahoma City Dallas at Houston Memphis at Atlanta San Antonio at Denver Utah at Phoenix				

NHL



Sabres left wing Taylor Hall, right, is pressured by Flyers center Joel Farabee in a game last week. Hall is one of the prominent players expected to be dealt before next week's trade deadline.

Flat cap, unique season mean tight trade deadline

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

Acquiring Blake Coleman and Barclay Goodrow at the 2020 NHL trade deadline helped the Tampa Bay Lightning win the Stanley Cup. No such moves will be possible in their attempt to repeat.

“We have zero dollars of cap space to acquire a player between now and the trade deadline,” general manager Julien BriseBois said. “Literally zero dollars. That’s the obstacle.”

That obstacle isn’t unique to the defending champions going into a trade deadline like none other in league history. Eighteen of 31 teams have \$1 million or less of salary cap space and the cap ceiling won’t go up a penny next season, so things are tighter than ever.

Prominent players like Buffalo’s Taylor Hall and goaltenders Jonathan Bernier and Devan Dubnyk seem likely to move, but even hockey’s most seasoned executives aren’t sure what to expect before the clock strikes 3 p.m. Eastern on April 12.

“There’s so much unknown because of the cap,” New York Islanders GM Lou Lamoriello said. “The cap is going to be flat next year. So any contract that you take on that is more than one year is going to disrupt whatever you’re doing next year and will put you in worse shape. So that complicates the matter without the cap increases, but it’s the same for everyone.”

The seven Canadian teams are in a “tougher spot,” Toronto GM Kyle Dubas acknowledged, because of a weeklong mandatory quarantine for any player acquired from the U.S. That’s half

the quarantine imposed earlier this season but still makes it more difficult to swallow paying a hefty price for a player who might be available for only 10 games before the playoffs begin.

And that’s if teams can agree to a trade with so little cap room. Tampa Bay, Washington, Vegas and Montreal don’t have the space to add even a player making the league minimum, according to PuckPedia calculations, and several others would need to clear room to add anyone with even a modest salary.

“A lot of teams are in the same situation we’re in where they literally have no cap space or very, very little — not enough to add a player without subtracting,” BriseBois said. “The teams that are kind of on the bubble, I don’t know how what’s ultimately going to guide their decisions. Are they going to try to add? Are they going to sell? Will there be more teams just standing pat? I don’t know, but it’s going to be interesting to find out.”

Philadelphia and Columbus are among those on the playoff bubble with tradeable assets.

The buyers are easier to identify: Lamoriello’s Islanders lost captain Anders Lee to a season-ending right knee injury, Dubas’ Maple Leafs look like the class of the North Division with perhaps a hole or two to fill and Edmonton might be a top-four defenseman away from challenging Toronto.

“If you’re talking about trying to go out and get a legit top-four — any, a lefty or a righty — defenseman, No. 1 there’s not a lot of them that are going to be available,” Oilers GM Ken Holland said. “And those that are going to be availa-

ble, the price is going to be high.”

A couple of top defensemen could also stay put if Nashville remains in playoff contention and keeps Ryan Ellis and Mattias Ekholm. Right-shooting Blue Jackets defenseman David Savard is a pending free agent and arguably the most sought-after player on the market.

Hall and New Jersey’s Kyle Palmieri fit the Islanders’ need without Lee, though they aren’t the only team looking for that kind of player.

“We’re always trying to find a scoring winger,” Lamoriello said. “Everybody is. That’s not something that’s easy to do.”

It’s also not easy to find a reliable goaltender, which Colorado and Washington would love to add. Maybe that’s Bernier or Carolina’s James Reimer, who are currently injured, or a bigger swing at someone like Jonathan Quick of Los Angeles.

Players like Quick or Anaheim forward Rickard Rakell would normally be important additions this time of year because they’re signed beyond this season. That was Tampa Bay’s thinking getting Coleman and Goodrow for at least two playoff runs, but the salary cap remaining flat at \$81.5 million changes the equation.

“Usually you’d put a premium on getting a player that has future years,” Dubas said. “It’s a little bit more complex this year knowing that very likely it’s going to be at \$1.5 again, the cap, so anything that we take from next year’s allotment, it impacts a number of different things as you can well imagine. It’s a rare time where probably a rental is a better fit.”

ROUNDUP

Ovechkin scores as Caps sweep Devils

Associated Press
NEWARK, N.J. — The Washington Capitals came up with two Great 8s against the New Jersey Devils.

Alex Ovechkin hit another milestone in his amazing career and the Capitals finished off a rare eight-game sweep of their season series with the Devils with a 5-4 win on Sunday.

Ovechkin scored his 265th power-play goal to move into a second-place tie with Brett Hull on the NHL’s all-time list in that category. He is 10 shy of passing all-time leader Dave Andreychuk (274).

Like most of his personal marks, he downplayed it.

“Keep going,” said the 35-year-old Russian who now has 725 goals, six goals shy of tying Marcel Dionne for fifth place all time in the NHL. “It is what it is.”

The Great 8 was more impressed with the sweep and the play of goaltender Ilya Samsonov, who had 35 saves in a game the Caps were out-shot 39-19.

“I think Sammy today was unstoppable,” Ovechkin said. “Obviously he gave us the victory.”

T.J. Oshie, Conor Sheary, Carl Hagelin and Evgeny Kuznetsov also scored for Washington. The eight-game sweep was the first in team history against a single opponent.

Red Wings 5, Lightning 1: Thomas Greiss made 27 stops to lead Detroit to its first road win against Tampa Bay in the regular season in more than 10 years.

Marc Staal, Valtteri Filppula, Michael Rasmussen, Darren Helm and Dylan Larkin all scored for the Red Wings, who snapped a three-game winless streak.

Victor Hedman scored his seventh goal for the Lightning.

Panthers 3, Blue Jackets 0: Aleksander Barkov had a goal and an assist, Chris Driedger posted his third career shutout, and host Florida won its sixth straight.

Frank Vatrano and Gustav Forsling also scored as the Panthers moved into sole possession of first place in the Central Division.

Hurricanes 1, Stars 0: Petr Mrazek made 28 saves in his first game back after a two-month absence as host Carolina beat Dallas.

Stars coach Rick Bowness didn’t return to the bench for the third period because of what the team announced was a COVID protocol.

Jordan Martinook’s second-period goal was enough scoring. It was his second goal of the season.

Maple Leafs 4, Flames 2: Auston Matthews and John Tavares each had a goal and an assist and visiting Toronto beat Calgary.

Morgan Rielly and Alex Galchenyuk also scored for the Maple Leafs, who are 6-3-1 in their past 10

and continue to top the NHL’s North Division.

Coyotes 3, Ducks 2 (OT): Jakob Chychrun scored his third goal 1:47 into overtime and visiting Arizona beat Anaheim.

It was the first career hat trick for Chychrun, who scored on a long wrist shot.

Adin Hill made 18 saves for the Coyotes.

Scoreboard

East Division										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Washington	38	25	9	4	54	132	117			
N.Y. Islanders	38	24	10	4	52	117	90			
Pittsburgh	38	24	12	2	50	126	102			
Boston	34	19	10	5	43	96	86			
Philadelphia	36	17	14	5	39	109	132			
N.Y. Rangers	37	17	15	5	39	117	99			
New Jersey	36	13	17	6	32	88	113			
Buffalo	37	8	23	6	22	82	128			

Central Division										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Florida	39	26	9	4	56	130	103			
Tampa Bay	38	26	10	2	54	130	93			
Carolina	37	25	9	3	53	120	92			
Nashville	39	20	18	1	41	99	113			
Chicago	39	17	17	5	39	109	122			
Dallas	36	13	13	10	36	98	95			
Columbus	40	14	18	8	36	98	129			
Detroit	40	13	22	5	31	88	125			

West Division										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Colorado	37	25	8	4	54	132	83			
Vegas	36	24	10	2	50	113	84			
Minnesota	36	23	11	2	48	104	89			
Arizona	38	18	15	5	41	102	116			
St. Louis	37	16	15	6	38	103	118			
San Jose	37	17	16	4	38	105	122			
Los Angeles	36	14	16	6	34	98	102			
Anaheim	39	11	21	7	29	87	130			

North Division										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Toronto	38	25	10	3	53	125	95			
Edmonton	38	23	14	1	47	125	109			
Winnipeg	38	22	13	3	47	121	104			
Montreal	34	16	9	9	41	111	94			
Vancouver	37	16	18	3	35	100	120			
Calgary	39	16	20	3	35	100	119			
Ottawa	38	13	21	4	30	101	142			

Saturday's games

Tampa Bay 2, Detroit 1
Boston 7, Pittsburgh 5
Nashville 3, Chicago 0
Dallas 3, Carolina 2
Florida 5, Columbus 2
Buffalo 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, SO
N.Y. Islanders 3, Philadelphia 2, SO
Ottawa 6, Montreal 3
Minnesota 2, Vegas 1
Colorado 2, St. Louis 1
San Jose 3, Los Angeles 2

Sunday's games

Detroit 5, Tampa Bay 1
Washington 5, New Jersey 4
Florida 3, Columbus 0
Arizona 3, Anaheim 2, OT
Carolina 1, Dallas 0
Toronto 4, Calgary 2

Monday's games

Edmonton at Montreal
Ottawa at Winnipeg
Philadelphia at Boston
Colorado at Minnesota
Vegas at St. Louis
Toronto at Calgary
Arizona at Los Angeles

Tuesday's games

Boston at Philadelphia
Buffalo at New Jersey
Florida at Carolina
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Rangers
Tampa Bay at Columbus
Washington at N.Y. Islanders
Nashville at Detroit
Dallas at Chicago
Anaheim at San Jose

MLB

Scoreboard

Amercian League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	3	0	1.000	—
Tampa Bay	2	1	.667	1
Toronto	2	1	.667	1
New York	1	2	.333	2
Boston	0	3	.000	3
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	2	1	.667	—
Kansas City	2	1	.667	—
Minnesota	2	1	.667	—
Cleveland	1	2	.333	1
Chicago	1	3	.250	1½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	4	0	1.000	—
Los Angeles	3	1	.750	1
Seattle	2	1	.667	1½
Texas	1	2	.333	2½
Oakland	0	4	.000	4
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	3	0	1.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	1½
Washington	0	0	.000	1½
Miami	1	2	.333	2
Atlanta	0	3	.000	3
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	2	1	.667	—
Cincinnati	2	1	.667	—
Milwaukee	1	2	.333	1
Pittsburgh	1	2	.333	1
St. Louis	1	2	.333	1
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	3	1	.750	—
San Diego	3	1	.750	—
San Francisco	1	2	.333	1½
Arizona	1	3	.250	2
Colorado	1	3	.250	2
Saturday's games				
Baltimore 4, Boston 2 Detroit 5, Cleveland 2 N.Y. Yankees 5, Toronto 3 Kansas City 11, Texas 4 Houston 9, Oakland 1 Miami 12, Tampa Bay 7 Minnesota 2, Milwaukee 0 Seattle 4, San Francisco 0 L.A. Angels 5, Chicago White Sox 3 Chicago Cubs 5, Pittsburgh 1 Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 0 Cincinnati 9, St. Louis 6 San Diego 7, Arizona 0 L.A. Dodgers 6, Colorado 5 N.Y. Mets at Washington, ppd.				
Sunday's games				
Toronto 3, N.Y. Yankees 1 Cleveland 9, Detroit 3 Baltimore 11, Boston 3 Texas 7, Kansas City 3 Minnesota 8, Milwaukee 2 Houston 9, Oakland 2 L.A. Angels 7, Chicago White Sox 4 Philadelphia 2, Atlanta 1 Cincinnati 12, St. Louis 1 Chicago Cubs 4, Pittsburgh 3 L.A. Dodgers 4, Colorado 2 Arizona 3, San Diego 1 N.Y. Mets at Washington, ppd.				
Monday's games				
Minnesota at Detroit Toronto at Texas Kansas City at Cleveland Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees Tampa Bay at Boston Houston at L.A. Angels L.A. Dodgers at Oakland Chicago White Sox at Seattle Atlanta at Washington, ppd. Pittsburgh at Cincinnati St. Louis at Miami N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs San Francisco at San Diego				
Tuesday's games				
Minnesota at Detroit Houston at L.A. Angels Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees Tampa Bay at Boston Toronto at Texas L.A. Dodgers at Oakland Chicago White Sox at Seattle Atlanta at Washington Pittsburgh at Cincinnati St. Louis at Miami N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs Arizona at Colorado San Francisco at San Diego				

Ohtani’s 2-way play, Walsh’s HRs lift Angels past White Sox

By GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — In the first inning alone, Shohei Ohtani threw a ball nearly 101 mph and hit a homer that jumped off his bat at 115 mph.

By the time he left, the Los Angeles Angels’ two-way star had dazzled on the mound and at the plate in a historic two-way performance.

And after Sho-time ended, Jared Walsh put on his own impressive effort to secure another win for the Halos.

Ohtani smashed a 451-foot homer and pitched two-hit ball into the fifth inning, and Walsh hit a walkoff homer to end the Angels’ 7-4 victory over the Chicago White Sox on Sunday night.

“I’m glad I got one game like this under my belt, and it’s going to lead to a lot of confidence for me,” Ohtani said through his translator.

Ohtani reached another milestone in his unique career when he took the mound and occupied the No. 2 slot in the batting order for the Angels. He was just the third pitcher in 45 seasons to hit for himself in a game with the designated hitter available, and the first to bat second since Jack Dunleavy did it for the Cardinals in 1903.

Although he lost a three-run lead and narrowly avoided injury in a home plate collision during the fifth inning, Ohtani left both teams amazed by his abilities.

“He’s everything we thought he could be, right?” Angels manager Joe Maddon said. “That’s the complete baseball player. He just needed the opportunity to do it. ... What he did tonight was pretty special, and you’re going to see a lot more of that.”

Chicago’s Leury García put it



ASHLEY LANDIS/AP

The White Sox’s Jose Abreu checks on Angels pitcher Shohei Ohtani after they collided at home following a passed ball during the fifth inning on Sunday. Abreu and Adam Eaton scored. Ohtani left the game.

more succinctly: “Oh, he nasty.”

So was Walsh, who hit two homers — including a big three-run shot off Matt Foster to end the Angels’ third win over Chicago in their four-game, season-opening series.

In that wild first inning, Ohtani both threw the hardest pitch by any starting pitcher in baseball this season and his first-pitch homer off Chicago’s Dylan Cease was the hardest hit by any batter this season.

Even Ohtani’s 109.7-mph line-out to center in the second inning was hit harder than any other ball in the game except his own homer.

Ohtani didn’t allow a run

through the first four innings, but his control problems abetted Chicago’s three-run rally in the fifth. Ohtani left after a passed ball and a throwing error by catcher Max Stassi led to a collision between Ohtani and AL MVP José Abreu.

Ohtani finished with seven strikeouts and five walks, showcasing his typical duo of otherworldly speed and shaky control.

David Fletcher and Justin Upton drove in early runs for the Angels. After Chicago tied it in the fifth by scoring three runs without an RBI, Walsh reclaimed the lead for Los Angeles in the fifth — but new Angels closer Raisel Iglesias (1-0) couldn’t quite come up with a

five-out save.

Ohtani left the game with general soreness, but no injury, general manager Perry Minasian said. “I feel fine as of now,” Ohtani said. “It wasn’t as bad as it looked.”

Ohtani even mastered Yermín Mercedes, the 28-year-old White Sox rookie who improbably got his first eight major league hits consecutively over the past two games. Ohtani struck out Mercedes in the second and fourth innings, dropping the designated hitter’s average all the way down to .727.

Mercedes beat out an infield single later for his ninth hit in three games.

Nationals will finally open season Tuesday

By HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Nationals will begin their season Tuesday by hosting the Atlanta Braves after Major League Baseball postponed Monday’s opener of the teams’ three-game series because of a coronavirus outbreak that involves 11 of Washington’s players.

“The most recent round of test results of Nationals personnel included no new positives,” said an MLB statement sent Sunday night. “All of (Washington’s) eligible personnel will be able to participate in baseball activities at Nationals Park on Monday.”

Four Nationals players have tested positive for COVID-19 over the

past week and are isolating, while another seven are under quarantine because contact tracing determined they might have been exposed to the illness.

General manager Mike Rizzo said Sunday that none of those 11 — a majority of whom, although not all, were supposed to be on the opening day roster — would be available if the three-game set with Atlanta began Monday. Rizzo has not publicly identified any of the players involved or the two staff members who also have been placed under quarantine because of possible exposure.

Washington has yet to play this season; its opening three-game series at home against the New York

Mets on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday was postponed.

“Believe me, we’re in constant contact with MLB,” Rizzo said in a video call with reporters Sunday afternoon, while he was still awaiting a decision about Monday’s game.

Rizzo has been adamant that Washington would need to be able to hold team workouts before facing an opponent. Pitchers were able to go to Nationals Park one by one on Saturday and Sunday to throw bullpen sessions.

“Position players haven’t worked out in a week. And pitchers haven’t thrown any competitive pitch in that same period of time. It’s something that we’re taking very seriously here. We’re thinking of cre-

ative ways under the protocol and under the guidance to get these guys as ready as possible,” Rizzo said.

“It makes a lot of sense for baseball, player protection-wise, to have these guys go through their paces in a full workout before we take the field,” he added.

The reigning NL East champion Braves are 0-3, and scored just three runs.

Braves manager Brian Snitker said in the afternoon — before MLB’s ruling arrived — that he was going to assume his club would be playing Monday until he heard otherwise.

“This is the COVID era. Everything’s fluid,” Snitker said.

MLB/GOLF

MLB ROUNDUP

Phillies pitchers dominate again

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Alec Bohm had a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning, Zach Eflin gave Philadelphia another strong start and the Phillies completed a three-game sweep of the defending NL East champion Atlanta Braves with a 2-1 win Sunday.

Philadelphia's starting trio of Aaron Nola, Zack Wheeler and Eflin (1-0) surrendered three runs, 11 hits and one walk in 20 ⅓ innings against an Atlanta lineup that led the majors in 2020 with 556 hits.

The Phillies bullpen, which posted a 7.06 ERA in 2020, didn't yield a run in 7 ⅓ innings in the set.

"Everyone did their job," Phillies manager Joe Girardi said. "The starters came in and did their job. The bullpen did their job. To limit this team to the amount of runs that we did is not easy to do."

Eflin went seven strong innings, allowing only four hits and one walk while striking out eight. The lone mistake he made was hanging a curveball to Travis d'Arnaud, who pierced the winds blowing into Citizens Bank Park with a tying, solo homer in the seventh that ended Atlanta's 19-inning scoring drought.

Philadelphia regained the lead in the eighth as Rhys Hoskins, Bryce Harper and Bohm hit consecutive singles off Chris Martin (0-1).

Hector Neris got his first save.

Reds 12, Cardinals 1: Nick Castellanos came out swinging with his bat a day after being ejected for inciting a bench-clearing melee, hitting a three-run homer off Carlos Martinez (0-1) and triple to finish the series 6-for-11 with five RBIs.

Tyler Naquin also a three-run shot for the Reds, who won two in a row to take the opening matchup of NL Central teams that earned wild-card spots last season.

Indians 9, Tigers 3: Jordan Luplow hit a two-run homer to cap a four-run seventh, and Cleveland overcame a home run by Akil Bad-doo on the first pitch of his first major league at-bat.

Cleveland avoided a sweep in Detroit after falling behind 3-1 in the third. Yu Chang put the Indians up 4-3 with a two-run single off



LAURENCE KESTERSON/AP

Phillies starting pitcher Zach Eflin throws during the first inning against the Braves on Sunday. Eflin gave up one run in seven innings.

Daniel Norris (0-1) in the seventh, and Luplow added his homer one out later.

Baddoo was taken by the Tigers with the third pick of the 2020 winter meeting draft of unprotected players. The 22-year-old, who had never played above Class A, gave his bat a little flip after hitting an opposite-field drive to left in the third off Aaron Civale (1-0).

Orioles 11, Red Sox 3: Boston dropped to 0-3 at Fenway Park for the first time since 1948 and the second time ever as Trey Mancini and Austin Hays hit two-run doubles during a seven-run third inning.

Cedric Mullins went 5-for-7 with three doubles and walk for the Orioles, collecting four of hits in the initial four innings. Maikel Franco added a first-inning, two-run double, helping Baltimore to its first three-game sweep at Fenway since Aug. 25-27, 2017.

Baltimore left-hander Bruce Zimmerman (1-0) gave up three runs and four hits in six innings with five strikeouts and one walk for his first victory.

Blue Jays 3, Yankees 1: Vladimir Guerrero Jr. and Randal Grichuk homered off Domingo Germán (0-1), who allowed three runs over three innings in his first appearance since Sept. 18, 2019, after serving a suspension under Major League Baseball's domestic violence policy. Toronto won two of three.

T.J. Zeuch pitched four scoreless innings, left-hander Ryan Borucki (1-0) got two outs to escape a jam in the sixth and Julian Merryweather got his second save with a perfect ninth.

Cubs 4, Pirates 4: Zach Davies (1-0) permitted two runs and four hits in 5 ⅓ innings in his Chicago debut against short-handed Pittsburgh.

Ian Happ homered and Kris Bryant reached three times as Chicago earned its second straight win after losing on opening day.

Pittsburgh played without third baseman Ke'Bryan Hayes, placed on the 10-day injured list with a strained left wrist.

Mitch Keller (0-1) allowed three runs, two hits and four walks over

three innings on his 25th birthday.

Rangers 7, Royals 3: Nate Lowe three-run homer in the third for Texas, which avoided a sweep, and a team-record nine RBIs in the first three games of the season, a Texas record.

Isiah Kiner-Falefa also drove in three runs.

Jordan Lyles (1-0) gave up two runs in 5 ⅓ innings, struck out eight and allowed five hits.

Twins 8, Brewers 2: Miguel Sano and Mitch Garver homered to back up Michael Pineda (1-0), who gave up just one unearned run and four hits in five innings.

Luis Arraez went 3-for-3 with a pair of walks as the Twins took two of three. Max Kepler and Sano each drove in three runs.

Adrian Houser (0-1) struck out four while allowing two runs, four hits and two walks in five innings.

Dodgers 4, Rockies 2: Julio Urias (1-0) gave up one run and three hits in seven-plus innings in the longest start of the 24-year-old left-hander's major league career. He struck out six and walked one.

Los Angeles scored three runs without a hit in the first, and Will Smith homered leading off the eighth. Garrett Hampson had a two-run double in the bottom of the eighth.

Astros 9, Athletics 2: Jason Castro homered in his first start with Houston since signing as a free agent following the 2016 season, helping complete a four-game sweep.

Dusty Baker tied Bill McKechnie for 14th among managers with 1,896 wins.

Kyle Tucker and Chas McCormick also homered for the Astros, off to their best start since 2001. Yuli Gurriel had three hits and two RBIs.

Diamondbacks 3, Padres 1: Rookie Taylor Widener (1-0) held San Diego to three hits in six scoreless innings to win his first big league start and David Peralta hit a two-run triple as Arizona avoided a four-game sweep.

Fernando Tatis Jr. hit his first homer of the season with two outs in the ninth, off Chris Devenski, who got the save. Tatis also made his fifth error at shortstop.

GOLF ROUNDUP

Spieth ends victory drought in Texas

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Jordan Spieth tapped in for par to win the British Open for his third major and 11th victory in just five years on the PGA Tour. He never imagined he would go 1,351 days before he felt that way again.

He went 82 events on tour without winning. Once the No. 1 player, he was headed out of the top 100 in the world.

And now he's back.

Spieth ended a mystifying slump Sunday by giving himself birdie chances and making most of them, closing with a 6-under 66 to hold off Charley Hoffman for a two-shot victory in the Valero Texas Open.

"There's peaks and valleys in this sport, but I never expected to go this long," Spieth said. "Back then, in between wins, maybe I took things more for granted than I should have. It's very difficult to win out here and I'll certainly enjoy this one as much as I have any other."

The only surprise was that he figured he would be more emotional. He was too busy holding off a spirited run by Hoffman, who went from a three-shot deficit with six holes to play to one shot behind. Spieth all but sealed it with a wedge to a back pin to 5 feet for birdie.

"This is a monumental win for me," Spieth said. "It's been a long road. There were a lot of times that I didn't know I would be here."

Now he heads to Augusta National as one of the favorites at the Masters. Even going so long without winning, the 12th win of his career allowed him to join some elite company. In the past 40 years, only Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, Rory McIlroy and Justin Thomas has won at least 12 times before turning 28.

"I've had a chance on Sundays three or four different times in the last two months, and today was by far the best that I played," Spieth said. "Just to see those putts go in, I felt like I was doing everything right those other Sundays and I hit good putts and they wouldn't go in. Today I hit a couple that I didn't quite strike very well but they went in."

Tavatanakit holds off charging Ko for first win

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — Patty Tavatanakit survived Lydia Ko's final-round charge to win the ANA Inspiration for her first LPGA Tour victory.

Five strokes ahead entering the day and six in front after a chip-in eagle on the par-5 second, Tavatanakit shot a 4-under 68 in 100-degree heat to beat Ko by two strokes in the first major championship of the year.

Ko matched Lorena Ochoa's tournament record with a 62, shooting 7-under 29 on the front nine for the best nine-hole score in event's 50-year history. The New Zealander began the day tied for seventh at 6 under, eight strokes behind Tavatanakit in the tournament played without spectators for the second time in seven months.

Winless since April 2018, the 23-year-old Ko played the first 11 holes in 9 under and added a birdie on the par-4 15th. On the par-5 18th, she drove into rough near the water that lines the left side, laid up and hit a wedge 30 feet long and right. Her birdie try missed to the left, stopping inches away.

Tavatanakit had a series of late par saves to keep her two-stroke lead.

The 21-year-old Thai player finished the wire-to-wire victory with a short par putt on 18.



RINGO H.W. CHIU / AP

Patty Tavatanakit jumps into the water after winning the LPGA's ANA Inspiration tournament at Mission Hills Country Club on Sunday.

WOMEN'S NCAA TOURNAMENT



MORRY GASH/AP

Arizona guard Aari McDonald lies on the court after missing a shot at the end of the championship game against Stanford on Sunday night at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Overlooked Arizona good to the last shot

BY JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Aari McDonald's small shoulders carried Arizona through a rebuilding project to the brink of a national championship.

Then the wild ride out of the desert ended on a last-second shot that bounced helplessly, and heartlessly, off the rim in Texas.

McDonald's desperate attempt couldn't carry the Wildcats to the title, but the program that has been routinely overlooked and was on the bottom of the Pac-12 just four years ago fought perennial power Stanford to the end. And despite the 54-53 loss, Arizona has served notice the program is a new power out West and one to be reckoned with nationally going forward.

"We want to come back here," Wildcats coach Adia Barnes said.

McDonald and the Wildcats nearly snatched the title from the overall No. 1 seed in the women's NCAA Tournament with a late defensive flurry that rallied them from nine points down in the final quarter. But what began as a difficult night for McDonald — 2 of 11 shooting in the first quarter — ended in the player slumped at midcourt after she launched a desperate three-pointer over three defenders that bounced off the rim as the buzzer sounded.

"I got denied hard, I tried to turn the corner, they sent three at me It didn't fall, that's what I remember," McDonald said.

McDonald had been the the most dynamic scorer of the tournament until Sunday night when her early shots wouldn't fall, her spinning drives wouldn't move defenders, and the biggest stage of her career turned into solo act of frustration for nearly 35 minutes of play.

Still, the Wildcats almost did enough to nearly beat a team that has handled them easily twice during the regular season. McDonald made two 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and her three free throws in the final minute gave the Wildcats a last chance to win when

Arizona forced a shot clock turnover with six seconds to play.

"They just built on their confidence, just built and built and built throughout the tournament," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "The fact that we (had) beaten them twice and, quite honestly, in Arizona we beat them very badly. A real credit to their team and staff. They played great."

McDonald will choose to remember that fight to the end instead of how it ended.

"We always fought. This is a good group of ladies that I played with," McDonald said. "What I'll remember most is this ride. We had a great run in the NCAA Tournament."

The loss ended a special season for the Wildcats.

A rebuilding project with Barnes at the helm and McDonald on the floor had the Wildcats climb to second in the Pac-12 behind Stanford. Barnes acknowledged during the tournament run that she was uneasy about taking her first head-coaching job at her alma mater. She was worried that if it didn't work out, she might not get another chance at a major program.

That's understandable considering Arizona was living in the Pac-12 basement before making its steady climb out once McDonald, a transfer from Washington, started playing in 2018-2019.

Arizona (21-6) made it to its first tournament since 2005, its first Sweet 16 since Barnes was a Wildcats point guard in 1998, and beat fabled UConn in the national semifinals to reach the championship game.

Barnes will have work to do to get back here. The Wildcats will lose McDonald and two other senior starters. But the lineup can be quickly rebuilt around junior forward Cate Reese, guard Shaina Pellington, who had a breakout game with 15 point and three steals against Stanford, and an incoming recruiting class that ranks among the top 15 in the country.

"This should motivate this team coming in next year, just looking at what we did," McDonald said. "This should make them hungry."

Cardinal: COVID created long road to title for Stanford

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did just enough to pull off the win — its second consecutive victory by a point.

Stanford (31-2) built a nine-point lead in the fourth quarter before Arizona (21-6) cut it to 51-50 on star guard Aari McDonald's three-pointer.

After a timeout, Jones answered with a three-point play with 2:24 left. That would be Stanford's last basket of the game. McDonald got the Wildcats to 54-53 with 36.6 seconds left by converting three of four free throws.

"I just owe it all to my teammates, they have confidence in me when I don't have confidence in myself," said Jones, who was honored as the tournament's Most Outstanding Player. "I saw they needed me to come up big and I did."

After another timeout, the Cardinal couldn't even get a shot off. Arizona got one last chance with 6.1 seconds left, but McDonald's contested shot from the top of the key at the buzzer bounced off the rim.

It's been quite a journey for VanDerveer and the Cardinal this season. The team was forced on the road for nearly 10 weeks because of the coronavirus, spending 86 days in hotels during this nomadic season.

"It was a long, very difficult journey being on the road, sleeping in hotels, living out of your bag. It's just a lot. You're on the bus, you're on planes all the time and there's just never really an end in sight so it's difficult," Jones said.

"But I think from that experience and losing on the road and dropping one at home I think it just really kind of grew this extra like chip on our shoulder almost."

The team didn't complain and went about their business and now have another NCAA championship. Along the way the Hall of Fame coach earned her 1,099th career victory to pass Pat Summitt for the most in women's basketball history.

VanDerveer had many great teams between titles, including the ones led by Candice Wiggins and the Ogwumike sisters — Nneka and Chiney, but the Cardinal just couldn't end their season with that elusive win in the title game until Sunday night.

It was the first women's basketball championship for the Pac-12 since VanDerveer and Stanford won the title in 1992. The last time a team from the conference was in the title game was 2010 when the Cardinal lost to UConn. That game was also played in the Alamodome — the site of every game in this tournament from the Sweet 16 through Sunday's championship game.

The entire NCAA Tournament



ERIC GAY/AP

Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer watches from the bench during the first half Sunday night. The Cardinal won the Pac-12's first women's basketball title since Stanford's win in 1992.

Among the elite

Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer, 67, now has a third national title to go along with the ones she won in 1990 and 1992. That moved her into a tie with Baylor's Kim Mulkey for third most behind Geno Auriemma (11) and Pat Summitt (eight).

was played in the San Antonio area because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While Stanford had history on its side, Arizona has been building under coach Adia Barnes, who was the fourth Black woman to lead her team to the championship game, joining Carolyn Peck, Dawn Staley and C. Vivian Stringer.

Peck and Staley won titles.

Barnes starred for the Wildcats as a player in the late '90s and came back to her alma mater five years ago. She guided the team to the WNIT title in 2019 and led them to their first NCAA title game. This was the team's first appearance in the NCAA Tournament since 2005 — although the Wildcats would have made the NAAs last season had it not been canceled by the coronavirus.

McDonald, who followed her coach from Washington as a transfer, has been a huge reason for the team's success. The 5-foot-6 guard struggled against the Cardinal, finishing with 22 points while going 5-for-20 from the field.

Tip-ins

Sunday night's game was the first with two teams from west of the Mississippi playing for a title since 1986. ... No other Division I coach has gone more than 20 years between titles. In basketball, the longest gap is 17 years for both the women (Muffet McGraw, 2001 and 2018 at Notre Dame) and men (Rick Pitino, 1996 at Kentucky and 2013 at Louisville, although that title was later vacated)

SPORTS



Power pitcher
Ohtani hits 100 on the gun, long homer for Angels » **MLB, Page 21**



ERIC GAY/AP

Stanford players celebrate after defeating Arizona 54-53 in the women's national championship game Sunday night at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Stanford holds off Arizona to win 1st women's NCAA title since 1992

By DOUG FEINBERG
Associated Press
SAN ANTONIO — Tara VanDerveer hugged each of her Stanford players as they climbed the ladder to cut down the nets, capping a taxing whirlwind journey and ending an exhausting championship drought for the Cardinal.
It took 29 years, that included 10 weeks on

the road this season because of the coronavirus, for VanDerveer and the Cardinal to be crowned NCAA women's basketball champions again.
“We had some special karma going for us,” VanDerveer said. “Had the comeback against Louisville, dodge a bullet against South Carolina, dodge bullet against Arizona. Sometimes you have to be lucky. I’ll ad-

mit it, we were very fortunate to win.”
Haley Jones scored 17 points and Stanford beat Arizona 54-53 on Sunday night, giving the Cardinal and their Hall of Fame coach their first national championship since 1992.
“Getting through all the things we got through, we’re excited to win the COVID championship,” VanDerveer said.

“The other one was not quite as close, the last one. But we’re really excited. No one knows the score, no one knows who scored, it’s a national championship.”
It wasn’t a masterpiece by any stretch, with both teams struggling to score and missing easy layups and shots, but Stanford
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NHL faces unique challenges, trade deadline » Page 20

