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# STARS AND STRIPES

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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

## Biden: No quarter for terrorism

In statement, president makes clear that while the war in Afghanistan may be over, the war on terror continues

By CHRIS MEGERIAN  
*Los Angeles Times*

**E**ven as President Joe Biden assured Americans that he was ending the war in Afghanistan, he directed a very different message to Islamic State terrorists who had killed U.S. service members in a suicide bombing there.

"We are not done with you yet," he said.

SEE CLEAR ON PAGE 6

Josh Farrell holds American flags during an Aug. 31 vigil in Lawrence, Mass., the hometown of Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo, a U.S. Marine who was among 13 service members killed in a suicide bombing in Afghanistan. Islamic State claimed responsibility for the Aug. 26 attack. The U.S. has ended the "forever war" in Afghanistan, but the war on terrorism and ISIS endures.

DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

## Active-duty education opportunities down as military rolls back benefits

By LEVI PULKKINEN  
*Special To The Washington Post*  
Prepping for a deployment in the Sea of Japan that would leave them with some downtime, Sam Brenner encouraged the Marines under his command to take advantage of an online college education program made available to active-duty service members.

**"Getting Marines educated while on deployment isn't a priority."**

Sam Brenner  
former Marine commander

The Pentagon promises soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen tuition money to take college

courses while they're serving, giving them a head start on credits they can use to rise up the ranks in the military or, later, in civilian life. And Brenner, then a platoon commander in his mid-20s, thought it was a good idea to get "19-year-olds to read books and use their brains when they would otherwise have been wasting

away."  
It didn't work out. One education provider the military used didn't serve the Okinawa base where Brenner and his Marines were stationed. Another couldn't deliver classes on the USS Green Bay, the amphibious warfare ship to which they were assigned.  
"We were in a unique situation,

but at no point did anyone ask what our situation was and point us in the right direction," said Brenner, who left the Marines in 2018 and is now studying for a master's degree in public policy at Northeastern University in Boston. "Getting Marines educated  
**SEE BENEFITS ON PAGE 5**

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Firms to continue in \$26B deal of opioid suits

Associated Press

Four companies in the drug industry said Saturday that enough states had agreed to a settlement of lawsuits over the opioid crisis for them to move ahead with the \$26 billion deal.

An announcement from the three largest U.S. drug distribution companies and a confirmation from drugmaker Johnson & Johnson, which had previously announced that it would move ahead, came Saturday. That was the deadline for the companies to decide

whether there was enough buy-in to continue the settlement plan.

The distribution companies — AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson — said that 42 states had agreed to join. Johnson & Johnson did not immediately say how many states agreed to its part of the settlement.

Together, the settlements are likely to represent the biggest piece of a string of settlements between companies in the drug industry and state and local governments over the addiction and over-

dose epidemic in the U.S. Prescription opioids such as OxyContin and Vicodin and illicit ones such as heroin and illegally made fentanyl have been linked to more than 500,000 deaths in the U.S. since 2000.

The next step is trying to get local governments to sign on to the deal and agree not to continue their lawsuits. This phase is to last until Jan. 2. After that, the companies will again decide whether enough have joined to implement the deal.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		South Korea (Won)	1156.07
Euro costs (Sept. 6)	\$1.16	Switzerland (Franc)	0.9134
Dollar buys (Sept. 6)	0.8189	Thailand (Baht)	32.47
British pound (Sept. 6)	\$1.35	Turkey (NewLira)	8.3020
Japanese yen (Sept. 6)	107.00		
South Korean won (Sept. 6)	1127.00		
Commercial rates			
Bahrain(Dinar)	0.3769		
Britain (Pound)	1.3851		
Canada (Dollar)	1.2529		
China(Yuan)	6.4375		
Denmark (Krone)	6.2549		
Egypt (Pound)	15.7036		
Euro	0.8412		
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7736		
Hungary (Forint)	292.65		
Israel (Shekel)	3.2039		
Japan (Yen)	109.67		
Kuwait(Dinar)	0.3006		
Norway (Krone)	8.6420		
Philippines (Peso)	49.87		
Poland (Zloty)	3.79		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507		
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3405		

(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	0.09
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	1.91

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## STARS AND STRIPES

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## MILITARY

# HMS Queen Elizabeth docks at Yokosuka base

By ALEX WILSON  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL Base, Japan — The HMS Queen Elizabeth steamed into the home of the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet on Saturday, marking the first time in decades a Royal Navy aircraft carrier has visited Japan.

Scores of British sailors manned the rails and a Navy band performed festive music as military and government officials from the United States, United Kingdom and Japan watched the carrier move into a berth usually used by the USS Ronald Reagan. The Ronald Reagan is in the Arabian Sea supporting the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The Queen Elizabeth's arrival is a "historical event," in part because a U.K. carrier hasn't made a port call on Japan in decades, Capt. Simon Staley, the U.K. defense attache to Japan, told Stars and Stripes at the berth on Saturday.

"And this is the first time that I



DANIEL BETANCOURT/Stars and Stripes

Installation commander Capt. Rich Jarrett watches the HMS Queen Elizabeth steam into Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Saturday.

know of that another country's aircraft carrier has [docked] in Yokosuka," he said. "This once again reinforces the relationship between the U.S. and the U.K. globally as the strongest of allies."

The commander of U.S. Naval

Forces Japan, Rear Adm. Carl Lahti, echoed those sentiments to Stars and Stripes on Saturday, saying the "historical" moment demonstrated the nations' close partnership.

The Queen Elizabeth's Yokosu-

ka visit is taking place during the second leg of the ship's maiden deployment, which is expected to last nearly eight months, span 26,000 nautical miles and include stops in 40 countries.

No other ships in the U.K. Carrier Strike Group are expected to visit Yokosuka at this time, Cmdr. Katie Cerezo, spokeswoman for Naval Forces Japan, said by phone on Saturday.

The group plans to hold air and naval training with the Japanese Self-Defense Force, drills that could utilize the U.S. Marine F-35B Lightning IIs aboard the Queen Elizabeth.

The Queen Elizabeth arrived in Yokosuka four days after the departure of another carrier, the USS Carl Vinson, which spent four days at the naval base just south of Tokyo.

While Carl Vinson sailors were limited to activities on base, Staley said the Queen Elizabeth's crew will be staying aboard the carrier, which is expected to leave on

Wednesday. The U.K. strike group suffered a coronavirus outbreak in July.

"Because it's a short visit, the government of Japan and the U.K. have agreed that no U.K. service personnel will depart the ship," he said.

Several personnel from the British Embassy Tokyo will be allowed to go aboard the Queen Elizabeth for the express purpose of facilitating "ministerial-level" meetings, Staley said.

"Since they're here, our wish was for them to be able to enjoy Japan," said Vice Adm. Hideki Yuasa, commander in chief of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force's Self-Defense Fleet, told Stars and Stripes near the berth on Saturday. "When things improve, I hope they can come back to visit and enjoy Japan."

Staley said Japan will be the carrier's easternmost stop before it returns to the U.K. later this year.

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## 173rd Brigade paratroopers ruck 40 miles to honor WWII heroes

By NANCY MONTGOMERY  
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Hundreds of U.S. paratroopers ran, walked and "airborne shuffled" along Italy's largest lake to honor an American war hero and 25 infantrymen killed there in the last throes of World War II.

Some 350 soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade took up the challenge Thursday, starting at the bottom of Lake Garda and heading along the eastern shore all the way to Torbole, 40 miles north.

That's where then-Col. William Darby, founder of what became the elite U.S. Army Rangers, was killed on April 30, 1945, by a German artillery shell. Darby was posthumously promoted to brigadier general.

On the same day, 25 soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division

drowned while crossing the icy lake in an amphibious vehicle, which sank. Their bodies were never recovered.

The annual hike, called the Col. Darby 40-Miler, was initiated in 2010 by retired Army Ranger Rick Tscherne with the cooperation of Italian officials.

The event begins at 6 a.m., and the course winds along the lake through pretty little towns. Hikers must cross the finish line by 6 p.m. to be eligible for coins that Tscherne hands out.

Six hours in, Sgt. 1st Class Bryan Whittier, was at mile 23. Whittier, 33 and an Army Ranger, said he'd been mostly walking the route, along with "a light, light jog."

Typically it takes more than 13 hours to walk 40 miles at a relaxed pace, 10 hours at a "normal" pace and 7 hours and 20 minutes at a rapid pace, experts say.

Brigade troops rarely run such long distances in training, usually keeping to 4 to 8 miles during morning PT, Whittier said.

"Some people are at mile 30 already," Whittier said. "They're running."

Among those were Chief Warrant Officer 3 Will Trimble, who finished in 9 hours and 28 minutes, and Sgt. Erik Knight, who did 40 miles in eight hours, according to 1st Sgt. Wesley Shields.

It was the first time that Shields, an Army Ranger, took part in the event.

"It was a gut check for sure," he said. "It's the farthest I've ever rucked."

Shields, 33, said he stopped only to change socks and stretch, fueled by numerous protein and cereal bars, fruit packs and water.

Shields made it to the end in 10 hours and 47 minutes. He said that



WESLEY SHIELDS/U.S. Army

About 350 173rd Airborne Brigade paratroopers took part in an annual 12-hour, 40-mile hike along Lake Garda on Sept. 2.

for the last 5 miles, he picked up his pace to an airborne shuffle, a slow jog, "because it just felt better to do an airborne shuffle than to walk."

All but one of the 30 participating paratroopers finished. Most everybody was happy they'd done it despite being footsore and quite

tired as they boarded their bus back to Vicenza, Shields said.

"The second the bus started moving and the AC came on, I looked around and everybody was just rucked out," he added.

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## B-52 bombers train with Japanese and Indonesian fighters on Guam

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

An undisclosed number of B-52 Stratofortress bombers, along with roughly 230 airmen, have been sent to Andersen Air Force Base on Guam for Pacific Air Forces' Bomber Task Force.

The B-52s and airmen are assigned to the 2nd and 307th Bomb Wings at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., the Air Force said in a news release Wednesday. They arrived in

the U.S. territory on Aug. 26.

On Tuesday, F-15 fighter jets from the Japan Air Self-Defense Force trained with the bombers over an undisclosed area of the Pacific, the Air Force said.

A day later, F-16s from Indonesia flew with the bombers, marking the first time its air force integrated with American B-52s.

Over the past 16 years, bomber patrols from Guam over the East and South China Seas have served

as a means of projecting U.S. airpower and resolve to North Korea, China and Russia.

Andersen acts as a staging point for the bombers, which gives commanders flexibility in meeting whatever challenges arise, the Air Force said.

Since last year, the deployments have been done in an unpredictable manner intended to confound any potential adversary.

A group of B-52s arrived on

Guam in July from Minot Air Force Base, N.D., to support a taskforce mission and to take part in the Talisman Saber exercise.

In June, B-52s flew into the Pacific region during a marathon 12,000-mile mission crossing Europe and the Arctic.

In April, four B-52s were sent to Guam from Barksdale.

"The [Bomber Task Force] provides an opportunity to enhance readiness and give aircrews the nec-

essary training to respond to any potential crisis or challenge across the globe," Lt. Col. Benjamin Poole, director of operations for the task force, said in the news release.

"Through long range power projection, we are able to deter any potential adversaries and increase our strategic advantage in great power," he said.

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## MILITARY

# US extends its ban on travel to North Korea

By DAVID CHOI  
*Stars and Stripes*

American passport holders hoping to travel to North Korea as tourists will have to wait at least one more year.

The State Department extended its travel ban to the dictatorship on Thursday, saying in a memo that U.S. citizens face a “serious risk” of “arrest and long-term detention constituting imminent danger to their physical safety.”

The ban, which has been renewed annually since 2017, expires Aug. 31, 2022, “unless extended or revoked by the Secretary of State,” the memo said.

Tourists who have traveled to North Korea in the past have had their visits closely regulated and monitored by authorities. North Korean handlers normally accompany the foreigners, prohibiting them from freely socializing with citizens and preventing them from taking unauthorized photographs.

The State Department’s notice provides an exception to the pol-

icy for those “specially validated for such travel,” ostensibly for diplomatic purposes approved by the U.S. government.

If a request for travel to North Korea is approved, the State Department recommends that the traveler draft a will and “discuss a plan with loved ones regarding care/custody of children, pets, property, belongings, non-liquid assets (collections, artwork, etc.), funeral wishes, etc.”

The United States does not have diplomatic or consular services in North Korea and is unable to provide emergency services, the State Department says on its website.

The travel ban took effect in September 2017, months after the death of Otto Warmbier, a 22-year-old college student from Ohio.

Warmbier took part in a five-day tour of North Korea by way of China in December 2015. Shortly before leaving the country, he was accused of attempting to steal a propaganda poster and arrested.



PIXABAY

**Tourists who have traveled to North Korea in the past have had their visits closely regulated and monitored by authorities.**

Despite having pleaded guilty, he was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor.

Warmbier spent the next 17 months in prison, where he eventually fell into a coma. He was

evacuated to the U.S. but died two days after arriving.

Three other American captives were released by the regime after negotiations in 2018. The three Korean Americans were impris-

oned for one to three years after being accused of espionage and “hostile acts.”

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## S. Korea’s military fires back at claim of testing ‘no mask’ policy

By DAVID CHOI  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — The South Korean military is denying an allegation it has implemented an experimental “no mask” policy to test troops’ herd immunity against the coronavirus.

National Assembly member Ha Tae Keung, of the conservative People’s Power Party, raised the claim during a press conference on Aug. 27. He said President Moon Jae-in directed several military units to “test whether soldiers become immune to COVID-19 variants” by having them remove their masks.

The policy, Ha alleged, was to “observe and test the efficacy of herd immunity, responsiveness to variants, fatality rate, and so on.”

Ha did not disclose the source of his claim but provided a list of military units that allegedly received the directive. He said Moon made the order without consulting the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency, the government

body responsible for researching infectious diseases and illnesses.

“It is a very shocking thing that the president, who is the commander-in-chief, directed the military to carry out virtually the [experiment] at the risk of the military personnel’s health and safety,” Ha told reporters. “If [this is true], I hope the president immediately makes a direct apology to the people and soldiers of the whole force.”

The Blue House did not respond to a request for comment Friday.

Ha is among a dozen candidates running for his party’s nomination for the next presidential election in March.

The Ministry of National Defense denied the allegation and described it as “misleading,” in a statement to Stars and Stripes on Tuesday. The statement did not mention whether Moon had specifically given an order and the ministry did not elaborate on the matter.

The military has considered easing COVID-19 restrictions for

the welfare of its troops and “to normalize unit activities in military compounds,” the statement said. “Expressing this as ‘experiment’ ... is to belittle the military’s efforts to normalize.”

The current COVID-19 regulations have been more debilitating for troops than to “ordinary people,” the defense ministry said, adding that discussions to loosen the rules were considered due to “an accumulation of soldiers’ senses of fatigue.”

While most of the country waited to receive a coronavirus vaccine earlier this year, South Korean service members were prioritized under government orders. Roughly 94% of troops are vaccinated compared to 33% of the general population.

“Measures to ease guidance on infection prevention and control partly has not been decided yet,” the Defense Ministry’s statement said.

“They will be settled after close discussions between [the ministry] and health authorities.”

## Navy identifies 5 sailors killed in helicopter crash

Staff and wire reports

SAN DIEGO — The U.S. Navy on Sunday released the names of the five Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 8 crewmembers who died Tuesday when their helicopter crashed into the sea.

According to a news release, the names of the deceased are: Lt. Bradley A. Foster, 29, a pilot from Oakhurst, Calif.; Lt. Paul R. Fridley, 28, a pilot from Annandale, Va.; Naval Air Crewman (Helicopter) 2nd Class James P. Buriak, 31, from Salem, Va.; Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Sarah F. Burns, 31, from Severna Park, Md.; Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Bailey J. Tucker, 21, from St. Louis, Mo.

An investigation into the incident is underway, the release said.

The U.S. Navy declared the five missing sailors dead nearly a week after a helicopter crashed in the Pacific Ocean, shifting the search for them to a recovery operation on Saturday.

The move followed more than 72 hours of coordinated rescue efforts and nearly three dozen search and rescue flights to look

for the wreckage, the Navy’s Pacific fleet said in a Saturday statement.

Also injured on Tuesday were five other sailors who were on board the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier where the MH-60S helicopter was operating on the deck before the crash.

They were in stable conditions as of Saturday, said Lt. Samuel R. Boyle, a spokesman for the Pacific fleet.

An investigation into what caused the crash about 70 miles off San Diego is ongoing, but the fact that sailors aboard the carrier were injured raised questions about whether the helicopter or parts of it hit the Lincoln.

The helicopter crashed during what the Navy described only as routine flight operations.

The MH-60S helicopter typically carries a crew of about four and is used in missions including combat support, humanitarian disaster relief and search and rescue.

The aircraft belongs to the Navy’s Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 8.

## MILITARY

# Vets contribute nine medals at the Paralympics

By **SETH ROBSON**  
*Stars and Stripes*

TOKYO — Three gold, three silver and three bronze: These are the medals that active-duty and U.S. military veterans are bringing home from the pandemic delayed Paralympics, which closed Sunday evening in Japan's capital city.

The ceremonies featured scaled-back pageantry like those for the XXXII Olympiad early last month in the same space, Japan's National Stadium. Both games were postponed a year due to the coronavirus pandemic and held mostly without spectators.

Drummers serenaded athletes before electronic dance music began pumping and performers in fluorescent pink and yellow costumes, some on bicycles and roller skates, put on a show near the Olympic flame. Fireworks rocketed above the stadium before flag-bearers entered for the parade of nations.

The American flag was carried by five-time Paralympian Matt Scott, a wheelchair basketball player whose team defeated Japan 64-60 to take gold on Sunday.

Team USA included three active-duty soldiers competing in shooting and swimming events, along with 16 Army, Navy, Air

Force and Marine Corps veterans. They took part in archery, cycling, paratriathlon, rowing, track and field, wheelchair fencing and wheelchair rugby.

Their nine medals contributed to the 104, including 37 gold, won by Team USA. The United States had the third-highest total, behind China's 207 and Great Britain's 124.

Team USA's first medal of the games was a silver in track cycling won by Shawn Morelli, a former Army officer who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. She topped that with a gold medal in road cycling on Tuesday.

A triathlon gold medal was won Aug. 28 by Bradley Snyder, a former Navy lieutenant who lost his eyesight after stepping on an improvised bomb in Afghanistan. The race at Odaiba Marine Park was Snyder's first Paralympic triathlon.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks, who had a leg amputated after injuring her hips in Iraq in 2010, smashed a world swimming record by two seconds to win gold in the women's 100-meter backstroke on Friday. She also took silver in 50-meter freestyle and bronze in 50-meter butterfly.

Former Marine Raymond Hen-



AKIFUMI ISHIKAWA/Stars and Stripes

**The flags of Japan, the United States and France are carried into National Stadium during closing ceremonies for the Tokyo Paralympics, on Sunday.**

nagir, who lost both legs and part of his left hand after stepping on an improvised explosive device in 2007 near Fallujah, Iraq, won a silver medal with the U.S. wheelchair rugby team. They lost to Great Britain 54-49 in the Aug. 29 final.

Air Force veteran Ryan Pinney and former Army Staff Sgt. Alfredo "Freddie" De los Santos won bronze in road cycling's mixed H1-5 team relay event for competitors with a range of limb restrictions on Thursday.

Pinney, who spent 14 years as an inflight refueler on KC-135 Stratotankers for the Air Force and Arizona National Guard, broke his back after crashing during a BMX race in Las Vegas in 2012, the Arizona Republic reported on July 23.

De los Santos was wounded in Afghanistan when a rocket-propelled grenade attack on his vehicle in October 2009. His right leg

was amputated above the knee, and he sustained a traumatic brain injury.

The wounded warriors were among about 4,400 Paralympians and staff from roughly 160 countries and territories who took part in the games. New Paralympic sports included badminton and taekwondo, replacing sailing and seven-a-side football.

A disabled Afghan evacuee, Zaki Khudadadi, competed in taekwondo on Thursday, becoming the first woman from the war-torn country to compete in the Paralympics since 2004. Khudadadi lost both of her fights against Uzbek and Ukrainian opponents in the women's 44 to 49-kg weight category.

She and teammate Hossain Rasouli, who lost his left arm in a mine blast, arrived in Tokyo on Aug. 28 after being evacuated from Kabul, which fell to the Taliban on Aug. 15.

Their country's flag was among the first to enter National Stadium during the Paralympics' opening ceremony on Aug. 24. It was carried by a volunteer because the Afghan athletes had yet to arrive.

Like the Tokyo Olympics, which concluded on Aug. 8, the Paralympics were held without spectators, although school groups were allowed to attend some events.

Tokyo's daily cases numbers, which reached a pandemic high of 5,042 during the Olympics, declined steadily during the Paralympics. The prefecture, which is under a state of emergency until Sept. 12, logged 1,853 cases on Sunday.

Nearly 300 people associated with the Paralympics have tested positive for the virus over the past three weeks, Japan's Mainichi newspaper reported on Sunday.

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## Benefits: Military saw rise in use of program during pandemic

FROM PAGE 1

while on deployment isn't a priority."

While much of the attention to education benefits for service members focuses on veterans, most of the U.S. military's 1.3 million active-duty personnel are also eligible for tuition assistance, a perk for which taxpayers spend nearly half a billion dollars a year.

"A lot of people, particularly in the Army, they're joining for that education benefit," said Mark Haskins, a retired Air Force colonel and executive director at the Joint Base Lewis-McChord campus of Pierce College, a community college system south of Seattle. "It doesn't mean that they don't also have a heart for service, but that education benefit represents a better life and greater opportunity."

Even as the 20th anniversary of 9/11 looms, and the withdrawal

from Afghanistan serves as a reminder of service members' sacrifices, however, education is often only spottily available to those on active duty. The military branches have tried to cut the benefit in recent years, even as use of the program rose during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Air Force attempted to slash its tuition benefit in 2020 as airmen idled by the pandemic signed up for more classes than expected, only to reverse course after complaints. The Navy restricted eligibility for education programs in 2019 after sailors — whom the admiral in charge of personnel complained should have been more focused on their work — enrolled in college at such high rates that they drained the tuition assistance fund. The Army imposed its own restrictions on education benefits the year before.

That means that many service members — including medics and others in fields in high demand — have to wait to go to college until they leave the military.

"People sign up for the military to serve, and it's great that they have these options. And it sucks that those options can be a pain to actually use," Brenner said.

"We get really excellent education benefits," he said. "We just don't get to use them until after we're out."

Some 236,992 active-duty service members drew on the tuition assistance benefits, which max out at between \$3,000 and \$4,500 a year depending on the service branch, between October 2019 and September 2020, a Defense Department spokesperson said.

Where the Pentagon sees run-away costs to be contained, advocates for education see a huge opportunity to recruit motivated

people, teach eager learners and produce workers with unparalleled experience and needed skills. And colleges and universities see a way to recruit students.

More than a third of the \$488 million spent on tuition assistance for active-duty service members during the 2020 fiscal year went to one nonprofit and two for-profit online providers, according to Defense Department figures. American Public Education, a private, for-profit education provider based in West Virginia that runs American Public University and American Military University, drew about \$96 million; Ashford University, a private, for-profit college recently acquired by the University of Arizona, \$26 million; and the online arm of the University System of Maryland, \$58 million.

The Defense Department spo-

kesperson said in an email that the military branches rely on other entities — the Department of Education and the Department of Veterans Affairs — to determine which educational providers can receive federal money.

The Defense Department is "not aware of" any further formal actions that would change tuition assistance benefits, the spokesperson said.

Many active-duty students are the first in their families to pursue higher education and have gone to what Haskins, of Pierce College, described as substandard primary and secondary schools. For them, the armed services represent a way up in the world.

"They are really the ultimate adult learners," he said — organized, oriented toward specific goals and not interested in filling time.

## AFGHANISTAN

## Kabul airport reopens in limited capacity

The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — Kabul's airport reopened with domestic flights taking off Saturday after a team of engineers from Qatar repaired parts of the airport's air traffic control system last week, according to Muhammad Salim Saad, the Taliban commander in charge of airport security.

The airport is still operating without radar or navigation sys-

tems, making it difficult to resume international civilian flights, a key step to enable refugees to leave. But the Qatari foreign ministry said Qatari technical officials had prepared the airport for international humanitarian flights.

The resumption of domestic flights sees the Taliban cementing their civilian control of the country, as they face myriad challenges, including international skepti-

cism, a freeze on government reserves and their need to meet the expectations of fighters who fought two decades for victory. The Taliban have been expected to announce a government for several days.

Taliban fighters took control of several strategic districts during intense fighting Saturday against resistance fighters in the northern Panjshir Valley, the last remaining

province in Afghanistan holding out against the Islamist group.

"Officially the airport is open," Saad said Sunday. "Over the past two days, we've repaired more than we expected.

"I want to assure all people that the airport is safe and secure," Saad said. He added there were remaining technical issues that should be fixed this week.

Capt. Ghirlandaio Jailani Wafa,

a top aviation official at Kabul airport, said a few domestic flights were able to resume after Qatari engineers set up temporary radio communications between air traffic controllers and pilots last week. But pilots have to navigate flights' landing and take off visually. International commercial airlines are unlikely to resume before radar and navigation systems are fully operational, he said.

## Clear: Former officials say intel now harder to generate

FROM PAGE 1

The statement was a reminder that the "forever war" isn't really over, despite the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan after two decades. Instead of closing the door on American operations, Afghanistan will probably join the roster of countries where Washington has awarded itself sweeping powers to target a range of terrorist groups.

This new phase in Afghanistan could resemble operations in Somalia and Yemen, where U.S. forces have used commandos and drones to hunt offshoots of the al-Qaida terrorist network. These missions are often shrouded in secrecy from start to finish, existing in a gray area between war and peace.

"It's complicated from a legal perspective, a policy perspective, an operational perspective," said Luke Hartig, a former senior director for counterterrorism in President Barack Obama's National Security Council.

Former officials said the task in Afghanistan will become more difficult now that the Taliban have retaken control and the U.S. has shut down its embassy and military bases. The CIA, which plays a leading role in targeting terrorist groups, won't be able to cultivate sources of information as easily as before. And if American spies locate a target, they'll need to order an "over the horizon" airstrike from a drone or warplane that could take hours to reach landlocked Afghanistan.

"The counterterrorism situation in Afghanistan has gotten much worse," said Marc Polymopoulos, a former CIA base chief in the eastern part of the country. "It just has. Period."

How exactly the mission will be conducted is being evaluated by the White House. Officials have been immersed in a monthslong review of policies governing drone strikes outside traditional battlefields — a framework that now applies to Afghanistan.

Obama put rules in place during his second term in office, and President Donald Trump loos-



DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

**Mourners hold American flags and candles during a vigil Tuesday, in Lawrence, Mass., for Sgt. Johnny Rosario Pichardo, a U.S. Marine who was killed last month in a suicide bombing in Afghanistan.**

ened restrictions on strikes that might harm civilians. The American Civil Liberties Union has described the policy as an "open-ended authorization for the United States to kill virtually anyone it designates as a terrorist threat."

Biden could decide to tighten the rules again, although there's no sign he's interested in ending the program of targeted killings. He'll also face political pressure to ensure Afghanistan doesn't become a breeding ground for terrorism like it was two decades ago, when al-Qaida planned the Sept. 11 attacks while it was sheltered by the Taliban.

"These threats are like mushrooms in the dark. They just keep popping up," said Frank Montoya Jr., a former FBI agent who specialized in national security cases.

Biden said last month that the U.S. could keep tabs on the problem even though it was pulling out its troops.

"We conduct effective counterterrorism missions against terrorist groups in multiple countries where we don't have permanent military presence," Biden said. "If necessary, we'll do the same in Afghanistan."

Thirteen U.S. service members and scores of Afghans were killed last week in a suicide bombing targeting the evacuation at Kabul's airport. ISIS claimed responsibil-

ity.

The U.S. responded with drone strikes that may prove instructive for how future operations could be conducted — with little transparency and significant suffering.

The Pentagon said the first strike, on Saturday, killed an ISIS "planner" and "facilitator," but U.S. officials declined to identify either person or say whether they had a direct role in the Kabul attack.

Another strike the next day targeted a vehicle that U.S. officials said was being used by terrorists planning a suicide bombing. Family members say the strike killed 10 civilians, including seven children and a man who worked for a U.S.-based charity.

U.S. officials said it's possible that bystanders died when the terrorists' explosives were set off by the drone strike. Gen. Mark Milley, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Wednesday that the military was investigating the incident but that, at this point, officials had no second thoughts.

"We think that the procedures were correctly followed and it was a righteous strike," he said.

The incident drew heavy media coverage as it occurred in the midst of a highly scrutinized evacuation effort, but civilian casualties usually receive less attention despite their frequency during

U.S. counterterrorism operations.

"A program of 'over the horizon strikes' could present what seems to be an answer to immediate political problems," said Priyanka Motaparthy, who works on counterterrorism issues at Columbia University's Human Rights Institute. "But it doesn't address the long-term issues facing the administration, which is to grapple with rule of law, accountability, transparency and human rights."

Former officials said it will be harder to generate the intelligence needed for precision strikes in Afghanistan now that the U.S. withdrawal is complete. Recruiting informants — and evaluating the veracity of their information — isn't easy without personal meetings.

Doug London, the CIA's former counterterrorism chief for South and Southwest Asia, said technology such as surveillance drones and satellites can't easily fill the void.

"Those things don't operate in a vacuum," he said. "They need to know where to look, when to look and for whom to look."

The collapse of the Afghan government, which had been propped up by U.S. forces for years, has also left intelligence officials without a clear partner in the country.

There's also a combustible mix of terrorist and militant groups. The Taliban never cut ties with al-Qaida, and they are also intertwined with the Haqqani network, which is rooted in Pakistan.

However, those organizations are at odds with Islamic State in Khorasan, or ISIS-K, which carried out the airport attack.

The conflict has raised the possibility that Washington could cooperate with the Taliban, much as U.S. forces did during the final weeks of the evacuation from Kabul. Milley, the Joint Chiefs chair, said such collaboration was "possible."

London was skeptical, given the Taliban's relationship with al-Qaida.

"How do we partner with them on one group when they're partnered with another group that's trying to kill Americans?" he said.

## Blinken, Austin to visit key Gulf allies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top U.S. national security officials will see how the failed war in Afghanistan may be reshaping America's relationships in the Middle East as they meet with key allies in the Persian Gulf and Europe this week.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin are traveling to the Gulf separately, leaving Sunday. They will talk with leaders who are central to U.S. efforts to prevent a resurgence of extremist threats in Afghanistan, some of whom were partners in the 20-year fight against the Taliban.

Together, the Austin and Blinken trips are meant to reassure Gulf allies that President Joe Biden's decision to end the U.S. war in Afghanistan in order to focus more on other security challenges like China and Russia does not foretell an abandonment of U.S. partners in the Middle East. The U.S. military has had a presence in the Gulf for decades, including the Navy's 5th Fleet headquarters in Bahrain. Biden has not suggested ending that presence, but he — like the Trump administration before him — has called China the No. 1 security priority, along with strategic challenges from Russia.

Blinken travels to Qatar and will also stop in Germany to see Afghan evacuees at Ramstein Air Base who are awaiting clearance to travel to the United States. While there he will join a virtual meeting with counterparts from 20 nations on the way ahead in Afghanistan.

Austin plans to start his trip by thanking the leaders of Qatar for their cooperation during the Kabul airlift that helped clear an initially clogged pipeline of desperate evacuees. During a stop in Bahrain, Austin plans to speak with Marines who spent weeks at Kabul airport executing a frantic and dangerous evacuation of Afghans, Americans and others.

# AFGHANISTAN



KEGAN E. KAY/U.S. Navy

**U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Angie Smith carries a sleeping baby down from an Airbus A320 aircraft carrying evacuees from Afghanistan to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy, on Aug. 29.**

## US: Afghans who fail 1st screening sent to Kosovo

BY ELLEN KNICKMEYER  
Associated Press

An ardent U.S. ally, Kosovo, has agreed to take in Afghanistan evacuees who fail to clear initial rounds of screening and host them for up to a year, a U.S. official said Saturday, in an intended fix to one of the security problems of the frantic U.S. evacuation from the Kabul airport.

The U.S. plan is likely to face objections from refugee advocates, who already complain of a lack of public disclosure and uncertain legal jurisdiction in the Biden administration's use of overseas screening sites. Those quickly set-up overseas transit sites are still operating near or at full speed to verify eligibility and look for security issues among thousands of Afghans and smaller numbers of Americans flown out of Taliban-held Afghanistan between Aug. 15 and Aug. 31.

The U.S. official spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity to discuss the plan. It was the first disclosure of what the U.S. intends to do with Afghans or other evacuees who have failed to clear initial rounds of screening or whose cases otherwise require more processing.

The U.S. Embassy in Kosovo in a statement later Saturday stressed that the arrangement did not mean Kosovo was taking evacuees who had been deemed ineligible for admission to the United States. "Some applicants are still in the process of obtaining needed documents and providing all the information required to qualify under U.S. law for immediate entry," the embassy statement said.

The Biden administration had resisted months of urging from some refugee organizations and veterans groups to bring former Afghan allies or others most vulnerable to targeting by the Taliban to American territory for security screening and other processing.

Several other countries for a

time balked at temporarily hosting the United States' Afghan evacuees, for fear of getting stuck with the Americans' security problems. That all presented major obstacles in U.S. preparations for evacuation of vulnerable Afghans, even before Kabul fell to the Taliban on Aug. 15.

The Taliban's lightning conquest of Afghanistan set off the chaotic U.S.-military airlift out of the Kabul airport.

The administration within days of the Taliban takeover mobilized thousands of U.S. troops, diplomats, law enforcement agents, border and transportation workers, volunteers and others for screening, processing and caring for evacuees at more than a half-dozen U.S. naval stations, airfields and army bases in Europe and Asia. Officials and volunteers handed stuffed animals and toys to arriving children at many of the transit sites, and set up play areas.

The aim of the mobilization was to get deserving evacuees through to the United States as quickly as possible, and stop possible security risks among evacuees, and other evacuees who failed to qualify for relocation to the United States, before they touched foot on U.S. soil.

Kosovo considers itself a close ally of the United States since the U.S. spearheaded a 1999 NATO air campaign against Serbian forces brutalizing Kosovo civilians. The two Afghan evacuee sites sit along a highway named after President Joe Biden's late son, Beau Biden, who helped train local judges and prosecutors after the Kosovo war.

Kosovo leaders have agreed to one-year stays for the evacuees, with a possibility of extensions. Kosovo's prime minister and other officials turned out at the airport to welcome the first Afghan evacuees.

The majority of Kosovo's people are Muslim, like Afghans, although Kosovo's constitution establishes it as a secular state.

## Almost 2,700 evacuees leave US naval bases in Spain, Italy

Stars and Stripes

Nearly 2,700 Afghan evacuees temporarily housed at U.S. Navy bases in Spain and Italy have departed for America, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa said Friday.

About 1,900 evacuees have left Naval Air Station Sigonella in Sicily and another 750 have departed Naval Station Rota in Spain, said Capt. Tamara Lawrence, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa spokeswoman.

Evacuees from NAS Sigonella and NS Rota are flown to Washington Dulles International Airport or Philadelphia International Airport. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is overseeing resettlement of evacuees, who initially are processed through several U.S. military bases, according to the department's website.

Lawrence said the number of evacuees at NAS Sigonella and NS Rota changes several times each day with multiple flights arriving and departing from each base.



JOHN OWEN/U.S. Navy

**Sailors stationed at Naval Station Rota, Spain, greet evacuees from Afghanistan after their arrival at the base aboard a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III, on Wednesday.**

NAS Sigonella has a maximum capacity of 4,000 persons with NS Rota at 3,000, neither of which have been exceeded, Lawrence said.

Four U.S. military bases in Europe have accepted nearly 38,000 Afghan evacuees during the past two weeks with about half already in the U.S.

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Two anchors of COVID safety net ending

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mary Taboniar went 15 months without a paycheck, thanks to the COVID pandemic. A housekeeper at the Hilton Hawaiian Village resort in Honolulu, the single mother of two saw her income completely vanish as the virus devastated the hospitality industry.

For more than a year, Taboniar depended entirely on boosted unemployment benefits and a network of local foodbanks to feed her family. Even this summer as the vaccine rollout took hold and tourists began to travel again, her work was slow to return, peaking at 11 days in August — about half her pre-pandemic workload.

Taboniar is one of millions of Americans for whom Labor Day 2021 represents a perilous crossroads. Two primary anchors of the government's COVID protection package are ending or have recently ended. Starting Monday, an estimated 8.9 million people will lose all unemployment benefits. A federal eviction moratorium already has expired.

While other aspects of pandemic assistance including rental aid and the expanded Child Tax Credit are still widely available, untold millions of Americans will face Labor Day with a suddenly shrunken social safety net.

"This will be a double whammy of hardship," said Jamie Contreras, secretary-treasurer of the SEIU, a union that represents custodians in office buildings and food service workers in airports. "We're not anywhere near done. People still need help. ... For millions of people nothing has changed from a year and a half ago."

President Joe Biden's administration believes the U.S. economy is strong enough not to be rattled by evictions or the drop in unemployment benefits. Officials maintain that other elements of the safety net, like the Child Tax Credit and the SNAP program (which Biden permanently boosted earlier this summer) are enough to smooth things over. On Friday, a White House spokesperson said there were no plans to reevaluate the end of the unemployment benefits.

"Twenty-two-trillion-dollar economies work in no small part on momentum and we have strong momentum going in the right direction on behalf of the American workforce," said Jared Bernstein, a member of the White House Council of Economic Advisers.

Labor Secretary Marty Walsh said he believed the country's labor force was ready for the shift.

"Overall the economy is moving



CALEB JONES/AP

People sit on a Waikiki Beach Aug. 24 in Honolulu. Two key pieces of the pandemic safety net are ending placing tremendous pressure on workers who have not seen hours and jobs return.

forward and recovering," Walsh said in an interview. "I think the American economy and the American worker are in a better position going into Labor Day 2021 than they were on Labor Day 2020."

Walsh and others point to encouraging job numbers; as of Friday the unemployment rate was

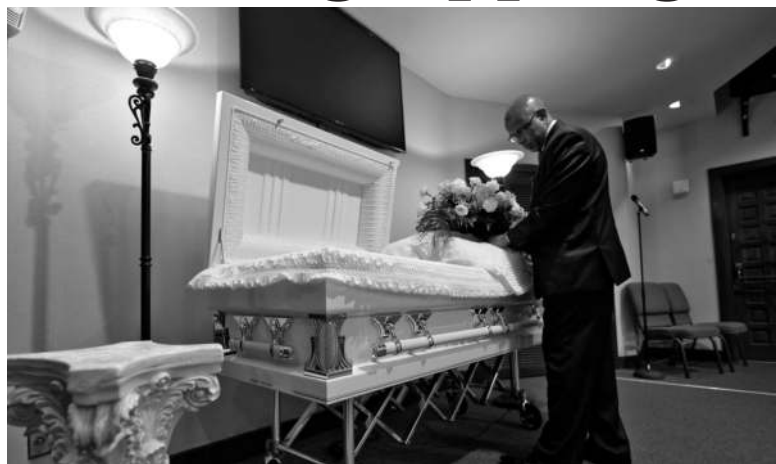
down to a fairly healthy 5.2%. But Andrew Stettler, a senior fellow with the Century Foundation, a left-leaning think tank, says the end of the expanded unemployment benefits is still coming too early.

Rather than setting an arbitrary deadline, Stettler says the administration should have tied the end

of the the protections to specific economic recovery metrics. He suggests three consecutive months with nationwide unemployment below 5% as a reasonable benchmark to trigger the end of the unemployment benefits.

"This does seem to be the wrong policy decision based on where we are," Stettler said.

## Florida grappling with virus' deadliest phase yet



CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Wayne Bright, funeral director at Wilson Funeral Home, arranges flowers on a casket before a service Sept. 2 in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

MIAMI — Funeral director Wayne Bright has seen grief piled upon grief during the latest COVID-19 surge.

A woman died of the virus, and as her family was planning the funeral, her mother was also struck down. An aunt took over arrangements for the double funeral, only to die of COVID-19 herself two weeks afterward.

"That was one of the most devastating things ever," said Bright, who also arranged the funeral last week of one of his closest friends.

Florida is in the grip of its deadliest wave of COVID-19 since the pandemic began, a disaster driven

by the highly contagious delta variant.

While Florida's vaccination rate is slightly higher than the national average, the Sunshine State has an outsize population of elderly people, who are especially vulnerable to the virus; a vibrant party scene; and a Republican governor who has taken a hard line against mask requirements, vaccine passports and business shutdowns.

As of mid-August, the state was averaging 244 deaths per day, up from just 23 a day in late June and eclipsing the previous peak of 227 during the summer of 2020. (Because of both the way deaths are logged in Florida and lags in re-

porting, more recent figures on fatalities per day are incomplete.)

Hospitals have had to rent refrigerated trucks to store more bodies. Funeral homes have been overwhelmed.

Cristina Miles, a mother of five from Orange Park, is among those facing more than one loss at a time. Her husband died after contracting COVID-19, and less than two weeks later, her mother-in-law succumbed to the virus.

"I feel we are all kind of in a weird dream state," she said.

Hospitals have been swamped with patients who, like Miles' husband and mother-in-law, hadn't gotten vaccinated.

## Alabama sees glimmer of hope in rising vaccination rate amid surge

Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama's improving COVID-19 vaccination rates are offering a glimmer of hope to medical officials as the state continues to see a crush of virus patients in hospitals.

But there is also concern about what is coming as the state moves through Labor Day weekend gatherings, the start of football season and other potentially virus-spreading events.

State Health Officer Scott Harris said the

state continues to be in a difficult place with near-record level hospitalizations and a record number of virus patients in intensive care. But he said they are encouraged by the recent uptick in vaccinations.

"We do have one bright spot in a way if we could call it that. We are seeing people finally show up to get vaccinated," Harris said.

As of Thursday, Alabama ranked eighth from last among states in the percentage of the population that was partially vaccinat-

ed, but continue to occupy the bottom two spots — along with Mississippi — for the percentage of people who are fully vaccinated, according to numbers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We wish it hadn't taken so long," Harris said of people getting vaccinated. "but I do think when people have a personal experience, when they see people they know in the hospital, when they have family members who have gotten sick, perhaps that is

what it has taken to motivate them."

And there is concern about what might be ahead after Labor Day gatherings. Nafziger said the state saw cases spike after previous holidays.

Suzanne Judd, a professor and epidemiologist at the UAB School of Public Health, said she is concerned about potential transmission at fall football games. The "yelling and screaming" in crowded stadiums could create a perfect environment for virus transmission, she said.

## NATION

# Recovery will be long process for New Orleans

Associated Press

HOUMA, La. — The coronavirus pandemic claimed Kendall Duthu's job as a cook at a jambalaya restaurant. Then Hurricane Ida claimed his house.

The 26-year-old resident of Dulac, La., is now living out of his car with his girlfriend after Ida roared ashore a week ago Sunday, splintering homes in its path. Now he doesn't know what's next.

On Saturday, Duthu collected a container of red beans and rice from volunteers in nearby Houma who handed out ice, water and meals to shell-shocked storm survivors. He stopped to eat inside his Infiniti, its windshield shattered.

"Next stop, I don't really ..." he said, trailing off. "We've just been living day by day."

Both Dulac and Houma are in Terrebonne Parish, among the hardest-hit areas of Louisiana battered to an unprecedented degree by Hurricane Ida. Though Louisiana's largest electric utility, Entergy, estimates most residents in New Orleans will have power by Wednesday, recovery efforts outside of the city could be a much longer slog.

Meanwhile, residents continue to face food, water and gas shortages while battling heat and humidity.

Some parishes outside New Orleans were battered for hours by winds of 100 mph or more.

Fully restoring electricity to some of these southeastern parishes could take until the end of the

month, according to Entergy President and CEO Phillip May.

Ida damaged or destroyed more than 22,000 power poles, more than hurricanes Katrina, Zeta and Delta combined, an impact May called "staggering." More than 5,200 transformers failed and nearly 26,000 spans of wire — the stretch of transmission wires between poles — were down.

By Saturday morning, power was restored to about 282,000 customers from the peak of 902,000 who lost power after Ida.

Outside of Dulac, 45-year-old shrimper Jay Breaux stood in front of his home, snapped open by the storm. Breaux could see a bed exposed through a cratered wall and a lawn chair dangling from the debris. But he smiled widely, saying his family wasn't doing as badly as others.

"It don't pay to cry about it," he said of Ida, the latest storm to hit his small town along the bayou. "I got 10 or 12 of them things under my belt. But this one here is the worst."

At least 16 deaths were blamed on the storm in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. In the Northeast, Ida's remnants dumped record-breaking rain and killed at least 50 people from Virginia to Connecticut.

Louisiana's 12 storm-related deaths included five nursing home residents evacuated ahead of the hurricane along with hundreds of other seniors to a warehouse in Louisiana, where health officials



JOHN LOCHER/AP

Six-year-old Mary-Louise Jacobon holds a squirrel she and her family helped after it was injured beside the home of Tommy Williams, right, in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, on Saturday, in Dulac, La.

## Biden visits storm-ravaged Louisiana

Associated Press

LAPLACE, La. — Giant trees knocked sideways. Homes boarded up with plywood. Off-kilter street signs.

Less than a week after Hurricane Ida battered the Gulf Coast, President Joe Biden walked the streets of a hard-hit Louisiana neighborhood on Friday and told local residents, "I know you're hurting, I know you're hurting."

Biden pledged robust federal assistance to get people back on their feet and said the government already had distributed \$100 million directly to individuals in the state in \$500 checks to give them a first slice of crit-

ical help. Many people, he said, don't know what help is available because they can't get cell-phone service.

Residents welcomed Biden's presence, one of them drawing a sign with his last name and a heart for the dot on the "i." They laughed and posed for selfies.

More formally, Biden met with state and local officials in LaPlace, a community between the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain that suffered major wind and water damage and was left with sheared-off roofs and flooded homes.

"I promise we're going to have your back," Biden said.

He also took a flyover tour of pummeled areas including Lafitte, Grand Isle, Port Fourchon and Lafourche Parish, where Parish President Archie Chaisson said 25% of the homes in his community of 100,000 were gone or had catastrophic damage.

The president later met privately with Gov. John Bel Edwards, House Republican Whip Steve Scalise, who is from Louisiana, and local officials including Chaisson.

Edwards said Biden has "been a tremendous partner," adding that he intended to keep asking for help until the president said no.

said conditions became unsafe.

As recovery efforts continued, state officials were monitoring a system of disturbed weather in Mexico's Bay of Campeche, which appeared set to move into the cen-

tral Gulf of Mexico closer to Louisiana.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards said Saturday the state is planning an exercise to assess its emergency response if needed.

Predictions so far don't show the system strengthening into a hurricane, but he said "even if it's a tropical storm, we're in no state to receive that much rainfall at this time."

## Crash victim recalls terror after Mississippi road collapse

Associated Press

LUCEDALE, Miss. — A teenager said she could hear the terrifying sounds of other vehicles crashing around — and on top of — the pickup truck where she and her mother were trapped after the truck plunged into a dark, muddy pit when a Mississippi highway collapsed during torrential rain brought by Hurricane Ida.

"I saw a black hole, then I blacked out and I woke up and my mom was leaned over toward me. She was choking on her blood and she couldn't breathe or anything," 16-year-old Emily Williams of Wiggins, Miss., told WLOX-TV in a video call from her hospital room.

Williams managed to sit her 39-year-old mother, Amanda Williams, upright and stop her from choking. But, she said, she could still hear the chaos outside her family's truck.

"I remember hearing a car coming and then I heard a crash and I heard an engine going from a car because it was on top of us," Emily Williams said. "It didn't really move us really much, but then I heard the screeching of another car's tires. I heard people screaming and then it crashed."

Two people were killed and nine were injured late Monday when seven vehicles plunged, one after another, into a deep hole where a section of the two-lane Mississippi Highway 26 collapsed outside Lucedale. The Mississippi Highway Patrol initially said 10 were injured, but later released a list of nine names.

Amanda Williams also remains hospitalized.

Layla Jamison of Lucedale, a 17-year-old senior at George County High, was in the car that landed on the Williams' truck. Emily's aunt, Shanna Bordelon, said Jamison's

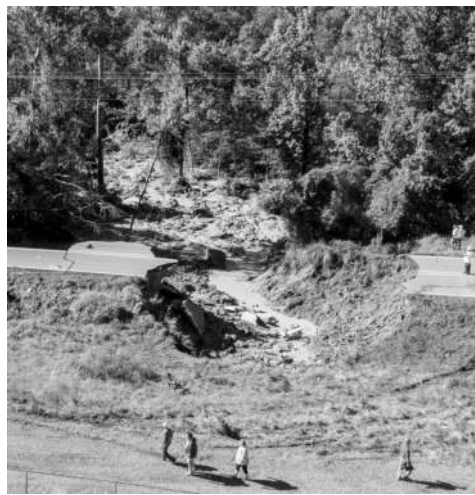
car landed without crushing the cab where Emily and Amanda sat.

Emily Williams said waiting in the collapse zone for help was terrifying.

"In all honesty, I was ready to give up," she said. "I was like, 'We're not going to make it out of here. No one is going to find us. Everybody is just going to keep piling in.'"

Emily's father arrived, and she said once she heard him screaming from above, she knew she would be rescued. She is recovering from a torn colon, a broken leg and other injuries. Still, she said: "I feel so lucky."

The vehicles were later lifted out by a crane. A drone video published by the Sun Herald showed how a raised berm beneath the road washed away, leaving a red-clay scar that runs for hundreds of feet, from a cemetery on one side into a wooded area on the other.



TRAVIS LONG, THE NEWS & OBSERVER/AP

A collapsed section of Highway 26 in the Benndale community, Aug. 31, west of Lucedale, Miss.

## NATION

# As decades pass, memories of 9/11 evolve

By **TED ANTHONY**  
Associated Press

SHANKSVILLE, Pa. — The hills in Shanksville seem to swallow sound. The plateau that Americans by the millions ascend to visit the Flight 93 National Memorial, to think of those who died in this southwestern Pennsylvania expanse, sits just above much of the landscape, creating a pocket of quiet precisely where quiet needs to be.

It is a place that encourages the act of remembering.

Twenty years have passed since United Flight 93 made its final descent, chaos unfolding aboard as buildings burned 300 miles to the east. Nearly one-fifth of the country is too young to remember firsthand the day that changed everything. Yet at the memorial's overlook, near the patch where the plane hit, remembering is the whole point.

Remembering is not merely a state of mind. As those who beseech us to never forget the Holocaust have long insisted, it is an act. And when loss and trauma are visited upon human beings, the act of remembering takes many forms.

Remembering is political. Those who disagree about the fate of Confederate statues across the American South demonstrate that, as do those who dispute how much the war on terror and its toll should be part of discussions about 9/11 memories.

Remembering arrives in ground zero ceremonies and moments of silence and prayers upon prayers, both public and private. It shows itself in folk memorials like those erected at the sides of lonely roads to mark the sites of traffic deaths. It is embedded in the names of places, like the road that leads to the Flight 93 memorial — the Lincoln Highway. It surfaces in the retrieval of “flashbulb memories” — those where-were-you-when-this-happened moments that stick with us, sometimes accurately, sometimes not.

There are personal memories and cultural memories and political memories, and the lines often blur.

And for generations, remembering has been presented to us in monuments and memorials like Shanksville's, fine-tuned to evoke memories and emotions in certain ways.

Yet while monuments stand, remembering itself evolves. How 9/11 is remembered depends on when 9/11 is remembered. What, then, does remembering come to mean on a 20th anniversary of an event like 9/11, even as its echoes are still shaking the foundations of everything?

“Our present influences how we remember the past — sometimes in ways that are known and

sometimes in ways that we don't realize,” says Jennifer Talarico, a psychology professor at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania who studies how people form personal memories of public events.

Evidence of that is obvious in the past five weeks in Afghanistan, where a 20-year war waged in direct response to 9/11 ended pretty much where it began: with the repressive and violent Taliban in charge once more.

But even within more static forms of memory, such as the Flight 93 National Memorial, the question of how remembering evolves hangs over so much.

In the visitors' center, visceral, painful artifacts of the moment still bring back the past with astonishing efficiency; twisted, scarred cutlery from in-flight meals is particularly breathtaking. But the variety of remembering that is presented yards away at the quiet overlook and its thoughtful memorial feels more permanent, more eternal.

Paul Murdoch of Los Angeles, the lead architect on the memorial, says it was carefully calibrated to resonate across multiple stages of memory about the event and its implications.

“You can imagine a memorial approach that sort of freezes anger in time, or freezes fear. And that can be a very expressionistic piece of art. But I feel like for something to endure over a long period of time, I think it has to operate a different way,” says Murdoch, who co-designed the memorial with his wife, Milena.

“Now we have a generation of people who weren't even alive on 9/11,” Murdoch says. “So how do you talk to people of this new generation — or of future generations?”

That question is particularly potent on this anniversary. Society tends to mark generations in two-decade packages, so there's an entire one that has been born and come of age since the attacks. That hardly means they haven't been paying attention, though: They “remember,” too.

Krystine Batcho, a psychology professor at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, New York, studies how nostalgia works. She found something interesting a couple years ago when she was researching how young people encountered stories that resonated with them — both personally and through the news.

Even those who lacked living memories of 9/11, Batcho says, responded with stories about the event. It was remembering as shared experience.

So many first encounters with 9/11 were, in the tradition of an information age, both separate and communal. People in different parts of the country and world,



JASON FOCHTMAN / AP

**Kellen Savoy, center, helps present the colors as students raise the flag at William Lloyd Meador Elementary School Sept. 11, 2013, in Willis, Texas. Students and teachers gathered before school to raise the flag to half staff to mark the 12th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.**

under vastly different circumstances, watched the same live camera angles on the same few feeds and saw the same, now-indelible views of the destruction in the same way. They experienced it apart, but together.

That formed a communal memory of sorts, even if sometimes people who saw the same things didn't remember them the same way — a specific camera angle or vantage point, a key figure's comments, the exact sequence of events. Remembering can be like that, experts say.

The fundamental tension of this kind of remembering — it feels like yesterday but is also becoming part of history — confronts us in the coming days. Memory becomes history. And history — shared history — is held onto tightly, sometimes rabidly. It's why so many people grasp tightly to comforting, nostalgic historical narratives — even when they're shown to have been destructive.

When memory does become history, it can become more remote, like a Revolutionary War memorial for people whose passions and sacrifices have been sanded down by time. With distance, it can calcify.

That's not going to happen with 9/11 for a long time, of course. Its politics are still roiling. The arguments that it produced — and the ways they sent society hurtling in a different direction — are just as intense as in those early days.

And when a nation pauses to remember the morning 20 years ago when it was attacked, it is not only looking over its shoulder. It is also looking around and wondering: What does this mean to us now?



JULIE JACOBSON / AP

**Shannon Barry, Lisa Starr and Michelle Wagner, all of Hershey, Pa., comfort each other as they listen to a memorial service for victims of Flight 93 on Sept. 11, 2002, near Shanksville, Pa.**



DAVID GOLDMAN / AP

**Soldiers with the U.S. Army's 25th Infantry Division, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Battalion 27th Infantry Regiment based in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, on Sept. 11, 2011, hold a ceremony commemorating the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and soldiers the unit had lost since then in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan at Forward Operating Base Bostick in Kunar province, Afghanistan.**

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Man robbed young kids of go-kart at gunpoint

**MO** ST. LOUIS — A man suspected of pulling a gun on three children — ages 4, 6 and 9 — and stealing the go-kart they were riding has been arrested, police in St. Louis said.

Police said the incident was reported in north St. Louis, when a 68-year-old woman told officers she was watching her grandchildren as they rode the new go-kart in a vacant lot.

The woman said a man approached the children, pointed a gun at the 9-year-old and demanded the go-kart, which he then sped away on.

Officers arrested a 24-year-old man and took him to a hospital for injuries sustained after the go-kart crashed into a tree.

## Firefly Aerospace rocket explodes after liftoff

**CA** VANDENBERG SPACE FORCE BASE — A rocket launched by Firefly Aerospace, the latest entrant in the New Space sector, exploded minutes after lifting off from the central California coast, officials said.

The Alpha rocket was “terminated” over the Pacific Ocean shortly after its liftoff from Vandenberg Space Force Base, according to a base statement.

Firefly said an “anomaly” occurred during the first-stage ascent that “resulted in the loss of the vehicle” about 2.5 minutes into the flight.

The rocket exploded in a fireball, leaving a smoke trail, according to video from the San Luis Obispo Tribune.

Vandenberg said a team of investigators will try to determine what caused the failure of Alpha’s first attempted orbital launch.

## 14 arrested at big illegal pot grow operations

**OR** LEBANON — Fourteen people were arrested and 1,400 pounds of pot were seized east of Corvallis in Lebanon in connection to two large illegal marijuana grow operations, authorities said.

The Linn Interagency Narcotics Enforcement team searched two neighboring properties and seized the marijuana, more than 9,000 marijuana plants, a dozen firearms and over \$6,000, The Albany Democrat-Herald reported.

Sixty-one large greenhouse structures were destroyed on site.

The fourteen people were arrested on marijuana-related charges, as well as criminal conspiracy and illegal firearm possession in one case.

## Officer sues police chief for racial discrimination

**HI** HONOLULU — A police captain on the Hawaiian island of Kauai has filed a lawsuit alleging his police chief discrimi-



MARK LENNIHAN/AP

## Always have a workout buddy

Women participate in an exercise class in Kissena Corridor Park, on Friday, in the Queens borough of New York. The women are mainly from China, Taiwan and Malaysia, according to one of the organizers.

nated against him for being Japanese American, including an episode when the chief squinted his eyes, bowed repeatedly and said he couldn’t trust Japanese people.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Honolulu names Police Chief Todd Raybuck, Kauai County, the Kauai Police Department, the Kauai Police Commission and multiple unnamed individuals to be determined.

The police commission suspended Raybuck without pay for five days for making discriminatory comments after an investigation found he mocked people of Asian descent.

The plaintiff in the lawsuit, Paul Applegate, 55, is part Japanese and has worked for the police department since 2000.

## Man arrested for accosting reporter

**OH** DAYTON — Federal marshals arrested an Ohio man who was accused of running toward and yelling at an MSNBC journalist who was doing a live report by a Mississippi beach after Hurricane Ida.

Benjamin Dagley, 54, of Wooster, Ohio, was sought by police in Gulfport, Miss., on suspicion of assault and by the sheriff’s department in Ohio’s Cuyahoga County for a probation violation, the U.S. Marshals Service said in a news release.

MSNBC journalist Shaquille Brewster was reporting in

## THE CENSUS

**\$2M** The approximate amount a cryptocurrency promoter pleaded guilty to taking from investors worldwide in a “textbook Ponzi scheme.” Prosecutors said Glenn Arcaro, 44, sat atop the North American branch of the pyramid investment scheme BitConnect, the San Diego Union-Tribune reported. According to prosecutors, Arcaro and his co-conspirators claimed that BitConnect used a proprietary technology that was able to generate huge profits by using investors’ money to trade on the volatility of cryptocurrency exchange markets. As part of his plea, Arcaro must pay back that money to investors.

Gulfport when live video showed a man pulling over in a pickup truck and running directly toward Brewster and yelling, “You’re going to report this accurately, right?”

A local curfew was in place. Brewster and the camera operator turned away from the man, who kept yelling. As Brewster said he would end his report, the man could be seen on camera walking toward him, still yelling.

The Gulfport Police Department said it was seeking to charge him with two counts of simple assault, one count of disturbing the peace and one count of violating an emergency curfew.

## Genetic genealogy IDs woman who died in 2017

**AZ** PHOENIX — More than four years after a woman was found dead in downtown Phoenix, police have confirmed her identity.

They said the middle-aged woman suffered a heat-related death in June 2017.

Detectives were unable to identify her despite distinctive tattoos on the left upper part of her chest and lower right leg and she was buried as a “Jane Doe.”

After exhausting all other leads, police contacted the DNA Doe Project six months ago hoping to identify the woman using investigative genetic genealogy.

The method led to detectives asking the FBI for a partial fingerprint comparison. It resulted in a hit for Laura Jean Jordan, whose photo on file with authorities was similar to a facial sketch made after her body was discovered.

## High Court rules Gen. Lee statue can be removed

**VA** RICHMOND — Virginia’s Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the state can remove an iconic statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee from a prominent spot in the state’s capital city, saying “values change and public policy changes too” in a democracy.

The 7-0 decision cited testimony

from historians who said the enormous statue was erected in 1890 to honor the southern white citizenry’s defense of a pre-Civil War life that depended on slavery and the subjugation of Black people.

The decision came in two lawsuits filed by Virginia residents who sought to block Gov. Ralph Northam’s order to remove the bronze equestrian sculpture, which shows Lee in military attire atop a massive stone pedestal.

## Trans person charged for indecent exposure at spa

**CA** LOS ANGELES — A person who identifies as a transgender woman was charged with indecent exposure for an incident at a Los Angeles spa that sparked protests in the transgender community.

Darren Merager, 52, was charged with five felony counts of indecent exposure and an arrest warrant was issued, according to a Los Angeles Police Department announcement.

Merager has been a registered sex offender since 2006 because of indecent exposure incidents that took place in 2002 and 2003, the police said.

The charges stem from complaints by five people that Merager exposed male genitalia in the women’s section of the Wi Spa in the Koreatown section of Los Angeles.

From The Associated Press

## NATION

# Authorities blast new Texas gun law

By JUAN A. LOZANO  
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texas' new law allowing most people to carry handguns in public without a permit or training came in part from the belief by many Texans that the best way to prevent crime and stop an armed bad guy is to make sure an armed good guy is nearby.

Gov. Greg Abbott and his Republican allies in the Legislature who this summer made Texas the largest state with a so-called permitless carry law pitched it as a way to let people more easily defend themselves without government interference.

"Best case scenario, the police are minutes away. But you need protection right then and there if you're in danger. So, it's going to make us safe," said Bethany Young, the legislative director for Texas Gun Rights, which pushed for passage of the law that took effect Wednesday.

But research suggests crime actually rises after such laws are implemented. And Texas authorities, including many who spoke out against the new measure, worry that having more people walking around armed will lead to more disagreements being settled through gunfire and more lost or stolen firearms ending up in the hands of criminals.

With its new law, Texas joined nearly two dozen states that allow some form of unregulated handgun possession. Texas already allowed rifles to be carried in public without a license. But now most Texans age 21 or older who haven't been convicted of certain crimes can now carry a holstered handgun in public without undergoing any training, getting a permit or undergoing a state-run background check.

Although several of the permitless carry states passed their laws this year and researchers say more time is needed to fully study the im-



JUAN A. LOZANO/AP

**Angelica Halphen, whose 18-year-old son Harrison Schmidt was killed in a 2019 road rage shooting in Houston by someone who legally bought a gun but had no training, holds photos of her son Wednesday.**

pact of such measures, Sven Smith, an assistant sociology professor at Stetson University in Florida who studies gun violence, said the data collected so far in various studies suggest that crime rates in states with open carry laws go up 10% to 15%.

"The United States is following the traditional notion of fighting fire with fire. The best defense is a good offense, that type of mentality," said Smith. "But the overwhelming preponderance of the statistics, though they're not for certain and they're not conclusive ... they only point one way."

The research also suggests that

such laws tend to boost gun sales, Smith said. One 2018 study by a University of Denver professor found "the overall trend of increasing handgun sales in the United States was due in part to the liberalization" of concealed carry weapons statutes such as permitless carry laws.

This worries Houston Police Assistant Chief Larry Satterwhite, as more guns in public will likely result in more stolen weapons, particularly from vehicles. Last year, nearly 3,000 guns were stolen from vehicles in Houston. So far this year, that figure stands at more than 2,000.

"A lot of those guns are used in shootings, homicides and violent

crimes," he said.

Satterwhite and other law enforcement officials say that although most gun owners are responsible, they worry that greater access to guns in a public setting combined with a lack of training on how and when to use them will lead some people to fire them when deadly force isn't legally allowed.

In recent months, the Houston area has seen confrontations in which people sought to settle seemingly petty disputes with a gun, though the problem is by no means unique to the nation's fourth-largest city. In one case, a man was threatened with a handgun after he honked at a car in front of him at a fast food drive-thru. In another, someone opened fire at a nail salon over a disagreement about the price of a manicure and pedicure. And a 17-year-old boy was killed in a road rage shooting while driving home with his family after a Houston Astros game.

Young, with Texas Gun Rights, said gun control groups "promise terror and violence and blood in the streets if there's any movement toward gun rights." But she contends that states with similar laws to Texas' are among the safest in the country.

Angelica Halphen, whose 18-year-old son Harrison Schmidt was killed in a 2019 road rage shooting in Houston by someone who legally bought a gun but had no training, said she fears the permitless carry law will lead to more deadly road rage attacks.

"He should be alive. He had a promising future. ... Just a good heart and a good soul. And for what? Because someone lost their temper?" Halphen said of her son. "And now with this (new law), it scares me. I don't want anyone to go through what my family is going through."

# Women say porn actor used status in assaults

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Adult film actor Ron Jeremy leveraged the novelty of his celebrity to meet and often isolate women whom he raped and sexually assaulted, using the same tactics for years, according to grand jury testimony from 21 women that was unsealed Saturday.

"Wouldn't it be funny if we got a picture and an autograph from him?" one woman, identified only as Jane Doe 8, said she remembered telling her friend when they saw Jeremy in 2013 at a West Hollywood bar and grill. He would sexually assault her minutes later, testified the woman, one of several who said their attacks came in the same small bathroom.

"I was like, wow, you know, this is Ron Jeremy, I mean, I was kind of impressed. I'm like he's — I don't want to say 'celebrity,' but you know, he kind of was," said another woman, Jane Doe 7, when Jeremy came to the door of the hotel room she was sharing with friends, where the porn actor would rape her soon after, according to her testimony.

Jeremy, 68, whose legal name is Ronald Jeremy Hyatt, pleaded not guilty to more than 30 counts of sexual assault, including 12 counts of rape, when the Los Angeles County grand jury returned an indictment against him on Aug. 25. He has been in jail since his arrest in June 2020. His attorney, Stuart Goldfarb, has said he is "innocent of all the charges" and they would prove it. An email seeking further comment from Goldfarb on Saturday was not immediately returned.

Nicknamed "The Hedgehog," Jeremy has been among the best-known and most prolific performers in the porn industry for decades, and became a recognizable pop cultural novelty. He has long been a magnet for seekers of autographs and selfies, which is how most of the women and girls aged 15 to 51 he is accused of assaulting first met him.

Jane Doe 8 said that before her assault, she told Jeremy they were staying at the Loew's Hollywood Hotel but did not tell him the room number. He appeared at the door the next day.

"I have connections all over this town," she remembered him saying when she asked how he found them. She had not told her friend, Jane Doe 7, about the assault, and failed in her attempts to get her out of the room, where Jeremy would rape her, according to their testimony.

"I thought there is no way anyone is going to believe me, and I just wanted to get out of there and forget all about it," said Jane Doe 7, who like many of the accusers came forward after Jeremy was arrested.

# Scott, beloved weatherman on 'Today' show, dies at 87

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Willard Scott, the beloved weatherman who charmed viewers of NBC's "Today" show with his self-deprecating humor and cheerful personality, has died. He was 87.

His successor on the morning news show, Al Roker, announced that Scott died peacefully Saturday morning surrounded by family. An NBC Universal spokeswoman confirmed the news. No further details were released.

"He was truly my second dad and am where I am today because of his generous spirit," Roker wrote on Instagram. "Willard was a man of his times, the ultimate broadcaster. There will never be anyone quite like him."

"He played such an outsized role in my life and was as warm and loving and generous off-cam-

era as he was on," Katie Couric tweeted.

Scott began his 65-year career at NBC as an entry-level page at an affiliate station in Washington, D.C., and rose to become the weather forecaster on the network's flagship morning show for more than three decades. His trademark was giving on-air birthday greetings to viewers who turned 100 years old by putting their faces on Smucker's jelly jars and delivering weather updates in zany costumes. According to NBC, he once took up a viewer's dare to appear in drag to win a \$1,000 donation to the USO, the charity for military families, by dressing up as the Brazilian singer Carmen Miranda.

In one memorable moment, first lady Barbara Bush gave him a kiss during the 1989 inaugura-



AP

**"Today" show weatherman Willard Scott, center left, gets a hip-shaking lesson from Shaggy, after the singer performed on the show in New York in 2001. Scott died Saturday at 87.**

tion parade of her husband, President George H.W. Bush.

"(The president) said, 'I didn't know you knew Willard Scott.' I said, 'I don't know Willard Scott. I

just love that face.'" the first lady recalled.

Scott handed the reins to Roker in 1996, occasionally filling in for him before fully retiring in 2015.

WORLD

# Ceremony flares ethnic tensions in Montenegro

Associated Press

PODGORICA, Montenegro — Protesters clashed with hundreds of riot police in the old capital of Montenegro on Saturday, setting up blockades of tires and large rocks ahead of the inauguration of the new head of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the small Balkan nation.

The ceremony planned for Sunday in Cetinje has angered opponents of the Serbian church in Montenegro, which declared independence from neighboring Serbia in 2006.

On Saturday, hundreds of protesters confronted the police in Cetinje and briefly removed some of the

protective metal fences around the monastery where the inauguration of Metropolitan Joanikije is supposed to take place. Montenegrin state RTCG TV said the protesters broke through a police blockade at the entrance to Cetinje and threw stones at them, shouting "This is Montenegro!" and "This is not Serbia!"

Waving red Montenegrin flags with a double-headed eagle, protesters then set up road barriers with trash containers, car tires and large rocks to prevent church and state dignitaries from coming to the inauguration on Sunday.

Montenegrins remain deeply di-

vided over their country's ties with neighboring Serbia and the Serbian Orthodox Church, which is the nation's dominant religious institution. Around 30% of Montenegro's 620,000 people consider themselves Serb.

Thousands protested last month in Cetinje, demanding that the inauguration be held somewhere else. The church has refused to change its plans.

Since Montenegro split from Serbia, pro-independence Montenegrins have advocated for a recognized Orthodox Christian church that is separate from the Serbian one.



Risto Bozovic/AP

**A protester runs on a street during a protest against the inauguration of Metropolitan Joanikije Sunday in Cetinje, Montenegro. The ceremony has caused ethnic tensions to flare.**

# Army colonel on Guinean TV says government dissolved, borders shut

Associated Press

CONAKRY, Guinea — A Guinean army colonel seized control of state television Sunday and declared that President Alpha Conde's government had been dissolved and the West African nation's borders will be closed, an

announcement that came after hours of heavy gunfire erupted near the presidential palace.

The dramatic developments Sunday bore all the hallmarks of a West African coup d'etat. After seizing the airwaves, the mutinous soldiers vowed to restore democ-

racy and gave themselves a name: The National Committee of Gathering and Development.

Conde's whereabouts were not immediately known. Col. Mamadi Doumbouya, who spoke to the nation, made no mention of the 83-year-old president, whose pop-

ularity has plummeted since he sought a third term last year.

"The personalization of political life is over. We will no longer entrust politics to one man, we will entrust it to the people," Doumbouya said, adding that the constitution would also be dissolved and

borders closed for one week.

Doumbouya, who has headed a special forces unit in the military, said he was acting in the best interests of the nation of over 12.7 million people.

"The duty of a soldier is to save the country," he said.

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## FACES



FX photos

Beanie Feldstein portrays Monica Lewinsky in "Impeachment: American Crime Story."

# Looking out for Lewinsky

'Impeachment' star Feldstein seeks to protect former intern's legacy

BY CHUCK BARNEY

The Mercury News

Actress Beanie Feldstein admits that she took on an extra layer of responsibility when she accepted the lead role in "Impeachment: American Crime Story," the star-studded dramatic retelling of an explosive political scandal.

Not only did she have to portray Monica Lewinsky, she had to protect her.

"I made it very clear to her when we started filming that I saw myself as her bodyguard," Feldstein said. "I was like, 'I'm putting my body in for you. I'm going to protect you. I have your back. I know your heart.' And that's my job."

Long before Donald Trump was impeached twice, Bill Clinton faced a fierce battle in the late 1990s to retain his presidency after engaging in a sexual relationship with Lewinsky, then a 22-year-old unpaid White House intern. "Impeachment," the latest installment in producer Ryan Murphy's anthology series, meticulously recalls the sordid chapter of U.S. history over 10 compelling episodes. It begins airing stateside Tuesday on FX, and streaming Wednesday on Hulu.

"Impeachment" frames its story not through the perspective of Clinton and the male power players of that era, but the women at the center of the events: Lewinsky, Linda Tripp (Sarah Paulson) and Paula Jones (Annaleigh Ashford). This perspective gives the series extra resonance.

Tripp, who died last year, was the whistleblower who secretly recorded Lewinsky's confidential phone calls about her relationship with the president. Jones sued Clinton for sexual harassment over an incident that occurred when he was governor of Arkansas.

"We were fascinated with these women who exist in the margins of power," said executive producer Nina Jacobson. "They are not in the driver's seat of their own careers, or lives. ... They are all trapped in their proximity to power."

"As an audience member, you feel each of these three women," Feldstein said. "You understand them, and yet you're screaming at them through the screen: 'Stop! Stop! Stop!' in all different ways. And I think it's because they're all deeply trusting and



Sarah Paulson, left, plays whistleblower Linda Tripp opposite Feldstein's Lewinsky.

deeply mistrusting of the right and the wrong people, and it gets very complicated."

The filmmakers especially wanted to do right by Lewinsky — so much so that Murphy brought her on as a consultant and producer with input on scripts and other aspects of the production.

"Monica did not have a voice during this entire, really, unbelievably overwhelming series of events that happened to her," Jacobson said. "... She was literally muzzled by (special counsel) Ken Starr, by her own lawyer, and told 'You can't even talk to your friends, because they could be subpoenaed.' And so to have been silenced and culturally banished for 20 years, there was no way we could make this show and not give her a voice."

As for Jones and Tripp, viewers might also might come to re-evaluate them, claim the actresses who play them.

Paulson found a soft spot for Tripp, a woman millions of Clinton supporters saw as the wretched villain who betrayed Lewinsky's trust and opened a Pandora's box that had Americans gasping and joking about every prurient detail, including a certain blue dress.

"She's consistently feeling forgotten, unseen and invisible — especially when she feels she's devoted so much of her life to the institutions that she finds ... of paramount importance and (need) to be treated with extraordinary respect," Paulson said. "... She believed wholeheartedly that she was doing something for a greater good."

# ABBA back after 40 years with album, virtual show

Associated Press

ABBA is releasing its first new music in four decades, along with a concert performance that will see the "Dancing Queen" quartet going entirely digital.

The forthcoming album "Voyage," to be released Nov. 5, is a follow-up to 1981's "The Visitors," which until now had been the swan song of the Swedish supergroup. And a virtual version of the band will begin a series of concerts in London on May 27.

"We took a break in the spring of 1982 and now we've decided it's time to end it," ABBA said in a statement Sept. 2. "They say it's foolhardy to wait more than 40 years between albums, so we've recorded a follow-up to 'The Visitors.'"

The group has been creating the live show with George Lucas' special-effects company, Industrial Light & Magic. They say the virtual versions of themselves are "weird and wonderful," and go beyond holograms.

"It was suggested to us that we could go on tour as a hologram. And this is now four, five years ago," Björn Ulvaeus, ABBA's 76-year-old guitarist, backup singer and co-songwriter said. "And we found out very soon that that wasn't even possible because holograms is an old technology, but I mean, the vision was there of having our digital selves, that even was a possibility."

"And also," said Benny Andersson, 74, who plays keyboards, sings and writes songs with Ulvaeus, "we want to do it before we were dead."

Ulvaeus added, "it's good if you do that before you dead. Because it gets more accurate then."

They sang and played together for hours every day for weeks, using motion capture and other techniques to create the 22-song, approximately 90-minute show.

"We dressed up in a leotards with dots or little things on them," Ulvaeus said. "And we had dots in our faces and helmets with cameras."

They say it was hard work but a great pleasure, but for one thing.

"I'd say the only big problem was that we had to shave our beards," Andersson said. "I've had my beard for 50 years."

The planned show spurred the making of the album, which features the new songs "I Still Have Faith In You" and "Don't Shut Me Down." It began with sessions in 2018 and was delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.

"It was so joyful to be together in the studio again, the four of us," Andersson said.

The show will come 50 years after the founding of the group that consisted of two married couples for most of its existence, and whose name is an acronym of the first names of its members, Agnetha Fältskog, 71, Anni-Frid Lyngstad, 75, Ulvaeus and Andersson.

Their music has remained ubiquitous in the decades since their breakup, in part because of the stage musical "Mamma Mia!" and the two films that followed it.

They were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2010.

# China to ban celebrities with 'incorrect' politics, limit pay

Bloomberg

President Xi Jinping ordered a cleanup of the entertainment industry, with the broadcast regulator moving to ban film stars with "incorrect" politics, cap salaries and rein in celebrity fan culture.

Television companies and internet platforms were told to "strictly control the selection of program actors and guests, and uphold political literacy, moral conduct, artistic level and social evaluation as selection standards," according to a statement Sept. 2 from the National Radio and Television Administration.

The regulator added that "those who have incorrect political positions and who are divided in heart and practice from the party and the country must not be used." The ruling Communist Party's Publicity Department also published a call to curb "bad trends in the industry, and clarify the culture and entertainment sector."

In a Sept. 3 interview with party mouthpiece the People's Daily, officials from the department vowed to dial up punishment for "unethical" celebrities and extend regulatory of media-related companies and endorsement deals. Officials also put on notice platforms that failed to screen content and stoked indiscretion.

The article also warned that "the cultural market will no longer be a paradise for sissy stars, and news and public opinion will no longer be in a position worshipping Western culture." The regulator's statement also ordered an end to "sissy and other distorted aesthetics."

Reining in the entertainment industry is part of a cumulative effort to ensure that the younger generation — some of whom are starting to embrace a minimalist lifestyle known as "lying flat" — become motivated, patriotic and productive workers.

## STARS AND STRIPES

## OPINION

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## The Supreme Court rides to Biden's rescue

By KATHLEEN PARKER

Washington Post Writers Group

President Joe Biden's personal hell month featured the devastation of Hurricane Ida, our country's dreadful withdrawal from Afghanistan, mounting deaths from COVID-19's delta variant, overcrowded ICUs, a dragging economy, many schools opening and some nearly closing down, and uncontrollable fires out west.

What did I forget? The president has been bouncing all over the four Horses of the Apocalypse, a reluctant gladiator trying to rein in the ruin of his presidency when, suddenly, a double rainbow appears over the U.S. Supreme Court.

The high court's 5-to-4 refusal to block a Texas law restricting abortion to no more than six weeks of gestation was an early Christmas gift to Biden and the Democratic Party. Thanks to cultural conservatives, proliferators and even former President Donald Trump, Republicans finally may have overstepped.

The court certainly ended Biden's run of bad luck. Hell is the only way to describe what many Americans are experiencing across several states, especially in Louisiana, where power is gone, temperatures are high and moist, and mosquitoes are as hungry as the folks lined up for food. One could be forgiven for thinking the world was ending.

But leave it to the GOP to shift the focus from climate devastation and the Taliban takeover to abortion and a procedural ruling that doesn't mean as much as has been conveyed. Not yet anyway. A much bigger fight — maybe the pivotal fight — in the abortion

wars is coming up soon — Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. More on that in a minute.

Meanwhile, even as other Republican states plan to follow Texas, including Florida and South Dakota, the court was very clear that procedural issues wouldn't allow it to consider the constitutionality of the Texas Heartbeat Act. The act prohibits a physician from performing an abortion "if the physician detected a fetal heartbeat for the unborn child or failed to perform a test to detect a fetal heartbeat."

Interestingly, the Texas law doesn't allow Texas officials to enforce the act. Instead, it authorizes private citizens to bring civil action against lawbreakers, including doctors, employees and insurers. In so doing, lawmakers rather cleverly established sovereign immunity for state officials should anyone try to sue them over the constitutionality of the law.

When various abortion providers and a private citizen sought an injunction against state officials, including the attorney general, they were essentially creating a firestorm in a mud puddle. They did manage to draw attention to the new law, however, and in doing so, forced five of the nine justices to rule (correctly, it seems to me) in such a way that women everywhere could get behind the idea of hating the court anew.

Bottom line: Because there were no real defendants, there was no live case and no dispute to reckon over. So, the Texas law went into effect.

Here, a brief sidebar is warranted. Much has changed since 1973, when Roe v. Wade became the law of the land. I was there. Back in the day, a woman had to wait at least six

weeks to find out if she was pregnant, a process that had to involve a doctor or a lab. Today, in addition to an array of birth control options, women have access to inexpensive home pregnancy tests that can deliver results in seven to 10 days after ovulation — and before a missed period. Emergency contraception such as the "day-after pill" is also available for women who don't want to wait for a home test.

Even so, and probably as a result, most Americans (59%) still think abortion should be legal in all or most cases, according to the Pew Research Center. Two generations of women who've always had reproductive choice can't imagine living in a world that could force them to have babies they don't want or are unprepared to raise. The 2017 cat-hat marches to demonstrate disapproval of Trump's "grab 'em" remark will seem like marching band practice if the Supreme Court eventually nabs the votes to end Roe.

Arguments will be held this fall in the earlier mentioned Dobbs case, which challenges the constitutionality of a Mississippi law banning abortions (with exceptions) after the 15th week of pregnancy. The Supreme Court decided in Planned Parenthood v. Casey in 1992 that abortions could be legally performed until fetal "viability," or about 24 weeks. But that was, it is now easy to forget, 30 years ago.

Whatever happens, the next several weeks will most certainly be a wall-to-wall abortion freakout, giving Biden a minute or two to recover from an August that he'd probably like to forget. He is surely eager to dismount from his wild ride — and Democrats can climb out from beneath the covers.

## Manchin sees clearly what progressives don't or won't

By HENRY OLSEN

Special to The Washington Post

Sen. Joe Manchin's declaration Thursday that he wants his fellow Democrats to take a "strategic pause" in crafting the party's proposed \$3.5 trillion domestic spending package does more than derail President Joe Biden's agenda. It's an early warning sign for the political troubles Democrats are courting if they ignore his plea and move full speed ahead.

Manchin's move shouldn't surprise anyone who understands politics. He represents the deep red state of West Virginia and only won reelection in the 2018 Democratic wave by a 50-46 margin over a weak opponent. He surely knows that result won't be repeated if he has to defend a massive increase in the size of government that his conservative constituents probably don't want.

He's also probably carrying water for other Senate Democrats who see their political futures endangered by moving too far, too fast to the left. Eleven of the Senate's 50 Democrats hail from states that Donald Trump won in 2016, and another four hail from the close swing states of New Hampshire and Nevada. All these senators would face serious challenges and potentially lose their races if the country turns against Democrats the way it did in 1994 and 2010. One should presume that more than a few have shared their concerns with Manchin or the other Democratic public holdout on the reconciliation bill, Arizona's Kyrsten Sinema.

That could be one reason for Manchin calling, in a Wall Street Journal op-ed, for "every member of Congress to use the transparent

committee process to debate" what will end up in the spending legislation. This signals that he will oppose efforts for closed-door negotiations among a few members of the House and Senate that result in a bill thrust upon all members with little or no time to read or influence the final product. Members from swing states and House districts have much greater leverage in an open committee process where their votes are often the difference between victory and defeat.

That open process would surely result in a much smaller bill with much different priorities than Democratic progressives want. It would likely bring more defense spending than Biden's plan recommends, as a recent bipartisan vote to do that in the House Armed Services Committee shows. It would also likely result in a much smaller package focused on only the items with most bipartisan appeal. That won't please progressives at all.

Progressives, however, are pushing priorities far from the American political center. While many polls show that individual portions of the Biden package poll well, other polls show concern over the cost of the entire package. Echelon Insights' August poll found only 45% support for the \$3.5 trillion package. Independents in particular were leery of the proposal's cost, with 49% saying it was too much compared with only 26% who said it was too little or the right amount. Democrats who don't represent safe states or seats won't want to face voters having backed something that independents don't like by such a wide margin.

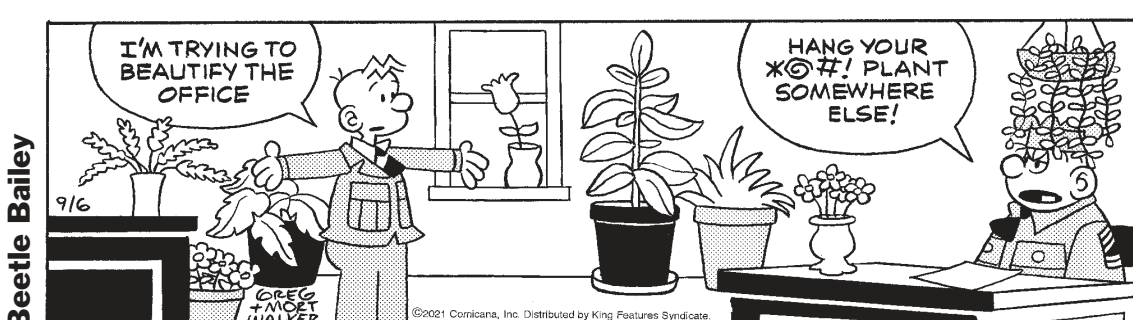
Democrats should be concerned about this given the sharply negative trend in Biden's job

approval among independent voters. Biden's ratings among independents had been trending down before the Afghanistan debacle and are now deeply underwater. Friday's ABC News/Washington Post poll found that Biden gets only 36% job approval among independents, a dismal result corroborated by Thursday's NPR/PBS NewsHour/Marist poll. Three other polls taken last week also have Biden's job approval among independents ranging between 37% and 39%. At the seven-month mark, he is doing worse than every other president since John F. Kennedy except Trump and Gerald Ford.

Manchin's call for a pause, then, is the political version of the adage "When you're in a hole, stop digging." He sees clearly what his party's progressives don't or won't: The Biden presidency is nosediving, fast, and needs to take time to figure out what's going wrong. Pushing an expansion of federal government power and spending on a level not seen since the mid-1960s might appease the left but would do nothing to address what the center is concerned about: fighting COVID-19, reducing inflation and restoring American confidence. Manchin, and the many Democrats who silently stand behind him, don't want to be the martyrs sacrificed on the progressives' altar.

It's fitting that Manchin, senator from coal-producing West Virginia, is the Democratic canary in the coal mine warning of impending doom. Much will depend on whether his party heeds his cry.

Henry Olsen is a Washington Post columnist and a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.



### Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Norwegian saint
  - 5 WWII service person
  - 8 Competent
  - 12 Salt formula
  - 13 Sound of wonderment
  - 14 Cranny
  - 15 Art Deco master
  - 16 Prude
  - 18 Modifying word
  - 20 Hesitated
  - 21 Pop flavor
  - 23 Game caller
  - 24 Punk jewelry
  - 28 Lighten
  - 31 "Shoo!"
  - 32 Bigfoot's relatives
  - 34 Wall climber
  - 35 Chanteuse Edith
  - 37 Feel right
  - 39 Abolish
  - 41 Bygone jets
  - 42 Mink relatives
  - 45 C's equivalent, in music
  - 49 Loyal
  - 51 Frozen drink brand
  - 52 Ref. work
  - 53 Schedule abbr.
  - 54 Russo of "The Intern"
- DOWN**
- 1 Draft status
  - 2 Cooking fat
  - 3 Last part of "Hamlet"
  - 4 Sheep's coat
  - 5 More unsteady
  - 6 Gmail alternative
  - 7 Great Lakes fish
  - 8 Founder of the Shakers, in the U.S.
  - 9 Publishers' expo
  - 10 Misplace
  - 11 Scratched (out)
  - 17 Listener
  - 19 Golfer McIlroy
  - 22 Those opposed
  - 24 Trio after M
  - 25 French "yes"
  - 26 Ahab's first mate
  - 27 "Howl" poet Allen
  - 29 "Law & Order: —"
  - 30 Storm center
  - 33 LAPD ranks
  - 36 Steak choices
  - 38 Casual top
  - 40 Cotillion celeb
  - 42 Norms (Abbr.)
  - 43 Met solo
  - 44 High-five sound
  - 46 Experts
  - 47 Sofer of soaps
  - 48 Equal
  - 50 Swiss canton

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

**9-6 CRYPTOQUIP**

RSUZW DQLE QFAZW CRZC'K

KRZMPL MFPCCE USBR NJOP Z

RQQOPL-DJNN BQZKCZN DJFL:

CRP ASNN DNZLLPF.

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** IF PAINTER PICASSO RESIDED IN A SETTLEMENT OF ADOBE HOUSES, ONE MIGHT CALL HIM A PUEBLO PABLO.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals B

# SCOREBOARD

## PRO SOCCER

### MLS

#### Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New England	16	4	4	52	45	28
Orlando City	10	4	8	38	33	26
Nashville	9	2	11	38	37	21
NYCFC	10	7	4	34	37	22
Philadelphia	8	7	8	32	28	24
CF Montréal	8	7	7	31	30	27
D.C. United	9	10	3	30	35	32
Columbus	7	10	6	27	27	32
Atlanta	6	7	9	27	25	28
Inter Miami CF	7	9	5	26	22	31
Chicago	6	11	5	23	24	33
New York	6	10	4	22	23	25
Cincinnati	3	10	8	17	21	38
Toronto FC	3	13	6	15	26	47

#### Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Seattle	12	4	6	42	35	19
Colorado	12	4	5	41	31	20
Sporting KC	11	5	7	40	37	26
LA Galaxy	11	8	3	36	35	35
Minnesota	8	6	7	31	24	24
Portland	9	10	3	30	31	39
Real Salt Lake	8	8	6	30	34	29
Vancouver	7	7	8	29	29	32
LAFC	7	9	6	27	32	31
San Jose	6	8	8	26	24	30
FC Dallas	6	10	7	25	32	36
Austin FC	5	13	4	19	21	31
Houston	3	10	10	19	24	36

**Note:** Three points for victory, one point for tie.

#### Saturday's games

Vancouver 2, Austin FC 1  
Orlando City 3, Columbus 2  
Miami 1, Cincinnati 0  
Real Salt Lake 3, FC Dallas 2  
Colorado 1, San Jose 0

#### Friday's games

Orlando City at Atlanta  
Portland at Vancouver

#### NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Portland	10	4	2	32	24	11
Reign FC	9	7	2	29	24	19
North Carolina	8	4	4	28	22	9
Chicago	7	7	4	25	19	22
Orlando	6	5	6	24	20	19
Washington	6	5	5	23	19	18
Gotham FC	5	5	7	22	17	15
Houston	6	7	3	21	18	21
Louisville	4	8	5	17	14	24
Kansas City	2	11	4	10	9	28

**Note:** Three points for victory, one point for tie.

#### Saturday's games

Chicago 0, Gotham FC 0, tie  
Reign FC 1, Louisville 1, tie  
Washington at Portland ppd.

#### Sunday's games

Houston at Orlando  
North Carolina at Kansas City

#### Friday's games

Gotham FC at Kansas City  
Chicago at Houston

#### GOLF

### Tour Championship

	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Patrick Cantlay	67-66-67	200	-20
Jon Rahm	65-65-68	198	-18
Justin Thomas	67-67-65	199	-15
Kevin Na	66-67-66	199	-13
Abraham Ancer	69-70-65	204	-10
Billy Horschel	65-68-67	200	-10
Viktor Hovland	66-68-70	204	-9
Bryson DeChambeau	69-67-72	208	-9
Dustin Johnson	68-69-68	205	-8
Xander Schauffele	68-69-67	204	-8
Jordan Spieth	69-67-70	206	-8
Louis Oosthuizen	68-67-71	206	-7
Sergio Garcia	68-70-66	204	-6
Cameron Smith	68-68-73	209	-6
Tony Finau	72-67-73	212	-6
Jason Kokrak	67-68-72	207	-5
Scottie Scheffler	67-72-68	207	-4
Sam Burns	71-70-69	210	-4
Harris English	66-69-75	210	-4
Rory McIlroy	68-66-74	208	-4
Patrick Reed	72-69-66	207	-3
Collin Morikawa	70-73-68	211	-3
Daniel Berger	72-69-67	208	-2
Corey Conners	67-72-70	209	-2
Sungjae Im	71-70-70	211	-2
Erik van Rooyen	69-73-68	210	E
Hideki Matsuyama	77-65-69	211	E
Stewart Cink	72-68-71	211	E
Joaquin Niemann	72-71-70	213	+2

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

### Saturday's scores

Team	Score
Allegheny 42, Thiel 14	
Boston College 51, Colgate 0	
Brockport 31, Framingham St. 0	
Case Western 27, Rochester 20	
Castleton 13, Plymouth St. 0	
Catholic 40, McDaniel 7	
Christopher Newport 28, Washington & Lee 24	
Coast Guard 16, New England 0	
Dean 42, Fitchburg St. 6	
Delaware St. 32, Bowie St. 24	
Endicott 27, St. Lawrence 14	
Grove City 39, Juniata 14	
Holy Cross 38, UConn 28	
Ithaca 52, Bridgewater (Mass.) 20	
Johns Hopkins 53, Stevenson 18	
Kings (Pa.) 13, Moravian 10	
Kutztown 19, Assumption 0	
Lebanon Valley 19, Franklin & Marshall 14	
Lock Haven 20, Lincoln (Pa.) 0	
MIT 41, Curry 7	
Marshall 49, Navy 7	
Maryland 30, West Virginia 24	
Mass.-Dartmouth 21, Husson 14	
Mercyhurst 18, Alderson-Broaddus 3	
Merrimack 55, St. Anselm 23	
Muhlenberg 41, 0	
New Haven 30, Franklin Pierce 14	
Pittsburgh 51, UMass 7	
RPI 21, Montclair St. 20	
Randolph Macon 31, Dickinson 21	
Rhode Island 45, Bryant 21	
Rutgers 61, Temple 14	
Sacred Heart 21, Bucknell 0	
Shippensburg 25, W. Virginia St. 17	
St. John Fisher 21, Buffalo St. 14	
Stonehill 35, Bloomsburg 13	
Susquehanna 44, Lycoming 10	
Towson 31, Morgan St. 0	
Union (NY) 48, Morrisville St. 14	
Utica 39, Alfred St. 21	
Villanova 47, Lehigh 3	
W. Connecticut 24, William Paterson 21	
W. New England 24, Springfield 13	
Widener 27, Rowan 22	
Wilkes 46, 7	

#### SOUTH

Alabama 44, Miami 13  
Alabama A&M 42, SC State 41  
Alabama St. 14, Miles 13, OT  
Army 43, Georgia St. 10  
Auburn 60, Akron 10  
Augustana (Ill.) 31, Rhodes 21  
Baldwin Wallace 45, Hampden-Sydney 24  
Berry 20, Maryville (Tenn.) 14  
Birmingham Southern 42, Lagrange 17  
Bridgewater (Va.) 31, Gettysburg 7  
Catawba 37, 27  
Centre 56, Hanover 34  
E. Kentucky 31, W. Carolina 28  
ETSU 23, Vanderbilt 3  
Fayetteville St. 47, Elizabeth City St. 6  
Ferrum 31, Averett 24  
Florida 35, FAU 14  
Furman 29, NC A&T 18  
Georgia 10, Clemson 3  
Georgia Southern 30, Gardner-Webb 25  
Guilford 21, Greensboro 7  
Hampton 42, Virginia Union 28  
James Madison 68, Morehead St. 10  
Kentucky 45, Louisiana-Monroe 10  
Liberty 48, Campbell 7  
Memphis 42, Nicholls 17  
Middle Tennessee 50, Monmouth (NJ) 15  
Mississippi St. 35, Louisiana Tech 34  
N. Illinois 22, Georgia Tech 21  
Newberry 31, 7  
Presbyterian 84, St. Andrews 43  
Richmond 38, Howard 14  
SE Louisiana 49, North Alabama 28  
Shenandoah 28, Methodist 23  
Shorter 38, Brevard 14  
South Alabama 31, Southern Miss. 7  
South Carolina 46, E. Illinois 0  
Stetson 54, 14  
Troy 55, Southern U. 3  
Tusculum 58, St. Augustines 14  
VMI 45, Davidson 24  
Valdosta St. 53, Savannah St. 7  
Virginia 43, William & Mary 0  
Virginia-Wise 54, Va. Lynchburg 0  
West Florida 42, McNeese St. 36  
Wis.-Oshkosh 28, Huntingdon 24  
Wofford 24, Elon 22

#### SOUTHWEST

Ark.-Pine Bluff 34, Lane 16  
Arkansas 38, Rice 17  
Arkansas St. 40, Cent. Arkansas 21  
Baylor 29, Texas State 20  
Hardin Simmons 49, Wayland Baptist 0  
Harding 28, East Central 0  
Howard Payne 43, Texas Lutheran 17  
Mary Hardin-Baylor 84, Simpson 6  
North Texas 44, Northwestern St. 14  
Oklahoma 40, Tulane 35  
Oklahoma St. 23, Missouri St. 16  
Prairie View 40, Texas Southern 17  
SMU 56, Abilene Christian 9  
Stephen F. Austin 20, Tarleton St. 10  
TCU 45, Duquesne 3  
Texas 38, Louisiana-Lafayette 18  
Texas A&M 41, Kent St. 10  
Texas Tech 38, Houston 21  
UTEP 38, Bethune-Cookman 28

#### FAR WEST

Air Force 35, Lafayette 14  
BYU 24, Arizona 16  
Cal Poly 28, San Diego 17  
Idaho 68, Simon Fraser 0  
La Verne 42, Whittier 0  
Montana 13, Washington 7  
N.M. Highlands 44, Fort Lewis 7  
Nevada 22, California 17  
North Dakota 35, Idaho St. 14  
Oregon 31, Fresno St. 24  
Sacramento St. 19, Dixie St. 7  
San Diego St. 28, New Mexico St. 10  
Southern Cal 30, San Jose St. 7  
UCLA 38, LSU 27  
Utah St. 26, Washington St. 23  
Willamette 48, Puget Sound 35  
Wyoming 19, Montana St. 16

### U.S. Open

Player	Score
Greet Minnen, Belgium	6-1, 6-2
Maria Sakkari (17), Greece	def. Petra Kvitova (10), Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-3
Belinda Bencic (11), Switzerland	def. Jessica Pegula (23), United States, 6-2, 6-4
Emma Raducanu, Britain	def. Sara Sorribes Tormo, Spain, 6-0, 6-1
Iga Swiatek (7), Poland	def. Anett Kontaveit (28), Estonia, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3
Karolina Pliskova (4), Czech Republic	def. Ajla Tomljanovic, Australia, 6-3, 6-2
Shelby Rogers, United States	def. Ashley Bartly (17), Australia, 6-2, 1-6, 7-6 (5)
Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (14), Russia	def. Varvara Gracheva, Russia, 6-1, 6-4
Jean-Julien Rojer and Wesley Koolhof (10), Netherlands	def. Robert Galloway and Alex Lawson, United States, 6-3, 7-6 (3)
Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico	and Andres Molteni, Argentina, def. Raven Klaasen, South Africa, and Ben McLachlan (11), Japan, 6-1, 3-6, 7-6 (7)
Horia Tecau, Romania	and Kevin Krawietz (6), Germany, def. Frederik Nielsen, Denmark, and Vasek Pospisil, Canada, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (4)
Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi, Pakistan	and

## AUTO RACING

### Help a Hero 200

**NASCAR Xfinity Series**  
**Saturday**  
**At Darlington Raceway**  
**Darlington, S.C.**  
**Lap length: 1.37 miles**  
**(Start position in parentheses)**

- (8) Noah Gragson, Chevrolet, 152 laps, 59 points.
- (6) Harrison Burton, Toyota, 152, 44.
- (24) Austin Cindric, Ford, 152, 46.
- (3) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 152, 42.
- (5) Jeb Burton, Chevrolet, 152, 32.
- (4) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 152, 39.
- (28) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 152, 0.
- (15) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 152, 29.
- (9) Myatt Snider, Chevrolet, 152, 31.
- (22) Alex Labbe, Chevrolet, 152, 27.
- (12) Ryan Sieg, Ford, 152, 26.
- (14) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 152, 0.
- (10) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 152, 24.
- (19) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, 152, 23.
- (16) Josh Williams, Chevrolet, 152, 22.
- (17) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 152, 21.
- (31) Colin Garrett, Toyota, 152, 20.
- (26) Mason Massey, Chevrolet, 152, 19.
- (32) Joe Graf Jr., Chevrolet, 152, 18.
- (2) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 152, 30.
- (20) Jade Buford, Chevrolet, 152, 16.
- (23) BJ McLeod, Chevrolet, 152, 0.
- (33) Matt Mills, Toyota, 152, 14.
- (1) Daniel Hemric, Toyota, 152, 29.
- (27) Ryan Vargas, Chevrolet, 152, 12.
- (21) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 152, 11.
- (30) Colby Howard, Chevrolet, 152, 10.
- (23) Brandon Brown, Chevrolet, 151, 9.
- (35) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 151, 0.
- (18) David Starr, Toyota, 151, 7.
- (38) Carson Ware, Chevrolet, 151, 6.
- (34) Jesse Little, Toyota, 150, 5.
- (35) Brandon Jones, Toyota, 146, 7.
- (37) Kyle Weatherman, Chevrolet, 134, 3.
- (36) Ryan Ellis, Ford, 133, 2.
- (29) Timmy Hill, Ford, accident, 116, 0.
- (13) Tommy Joe Martins, Chevrolet, accident, 108, 1.
- (7) Riley Herbst, Ford, accident, 107, 1.
- (11) Sam Mayer, Chevrolet, brakes, 45, 1.
- (40) Gray Gaulding, Chevrolet, electrical, 2, 1.

## PRO BASKETBALL

### WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Connecticut	21	6	.778	—
Chicago	14	14	.500	7½
New York	11	18	.379	11
Washington	10	17	.370	11
Atlanta	6	20	.231	14½
Indiana	6	20	.231	14½

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Las Vegas	20	7	.741	—
x-Minnesota	18	9	.667	2
x-Seattle	19	10	.655	2
x-Phoenix	17	10	.630	3
Dallas	12	15	.444	8
Los Angeles	10	18	.357	10½

**Saturday's games**  
Phoenix 87, Indiana 65  
Minnesota 93, Washington 75

**Sunday's games**  
Las Vegas at Chicago  
Atlanta at Dallas

**Monday's game**  
Phoenix at Indiana

**Tuesday's games**  
Connecticut at Dallas  
Washington at Seattle

## TENNIS

Jonny O'Mara, Britain, def. Sander Gille and Joran Vliegen (16), Belgium, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3).

Sam Querrey and Steve Johnson, United States, def. Simone Bolelli, Italy, and Maximo Gonzalez (14), Argentina, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Rohan Bopanna, India, and Ivan Dodig (13), Croatia, def. Hugo Nys, Monaco, and Arthur Rinderknech, France, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

Andrey Golubev, Kazakhstan, and Andreas Mies (15), Germany, def. Nikola Cacic, Serbia, and Tomislav Brkic, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 7-5, 6-2.

**Women's Doubles**  
**Second Round**  
Storm Sanders, Australia, and Caroline Dolehide (10), United States, def. Irina-Camelia Begu and Cristina-Andreea Mitu, Romania, 6-0, 6-1.  
Erin Routliffe, New Zealand, and Leylah Annie Fernandez, Canada, def. Robin Montgomery and Ashlyn Krueger, United States, 6-2, 6-2.  
Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, and Elise Mertens (1), Belgium, def. Elixane Lechemia, France, and Ulrikke Eikeri, Norway, 6-4, 6-2.

**Mixed Doubles**  
**Second Round**  
Marcelo Demoliner, Brazil, and Ellen Perez, Australia, def. Madison Keys and

## DEALS

### Saturday's Transactions

**BASEBALL**  
**Major League Baseball**  
**American League**

**BOSTON RED SOX** — Designated INF Taylor Motter to the active roster. Optioned C Connor Wong to Worcester (Triple-A East), retroactive to September 3. Claimed RHP Geoff Hartlieb off waivers from the New York Mets and optioned him to Worcester.

**CLEVELAND INDIANS** — Sent 2B Ernie Clement to Akron (Double-A Northeast) on a rehab assignment.

**DETROIT TIGERS** — Optioned INF Zack Short to Toledo (Triple-A East). Selected the contract of RHP Drew Carlton from Toledo and agreed to terms on a major league contract.

**KANSAS CITY ROYALS** — Optioned RHP Tyler Zuber to Omaha (Triple-A East). Recalled C Sebastian Rivero from Omaha.

**SEATTLE MARINERS** — Reinstated RHP Diego Castillo from rehab assignment and from the 10-day IL. Reinstated LHP Anthony Misiewicz from the 10-day IL. Optioned RHP Wyatt Mills and INF Kevin Padlo to Tacoma (Triple-A West).

**TAMPA BAY RAYS** — Sent CF Brett Phillips to the Florida Complex League Rays (FCL) on a rehab assignment.

**TORONTO BLUE JAYS** — Designated INF/OF Jake Lamb to the roster for today's game. Optioned LHP Kirby Sneed to Buffalo (Triple-A East).

**National League**

**ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS** — Recalled RHP Humberto Castellanos from Reno (Triple-A West) for tonight's game. Optioned RHP Matt Peacock to Reno, retroactive to Sept. 3.

**CHICAGO CUBS** — Reinstated C Willson Contreras from the 10-day IL. Placed RHP Keegan Thompson on the 10-day IL, retroactive to September 3.

**COLORADO ROCKIES** — Placed LHP Austin Gomber and INF/OF Connor Joe on the 10-day IL. Reinstated RHP Jordan Sheffield from the 60-day IL. Recalled INF Joshua Fuentes from Albuquerque.

**LOS ANGELES DODGERS** — Sent RHP Tony Gonsolin to Rancho Cucamonga (Low-A West) on a rehab assignment.

**MILWAUKEE BREWERS** — Reinstated RHP Jandel Gustave from the reserve/COVID-19 IL. Recalled RHP Miguel Sanchez from Nashville (Triple-A East). Placed RHP Justin Topa placed on the 60-day IL. Optioned LHP Hoby Milner to Nashville.

**NEW YORK METS** — Reinstated C James McCann from the 10-day IL. Placed OF Brandon Nimmo on the 10-day IL. Recalled INF Travis Blankenhorn from Syracuse (Triple-A East). Sent RHP Sean Reid-Foley to Syracuse (Triple-A East) on a rehab assignment.

**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** — Reinstated RHP JT Brubaker from the 10-day IL. Optioned RHP Kyle Keller to Indianapolis (Triple-A East).

**SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS** — Recalled IF/OF Mauricio Dubon from Sacramento (Triple-A West). Placed OF Alex Dickerson on the 10-day IL.

**WASHINGTON NATIONALS** — Selected the contract of LHP Josh Rogers and agreed to terms on a major league contract. Transferred RHP Kyle McGowin from the 10-day IL to the 60-day IL.

**BASKETBALL**  
**National Basketball Association**

**BROOKLYN NETS** — Acquired F Sekou Doumbouya and C Jahill Okafor from Detroit in exchange for C DeAndre Jordan and a draft consideration.

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**

**CHICAGO BEARS** — Signed OL Tyrone Wheatley Jr.

**GREEN BAY PACKERS** — Acquired P Corey Bojorquez and a 2023 seventh-round draft pick from the Los Angeles Rams in exchange for a 2023 sixth-round draft pick.

**TENNESSEE TITANS** — Activated RB Jeremy McNichols and QB Ryan Tannehill from the reserve/COVID-19 list.

**HOCKEY**  
**National Hockey League**

**ARIZONA COYOTES** — Traded C Christian Dvorak to Montreal Canadiens for 2022 first and 2024 second round draft choices.

**COLLEGE**

**MEMPHIS** — Named Jalise Beck and Tenneshia Dixon assistant coaches for women's basketball.

Bjorn Fratangelo, United States, 6-4, 6-3.  
Ben McLachlan and Ena Shibahara (8), Japan, def. Hayley Carter and Hunter Reese, United States, 7-5, 6-2.

**Mixed Doubles**  
**Third Round**  
Fabrice Martin, France, and Yaroslava Shvedova, Kazakhstan, def. Sachia Vickery and Nathan Pasha, United States, 6-4, 4-6, 11-9.  
Demi Schuurs, Netherlands, and Sander Gille (8), Belgium, def. Montserrat Gonzalez, Paraguay, and Nadia Podoroska, Argentina, walkover.  
Max Purcell, Australia, and Dayana Yastremska, Ukraine, def. Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Marcus Daniell, New Zealand, 6-3, 6-3.  
Ken Skupski, Britain, and Alexa Guarachi Mathison (3), Chile, def. Filip Polasek, Slovakia, and Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 7-6 (1), 7-5.  
Marcelo Arevalo-Gonzalez, El Salvador, and Giuliana Olmos, Mexico, def. Ivan Dodig, Croatia, and Nicole Melichar (1), United States, 7-5, 3-6, 10-5.

## NFL

# Bucs favored in NFC South

## Tampa Bay picked to end New Orleans' run of division titles

BY CHARLES ODUM  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Mike Evans endured four last-place finishes in the NFC South in his first six seasons with Tampa Bay before last season's breakthrough Super Bowl championship earned the Buccaneers long-awaited respect.

The former doormats of the division are now envied by every other NFL team.

"I've been waiting for this for seven years now," said Evans, a first-round pick in 2014. "That's what we want. When we went to Pittsburgh my rookie year, we wanted to be the Pittsburgh Steelers. Now everybody wants to be the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. That's what you want, and we look forward to the challenge."

Tom Brady and the Buccaneers aren't the defending division champions. New Orleans won its fourth consecutive division title at 12-4, one game ahead of Tampa Bay, which made the playoffs as a wild card.

The retirement of Saints quarterback Drew Brees only makes Tampa Bay a stronger favorite in the division.

First-year Falcons coach Arthur Smith, the former Tennessee Titans offensive coordinator, says the Saints' four-year run atop the division deserves respect.

"I know Drew Brees is retired, but they've won a lot of football games and sustained success, so we've got all the respect in the world for New Orleans," Smith said.

### Fresh start

Tampa Bay coach Bruce Arians has reminded his players they can't lean on last year's run of eight consecutive wins to the championship. Arians relayed a simple message on the first day of training camp in July.

"Don't assume anything. We're starting from scratch. That was last year's team," Arians said.

Brady, 44 and who had offseason knee surgery, is doing his part to make sure complacency isn't an issue. Even though the Bucs return all 22 starters, Brady reiterated the difficulty of the challenge ahead.

It's difficult to repeat as Super Bowl champions, but Brady knows the path. No team has repeated since Brady led the 2003 and 2004 New England Patriots to consecutive titles.

"We have to be able to create our own future, and that's really about attitude, effort, and preparation," Brady said. "Nothing about last year is going to carry over into this year. ... It's an entirely new challenge."

### QB reset

Brees' retirement and Carolina's acquisition of Sam Darnold from the Jets created quarterback turnover in half of the division's teams. Brady returns for his second season in Tampa Bay while Matt Ryan, 36, enters his 14th season in Atlanta.

With Brees launching a new career as a broadcaster, Ryan says the division won't be the same.



MATT PATTERSON/AP

**Tampa Bay quarterback Tom Brady had offseason knee surgery after guiding the Buccaneers to a Super Bowl championship last season.**

"It's a little different," Ryan said. "Obviously playing against Drew every year for my entire career was a challenge. He's a great player."

Jameis Winston has been named the successor to Brees.

### Believe in Payton

Saints coach Sean Payton must show he can win without Brees. GM Mickey Loomis says that point has been proven.

New Orleans was 8-1 without Brees the last two seasons, including 5-0 with Teddy Bridgewater when Brees was out with a thumb injury in 2019. The Saints were 3-1 with Taysom Hill at quarterback while Brees was out with injured ribs last season.

Hill is expected to have a role behind Winston this season. Loomis said Payton will find a way to keep the Saints winning.

"Sean and his staff will adjust accordingly," Loomis said. "I think they've been fantastic doing that over the years."

### Spotlight on Darnold

With a healthy Christian McCaffrey at running back, the Panthers have renewed cause for optimism.

Carolina's playoff hopes rest firmly on the right arm of Darnold, who has replaced Bridgewater. Darnold is looking for a fresh start in Carolina after going 13-25 in three seasons as the Jets' starter. Panthers second-year coach Matt Rhule has gone out of his way to avoid putting pressure on Darnold, emphasizing repeatedly that his role in the offense will be to avoid mistakes.

"I think Sam's doing really well," Rhule

said. "He's evolving, he's growing, and getting good reps, and a lot of different looks, and for the most part protecting the football."

Darnold has more weapons to work with than in New York with 1,000-yard receivers D.J. Moore and Robby Anderson returning along with promising rookie Terrace Marshall Jr.

Darnold's best asset is McCaffrey, who is healthy after missing 13 games last season due to multiple injuries. McCaffrey, who caught 106 passes in 2018 and 116 in 2019, figures to be the primary check-down target for Darnold and will handle the bulk of the running game.

### Learning to fly

With wide receiver Julio Jones traded to Tennessee and a new leadership team of Smith and general manager Terry Fontenot making decisions, Atlanta's 2016 Super Bowl season is a fading memory.

A total rebuild likely would have meant the team would have used the No. 4 overall pick in this year's NFL Draft to select a quarterback. Instead, tight end Kyle Pitts was the choice and Ryan returns for at least one or two more seasons.

Ryan has a capable lead receiver in Calvin Ridley. The big offseason addition was running back Mike Davis, who filled in for McCaffrey in Carolina last season.

### Predicted order of finish

Buccaneers, Saints, Panthers, Falcons

AP sports writers Fred Goodall, Brett Martel and Steve Reed contributed to this report.

## Capsules

### Atlanta Falcons (4-12)

**New faces:** Head coach Arthur Smith, TE Kyle Pitts, RB Mike Davis, OG Josh Andrews, TE Lee Smith, QB Josh Rosen, DE Jonathan Bullard, S Erik Harris, S Duron Harmon, CB Fabian Moreau, P Cameron Nizialek.  
**Key losses:** WR Julio Jones, C Alex Mack, RB Todd Gurley, OG James Carpenter, QB Matt Schaub, S Ricardo Allen, S Keanu Neal, DE Allen Bailey, P Sterling Hofrichter.

**Strengths:** Even with the trade of Jones, the greatest receiver in franchise history, the Falcons have a deep group of potential targets for quarterback Matt Ryan. Calvin Ridley emerged as one of the league's top receivers, Russell Gage showed he was ready to step into a leading role, and top draft pick Pitts is a dynamic tight end with receiver-like skills. The Falcons will likely go with plenty of double-tight end sets, pairing Pitts with Hayden Hurst.

**Weaknesses:** The offensive line is extremely young and requires big improvement from RG Chris Lindstrom, RT Kaleb McGary and C Matt Hennessy to prevent Ryan from taking another awful pounding. The defensive front has been a perpetual area of concern and must get more pressure on opposing quarterbacks. The Falcons desperately need DE Dante Fowler to step up his game after a disappointing 2020 season. If the 36-year-old Ryan went down for an extended period, the team's shaky quarterback depth would really be a problem.

**Camp development:** The Falcons were counting on AJ McCarron to serve as Ryan's backup after Schaub retired. But McCarron went down with a season-ending knee injury in the second preseason game, forcing the Falcons to hastily sign former Arizona first-round pick Josh Rosen. The only other quarterback on the roster is undrafted rookie Feleipe Franks.

### Carolina Panthers (5-11)

**New faces:** QB Sam Darnold, WR Terrace Marshall Jr., TE Dan Arnold, OT Cam Erving, G Pat Elflin, WR David Moore, DE Haason Reddick, DE Morgan Fox, DT DaQuan Jones, LB Frankie Luva, CB Jaycee Horn, CB A.J. Bouye.

**Key losses:** WR Curtis Samuel, QB Teddy Bridgewater, RB Mike Davis, DT Kawann Short, S Tre Boston, OT Russell Okung, DE Stephen Weatherly.

**Strengths:** The Panthers have one of the most dynamic players in the league in RB Christian McCaffrey and a pair of returning 1,000-yard receivers in D.J. Moore and Robby Anderson along with super-talented rookie WR Terrace Marshall Jr. The big question will be if the offensive line can protect new starting QB Sam Darnold and if he can get the ball to them.

**Weaknesses:** Carolina's offensive line remains the team's biggest question mark. Cam Erving is expected to start the season at LT, but the team could move Taylor Moton to the left side if Erving struggles. Carolina lacks depth at linebacker. The kicking game has been in flux with Ryan Santos beating out Joey Slye. But Santos has never kicked in a regular-season game, so he's untested.

**Camp development:** Denzel Perryman was signed to a two-year deal as a free agent and was expected to be the team's starting middle linebacker. Instead, Perryman could never get on the field during training camp due to a hip injury and the team ultimately cut bait, trading him to the Raiders before he ever played a game in Carolina. Instead, undersized Jermaine Carter will start at middle linebacker.

### New Orleans Saints (13-5)

**New faces:** TE Nick Vannett, DE Tanoh Kpassagnon, DE Payton Turner, LB Pete Warner, CB Paulson Adebo, P Blake Gillikin.

**Key losses:** QB Drew Brees, DE Trey Hendrickson, CB Janoris Jenkins, DT Sheldon Rankins, DT Malcolm Brown, WR Emmanuel Sanders, LB Alex Anzalone, TE Jared Cook, TE Josh Hill, CB Patrick Robinson.

**Strengths:** Versatile RB Alvin Kamara and an accomplished offensive line make the Saints effective in both the running and short passing game. QB Jameis Winston gives the Saints the ability to throw deep. WR Michael Thomas hopes to regain record-setting form when he returns from ankle surgery later in the first half of the season. Defensive ends Cameron Jordan and Marcus Davenport are physical edge rushers. LB Demario Davis provides strong run defense and blitzing.

**Weaknesses:** The Saints are thin at both defensive tackle and cornerback following offseason departures of Jenkins, Rankins and Brown. It remains to be seen how TE Adam Trautman, Juwan Johnson and Vannett will fill the void created by the departure of Jared Cook and Josh Hill.

**Camp development:** Winston beat out Taysom Hill to succeed Brees. Thomas' surgery in June prevented him from participating in preseason and he'll miss at least the first six regular-season games. Kicker Wil Lutz had a core muscle injury that could sideline him early in the regular season. DT Jalen Dalton was placed on injured reserve after a preseason that saw him making plays and on track to be in the regular rotation on the interior defensive line. Hurricane Ida has forced the Saints to temporarily relocate to the Dallas area and will play the Sept. 12 home opener vs. Green Bay in Jacksonville.

### Tampa Bay Buccaneers (15-5)

**New faces:** LB Joe Tryon-Shoyinka, OL Robert Hainsey, RB Giovanni Bernard.

**Key losses:** None.  
**Strengths:** Tom Brady turned 44 during training camp and is not showing any signs of getting old. He has a plethora of playmakers at his disposal, as well as one of the NFL's top defenses to help him chase an eighth Super Bowl title.

**Weaknesses:** After finding a way to retain all 22 starters, the defending champs truly are a team with no perceived weaknesses. A young secondary that was a liability early last season not only improved steadily, but was dominant during a postseason run that included victories over Drew Brees, Aaron Rodgers and Patrick Mahomes.

**Camp development:** The return of O.J. Howard, who missed most of last season with an Achilles tendon injury, provides Brady with yet another talented playmaker to go along with receivers Mike Evans, Chris Godwin, Antonio Brown and Scotty Miller, running backs Leonard Fournette and Ronald Jones, and fellow tight ends Rob Gronkowski and Cameron Brate.

— Associated Press

## NFL

# Uncertainty abounds in AFC South

By MARK LONG  
Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — There's more uncertainty than usual surrounding the AFC South, and it extends beyond Houston quarterback Deshaun Watson.

The NFL's lone division with two playoff teams in each of the past four years is dealing with significant changes heading into the 2021 season. Two new head coaches, three new offensive coordinators, three new quarterbacks and several prominent cleats to fill could put the South's postseason streak in jeopardy.

Throw in a few key preseason injuries and it's hard to predict how the division will shake out.

This much is clear: Derrick Henry and the Tennessee Titans are favored to repeat, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, despite replacing offensive coordinator Arthur Smith, who took the head job in Atlanta, and revamping a defense that was one of the worst in franchise history.

"To win this division, you go to Nashville and you see what the Titans have," Jaguars defensive coordinator Joe Cullen said.

Tennessee's offseason was relatively uneventful compared to what transpired in Indianapolis, Houston and Jacksonville.

Colts quarterback Philip Rivers retired after a one-year stint that ended on wildcard weekend. Offensive coordinator Nick Sirianni then left to take over in Philadelphia, which later traded oft-injured quarterback Carson Wentz to Indy.

The deal reunited Wentz and Colts head coach Frank Reich, who worked closely together during Wentz's breakout 2017 season in Philly.

But the move looked questionable a few months later when Reich revealed Wentz needed surgery to remove a bone fragment from his left foot. And that was just one of many injury woes for the Colts, who have linebacker Darius Leonard (ankle), guard Quenton Nelson (foot), left tackle Eric Fisher (Achilles) and defensive lineman Dayo Odeyingbo (Achilles) recovering from surgery. They also are dealing with COVID-19 issues.

Houston and Jacksonville, meanwhile, dealt with coaching turnovers that could lead to more roster upheaval.



JASON BEHNKEN / AP

**The Titans' Derrick Henry led the league in rushing last year and was the Offensive Player of the Year. Tennessee is the favorite in a division filled with uncertainty.**

The Texans fired Bill O'Brien in midseason 2020 and replaced him with first-time head coach David Culley. They said goodbye to superstar defensive lineman J.J. Watt.

The Jaguars hired three-time college national champion Urban Meyer to follow Doug Marrone and had the No. 1 overall draft pick for the first time.

Both teams are in rebuilding mode, with all eyes on a pair of former Clemson quarterbacks. Houston is waiting to see what happens with Watson, who is facing nearly two dozen lawsuits alleging sexual assault and harassment. And the Jaguars are counting on Trevor Lawrence to end a decades-long search for a franchise quarterback.

Here are some other things to know about the division as it enters another season that likely will be affected by COVID-19:

## Watson watch

Watson's future with the Texans remains unclear. He reported to the training camp in late July to avoid being fined. Watson signed a four-year, \$160 million contract extension with the team in 2020 and led the NFL in passing yards last season. But before the lawsuits were filed, he had asked to be traded.

It's unlikely any team would touch him right now. In the meantime, the Texans are going with journeyman Tyrod Taylor. Taylor is with his fifth team in eight years, having been replaced by Josh Allen in Buffalo,

Baker Mayfield in Cleveland and Justin Herbert in Los Angeles.

## Defensive rebuild

The Titans brought in former Philadelphia defensive coordinator and Detroit head coach Jim Schwartz as a senior defensive assistant, and officially gave the coordinator title to Shane Bowen, who unofficially held the job in 2020.

But that was just the beginning of the team's defensive makeover. The Titans let Jadeveon Clowney walk after he failed to produce a sack in eight games and ended up on injured reserve. They replaced him by signing Pittsburgh's Bud Dupree and Indy's Denico Autry in free agency. Tennessee also signed veteran Janoris Jenkins and drafted fellow cornerbacks Caleb Farley and Elijah Molden to shore up the back end.

The Titans are counting on those additions paying immediate dividends for a unit that gave up 439 points last season, the fourth most in franchise history. If it happens, Tennessee might have a shot at reaching the AFC title game for the second time in three years or possibly doing more.

"That's the expectation: To go to the Super Bowl and win it," safety Kevin Byard said.

## Ground gains

The AFC South had three 1,000-yard rushers in 2020, including two rookies. NFL Offensive Player of the Year Henry led the NFL with 2,027 yards and 16 touchdowns. Indy's Jonathan Taylor was third in league with 1,169 yards rushing, two spots higher than Jacksonville's James Robinson (1,070).

All three running backs had little help and even less competition for carries. Taylor and Robinson, though, aren't likely to be one-man shows again. Colts veteran Marlon Mack returns after tearing an Achilles tendon in last year's season opener, and the Jaguars added Carlos Hyde to share some of Robinson's workload.

"Watch out for him," Taylor said of Mack. "That's all I'm going to tell you."

## Predicted finish

Titans, Colts, Jaguars, Texans

AP Pro Football Writer Teresa M. Walker contributed.

## Capsules

### Houston Texans (4-12)

**New faces:** Coach David Culley, defensive coordinator Lovie Smith, QB Tyrod Taylor, RB Mark Ingram, C Justin Britt, LB Christian Kirksey, RB Phillip Lindsay, WR Anthony Miller, LB Kevin Pierre-Louis.

**Key losses:** DE J.J. Watt, WR Will Fuller, WR Randall Cobb, ILB Benardrick McKinney, C Nick Martin, RB Duke Johnson, P Bryan Anger, TE Darren Fells.

**Strengths:** Houston beefed up its running game this offseason after ranking 31st in the NFL by averaging just 91.6 yards rushing a game. David Johnson returns, looking to bounce back in his second season in Houston after a subpar 2020. He's joined by new additions Lindsay, Ingram, and Rex Burkhead, giving the Texans plenty of options in the backfield.

**Weaknesses:** The passing game will certainly take a major hit with Watson not expected to play for Houston this season amid 22 lawsuits alleging sexual assault or harassment, plus a trade request. Veteran Tyrod Taylor is expected to start in his place and although he's looked comfortable in camp, he's nowhere near the playmaker Watson is. Taylor could struggle with a receiving group that lost star Fuller in free agency. Houston's secondary is also suspect and won't have top cornerback Bradley Roby in the opener against the Jaguars. Roby will be serving the last game of a six-game suspension.

**Camp Development:** Watson reported to camp to avoid being fined and participated in individual drills but never practiced with the team, watching as Taylor ran the offense.

### Indianapolis Colts (11-6)

**New faces:** QB Carson Wentz, LT Eric Fisher, DE Kwity Paye, OT Julie'n Davenport, QB Sam Ehlinger, TE Kylan Granson, WR Mike Strachan, DE Dayo Odeyingbo.

**Key losses:** QB Philip Rivers, LT Anthony Castonzo, LB Anthony Walker, DE Denico Autry, DE Justin Houston, S Malik Hooker, offensive coordinator Nick Sirianni.

**Strengths:** Wentz is trying to revive his career behind one of the NFL's top offensive lines and with a stronger supporting cast than he had in Philadelphia. But he needs to stay healthy — and out of the COVID-19 protocols. Jonathan Taylor and Marlon Mack provide a strong running tandem, and All-Pro DeForest Buckner and Darius Leonard lead a defense that believes it can be one of the league's best.

**Weaknesses:** Julie'n Davenport will likely replace longtime left tackle Anthony Castonzo in Week 1 — and until Fisher, a two-time Pro Bowler, returns in late September or early October. Kwity Paye and Kemoko Turay need to become consistently productive edge pass rushers. And while the depth at receiver appears better, Michael Pittman Jr. and Parris Campbell must take big steps in 2021.

**Camp Development:** Wentz (foot), Fisher (Achilles tendon) or All-Pro guard Quenton Nelson (foot) missed most of training camp, but that gave Indy a chance to build depth at quarterback and along the offensive line. Wentz returned to practice on Thursday but is still unvaccinated.

### Jacksonville Jaguars (1-15)

**New faces:** Coach Urban Meyer, QB Trevor Lawrence, QB C.J. Beathard, WR Marvin Jones, WR Tavon Austin, RB Carlos Hyde, OT Walker Little, TE Chris Manhertz, TE Luke Farrell, WR/KR Jamal Agnew, DT Malcom Brown, DL Roy Robertson-Harris, DE Jihad Ward, LB Damien Wilson, CB Shaquill Griffin, CB Tyson Campbell, S Rayshawn Jenkins, S Rudy Ford, S Andre Cisco.

**Key losses:** RB Travis Etienne (IR/foot), QB Gardner Minshew, WR Keelan Cole, TE Tyler Eifert, LB Joe Schobert, CB D.J. Hayden, CB Sidney Jones, DT Abery Jones.

**Strengths:** The Jaguars are banking on Lawrence being the man immediately. Lawrence, the No. 1 overall draft pick, was widely regarded as the best pro prospect since Andrew Luck. And Jacksonville believes Lawrence has enough talent around him — a decent ground attack and potentially the team's best receiving corps since Jimmy Smith and Keenan McCardell in the late 1990s — to be good early.

**Weaknesses:** Jacksonville's defense last season was the worst in franchise history, giving up an AFC-leading 492 points. Meyer and general manager Trent Baalke took a huge swing at the unit by signing more than a dozen free agents, drafting four defenders and switching to a 3-4 scheme.

**Camp Development:** Losing Etienne for the season was a significant setback — Meyer called it "a shot in the jaw" — because the rookie from Clemson and 25th overall pick was going to be an integral part of the offense. Replacing him might be impossible.

### Tennessee Titans (11-6)

**New faces:** WR Julio Jones, LB Bud Dupree, CB Jackrabbit Jenkins, DL Denico Autry, CB Caleb Farley, CB Elijah Molden, WR Josh Reynolds, LB Rashad Weaver, OT Dillon Radunz, LS Morgan Cox, OT Kendall Lamm, K Sam Ficken.

**Key losses:** OC Arthur Smith, WR Corey Davis, TE Jonnu Smith, K Stephen Gostkowski, CB Adoree Jackson, CB Malcolm Butler, S Kenny Vaccaro, RT Dennis Kelly, WR Adam Humphries, DL DaQuan Jones, CB Desmond King.

**Strengths:** Jones joins an offense featuring the NFL's back-to-back rushing leader in 2020 Offensive Player of the Year Derrick Henry and QB Ryan Tannehill, who set a franchise-record in 2020 with 40 TDs. The offense tied for second in yards per game and fourth in points per game.

**Weaknesses:** A defense revamped this offseason after being at or near the bottom of several categories has six new starters and has to jell. Improvement over 2020 shouldn't be too tough to achieve, though they have to prove they can actually help a high-powered offense.

**Camp Development:** The Titans have a new kicker after claiming Sam Ficken off waivers from the New York Jets. ... Coach Mike Vrabel tested positive for COVID-19 the day after a preseason win at Tampa Bay, the first of a flare-up that put Tannehill and three other offensive starters on the reserve/COVID-19 list for the franchise that had the NFL's first outbreak last season. Tannehill missed 10 days but was activated on Saturday.

# NFL/US OPEN

## Some big names remain on sideline

By DENNIS WASZAK JR.  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — They were once at the top of the NFL — league MVPs, All-Pro, Pro Bowlers and faces of franchises.

With the regular season about to kick off, they're now at the front of the unemployment line.

Cam Newton, Adrian Peterson, Le'Veon Bell, Todd Gurley and Richard Sherman are just some of the big-name players without jobs as teams prepare for Week 1.

Some players might be waiting for the right opportunity. Meanwhile, teams might be holding off on adding a veteran before the season begins while assessing their rosters — and financial situations.

But for other players, their time in the NFL as productive playmakers might have unceremoniously come and gone.

Here's a look at some of the more recognizable players still waiting for a call:

**Cam Newton:** A surprise cut by New England on Tuesday, the 2015 NFL MVP lost out on the starting job to rookie Mac Jones. He started 15 games for the Patriots last season and showed glimpses of the dynamic playmaker he was in Carolina. But he finished with eight touchdown passes and 10 interceptions in what was easily the worst full season of his career.

**Adrian Peterson:** The fifth-leading rusher in NFL history is 36, but told SportsTalk 790 in Houston in July that he's still aiming to play at least another season. "My body feels strong," Peterson said. "I still feel young. I still feel good." The 2012 NFL MVP ran for 604 yards and seven touchdowns with Detroit last year.

**Le'veon Bell:** Just a few years ago, Bell was arguably the best all-around running back in the league, a do-it-all playmaking force for Pittsburgh. Then he sat out the entire 2018 season while in a contract dispute. Looking to rejuvenate his career — and reclaim his place among the NFL's elite — Bell signed with the Jets in 2019, but fizzled before being cut after two games last year. Kansas City signed him, but he wasn't much of a factor.

**Todd Gurley:** Gurley, who's only 27, put up video game-like stats in three of his first four seasons with the Rams, including running for 30 touchdowns and catching 10 TD passes in 2017 and 2018. Concerns about his left knee cropped up when he struggled in the 2018 playoffs and again the following season, when he had just 857 yards rushing. Gurley signed with Atlanta last year and ran for a career-low 678 yards.

**Richard Sherman:** Once a key

piece of Seattle's "Legion of Boom" defense, Sherman was arguably the best cornerback in the league in his prime. He spent the last three years in San Francisco as a still-solid player when healthy — he missed 11 games last season with a calf injury. While still conceivably able to help a team's secondary even at 33, Sherman's playing future is uncertain because of legal issues.

**Larry Fitzgerald:** It appeared 2020 would be the last season for Fitzgerald, who has played all 17 years of his NFL career with the Arizona Cardinals. That sentiment seemed to be cemented two weeks ago when the 38-year-old Fitzgerald told SiriusXM he was focused on being a radio broadcaster. "I just don't have the urge to play right now," he said. Second only to Jerry Rice in career receptions and yards receiving, Fitzgerald could certainly help a team that thinks it's one receiver away — or give Cardinals fans one final hurrah.

**Frank Gore:** The No. 3 rusher in NFL history might have finally reached the end of his likely journey to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. But the 38-year-old running back has defied odds his entire career, recovering from multiple knee injuries to become one of the league's most productive performers out of the backfield. He finished with 653 yards last season to lead the Jets in his one year in New York. If he stills wants to carry the ball, it's tough to count him out.

**David DeCastro:** The 31-year-old guard was a consistently reliable blocker in nine years for the Steelers while being selected an All-Pro twice and making six straight Pro Bowl trips. DeCastro dealt with a few injuries last season that limited him to 13 games and he needed offseason ankle surgery. He was released by Pittsburgh with a non-football injury designation.



ISAAC BREKKEN/AP

**Le'Veon Bell once was considered the best all-around running back, but he hasn't been the same since sitting out the season in 2018.**

## NFL scoreboard

American Conference						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Miami	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	.000	0	0
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Jacksonville	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tennessee	0	0	0	.000	0	0
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cincinnati	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Pittsburgh	0	0	0	.000	0	0
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	.000	0	0
L.A. Chargers	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	.000	0	0
National Conference						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Giants	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Philadelphia	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Washington	0	0	0	.000	0	0
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Carolina	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New Orleans	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Chicago	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Detroit	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Green Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	.000	0	0
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	0	0	0	.000	0	0
L.A. Rams	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Francisco	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Seattle	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Thursday's game						
Dallas at Tampa Bay						
Sunday's games						
Arizona at Tennessee						
Jacksonville at Houston						
L.A. Chargers at Washington						
Minnesota at Cincinnati						
N.Y. Jets at Carolina						
Philadelphia at Atlanta						
Pittsburgh at Buffalo						
San Francisco at Detroit						
Seattle at Indianapolis						
Cleveland at Kansas City						
Denver at N.Y. Giants						
Green Bay at New Orleans						
Miami at New England						
Chicago at L.A. Rams						
Monday's game						
Baltimore at Las Vegas						



JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

**Novak Djokovic reacts after scoring a point against Kei Nishikori during the third round of the US Open on Saturday.**

## Djokovic lets loose; No. 1 Barty loses

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Novak Djokovic did not seek to keep his thoughts to himself on court Saturday, the way he mostly did through his first two U.S. Open matches. Instead, he let it all out, slapping his chest or sneering with a fist raised to celebrate success, pointing to his ear to ask the crowd for noise.

This was the Djokovic everyone is so accustomed to seeing — yes, winning on the Grand Slam stage, of course, as he always does in this magical season, but also animated and into it, encouraging the spectators to join him for the ride on his path toward tennis history.

Taking another step in his bid to complete the first calendar-year Slam by a man in more than a half-century, Djokovic moved into the fourth round at Flushing Meadows for the 14th consecutive appearance, coming back to beat Kei Nishikori 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.

"I don't plan to have those kind of emotional moments on the court, whether good or bad. It just happens," Djokovic said. "In the heat of the battle, when you feel like the moment is very important ... you just want to get those things out of yourself, out of your system — try to, I guess, ride on that energy wave that you create, whether it's with yourself, whether it's with the crowd."

So the No. 1-seeded Djokovic managed to avoid the rash of upsets that have hit the tournament, but the top-seeded woman, Ash Barty, did not. A day after defending champion Naomi Osaka and two of the top five men, Stefanos Tsitsipas and Andrey Rublev were beaten, Barty blew a big lead in the final set and lost to 43rd-ranked Shelby Rogers of the U.S.,

6-2, 1-6, 7-6 (5) on Saturday night.

Rogers was a quarterfinalist in New York a year ago, while Barty owns titles from the French Open in 2019 and Wimbledon this July but never has been past the fourth round at Flushing Meadows.

Coming into this match, Barty was 5-0 against Rogers and then went up two breaks at 5-2 in the third set.

Rogers' mindset at that point? "Can't get any worse. You've lost to her every time," said Rogers, who plays 18-year-old Emma Raducanu of Britain on Monday. "Try something different."

Urged on by a raucous crowd, Rogers smacked moon balls, stayed patient — and waited as a rattled Barty hit a slew of unforced errors that led to another early exit at Flushing Meadows.

"I just tried to get the crowd into it. I said, 'You know what, if I'm going to go down, I'm going to give a last dying effort,'" she said.

Djokovic is now 24-0 in the sport's four most important events this season, having won the Australian Open in February, the French Open in June and Wimbledon in July. The last man to go 4 for 4 at the majors was Rod Laver in 1969; Steffi Graf was the last woman, in 1988.

Win four more matches next week, and Djokovic also would earn his 21st career Slam trophy, breaking the men's mark he currently shares with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

"I would not be honest fully if I told you I don't think or I don't believe or I don't visualize that I can win every single Grand Slam that I play in," Djokovic said. "I'm not surprised when I win Slams and big tournaments because that's always a goal."

MLB

Scoreboard

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	86	50	.632	—
New York	78	57	.578	7½
Boston	79	59	.572	8
Toronto	72	62	.537	13
Baltimore	42	92	.313	43
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	79	57	.581	—
Cleveland	67	66	.504	10½
Detroit	64	73	.467	15½
Kansas City	60	75	.444	18½
Minnesota	58	77	.430	20½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	79	56	.585	—
Oakland	74	62	.544	5½
Seattle	74	62	.544	5½
Los Angeles	68	68	.500	11½
Texas	47	88	.348	32
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	71	64	.526	—
Philadelphia	69	66	.511	2
New York	68	68	.500	3½
Miami	57	79	.419	14½
Washington	56	79	.415	15
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	83	54	.606	—
Cincinnati	73	64	.533	10
St. Louis	69	65	.515	12½
Chicago	62	75	.453	21
Pittsburgh	48	88	.353	34½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	86	50	.632	—
San Francisco	86	50	.632	—
San Diego	72	64	.529	14
Colorado	63	73	.463	23
Arizona	45	92	.328	41½

**Saturday's games**

Baltimore 4, N.Y. Yankees 3  
 Toronto 10, Oakland 8  
 Tampa Bay 11, Minnesota 4  
 Boston 4, Cleveland 3  
 Cincinnati 7, Detroit 4  
 Chicago White Sox 10, Kansas City 7  
 Seattle 8, Arizona 5  
 L.A. Angels 4, Texas 1  
 San Diego 10, Houston 2  
 N.Y. Mets 11, Washington 9, 1st game  
 Washington 4, N.Y. Mets 3, 7 innings, 2nd game  
 Chicago Cubs 7, Pittsburgh 6  
 Miami 3, Philadelphia 2  
 Milwaukee 4, St. Louis 0  
 Colorado 7, Atlanta 6  
 L.A. Dodgers 6, San Francisco 1

**Sunday's games**

Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees  
 Oakland at Toronto  
 Cleveland at Boston  
 Detroit at Cincinnati  
 Minnesota at Tampa Bay  
 Chicago White Sox at Kansas City  
 Texas at L.A. Angels  
 Houston at San Diego  
 Seattle at Arizona  
 N.Y. Mets at Washington  
 Philadelphia at Miami  
 St. Louis at Milwaukee  
 Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs  
 Atlanta at Colorado  
 L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco

**Monday's games**

Kansas City (Kovar 0-2) at Baltimore (TBD)  
 Toronto (Ryu 12-8) at N.Y. Yankees (Taillon 8-5)  
 Tampa Bay (Yarbrough 8-4) at Boston (Sale 3-0)  
 Detroit (Skubal 8-12) at Pittsburgh (Wilson 2-6)  
 Minnesota (Ober 2-2) at Cleveland (Civale 10-2)  
 Seattle (Kikuchi 7-7) at Houston (McCullers Jr. 10-4)  
 Texas (Alexy 1-0) at L.A. Angels (TBD)  
 N.Y. Mets (Williams 4-2) at Washington (Corbin 7-14)  
 Philadelphia (Wheeler 11-9) at Milwaukee (Woodruff 9-7)  
 Cincinnati (Gray 7-6) at Chicago Cubs (Steele 3-2)  
 San Francisco (Gausman 12-5) at Colorado (Freeland 5-6)  
 L.A. Dodgers (Scherzer 12-4) at St. Louis (Mikolas 0-1)

**Tuesday's games**

Minnesota at Cleveland  
 Detroit at Pittsburgh  
 Kansas City at Baltimore  
 Toronto at N.Y. Yankees  
 Tampa Bay at Boston  
 Seattle at Houston  
 Chicago White Sox at Oakland  
 Texas at Arizona  
 L.A. Angels at San Diego  
 N.Y. Mets at Miami  
 Washington at Atlanta  
 Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs  
 Philadelphia at Milwaukee  
 L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis  
 San Francisco at Colorado

# Jays go deep 4 times, edge A's

Hernández hits 100th career HR as Toronto keeps up hot streak

Associated Press

TORONTO — Teoscar Hernández hit his 100th career home run, José Berríos took a no-hitter into the fifth inning and the Blue Jays survived a late scare to beat the Oakland Athletics 10-8 Saturday, Toronto's sixth win in seven games.

"The key was Berríos," Blue Jays manager Charlie Montoyo said. "Everything starts on the mound. He was outstanding. He commanded his fastball. When he does that, he's the guy that we thought we were going to get."

Berríos (10-7) allowed three runs and four hits in 6⅓ innings to win back-to-back starts, beating Oakland for the first time in seven career meetings. He walked none and struck out seven.

"The last two outings I've been able to locate my fastball to both sides of the plate," Berríos said. "That's why my secondary pitches work well off the fastball."

Berríos has not walked a batter in three straight outings, matching the longest such streak of his career.

"He's a competitor," Toronto catcher Danny Jansen said after working with Berríos for the first time. "I had a blast."

With the defeat, the Athletics lost more ground in the AL wild card race, dropping four games behind Boston after the Red Sox beat Cleveland 4-3 Saturday. Toronto is five games back.



JON BLACKER/AP

Toronto Blue Jays' Breyvic Valera celebrates his two-RBI home run with Lourdes Gurriel Jr. in the fourth inning of a the Jays' 10-8 win Saturday over the Oakland Athletics in Toronto.

Breyvic Valera hit a two-run homer while Jansen and Lourdes Gurriel Jr. each had solo shots as the Blue Jays boosted their home run total to 204. San Francisco had 201 home runs entering play Saturday.

Oakland pitchers allowed at least three home

runs for the fifth straight game, extending a dubious franchise record.

Mark Canha hit a three-run homer for the Athletics and finished with four RBIs. Sean Murphy added a two-run blast and Matt Chapman hit a solo shot.

ROUNDUP

## Dodgers top Giants, earn share of 1st in NL West

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Trea Turner and Corey Seager homered, Julio Urias won his seventh straight decision, and the Los Angeles Dodgers moved into a tie for first place with the San Francisco Giants atop the NL West Division with a 6-1 win Saturday.

Turner homered leading off the game to set the tone for Los Angeles' fourth win in five contests. Turner extended his hitting streak to 11 games.

Buster Posey went 3-for-4 with an RBI double for San Francisco, which lost for the fifth time in seven games.

The Dodgers have won 21 of their last 26 games.

**Orioles 4, Yankees 3:** Aroldis Chapman gave up Pedro Severino's tiebreaking sacrifice fly with the bases loaded in the ninth inning and host New York Yankees lost to last-place Baltimore and were no hit through the first seven innings.

Joey Gallo's two-run homer in the eighth tied it at 3, and manager Aaron Boone went to his All-Star closer with the save taken out of play.

**Angels 4, Rangers 1:** Shohei Ohtani hit his major league-leading 43rd home run and Jose Suarez pitched a five-hitter, leading host Los Angeles over Texas.

Ohtani connected for a three-



JOHN HEFT/AP

Mookie Betts, right, is congratulated by A.J. Pollock after Betts scored in the Los Angeles Dodgers' 6-1 win Saturday at San Francisco.

run homer in the sixth inning.

**Padres 10, Astros 2:** Manny Machado, Wil Myers and Fernando Tatis Jr. each hit an impressive two-run home run and Joe Musgrove had a solid outing against one of his former teams as host San Diego beat AL West-leading Houston.

Tatis slugged his NL-leading 37th homer and hit a go-ahead, two-run single during the four-run second inning for the Padres, who remain a half-game behind the Cincinnati Reds in the race for the NL's second wild-card spot.

**Rockies 7, Braves 6:** Charlie

Blackmon homered for the third straight game, Raimel Tapia had a go-ahead sacrifice fly and host Colorado edged Atlanta.

C.J. Cron also homered for the Rockies.

**Rays 11, Twins 4:** Yandy Díaz hit one of the Rays' franchise record-tying six homers and drove in four runs, Wander Franco extended his on-base streak to 34 games and AL East-leading Tampa Bay beat visiting Minnesota.

Díaz had an RBI single in the first inning and a three-run homer off Andrew Albers during a five-run second.

**Cubs 7, Pirates 6:** Rookie Frank Schwindel's RBI single capped a three-run rally with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting host Chicago over Pittsburgh for its fifth straight win.

Schwindel had three hits, including a solo home run. Alfonso Rivas singled home a run in the ninth that drew the Cubs within 6-5 and Rafael Ortega's third hit of the game tied it.

**Mets 11-3, Nationals 9-4:** Lane Thomas and Alcides Escobar homered as host Washington ended a seven-game skid with a victory in the second game of a doubleheader for a split.

New York won the opener after blowing a nine-run lead before bouncing back on Francisco Lin-

dor's two-run homer in the ninth inning.

**Marlins 3, Phillies 2:** Lewis Brinson hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the bottom of the eighth inning and host Miami rallied to beat Philadelphia.

**Red Sox 4, Indians 3:** Alex Verdugo hit an RBI single with bases loaded and two out in the bottom of the ninth inning to give host Boston a win over Cleveland.

**Brewers 4, Cardinals 0:** Adrian Houser pitched Milwaukee's first complete-game shutout since 2014 and his first pro shutout, throwing a three-hitter in a win over visiting St. Louis.

Houser (8-6) didn't allow a runner until Nolan Arenado led off the fifth inning with a single. He struck out seven and walked none.

**Reds 7, Tigers 4:** Aristides Aquino hit a three-run homer, Tyler Naquin drove in two with a pinch-hit triple and host Cincinnati beat Detroit.

**White Sox 10, Royals 7:** Yasmani Grandal went 3-for-3 with a home run and four RBIs as visiting Chicago built a big lead and held off Salvador Perez and Kansas City.

**Mariners 8, Diamondbacks 5:** Kyle Seager hit a pair of three-run homers, J.P. Crawford added four hits and two RBIs and Seattle won at Arizona.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Montana's Omar Hicks Onu upends Washington's Giles Jackson, breaking up a pass, in the first half of the Grizzlies' 13-7 win Saturday in Seattle.

# Grizzly details: Montana takes out No. 20 Huskies

Montana victory over Washington leads parade of FCS surprises over FBS teams

Associated Press

A couple of weeks before the season started, Montana coach Bobby Hauck met with university president Seth Bodnar. His message was clear: The Grizzlies were going to be really good and even might take down Washington in the opener.

Yes, that Washington. The one from the Pac-12 and expected to challenge for a conference title.

Shockingly, Hauck turned out to be right.

Montana became the first FCS team to upset a ranked FBS team in five years, stunning the No. 20 Huskies 13-7.

"This is the Washington Huskies. OK. This is App State over Michigan," said Hauck, a one-time assistant at Washington.

The Grizzlies got the better of their Pac-12 foe, pulling off arguably the biggest victory in school history outside of winning two FCS national titles.

Montana is the first FCS team to beat a ranked FBS team since North Dakota State won at No. 13 Iowa 23-21 early in the 2016 season, and the fifth time it has happened since Appalachian State's famous upset of No. 5 Michigan in 2007. It was Montana's second victory over Washington, the last coming in 1920.

It was a big week for FCS teams as three others knocked off FBS

teams. South Dakota State downed Colorado State 42-23 on Friday and on Saturday, East Tennessee State upset Vanderbilt and Holy Cross stunned Connecticut.

After Montana, the biggest shocker was probably East Tennessee State's surprisingly easy win as linebacker Stephen Scott returned a fumble 27 yards for a touchdown in a 23-3 win, ruining the head coaching debut of Clark Lea at his alma mater.

The victory was the Buccaneers' first over a Power Five program since upsetting North Carolina State on Nov. 7, 1987.

"It's a great win for us, it's a great win for those kids," ETSU coach Randy Sanders said. "Every time you go out there, every time you go on the field, you're making a memory. It's either a good one or a bad one, and I think tonight we made a memory that is going to be a good one for a long, long, long time."

Scott said, "It's a wonderful feeling."

The Commodores became the first Southeastern Conference team to lose to a FCS program since South Carolina lost to Citadel on Nov. 21, 2015.

Lea left a job as defensive coordinator at Notre Dame to take over the challenge of rebuilding the program where he once

played fullback. Instead, he joins the man he replaced in Derek Mason losing his debut. Vandy also extended an 11-game skid that started a game after ETSU last visited Nashville in November 2019.

He called this loss "tough to stomach" but that he knew the Commodores had a long way to go coming into this season.

Vanderbilt visits Colorado State next Saturday in a matchup of FBS teams who both lost to FCS programs to open this season.

Holy Cross defeated UConn 38-28 but that was less of a surprise as the Crusaders are the two-time defending Patriot League champions and were in the FCS playoffs last season while the Huskies didn't play last season after going 2-10 in 2019.

Holy Cross sophomore Matt Sluka passed for two touchdowns, ran for another and his 76-yard keeper in the fourth quarter iced a season-opening win at UConn.

Sluka passed for 123 yards and ran for 112. His long run set up Tyler Purdy's 14-yard TD carry — his second score of the game — to give the Crusaders a 10-point lead with just over eight minutes left.

The win over the Huskies is the first win over an FBS opponent for Holy Cross, since the team beat Army in 2002.

## SERVICE ACADEMIES

## Army opens with rout of Georgia St.

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Christian Anderson ran for one touchdown, passed for another and Army opened the season with a 43-10 victory over Georgia State on Saturday.

The Black Knights turned two Georgia State turnovers into touchdowns and a 27-7 halftime lead. On their first drive, the Panthers lost a fumble at their 40 which led to Tyson Riley's 4-yard score. Anderson scored on a quarterback draw on the final play of the first half after Georgia State fumbled on its 9. Army scored on four of its five first-half drives.

The Black Knights broke the game open to start the second half after the Panthers turned the ball over on downs and Anderson connected on a pass play of 40 yards to Tyrell Robinson.

As usual, Army stuck to the ground on offense, dominating the time of possession by over 20 minutes but it did surprise Georgia State with two wide-open touchdown receptions.

Andre Carter II led a stingy Black Knights defense with three sacks against a Panthers offense that had all 11 starters returning from a team that averaged a school-record 33.3 points per game last season.

**Air Force 35, Lafayette 14:** Haazig Daniels ran for three touchdowns and the host Falcons beat the Leopards.

Daniels' third TD run, a 19-yarder with just over six minutes left, gave Air Force its first score of the second half and ensured its 15th straight season-opening victory and its 25th win without a loss against FCS opponents.

Daniels and Micah Davis ran for two touchdowns apiece in the first half when the Falcons out-

rushed Lafayette 199-27. But the Leopards' defense toughened in the second half and they got within 28-14 midway through the third quarter on Selwyn Simpson's 3-yard run.

Davis gave Air Force a comfortable cushion with his third score and Corvan Taylor followed with an interception by the Falcons.

Brad Roberts had 25 carries for 111 yards and Davis added 101 on just four attempts. Daniels had 72 yards rushing and 50 passing. Air Force outrushed Lafayette 375-43.

**Marshall 49, Navy 7:** Freshman Rasheen Ali scored the first four touchdowns of his collegiate career as the Thundering Herd dominated the host Midshipmen in Charles Huff's debut coach on Saturday.

Huff was introduced as Marshall's coach nearly a year ago. While the team won a ninth-straight season opener, Huff broke a specific type of losing streak: the previous five first-year coaches had all lost season-opening road games.

Ali scored his first TD from the 2, capping the game-opening drive. He added two more scoring runs — from the 3 and the 4 — staking the Thundering Herd to a 21-0 halftime lead. Ali scored a final touchdown with a plunge from the 1 midway through the fourth quarter.

Sheldon Evans scored Marshall's other two touchdowns with runs of 9 and 1 yards.

Xavier Arline scored early in the fourth, crashing over from the 1, as the Midshipmen avoided the shutout thanks to 337 yards rushing.

Four Navy players combined to complete five of 16 passes for 61 yards.



BEN MARGOT/AP

Army linebacker Andre Carter II (34) celebrates a sack of Georgia State quarterback Cornelious Brown IV in the Black Knights' 43-10 win Saturday in Atlanta. Army's defense had three sacks in the game.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## No. 2 Oklahoma's defense struggles

BY CLIFF BRUNT  
Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Oklahoma hoped days like this were in the past.

The No. 2 Sooners entered the season among the favorites to contend for the national title in part because the defense had improved significantly the past two years under coordinator Alex Grinch. What once had been one of the nation's worst units had become an asset.

It was more of a liability at times on Saturday. The Sooners struggled in the second half and did just enough to hold off Tulane for a 40-35 victory.

Oklahoma led 37-14 at halftime, then the offense stalled and the defense was forced to get a stop in the final minutes to preserve a season-opening win. Tulane outgained the Sooners 230 yards to 118 after the break and outscored them 21-3.

"The second half, I think clearly our team felt like the game was over," Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley said. "That's obviously my job to make sure our mentality is right. I don't think it was. I think we were playing well at that point and had separated a little bit. And then you could just see we weren't quite the same team coming out."

Grinch said his players didn't heed his warning, and the result was an all-too-familiar collapse in the second half — just like the one that led to a loss to Kansas State last year.

"You explain to the guys at halftime there's more adversity coming, and the eyes staring back at you, and then heads are shaking, heads bobbing 'I got you Coach,'" he said. "There's been other instances in

our past where similar things have happened.

"It's a 60-minute football game. That team across the way is going to fight tooth and nail to find a way to get points and get themselves back in the football game. You've got to have respect for that."

"That was one of the hardest hitting teams, one of the most physical teams I've played," Oklahoma quarterback Spencer Rattler said. "They came out there, and they played great, better than us, for sure. They wanted to win more than us. You could tell it. We have to be cleaner, sharper, and have to be better."

The Sooners, who led 40-22 early in the fourth quarter, gave up a pair of late touchdowns. Tulane had fourth-and-13 just short of midfield with just under two minutes to go when quarterback Michael Pratt ran for 12 yards and the Green Wave turned the ball over on downs.

"We always preach finishing in the fourth quarter," Oklahoma linebacker Nik Bonitto said. "The defense knew we needed a stop, and I feel like we did a good job rallying up before that drive happened and making sure that we could finish the game."

Grinch was proud of the Sooners for getting that stop.

"Your logo ain't gonna win you a game at that point," he said. "You've got to go make a play and find a way, and (Tulane) ended up being a yard short. As disappointed as I may sound right now, I feel a whole lot better that we made that play as opposed to not."

The Sooners often pressured Pratt, only to see him escape and turn losses into gains. He passed for 296 yards and three touch-



ALONZO ADAMS/AP

Tulane quarterback Justin Ibieta throws a pass against Oklahoma on Saturday in Norman, Okla. The Sooners held on for a 40-35 victory after leading 37-14 at halftime.

downs and rushed for 34 yards and another score.

The Sooners sacked Pratt four times and made him fumble three times in a game that was relocated from New Orleans because of Hurricane Ida. But overall, the Sooners we-

ren't satisfied with their performance.

"I certainly thought we'd play a better ballgame," Grinch said. "I did. So I'm going to be awfully disappointed in that film but awfully pleased that we found a way to win."

## Start: Young appears to be real deal for 'Bama

FROM PAGE 24

roster full of future early round NFL draft picks.

In the centerpiece game of the opening weekend of college football, the fifth-ranked Bulldogs put on a relentless, ferocious, smothering display of defense against No. 3 Clemson on Saturday night in Charlotte.

"We frustrated them and confused them," Smart told reporters. "We didn't do very good offensively either, but we did have some moments we could run the ball. They weren't able to do that."

The Bulldogs sacked Clemson quarterback D.J. Uiagalelei seven times, forced the Tigers to totally abandon the run (nine running back carries for 24 yards) and held Clemson to its lowest point total under coach Dabo Swinney.

It was the lowest scoring game between top-five teams since Oklahoma beat Texas 12-0 in 2004.

Two and half weeks before from the official start of fall and it is already tempting to start counting down the days to the Southeastern Conference championship game and a possible Georgia-Alabama matchup.

Ninety-one, by the way.

**Alabama's new star:** Welcome

to the Bryce Young era of Alabama football. It looks as if it will be a lot of fun — unless you're playing the Crimson Tide.

Young set a school record for touchdown passes by a quarterback making his first start with four as the Tide took care of No. 14 Miami with no trouble.

Young has a chance to be even more dynamic than the guys who have come before him at Alabama. Those guys, Tua Tagovailoa, Jalen Hurts and Mac Jones, are all scheduled to start for NFL teams next week.

Young is undersized, listed at 6-feet and 194 pounds but that might be a stretch. Doesn't matter. Those Kyler Murray comps looked pretty good in Atlanta. Young was 27 for 38 for 344 yards.

"He plays like a veteran out there," coach Nick Saban said.

No one should be terribly surprised that Young is really good and Alabama again appears to be a fully functional Death Star even after saying goodbye to six first-round draft picks off last year's unbeaten team.

Young, the former five-star recruit from California, came into his first career start as one of the odds on favorites to win the Heis-

man Trophy.

Still, fans with Alabama fatigue after watching Saban's dynasty win half the national titles in the last dozen year might have had some fleeting hope that breaking in a new QB could make the Tide a touch more vulnerable in 2021.

Maybe that will prove to be true at some point, but don't bet on it.

**What's real?:** A theme coming into the season was trying to determine what from last year was relevant.

The pandemic distorted a lot of seasons for a lot of reasons.

Especially in conferences such as the Big Ten where teams played abbreviated schedules that didn't start until weeks into the fall.

That was just part of what made No. 19 Penn State at No. 12 Wisconsin such an interesting opener. Neither team was particularly good last season. Were the down years an ominous sign for two solid programs or an anomaly?

The Nittany Lions came away with the road victory, grabbing two late interceptions in their own territory. Penn State faced 95 plays and allowed 10 points.

"Our defense played extremely well, gutsy," Penn State coach Franklin said.

Graham Mertz and the Badgers offense looked a lot like the spotty crew it was in 2020, imploding in the red zone frequently.

And Penn State's new-look offense left a lot of be desired, too, though the return of running back Noah Cain from injury appears to be a difference-maker.

The Nittany Lions and Badgers played the first scoreless first half in a Big Ten game since Michigan and Northwestern in 2014. Better known as the MOON game.

The Badgers and Nittany Lions are two of several Big Ten teams that face challenging first five weeks of the season, making the opener feel even bigger.

By mid-October a serious challenger to No. 4 Ohio State — if such a thing exists — should emerge.

Neither Penn State nor Wisconsin look up to the task of keeping up with the Buckeyes' dizzying array of skill players, but there is time to build.

For those who thought No. 17 Indiana's feel-good story could carryover into 2021, well, it's probably already time to adjust expectations. No. 18 Iowa put an old-school beating on the Hoosiers, who didn't even get all the jerseys correct.

## Scoreboard

## Top 25 fared

No. 1. Alabama (1-0) beat No. 14 Miami, 44-13. Next: vs. Mercer, Saturday.  
No. 2. Oklahoma (1-0) beat Tulane, 40-35. Next: vs. W. Carolina, Saturday.  
No. 3. Clemson (0-1) lost to No. 5 Georgia, 10-3. Next: South Carolina St., Saturday.  
No. 4. Ohio State (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 11 Oregon, Saturday.  
No. 5. Georgia (1-0) beat No. 3 Clemson, 10-3. Next: vs. UAB, Saturday.  
No. 6. Texas A&M (1-0) beat Kent St., 41-10. Next: at Colorado, Saturday.  
No. 7. Iowa State (1-0) beat N. Iowa, 16-10. Next: vs. No. 18 Iowa, Saturday.  
No. 8. Cincinnati (1-0) beat Miami (Ohio), 49-14. Next: Murray St., Saturday.  
No. 9. Notre Dame (0-0) did not play. Next: at Florida St., Sunday.  
No. 10. North Carolina (0-1) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia St., Saturday.  
No. 11. Oregon (1-0) beat Fresno St., 31-24. Next: at No. 4 Ohio St., Saturday.  
No. 12. Wisconsin (0-1) lost to No. 19 Penn St., 16-10. Next: vs. E. Michigan, Saturday.  
No. 13. Florida (1-0) beat FAU, 35-14. Next: at South Florida, Saturday.  
No. 14. Miami (0-1) lost to No. 1 Alabama, 44-13. Next: vs. Appalachian St., Saturday.  
No. 15. Southern Cal (1-0) beat San Jose St., 30-7. Next: vs. Stanford, Saturday.  
No. 16. LSU (0-1) lost to UCLA, 38-27. Next: vs. McNeese St., Saturday.  
No. 17. Indiana (0-1) lost to No. 18 Iowa, 34-6. Next: vs. Idaho, Saturday.  
No. 18. Iowa (1-0) beat No. 17 Indiana, 34-6. Next: vs. No. 7 Iowa St., Saturday.  
No. 19. Penn State (1-0) beat No. 12 Wisconsin, 16-10. Next: vs. Ball St., Saturday.  
No. 20. Washington (0-1) lost to Montana, 13-7. Next: at Michigan, Saturday.  
No. 21. Texas (1-0) beat No. 23 Louisiana-Lafayette, 38-18. Next: at Arkansas, Saturday.  
No. 22. Coastal Carolina (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas, Friday.  
No. 23. Louisiana-Lafayette (0-1) lost to No. 21. Texas, 38-18. Next: vs. Nicholls St., Saturday.  
No. 24. Utah (1-0) did not play. Next: at BYU, Saturday.  
No. 25. Arizona State (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. UNLV, Saturday.

# SPORTS



## Letting loose

No. 1 Djokovic doesn't hold back in third-round win » **US Open, Page 20**

### TOP 25 TAKEAWAYS



Clemson quarterback D.J. Uiagalelei is knocked down by Georgia defender Travon Walker (44) on Saturday in Charlotte, N.C. The Bulldogs won 10-3. CURTIS COMPTON/AP

# Smothering start

As Alabama cements itself as modern-day 'QB U,' Georgia has built dominant defensive machine

**BY RALPH D. RUSSO**  
*Associated Press*

**G**eorgia is trying to bring defense back. In the age of offense, when Nick Saban's Alabama dynasty has turned into QB U., Kirby Smart has built a devastating defensive machine

built of blue-chippers. Nakobe Dean, five-star. Adam Anderson, five-star. Nolan Smith, five-star. Travon Walker, five-star. You say defense is dead? Georgia says not if you have a

**SEE START ON PAGE 23**

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Army dominates Georgia State 43-10 in season opener **Page 22**

**Buccaneers, Brady favored in NFC South** » NFL, Page 18

