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# EUROPE & PACIFIC WEEKEND EDITION



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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## First Black service chief: 'I'm simply in awe today'

BY COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Gen. Charles Brown was sworn in Thursday morning as the Air Force's 22nd chief of staff, becoming the first Black military service chief in the 245 year history of the U.S. armed forces.

The longtime fighter pilot known as "CQ" beamed as top Pentagon leaders praised his service that has taken him across the globe, commanding in recent years all U.S. air forces in the Middle East and the Pacific. He took over the service during a ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md., from another career fighter pilot, as Gen. David Goldfein retired after leading the service since July 2016.

"I'm simply in awe today," Brown said in brief remarks after assuming the role of the service's top general. He acknowledged his selection made Thursday a "very historic day" in U.S. history as he thanked past African American military leaders for paving his way, including the famed Tuskegee Army Airmen of World War II and Air Force Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James, who in 1975 became America's first Black four-star general.

"I do not take this moment lightly," he said. "It is due to their trials and tribulations in breaking barriers that I can address you today as the Air Force chief of staff."

In his remarks, Brown noted his promotion to lead the Air Force would never have come had his father — a career Army officer — not talked him out of quitting the ROTC program at Texas Tech University after just one semester. Even after commissioning into the service in 1994, Brown said he only planned to serve four years.

But Brown fell in love with flying fighter jets. During his career, he's flown some 20 different airplanes and helicopters, primarily F-16 Fighting Falcons, including some 130 hours in combat, according to his



## A call to act

### 75 years after bombing, Hiroshima mayor urges nuclear disarmament

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO  
*Stars and Stripes*

**T**he mayor of the first city to be devastated by an atomic bomb urged the world's nations, including Japan, to take nuclear disarmament more seriously as Hiroshima marked the attack's 75th anniversary Thursday.

"I ask the Japanese government to heed the appeal of the hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) to sign, ratify and become a party to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons," Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui told an audience that included Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. "As the only nation to suffer a nuclear attack, Japan must persuade the

### Inside:

■ Manhattan Project's legacy of revolutionary discovery was not without cost to nation, **Page 6**

global public to unite with the spirit of Hiroshima."

The city was effectively leveled by the attack on Aug. 6, 1945. Days later, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, leading to Japan's surrender and the end of World War II.

Matsui spoke during a ceremony at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park that paused for a tolling bell at 8:15 a.m., the precise moment 75 years earlier that a U.S. B-29 Superfortress dropped the bomb, dubbed Little Boy, over the city center. The annual ceremony was scaled

back significantly this year because of concerns over the coronavirus.

The bell sounded seven times for the 324,129 lives lost either in the atomic bombing or from its effects in the years since. The wailing tone swept across the crowd of survivors, mourners who lost family in the attack, dignitaries, media and Hiroshima residents who gathered to mark the anniversary.

"It was said that nothing will grow here for 75 years, but 75 years later,

**SEE ACT ON PAGE 7**

**Five-year-old Saki Morioki prays as paper lanterns float along the Motoyasu River in front of the Atomic Bomb Dome, Thursday, in Hiroshima as Japan marked the 75th anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima.**

EUGENE HOSHINO/AP

**SATURDAY IN THE PACIFIC**

CHINA

RUSSIA

N. KOREA

S. KOREA

Sea of Japan

JAPAN

Pacific Ocean

Seoul 75/70

Osan 76/73

Busan 78/75

Sasebo 83/79

Iwakuni 81/78

Tokyo 91/75

Misawa 69/66

Guam 84/78

Philippine Sea

Okinawa 84/81

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

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## MILITARY

# Esper: George Floyd death is 'wake-up call'

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Mark Esper on Wednesday called George Floyd's killing on Memorial Day by Minnesota police a "wake-up call" to military leadership about the racism and inequality minority Americans face, including those serving in the armed forces.

"I don't think what everybody [in the Defense Department's leadership] appreciated, at least me personally, is the depth of sentiment out there among our service members of color, particularly Black Americans, about how much [impact] the killing of George Floyd ... had on them, and what they are experiencing in the ranks, as well," Esper told an audience for the annual Aspen Security Forum, which is being conducted virtually this week due to coronavirus concerns. "We took it upon ourselves as a leadership team — we had to do better. We must do better."

In June, as protests spread across all 50 U.S. states over Floyd's death and other cases of police brutality, Esper said he was moved to look more deeply at race relations within the military, where Black and other minority troops were speaking out about injustices that they felt they had faced.

In recent weeks, Esper and other top Pentagon leaders have met with groups of service members as they travel throughout the United States and abroad to discuss race issues. Those meetings, time and again, revealed minority service members faced discrimination in their lives, he said.

"You get a true sense of what they've experienced," Esper said. "Anecdotes, story after story, and ... it's all consistent. Everywhere I go, regardless of service, regardless of location, same type of stories, same types of experiences."

Among the service members who shared publicly issues that they have faced in uniform were

some of the military's most senior minority personnel — including Gen. Charles "CQ" Brown, who on Thursday became the Air Force chief of staff, the first-ever Black leader of a service branch. In a video in June, Brown talked about the discrimination that he had faced as a young fighter pilot, including disbelief among others that he was a pilot because of his skin color.

Last month, Esper ordered the creation of two separate panels to study the military's handling of racial issues, its diversity and equal opportunity for troops of all races and ethnicities. One panel, which began work last month, is made up of military officials tasked with quickly establishing recommendations for Esper to implement department-wide by December.

The internal panel is led by Air Force Secretary Barbara Barrett and Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman Ramon Colon-Lopez, the military's top enlisted

service member. The 15-member board includes high-ranking and mid-ranking officers and enlisted troops with varying backgrounds. Esper said he expected the young members to provide fresh perspectives for the Pentagon.

"We knew they would own the future," he said of including troops in ranks as low as a Marine Corps captain and an Army sergeant. "They really know they have to help lead us on this."

The second board — to be called the Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion in the Armed Forces — will be made up of outside experts and is intended to stand permanently, charged with looking critically at the military's race issues and regularly providing Pentagon leaders recommendations for improvement. Esper said he expected the group to begin work in November.

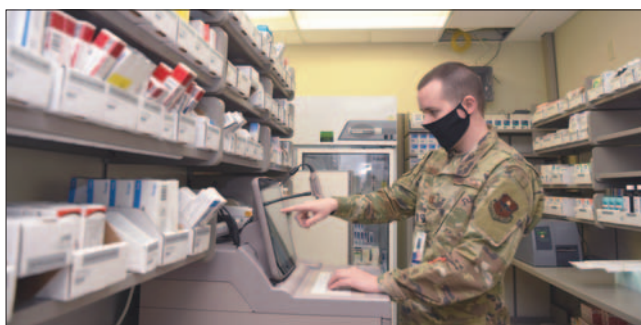
Pentagon leaders, including Esper, have long said they were committed to racial and other equality within the military. But

still, the military services have reported in recent months unexplained disparities such as minority troops being promoted at a lower rate into senior ranks than their white colleagues and Blacks and other minorities facing a significantly higher likelihood of facing punishment while in uniform.

The services have launched investigations meant to determine the root causes of those issues, and Esper has charged the diversity panels to consider them as well.

"It is a profound issue," Esper said. "It's critical because, first of all, it's the right thing to do, but secondly, it's important to [combat] readiness. If we're going to deploy and employ a ready, capable force, we have to have Americans of all walks, of all colors, ethnicities, etc., filling out the team and [being] part of the team."

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ABBEY RIEVES/U.S. Air Force

U.S. Air Force Capt. Adam Remme, 17th Medical Group pharmacy element chief, mandates prescription refills during the preparations for the Ross Clinic pharmacy's curbside reinstatement on Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, on May 6.

## Thousands to pay new increased Tricare enrollment fees in 2021

By STEVE BEYNON  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department on Wednesday announced thousands of Tricare beneficiaries will be required to pay new enrollment fees in 2021.

Tricare Select Group A retirees will be required to pay new fees starting Jan. 1, 2021. An individual's monthly enrollment fee will be \$12.50 or \$150 annually. Monthly family fees will be \$25 or \$300 annually. There are 407,431 beneficiaries of Tricare Select, according to 2019 data from the Defense Department.

The new fees were mandated by the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act's reorganization

of Tricare, the health care program for service members, retirees, and their families.

Any service member who joined the military before Jan. 1, 2018, is in Select Group A. Select Group B are those who enlisted or commissioned after Jan. 1, 2018, and have already been paying enrollment fees. The Defense Health Agency said there are no changes to Group B.

Beneficiaries will need to contact their Tricare regional contractors and set up their enrollment payments. The Tricare regions are: Humana Military in the eastern United States, HealthNet Federal Services in the west, and International SOS Government Services overseas.

"In order to maintain health coverage unless waived by law, Tricare Select Group A retired beneficiaries must take action and pay their Tricare Select enrollment fees," according to a statement from the Defense Health Agency, which oversees health care for the military.

However, enrollment fees are waived for Chapter 61 retirees, their family and survivors of deceased service members. Chapter 61 refers to veterans who were medically retired from military service with a rated disability of 30% or greater, according to the Army's Human Resources Command.

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## First: Goldfein praises his replacement, says future has 'never looked brighter'

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Brown has commanded a fighter squadron, the U.S. Air Force Weapons School, two fighter wings, and served as an adviser to top Air Force uniformed and civilian leaders, according to his bio. He also served as the No. 2 general for U.S. Central Command from July 2016 to July 2018 before taking command of U.S. Pacific Air Forces, his most recent assignment.

Army Gen. Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, described the new Air Force leader as "a seasoned warrior" who will advance the Air Force as a fighting force and as an institution that takes care of its people.

"In 'CQ,' we have all that is good about America," Milley said. "In 'CQ,' we see that America can be a better place."

Goldfein, too, noted Brown's elevation to chief of staff was among the most historic in the service's 73 years.

"The future of our Air Force has never looked brighter" than it does under Brown's leadership, he said.

Though Brown became the first African American leader of a military service, he is not the first Black member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Retired Army Gen. Colin Powell served as the Joint Chiefs chairman from 1989 to 1993, but he was never Army chief of staff. Powell went on to serve as President George W. Bush's Secretary

of State from 2001 to 2005.

Brown told airmen that they can expect his full attention as he takes over the service in the midst of changes. Those include a shift in focus from counterterrorism operations to large-scale combat operations against military rivals with similar weapons, such as fighter jets and anti-aircraft missiles, as well as a renewed focus on improving racial equality in the service's ranks.

"No doubt there are challenges ahead that will be difficult but not impossible," Brown said. "You can expect my leadership to be framed by the same four tenets I have used throughout my career: Execute at a high standard, be disciplined in execution, pay attention to details, and have fun."

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## Corrections

■ An Aug. 6 story about two airmen who helped save a drowning toddler's life in Germany should have said that the child was flown by helicopter to a hospital in Saarbrücken, about 30 miles away.

■ An Aug. 6 story about Spc. Curtis Fort, 61, of Roanoke, Va., should have said he was an elder at his church and father of eight children.



## MILITARY

# Special Forces colonel to face 5 counts of assault

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Army has charged a Special Forces colonel based at Fort Bragg, N.C., with multiple counts of sexual assault in a court-martial scheduled to take place in three weeks, according to the service's public court docket.

Col. Kevin Russell faces five counts of violating Article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which covers allegations of rape and sexual assault, the Army docket shows. Russell was arraigned on the charges during a hearing at Fort Bragg in June and has pleaded not guilty, court records show. His court-martial is scheduled for Aug. 25.

Army officials on Wednesday said additional information about Russell's case, including a charge sheet, was not immediately available. Lt. Col. Loren Bymer, a spokesman for U.S. Army Special Operations Command, said officials were working to release some documents with more information about the allegations against Russell. He did not say when such documents would be made available.

Michael Waddington, listed on the docket as Russell's lead defense attorney, did not immediately return messages sent Wednesday seeking comment on the case.

Russell was commissioned into

the Army as an engineering officer in 1992, according to his Army biography. He later became a Green Beret and has served multiple tours in Afghanistan and South America. He has spent time with the Army's 7th Special Forces Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, among other units. He also served a tour as the theater liaison element team chief for U.S. Special Operations Command Central, according to the Army.



Russell

Most recently, Russell served as the commander of U.S. Southern Command's Task Force Bravo, the military's Honduras-based unit of about 500 troops charged with a range of operations in Central and South America and the Caribbean region, including quick response to natural disasters and other emergencies.

He is now serving an assignment with Army Special Operations Command, according to Task and Purpose, which first reported the charges against Russell.

Stars and Stripes reporter Caitlin Kennedy contributed to this story.  
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## Mechanical failure, human error cited in copter crash

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Mechanical failure and human error led to the crash of a Black Hawk helicopter that killed three Minnesota National Guard members last December, according to a Guard summary released Wednesday.

According to the summary of results from a military investigation board, the crew was conducting a maximum power check on the number one engine near St. Cloud. That engine failed during the check, and the number two engine was in the idle setting, causing a dual engine-out condition.

The number one engine failed because the hydromechanical unit was incorrectly installed, and inspection of the unit's installation did not follow published installation procedure, the summary said.

The summary also said the maintenance test pilot failed to respond to a critical situation dur-

ing the routine maintenance test flight, and the pilot at the controls failed to execute an autorotative descent and landing.

"It is critical for us to determine what caused this tragic loss of life — not so that we can place blame, but so that we can do everything possible to ensure nothing like this ever happens again," Brig. Gen. Sandy Best, interim adjutant general of the Minnesota National Guard, said in a news release.

The UH-60L took off from the St. Cloud Army Aviation Support Facility on Dec. 5 and went missing for almost two hours. The crashed helicopter was found in a field about 16 miles southwest of St. Cloud.

The three Guard members who died were Sgt. Kort M. Plantenberg, 28, of Avon, Minn.; Chief Warrant Officer 2 James A. Rogers Jr., 28, of Winnetka, Minn.; and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Charles P. Nord, 30, of Perham, Minn.



CHRISTIAN LOPEZ/Stars and Stripes

Navy spouse Bettie Annable poses with her children, from left, Liam, Roman, Aurora and Audilyn, last month at the Ikego housing area near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.

## Navy families seek compensation for extra time apart amid outbreak

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy's coronavirus precautions are increasing the time sailors spend apart from their families, and some spouses say Congress should change the Family Separation Allowance to reflect that burden.

To avoid bringing the virus onto its ships, the Navy in March began requiring sailors to leave their homes for at least 14 days of restricted movement in barracks before shipping out for sea duty. For those on large ships, such as the 5,000-crew aircraft carriers, the process is completed in phases and takes even longer.

Though families are effectively separated weeks or months before sailors actually go to sea, they are ineligible until the ship leaves the pier for the Defense Department's \$250-per-month Family Separation Allowance. The allowance kicks in after 30 continuous days of deployment.

Bettie Annable is encouraging her fellow spouses to write Congress about the issue. Annable last saw her husband, Petty Officer 1st Class Ernest Annable, when he left home April 8, exactly two months before his ship, the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan, left its homeport, Yokosuka.

"They're using the homeport scenario as a scapegoat," Bettie Annable said in an interview last month. "This scenario is new and is pretty much uncharted waters because they don't have instruction, per se, as to separation pay regarding quarantine."

The allowance, intended to offset "added expenses incurred because of an enforced family separation," starts only after ser-

vices members leave their home bases for the deployment, according to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service website. That leaves a gap in coverage for those service members already separated but not yet deployed.

Neither does the statute account for "bubble ship" port visits. That's when deployed ships make brief stops at their homeports but do not allow sailors to disembark to keep them clear of the coronavirus. Under the current instruction, separation pay is halted when the ship is in its homeport, even when sailors cannot see their families.

"The Reagan has returned home twice since the initial deployment date to pick up those who were quarantined and everybody was forced to remain on that ship, therefore making their duty days seemingly everlasting and the longing for home even deeper," Annable wrote July 28 in a letter to her congressman, Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas. "I truly feel that because they were forced to remain aboard while in port they are entitled to their [Family Separation Allowance]."

The separation allowance doesn't have an explicit expense it's meant to reimburse, but Bettie Annable said it helps her feed her four children while her husband's Basic Allowance for Subsistence, which isn't meant to cover dependents' meals, is cut while he's underway.

The issue isn't one the Navy can fix itself. Congress would have to change the statute behind the allowance "to pay family separation in this circumstance," Navy spokesman Cmdr. Dave Hecht wrote in an email July 23.

"While we recognize that there

is hardship for families that have additional separation due to pre-deployment restriction of movement, under the current instruction, family separation allowance cannot be awarded in this circumstance because the statute requires the ship to be away from the homeport to qualify for family separation allowance," he said.

Navy spouse Danny Ku in Yokosuka agrees the instruction should be changed.

Family Separation Allowance "has the word 'separation,'" Ku told Stars and Stripes. "When the spouse is taken away for quarantine for the sake of the mission, it's already in line with that word. It seems to me that the definition of that policy is outdated and should be revised."

Willow Wegmann, whose husband serves aboard the Reagan and also left for quarantine two months before deployment, said the extended separation has been difficult.

"My spouse was pretty much on deployment [during quarantine] because I wasn't seeing him and he was not coming home," she said.

Wegmann said that "not having separation pay did not affect us financially," but it did for many of his friends.

Others, however, such as Yokosuka-based Navy spouse Victoria Smith, told Stars and Stripes the extra pay is unwarranted.

"I do not think that more money should be received," she said in a Facebook message on July 19. "My husband is on the Reagan. He and I knew what we signed up for. To serve our country. There is no better answer than that."

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## EUROPE

# Esper: Romania, Baltics might get more US troops

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Romania could get a U.S. troop boost and so might the Baltics as part of the plan to reduce force levels in Germany, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said.

"We see putting more rotational forces into the Black Sea region, Romania in particular," Esper said Tuesday during a virtual talk with the Aspen Institute think tank.

The Pentagon also wants to send more forces to the Baltic states and Poland, he said.

The U.S. military has invested heavily in Romania in recent years to support expanded troop rotations in places such as Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base and Campia Turzii Air Base, an emerging Air Force hub.

As the Pentagon prepares to

move the 2nd Cavalry Regiment from Vilseck, Germany, back to the U.S., the idea is to rotate forces from that unit and others back into Europe, Esper said.

The 2nd Cavalry Regiment is the only brigade-sized ground unit left in Germany, and with about 4,500 soldiers is the largest unit impacted by the plan outlined last week by Esper to cut the number of U.S. troops in Germany by around 12,000.

Ultimately, the goal is to have a brigade-size force on rotation in Europe to compensate for the removal of 2nd Cavalry, Esper said. It could be a Stryker unit that is rotated back to Europe, but tank brigades are also a possibility, he said.

If the Pentagon also continues with its current strategy of rotating a U.S.-based armored brigade to Europe every nine months, the Army would eventually have



NOSHOMA DAVIS/U.S. Army

**Soldiers with the 1st Cavalry Division clear an open engagement area during a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise in Galati, Romania, in February.**

to manage two brigade-size rotations.

Those come with a hefty price tag and have been shown by studies to be more expensive than forward-basing units.

Moving troops out of Germany will also be costly, Pentagon officials have said.

President Donald Trump has called repeatedly for the U.S. to scale back its military presence in Germany, which Trump claimed is delinquent on its NATO spending obligations.

While Esper said the troop drawdown from Germany sought to add "strategic flexibility" to the U.S. military, Trump said it was about punishing Berlin for its lack of spending on defense.

"Germany has to pay," Trump said on Fox News hours after the plan was unveiled. "Germany is a wealthy country and they have to pay and we're not going to have 52,000 troops in Germany where they make a fortune off of the troops. You know they built cities around our troops."

The U.S. has 36,000 troops in Germany. Adding 16,000 American civilians attached to the military brings the total to 52,000.

Together, those Americans contribute about \$3 billion annually to local German economies, officials have said.

Berlin has contributed \$1 billion over the course of a decade to clear the U.S. military presence in Germany, German gov-

ernment data have shown.

The drawdown plan, which would see units move to locations in Belgium and Italy, could lead to base closures in Germany.

But for one base, it could have the opposite effect.

RAF Mildenhall in the United Kingdom, which was set to close once the 100th Air Refueling Wing and the 352nd Special Operations Wing made long-delayed moves to Germany, appears to have been given a reprieve after Esper said leaving 2,500 Air Force troops at the base made "obvious strategic sense."

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## HIROSHIMA AT 75

## The nuclear age

From the Manhattan Project, a legacy of discovery and a national burden

By JOSEPH DITZLER  
Stars and Stripes

The bomb-bay doors on the B-29 Superfortress Bockscar swung open over Nagasaki, Japan, a little before noon on Aug. 9, 1945, and at 11:58 a.m. one 10,800-pound bomb fell away.

Minutes later, a 5,300-pound sphere of high explosives imploded inside

**ANALYSIS** the bomb casing. The blast squeezed a softball-sized, 13.6-pound plutonium core to the size of a tennis ball, a super-critical mass that started a chain reaction.

The resulting nuclear explosion killed approximately 39,000 people and injured another 25,000, according to the online Atomic Archive. It was the second use of a nuclear weapon in war and the first to employ a plutonium implosion device, still a mainstay of nuclear weapons technology.

Scientists and engineers of the Manhattan Project, the top-secret World War II nuclear weapons program, fused raw science and practical engineering to create the implosion bomb at Project Y, the Los Alamos laboratory in New Mexico. The Hanford Engineer Works along the banks of the Columbia River in central Washington produced the plutonium. The bomb was tested at an isolated desert flat near Alamogordo, N.M., known as Trinity Site.

Trinity Site today is a once-a-year tourist attraction. But 75 years later, national laboratories at Los Alamos and Hanford, part of an extensive network that is the Manhattan Project legacy, are still in business.

## National franchise

The two-year crash effort to build the bomb that encompassed a handful of locations nationwide has grown into 17 national laboratories and dozens of affiliated sites overseen by the Department of Energy on a budget this year of more than \$34 billion.

They continue to design new weapons and maintain the nation's nuclear arsenal, but most of their work is geared toward



Los Alamos National Laboratory

Technical Area 3 is seen at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, N.M.

basic science that yields amazing discoveries.

"There's a lot of impressive work going on at the lab outside of the nuclear weapons programs, whether it's on energy or on computing or on any number of scientific areas. They still maintain a high caliber of research in the national interest," said Steven Aftergood, a freedom-of-information advocate for the Federation of American Scientists. "I wouldn't want to overlook that."

On top of its work as a weapons designer, Los Alamos National Laboratory, where the critical work of the Manhattan Project took place, today engages in basic research in myriad topics, from black holes to cloud computing and climate change. The lab is also using genomics to diagnose cases of the coronavirus.

When the Cold War ended, lab experts also turned their expertise to helping the former Soviet Union dismantle its nuclear weapons.

Los Alamos laboratory may be the most famous Manhattan Proj-

ect site, but it wasn't the only one and it wasn't even the first. That distinction belongs to Argonne National Laboratory, on the outskirts of Chicago, that grew out of physicist Enrico Fermi's search at the University of Chicago for the first sustained nuclear reaction.

"They were trying to figure out what the critical mass is, how much uranium 235 fissile core ... do you actually need to start a chain reaction," said Robert Rosner, former Argonne lab director.

Argonne is one of 10 national laboratories under the Department of Energy's Office of Science. While some, like Argonne, Hanford (today the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory) and Oak Ridge, have roots in the Manhattan Project, they no longer work primarily on weapons development. The Pacific Northwest lab, for example, played a part in the detection of gravity waves in 2015.

Argonne, originally known by its code name, the Metallurgical Lab, became the home of the civilian nuclear power program, Rosner said. It created the world's very first power reactor, the Experimental Breeder Reactor, at Argonne West, now the Idaho National Laboratory.

Three national laboratories are still primarily devoted to the work of nuclear weapons, including their non-nuclear components. Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., and Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, N.M., fall under the authority of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

## Model teamwork

The Manhattan Project employed as many as 130,000 people at cost nearly \$2 billion, about \$28.6 billion today. Work at Los Alamos alone cost taxpayers

about \$74 million, or \$1.06 billion today, according to the Brookings Institution.

The Energy Department in fiscal year 2019 budgeted \$2.9 billion for Los Alamos National Laboratory, of which 66%, or \$1.9 billion, was intended for weapons programs.

At its height during World War II, Los Alamos employed about 5,000 people. "Today there are over 12,000 people in the lab, just the lab," Rosner said during a phone interview July 15.

Along with the raw and applied sciences the labs produce, they preserve a model for integrating scientists, engineers and other experts across several fields that is not widely practiced in the commercial world, Rosner said.

"Integrated teams are the secret behind national laboratories," he said. "Universities traditionally cannot do this, and the reason is that we're a silo. We have a physics department, a chemistry department — there's a math department."

Academics find rewards in their own disciplines, said Rosner, who is now a professor of astronomy and astrophysics at the University of Chicago. Most physicists working at Los Alamos are astrophysicists, he said.

"Astrophysicists are a good example of that. Astronomers," Rosner said. "They're not thinking about money; they're thinking about the universe, right? The Big Bang."

Few commercial enterprises can afford research and development the way the labs do it, he said. The old Bell Laboratories, before its break-up in 1982, produced significant advances, such as the silicon chip.

"Ask yourself, does AT&T or Verizon or all of the other what used to be called Baby Bells, do they have big, basic research labs?" he said.

## Toxic chapter

The uglier legacy left by the Manhattan Project and the weapons labs is written in starker terms, including cleanup decrees, damage awards and the burden of nuclear weapons themselves.

As the Cold War ended, public attention came to bear on health risks to workers at Los Alamos and other sites; the accumulation of toxic waste, documented or not; poor management; and a culture of secrecy.

The worst example, the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, is what remains of the dirty work of bombmaking: 586 square miles that include nine decommissioned reactors that produced weapons-grade plutonium and a "staggering" amount of radioactive waste, according to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. About 53 million gallons of chemicals used to separate plutonium from uranium remains stored in 177 underground tanks, of which 70 are leaking and sending a radioactive plume toward the nearby Columbia River, according to the council. The site, one of the most dangerous and polluted in the U.S., includes 1,700 individual waste sites and about 500 contaminated buildings.

Los Alamos, self-appointed watchdog Greg Mello, founder of the Los Alamos Study Group, has documented decades of worker health problems, industrial accidents and toxic waste. He also campaigns against a program underway to expand the lab to make plutonium pits for a new generation of nuclear weapons.

"There's been a pretty high cost across the warhead complex for pursuing the nuclear arms race," Mello said by phone July 28.

Drawing on reports from the Department of Labor and by investigative journalists, he estimated the U.S. government has paid out billions for 1,599 death claims at Los Alamos alone from its beginnings through June 2016.

"This is a technology that has had horrible effects," Mello said. "Direct health effects, as well as, I would say, effects on world politics and on the shape of American democracy have been even worse."

Although a government program enacted in 2000 has paid thousands of claims by workers across the nuclear weapons complex for work-related illnesses, the link to some of those illnesses with weapons work is disputed by some as tenuous, at best.

However, some problems with the labs are indisputable. An era of mismanagement at Los Alamos gave rise in 2000 to the National Nuclear Security Administration, the new overseer within the Energy Department. The state of New Mexico has issued Los Alamos lab several cleanup decrees and federal audit have found mishandled or missing materials.

A 2018 report by the Energy Department inspector general,

SEE NUCLEAR ON PAGE 7



U.S. Department of Energy

The F Reactor plutonium production complex at Hanford, Wash., is seen during the Manhattan Project era. The boney building between the two water towers on the right is the plutonium production reactor.





## MILITARY

# Marines to end continuous rotations to Norway

BY JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — The Marine Corps is ending continuous troop rotations to Norway, where hundreds of Marines have been deployed for the past three years, the Corps said Thursday.

Instead of having up to 700 troops at a time in Norway on six-month rotations, the Marines will conduct periodic training and exercises with the Norwegian armed forces, a spokesman for U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe-Africa, said Maj. Adrian J.T. Rankine-Galloway.

The change, which is set to take effect in the fall, would improve the overall combat

readiness of Marine Corps forces and enable the U.S. to better align training with major Norwegian events, Rankine-Galloway said.

"Effective October 2020, U.S. Marines will shift to an episodic deployment model in order to better synchronize their arctic training with Norwegian forces and to allow for increased operational flexibility for the Marine Corps," he said in a statement.

The decision was made in collaboration with Norwegian officials and was announced as the U.S. unveiled plans to reduce forces in Germany by 12,000 troops.

Norway's army chief, Maj. Gen. Lars Lervik, downplayed the significance of the

troop reduction, saying the U.S. and Norway would continue to collaborate and that the Marines remained committed to joint training.

The Marines' current rotation will end in late October, but they are expected to take part in large numbers in cold weather drills during the winter, Norway's armed forces said in a statement.

A thousand or more Marines could participate in periodic training in Norway, the statement said.

Still, ending back-to-back troop rotations would mean a loss of a relatively large and continuous Marine presence in the Arctic at a time when the military is increasingly focused on that region.

The Marines currently host large exercises in Norway, most notably Cold Response. That drill was supposed to involve 15,000 U.S. troops on top of the rotational force earlier this year, but was scaled back and eventually canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic and security issues in other regions.

The Marine Corps also prepositions large stockpiles of weapons in Norwegian caves, a practice that began in the 1980s at the height of the Cold War, when U.S., British and other allied forces engaged in regular exercises with the Norwegian army.

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## 14 who witnessed 1945 surrender of Japan will attend 75th anniversary

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

PEARL HARBOR VISITOR CENTER, Hawaii — Fourteen U.S. veterans who witnessed Japan surrender on Sept. 2, 1945, are slated to attend a ceremony in Hawaii next month commemorating the historic event's 75th anniversary.

That elite group will be among 52 World War II veterans who will be the guests of honor aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial in Pearl Harbor on Sept. 2. All are nearing or well past age 100.

It was on the USS Missouri, while moored in Tokyo Bay, that Japan officially surrendered, ending the world war that for America began with the Dec. 7, 1941, surprise attack on Hawaii.

"Fourteen of the veterans coming were being actually on the Battleship Missouri on Sept. 2, 1945, or in one of the aircraft or ships surrounding the Missouri at the time of the signing of the instrument of surrender," said Elissa Lines, executive director of the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, during a news conference Wednesday at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

"It is particularly poignant that they are coming for this commemoration," she said.

Planners said many of the events originally considered for the event, to be held Aug. 29-Sept. 2, had to be dropped due to the coronavirus pandemic.

As it stands, the celebration will focus on a series of flyovers on Oahu of 14 World War II-era warplanes and a two-hour ceremony Sept. 2 to be livestreamed from the fantail of the Missouri.

The aerial parades are scheduled for the afternoons of Aug. 29 and 30 and immediately after the Sept. 2 ceremony. Routes will be announced later.

The 14 warbirds are now en route to Hawaii aboard the USS Essex, an amphibious assault ship.

Among the planes coming are a P-51 fighter-bomber; an F4F

Wildcat carrier-based fighter; and two PBY Catalina "flying boats," which were routinely used during the war for search-and-rescue and anti-submarine reconnaissance.

Thirty-three PBYs were destroyed during the 1941 surprise attack on Hawaii, Lines said.

A B-25 bomber, which was the aircraft used during the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo in April 1942, will also join the flyovers — although it almost didn't reach the Essex in time for the sea journey, Lines said.

"That was the last aircraft to be loaded," she said. "It traveled all the way from Florida to San Diego to be loaded on the ship. It had difficulties in flight and almost didn't make it. It was seven days behind in its arrival in San Diego."

These historic warbirds hold special significance to many World War II veterans, Lines said.

"Sometimes it's hard to believe that an aircraft can bring that kind of passion and emotion to the forefront," she said. "Seeing the aircraft again unleashes memories that in many cases these veterans have never shared with anyone — stories of service, of battles, of camaraderie."

Members of the 75th World War II Commemoration Committee have wrestled the past four months with how to proceed with the commemoration — or even whether to postpone it, said Tony Vericella, the committee's executive director. Events that had been planned for Washington, D.C., for this past May marking the end of the war in Europe were postponed until late September due to the pandemic.

Vericella said a sense of urgency led the committee to push ahead with the Sept. 2 ceremony, albeit with safeguards in place to lower the risk of the veterans and their chaperones from being exposed to the coronavirus.

"During the last several months of communicating with the veter-



WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

Members of the 75th World War II Commemoration Committee talk with reporters at the Pearl Harbor Visitors Center, Hawaii, on Wednesday.

ans around Hawaii and the mainland, several of them have already passed," Vericella said.

"This truly is the last hurrah,"

he said. "They're making the choice. They want to be here, and we want to do it for them. Whatever hoops we jump through, pre-

cautions we take, this date of Sept. 2, 2020, is only going to be once."

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Tokyo, Okinawa remain near peak case numbers

By JOSEPH DITZLER

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Japan's capital on Thursday passed its 10th consecutive day logging more than 200 new coronavirus cases while Okinawa counted another 73, a continuing surge that began in late July.

The U.S. military in Japan the same day reported seven new cases: four at Yokosuka Naval Base south of Tokyo and three on Okinawa.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government reported 360 new cases, according to public broadcaster NHK, citing preliminary government numbers. U.S. military personnel are prohibited from visiting central parts of the city due to the pandemic.

At Yokosuka, the new cases all appeared since Monday, according to a base Facebook post. One new case was identified through testing by Japanese airport authorities after the person arrived from outside the country, according to the post. It did not identify the person's country of origin.

The three other cases are recent arrivals who tested positive before being released from a 14-day quarantine. All four patients remain in isolation and are monitored by health professionals, the post stated. The base now has 10 active cases.

Okinawa prefecture has counted 645 cases the past month, and 788 since the pandemic began. The prefecture's website on Wednesday reported 174 patients

hospitalized, with three in critical condition.

The government is reporting a shortage of space to isolate anyone other than critical patients.

The number of infected people with no or mild symptoms waiting for a hospital bed or hotel room grew Thursday to 303, according to the prefecture.

The U.S. military on Thursday reported one new case at Naval Hospital Okinawa and two at Kadena Air Base, according to announcements on their official Facebook pages.

One of the Kadena cases was a person already quarantined after contact with another infected individual. The other case was someone who reported coronavirus symptoms. That person's contacts were traced and also placed in quarantine, according to the air base's Facebook post.

The naval hospital's new case is connected to three others reported there Wednesday, according to a post by Marine Corps Installations Pacific. The hospital is at the Marine Corps' Camp Foster.

Neither the Marines, the Navy nor the Air Force specified whether the new cases are service members, civilian employees, contractors or family members.

The total cases among U.S. military on Okinawa is 298 since the pandemic began. Of those, 268 are linked to a pair of cluster outbreaks at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and the Marines' Camp Hansen that began after



KEN SASAHARA/AP

People wearing face masks to help protect against the spread of the coronavirus hold a portable fan to avoid the heat in Tokyo on Wednesday.

the July Fourth weekend.

Elsewhere in the region, Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base lowered their health protection conditions to reflect a moderate risk of coronavirus infection, in military terms Health Protection Condition-Bravo.

All safety measures are still in place at the naval base, including social distancing and masks, according to an order signed Wednesday by base commander Capt. Jeffrey Grimes.

The lower risk level indicates the rate of new coronavirus cases per day has been falling for two weeks and that base hospitals

have room to maneuver in case of another outbreak, according to Grimes' order and a post on the Andersen base Facebook page.

The military on Guam has reported at least 49 virus cases among service members, according to a statement Wednesday from the Guam governor's office.

That number does not include the 1,150 sickened crew members of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt, which was docked there for two months during an outbreak that started in March.

The Guam Department of Health and Social Services on Thursday reported a pandemic

total of 389 confirmed cases, with five deaths.

Grimes' order stated that "phased restoration" of base services and facilities would take place as conditions permit and would be announced on the base Facebook page.

Facilities and services on Andersen may also begin returning to normal, although many by-now familiar public health restrictions remain in place, according to the air base's Facebook page.

Stars and Stripes reporters Matthew M. Burke, Aya Ichihashi and Seth Robson contributed to this report. ditzler.joseph@stripes.com Twitter: @JosephDitzler

## USFK: 6 more Americans test positive on arrival

By KIM GAMEL

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Six more Americans affiliated with the military tested positive for the coronavirus after traveling to South Korea, the military said Thursday, raising its total number of confirmed cases to 139.

Of those infected, five service members arrived at Osan Air Base on a government-chartered flight from the United States on July 20, Saturday and Tuesday, U.S. Forces Korea said.

The other was a Department of Defense civilian employee who arrived on a commercial flight at Incheon International Airport on Saturday, according to the press release.

All six were transferred to isolation facilities on Camp Humphreys or Osan Air Base, and affected transportation assets and quarantine rooms were disinfected, the command said.

The need for contact tracing was considered limited because all passengers arriving in South Korea underwent a strict testing and two-week quarantine process.

None of the new arrivals have interacted with anyone residing within USFK installations or the

local community," USFK said.

Only two soldiers and 22 other people affiliated with USFK contracted the virus while living in South Korea, with the most recent case reported April 14.

The vast majority have been troops moving to the divided peninsula for new assignments or returning from trips abroad.

"USFK remains at a high level of readiness with less than 1% of its active duty service members currently confirmed positive with COVID-19," it said, referring to the respiratory disease caused by the virus.

Meanwhile, the overall number of infections in the South remained relatively low, with 43 new cases reported Thursday, including 23 domestic infections and 20 imported cases.

That raised the total in South Korea to 14,499, with 302 deaths, since its first case on Jan. 20, the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The number of patients completely recovered from the virus rose to 13,501, according to the agency. South Korea has conducted more than 1.6 million tests since Jan. 3, it said.

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# VIRUS OUTBREAK



CAROLYN KASTER/AP

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, center, and White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, left, walk to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office on Capitol Hill in Washington on Wednesday.

## Capitol negotiators are still stuck trying on aid package

By ANDREW TAYLOR  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After more than a week's slurry of meetings, at least some clarity is emerging in the bipartisan Washington talks on a huge COVID-19 response bill. Negotiators are still stuck but still trying.

A combative meeting Wednesday involving top Capitol Hill Democrats, the postmaster general and a souring tone from both sides indicate that a long slog remains Thursday and beyond. White House chief of staff Mark Meadows threatened that President Donald Trump is exploring options to use executive authority to extend a partial eviction ban and address unemployment benefits.

After some movement Tuesday in House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's direction on aid to states and local governments and unemployment insurance benefits, Wednesday's session offered no breakthroughs or major progress, participants said afterward.

"If we can reach a compromise on these big issues, then I don't see us coming to an overall deal," Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said after the two-hour meeting. "And then we'll have to look at the president taking actions under his executive authority."

Pelosi is staking out a hard line on extending a \$600-per-week supplemental pandemic federal jobless benefit, which lapsed last week. Republicans offered to extend the benefit into December and cut it to \$400, according to aides confirming leaks reported in Politico. The aides were unauthorized to discuss the private talks and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The unemployment insurance issue is perhaps the most important to resolve, but some Senate Republicans up for reelection this fall appear comfortable with yielding on the question.

Similarly, the White House has offered Democrats \$150 billion in new appropriations to help state and local governments alleviate revenue losses from the damage the coronavirus has wrought on the economy. That matches the amount appropriated after a huge behind-the-scenes battle during negotiations on the bipartisan \$2 trillion coronavirus bill that passed in March. Much of that original money is left over, and all sides want greater flexibility in using it, but Pelosi is demanding far more — almost \$1 trillion — and key Republicans like Susan Collins of Maine, Cory Gardner of Colorado and Mitt Romney of Utah are pressing for more money as well.

Pelosi and President Donald Trump agree on another \$1,200 direct payment to most Americans, making the idea all but certain to be included in the final agreement, at a cost in the \$300 billion range. Pelosi is also pressing the case for a 15% increase in food stamp benefits that are especially important to key progressive constituencies, and Democrats won't allow \$20 billion in aid to farmers without a big trade-off on food aid.

Democrats are also pressing for help for renters and homeowners having difficulty making housing payments as well as help for front-line essential workers, but both sides support more funding for child care grants, community health centers and energy subsidies for the poor.

A cornerstone to any agreement, and one of the areas in which both sides are eager to display generosity, involves over

\$100 billion for help to school systems. The White House and its GOP allies are pressing for more money for schools that return students to the classroom and want to help private schools as well. Very tricky talks remain, and Republicans are carping that Pelosi is being too greedy. Meanwhile, schools are beginning to reopen across the country.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., continues to insist that the legislation include some sort of liability shield against lawsuits brought against businesses, schools and universities, and charities that operate during the pandemic. Pelosi is opposed for now, but Democrats — who see it's a key to any final agreement — aren't ruling the idea out. But talks have yet to begin on the thorny topic, and there seems to be suspicion among Republicans that the White House negotiating team isn't as solidly behind the idea as McConnell is.

The Postal Service is being run by Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, a Trump ally under attack for management changes that have coincided with delays in mail delivery.

Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said DeJoy had some answers, but he and Pelosi were still dissatisfied.

"We are demanding that the regulations they put in place, which cut employment and cut overtime, be rescinded, particularly because of COVID, and because of the elections," Schumer said afterward.

A recent Democratic offer called for \$10 billion for overtime and other costs, down from a bloated \$25 billion plan in the House-passed coronavirus bill. Key Republicans whose rural constituents are especially reliant on the post office support the idea.

## Over 1 million seek jobless aid after \$600 checks end

By PAUL WISEMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nearly 1.2 million laid-off Americans applied for state unemployment benefits last week, evidence that the coronavirus keeps forcing companies to slash jobs just as a critical \$600 weekly federal jobless payment has expired.

The government's report Thursday did offer a smidgen of hopeful news: The number of jobless claims declined by 249,000 from the previous week, after rising for two straight weeks, and it was the lowest total since mid-March.

Still, claims remain at alarmingly high levels: It is the 20th straight week that at least 1 million people have sought jobless aid. Before the pandemic hit hard in March, the number of Americans seeking unemployment checks had never surpassed 700,000 in a week, not even during the Great Recession of 2007-09.

Rubela Farooqi, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency Economics, called the drop in weekly claims "a move in the right direction." But in a research note, he added, "Repeated sharp drops for virus containment remain a threat to the labor market, which is already weak. The possibility of mounting layoffs that could become permanent is high. Without effective virus containment, the recovery remains at risk from ongoing job losses that could further restrain incomes and spending."

The pandemic, the lockdowns meant to contain it and the wariness of many Americans to venture back out to eat, shop or travel have added to a devastating blow to the economy despite the government's emergency rescue efforts. The nation's gross domestic product, the broadest measure of economic output, shrank at an annual rate of nearly 33% from April through June. It was by far the worst quarterly fall on record, though the economy has rebounded somewhat since then.

On Friday, the government is expected to report a sizable job gain for July — 1.6 million. Yet so deeply did employers slash jobs last week that the government's economy in March that even July's expected gain would mean that barely 40% of the jobs lost to the coronavirus have been recovered.

And the pace of hiring is clearly slowing. A resurgence of cases in the South and the West has spread elsewhere and upended hopes for a speedy economic recovery as bars, restaurants and other businesses have had to delay or reverse plans to reopen and rehire staff.

Altogether, 16.1 million people are collecting traditional unemploy-

ment benefits from their state. For months, the unemployed had also been receiving the \$600 a week in federal jobless aid on top of their state benefit. But the federal payment expired last week. Congress is engaged in prolonged negotiations over renewing the federal benefit, which would likely be extended at a reduced level.

In the meantime, millions of the unemployed suddenly have less money to pay for essentials. Many of them are among the 23 million people nationwide who are at risk of being evicted from their homes, according to The Aspen Institute, as moratoriums enacted because of the coronavirus expired.

Last week, 656,000 more people applied for jobless aid under a program that has extended eligibility to self-employed and gig workers for the first time. That figure isn't adjusted for seasonal trends, so it's reported separately.

The Labor Department said Thursday that the figure of 31.3 million people are now receiving some form of unemployment benefits, though the figure may be inflated by double-counting by some states.

A study released Monday by Cornell University found that 31% of those laid off or furloughed because of the pandemic had been laid off a second time. An additional 26% of people who were called back to work reported being told that they might lose their jobs again.

After the springtime lockdowns, restaurants and bars had begun to reopen. Yet many soon had to re-close as viral cases surged, especially in the Sun Belt. In Texas, for instance, just 26% of bars were closed on June 21. Two weeks later, the figure had shot up to 74%, though it has since come down slightly, according to the data firm Womply.

In Florida, whose tourism industry has been pummeled by the pandemic, John Brenner lost his position as a hotel manager. A 38-year-old from Plantation, Fla., Brenner has now been out of work for four months.

Florida's weekly unemployment aid is capped at \$275 a week, so "I'm quite reliant on that extra \$600," Brenner said.

"That extra \$600 put me at just about what I was making when I was working," he said. "And I'd much rather be working. I'm going very stir-crazy."

The stress, fear and sadness over the prolonged unemployment, Brenner said, have diminished everything from his diet to his ability to sleep. He said he's angry that the U.S. Senate has balked at extending the extra unemployment aid at its current level.

"The anxiety the Senate is giving me isn't helping much," Brenner said.



## NATION

# Minneapolis police proposal not on ballot

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — A Minneapolis commission decided Wednesday to take more time to review a City Council amendment to dismantle the Police Department in the wake of George Floyd's death, ending the possibility of voters deciding the issue in November.

Members of the Charter Commission expressed concern that the process to change the city's charter was being rushed after Floyd died following an encounter with police. While several commissioners said changing the Police Department was necessary, they said the amendment before

them was flawed. Several said it faced legal barriers, was created without input from key community members who oppose it, and that it gave too much power to the City Council.

"It's appropriate to explore transformational changes in the department, but it needs to be done thoughtfully," said Commissioner Peter Ginder, who voted in favor of taking more time. "That hasn't been done here."

The five City Council members who authored the proposed charter amendment released a statement criticizing the decision, but said they will continue to work toward transforming the way the city provides public safety. They

said they plan to put an amendment before voters in November 2021.

"It is not our legacy to use bureaucratic processes to circumvent the people in an attempt to 'protect' voters from themselves," said Council Member Jeremiah Ellison. "That is not democracy. In a democracy, the people decide. But I guess today the Charter Commission decided otherwise."

The proposed amendment followed widespread criticism of law enforcement over Floyd's death. It would have replaced the Police Department with a "Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention" that backers

said would take a more "holistic" approach, which wasn't fully defined. The proposal did allow for armed officers — creating a division of licensed peace officers, who would have answered to the new department's director.

"The council says 'Trust us. We'll figure it out after this is approved. Trust us.' Well I don't, and we shouldn't," said Barry Clegg, chairman of the Charter Commission. "Charter change is too important."

The 15-member commission, made up of volunteers appointed by a judge, voted 10-5 to take another 90 days to review the proposed amendment. Most of those who voted against taking the extra

time said they would recommend rejecting the amendment.

But the issue would likely have gone to voters even if it was rejected because the City Council was required only to consult the commission and is not bound by their action. The lack of a final decision means the proposal won't clear deadlines to make the ballot this November, but it could be on the ballot in 2021.

"There is no democracy denied here. There is no denial of democratic rights. It's a question of when, not if," Commissioner Gregory Abbott said. "We can fix this. We can get police reform. We just need to find a different avenue to do it in."



ROBERT WILLEY, THE NEWS &amp; OBSERVER/AP

Chardae Cooper, left, helps Asia Cooper looks for her belongings among debris after her mobile home was destroyed by a tornado spawned by Hurricane Isaias in Bertie County, N.C., on Wednesday.

## Death toll rises from storm

Associated Press

WINDSOR, N.C. — At least nine people, including a 5-year-old girl with autism, were killed as Tropical Storm Isaias battered the U.S. East Coast with rain and fierce winds after making landfall as a hurricane in North Carolina. Millions of people were without power on Wednesday after felled trees downed power lines.

The sound of generators and chainsaws punctuated the sunrise in New Jersey, where more than 1 million homes and businesses were without electricity. NJ Transit train service remained suspended while crews cleared about 150 trees and repair signals and overhead wires.

Regional rail service was also suspended in Philadelphia after Isaias raised the Schuylkill River and sent an unsecured construction barge into a bridge. Inspectors were checking for damage. Interstate 676, which crosses the bridge, was also closed in both directions.

Patrick Foye, chairman of New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority, said more than 2,000 trees fell across the system's train and bus network. "This storm caused severe damage," Foye said Wednesday. "Not since Superstorm Sandy has our system experienced this type of wind."

Two people died when Isaias spun off a tornado that struck a North Carolina mobile home park. Another person died in Pennsylvania when their vehicle was overtaken by water and swept downstream. The 5-year-old girl had gone missing from her Philadelphia-area home during the height of the storm Tuesday and was found dead Wednesday. Authorities said they believed she was swept away by floodwaters in the creek behind her house.

Three others were killed by falling trees toppled by the storm in Maryland, Connecticut and New York City, and another person died in Delaware when a tree branch fell on them, authorities said. A woman was found dead inside a New Hampshire house Tuesday evening.

Isaias sustained top winds of up to 65 mph more than 18 hours after coming ashore, but it was down to 40 mph max winds as of early Wednesday, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Isaias toggled between hurricane and tropical storm strength as it churned toward the East Coast. Fueled by warm ocean waters, the storm got a late burst of strength as a rejuvenated hurricane with top sustained winds of 85 mph before coming ashore late Monday near Ocean Isle Beach, N.C. Its tropical storm status was sustained, but weakened, as it headed north into Canada on Tuesday night.

## Partially automated driving systems don't always work, AAA says

Associated Press

DETROIT — Two tests by AAA during the past two years show that partially automated driving systems don't always function properly, so the auto club is recommending that car companies limit their use.

Researchers with AAA recently tested systems from five manufacturers over a distance of 4,000 miles, and said they encountered problems every eight miles.

Most of the issues involved systems designed to keep vehicles in their lane, but the tests discovered that many had trouble spotting simulated broken-down vehicles in their path. About two-thirds of the time the test vehicles hit the broken-down car, at an average speed of 25 mph, according to the study.

It was AAA's second round of tests on the systems. Researchers said little had changed from a test of four other vehicles in 2018, prompting the recommendation that automakers stop including the technology on more models.

"AAA has repeatedly found that active driving assistance systems do not perform consistently, especially in real-world scenarios," said Greg Brannon, AAA's director of automotive engineering. "Automakers need to work toward more dependable technology including improving lane keeping assistance."

Also the systems, which combine control of acceleration, braking and steering, often quit working with little notice to drivers, AAA found. That could cause a dangerous situation if the driver isn't fully engaged and has to make an emergency decision.

AAA tested five vehicles at several research centers, with drivers and instruments monitoring their performance. Included this year were a 2019 BMW X7 SUV, a 2019 Cadillac CT6 sedan, a 2019 Ford Edge SUV, a 2020 Kia Tel-

luride SUV and a 2020 Subaru Outback SUV. Their systems have names like Kia's "Highway Driving Assist," Subaru's "EyeSight," Ford's "Co-Pilot 360," Cadillac's "Super Cruise," and BMW's "Active Driving Assistant Professional."

The results were similar to those found in 2018 testing by AAA of four other vehicles including a 2017 Tesla Model S with the company's "Autopilot" system.

Messages were left Wednesday seeking comment from the five automakers in this year's test. Automakers generally say they tell drivers that their cars aren't fully self-driving and that they should always be alert and ready to intervene.

AAA said most owners' manuals explain that the systems have trouble spotting stationary objects.

The most recent tests show that the systems aren't improving much, even as automakers move them into more mainstream models. Brannon said that can be a problem.

People who bought systems when they first came out generally were early adopters who know more about technology, Brannon said.

But as the systems make their way into more mainstream models, people who are less tech-savvy will be driving them, he said.

"People are really less familiar and less likely to really engage in understanding how the systems work," he said. "That just assume they do work." That could be a really dangerous assumption.

Also, research has shown that people become overly reliant on the technology, which could be dangerous when the systems don't work, he said.

Also, there's no standardized way for the vehicles to notify drivers that the systems are disengaging.

## NATION/WORLD

# Lebanese vent fury at leaders over blast

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Residents of Beirut vented their fury at Lebanon's leaders Thursday during a visit by French President Emmanuel Macron, blaming them for the deadly explosion that ravaged the capital. Shouting, "Revolution!" they crowded around the visiting leader who promised to press the politicians for reform.

For many Lebanese, Tuesday's giant blast was the last straw after years of corruption and mismanagement by a political elite that has ruled for decades.

The blast, which killed more than 130 people, wounded thousands and left tens of thousands homeless, is believed to have been caused when a fire touched off a stockpile of 2,750 tons of highly explosive ammonium nitrate that authorities left sitting in a warehouse for years — despite a customs official's repeated warnings.

Macron visited the devastated port and toured a hard-hit neighborhood lined with heavily damaged buildings. A crowd gathered around him and shouted their anger, chanting, "Revolution!" and "The people want to bring down the regime!" — slogans used at mass protests last year.

Macron told them he would speak to Lebanon's political leaders.

"I will propose to them a new political pact this afternoon," he said. "I will be back on the first of September and if they can't do it, I will keep my responsibility to ward you."

He also promised that French aid would be given out with transparency and "will not go into the hands of corruption." France once governed Lebanon as a protectorate and maintains close ties.



THIBRAULT CAMUS, POOL/AP

A Lebanese soldier stands at the site of the explosion in Beirut's port Thursday.

Elsewhere, he said his visit was "an opportunity to have a frank and challenging dialogue with the Lebanese political powers and institutions." France will work to coordinate aid, he said, but warned that "if reforms are not made, Lebanon will continue to sink."

There have been widespread pledges of international aid to Lebanon, but the country has been mired in a severe economic crisis and faces a daunting challenge in

rebuilding. It's unclear how much support the international community will offer the notoriously corrupt and dysfunctional government.

Losses from the blast were estimated by Beirut Gov. Marwan Abboud to be between \$10 billion to \$15 billion, who said nearly 300,000 people are homeless.

The disaster may have accelerated the country's coronavirus outbreak, as thousands flooded into hospitals. Tens of

thousands have had to move in with relatives and friends after their homes were damaged, further raising the risks of exposure.

The head of Lebanon's customs department, meanwhile, confirmed in an interview with LBC TV on Wednesday that officials had sent five or six letters over the years to the judiciary, asking that the ammonium nitrate be removed because of its dangers. Badri Daher said all he could do was alert authorities to its presence, saying even that was "extra work" for him and his predecessor. He said the port authority was responsible for the material, while his job was to prevent smuggling and collect duties.

The judiciary and the port authority could not immediately be reached for comment. The government said Wednesday an investigation was underway and that port officials have been placed under house arrest.

The ammonium nitrate, a highly explosive chemical used in fertilizers, had been stored at the port since it was confiscated from a ship years earlier. Based on the timeline and the size of the cargo, that ship could be the MV Rhosus. The ship was initially seized in Beirut in 2013 when it entered the port due to technical problems, according to lawyers involved in the case. It came from the nation of Georgia, and had been bound for Mozambique.

The stockpile is believed to have detonated after a fire broke out nearby in what appeared to be a warehouse holding fireworks. Daher, the customs official, said he did not know if there were fireworks near the site.

## NY's attorney general seeks to dissolve NRA

Associated Press

New York's attorney general sued the National Rifle Association on Thursday, seeking to put the powerful gun advocacy organization out of business over allegations that high-ranking executives diverted millions of dollars for lavish personal trips, no-show contracts for associates and other questionable expenditures.

Attorney General Letitia James' lawsuit, filed in state court in Manhattan after an 18-month investigation, highlighted mispending and self-dealing allegations that have roiled the NRA and its longtime leader, Wayne LaPierre, for recent years — from hair and makeup for his wife to a \$17 million post-employment contract for himself.

Simultaneously, the Washington, D.C., attorney general sued the NRA Foundation, a charitable arm of the organization designed to provide programs for firearm safety, marksmanship and hunting safety, accusing it of diverting funds to the NRA to pay for lavish spending by its top executives.

The troubles, which James said were long cloaked by loyal lieutenants and a pass-through payment arrangement with a vendor, started to come to light as the NRA's deficit piled up and it struggled to find its footing after a spate of mass shootings eroded support for its pro-gun agenda. The organization went from a nearly \$28 million surplus in 2015 to a \$36 million deficit in 2018.

James, a Democrat, argued that the organization's prominence and cozy political relationships had lulled it into a sense of invincibility and enabled a culture where nonprofit rules were routinely flouted and state and federal laws were violated. Even the NRA's own bylaws and employee handbook were ignored, she said.

"The NRA's influence has been so powerful that the organization went unchecked for decades while top executives funneled millions into their own pockets," James said in a statement announcing the lawsuit. "The NRA is fraught with fraud and abuse, which is why, today, we seek to dissolve the NRA, because no organization is above the law."

NRA President Carolyn Meadows said the group was counter-suing the New York attorney general's office, setting the stage for a drawn-out legal battle that could last for years. "It's a transparent attempt to score political points and attack the leading voice in opposition to the leftist agenda," Meadows said in a statement.

Though it is headquartered in Virginia, the NRA was chartered as a nonprofit in New York in 1871 and continues to be incorporated in the state.

The Washington, D.C., attorney general has been investigating the NRA Foundation for more than a year. It said its investigation determined that low membership and lavish spending left the NRA with financial problems and so it exploited the foundation to remain afloat.

## Police: 3 teens inadvertently jump wall into Mar-a-Lago

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Three teenagers fleeing police while carrying a semiautomatic gun in a backpack jumped a wall at President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort, but probably didn't know that's where they were, authorities said Wednesday.

Palm Beach Police spokesman Michael Ogrodnick said the 15-year-old boys were arrested shortly after they entered the grounds of the resort Friday and dumped the backpack, which contained a mini AK-47 with a loaded 14-round magazine.

He said the three are lucky that neither the president nor any family members were there, because Secret Service agents might have shot them. The club is closed for the summer.

"They had no idea where they were," Ogrodnick said.

According to a police report, a Palm Beach officer spotted the teens sitting in a parked car early Friday morning about 2 miles north of Mar-a-Lago. When he turned on his overhead lights, the car sped south toward Mar-a-Lago.

As they approached the club, the teens spotted a second officer who was conducting an unrelated traffic stop and abruptly stopped the car, probably thinking it was a roadblock set up to catch them, Ogrodnick said.

The three bolted, jumped Mar-a-Lago's nearby wall and hid on the resort's grounds. Officers surrounded the club and a helicopter and police dog were used

to help find them. Ogrodnick said they never tried to get inside any of the resort's buildings.

He said the three said they didn't own the AK-47 but had found it.

The teens are charged with trespassing with a firearm, burglary with a firearm and resisting arrest without violence. They are being held at a juvenile detention facility while prosecutors decide whether to charge them as adults.

Mar-a-Lago has been the scene of several intrusions since Trump became president in 2017.

On Jan. 5, just hours after Trump and his family had left the club following a two-week vacation, a Florida man who had been dishonorably discharged from the Marines for sex offenses was arrested after he got past two checkpoints. Authorities said Brandon M. Magnan had falsely identified himself as part of the president's helicopter crew.

In March 2019, Chinese national Yujing Zhang gained access to Mar-a-Lago while carrying a laptop, phones and other electronic gear. That led to initial speculation that the 33-year-old businesswoman from Shanghai might be a spy, but she was never charged with espionage. Text messages she exchanged with a trip organizer indicated she was a fan of the president and wanted to meet him or his family to discuss possible deals.

Zhang was found guilty of trespassing and lying to Secret Service agents and was sentenced in November to time served.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## 2 arrested following fight that rolled SUV

**SD** SIOUX FALLS — A Sioux Falls driver and a passenger have been arrested following an argument that caused their vehicle to roll over with two others inside, including a 3-year-old.

Sioux Falls police say a 19-year-old woman riding in the car grabbed the steering wheel during the fight about 2 a.m. Tuesday. That caused the 26-year-old man who was driving to lose control and crash the SUV.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens said the two got out of the vehicle and the woman started hitting the man, who walked away from the crash. Clemens said none of the four were seriously injured, the Argus Leader reported.

Officials say the woman was arrested on a tentative charge of aggravated assault and several other counts. The driver, who was found several blocks away, was arrested on suspicion of driving drunk and hit-and-run.

## 4 charged with theft of guns on day of protest

**CA** OAKLAND — Four people have been charged with stealing at least 27 firearms from a San Francisco Bay Area gun store on a night in May when thousands of people took to the streets to protest police brutality.

Dashawn Taylor, Anthony Craft Jr., Tyrone Hampton Jr. and four people whose names are still sealed because they have not been arrested were indicted Monday for the theft May 31 at Richardson Tactical in Hayward, federal prosecutors said in a statement.

"My office stands in support of all Americans exercising their First Amendment rights to peaceable assembly and speech. But we will also investigate and seek justice for those who use the cover of lawful protests to break the law," said Northern District U.S. Attorney David Anderson.

In a partially sealed indictment, the grand jury also charged Taylor with possession of a stolen firearm and Craft with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

## Official: K-9 fatally shot by deputy during search

**GA** ATLANTA — A Georgia county K-9 was fatally shot by a deputy after the dog approached the investigator aggressively during a search for a rape suspect, authorities said.

The incident happened Tuesday afternoon as deputies from the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office were attempting to serve an arrest warrant at an apartment complex in Atlanta, news outlets reported.

The dog escaped from his handler and advanced toward a deputy who was dressed in plain clothes, DeKalb County Chief Deputy Randy Akies said in a statement. That's when the deputy fired at the K-9, who died at the scene. The incident has been a tragedy for the dog's handler and the sheriff's office, Akies said.



ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP

## Perfect temperature for the beach

As a precaution to help prevent the spread of coronavirus, beach attendant Danielle McClure takes the temperature of Colten Ryan before allowing him and his brother, Finn, left, to enter Maranacook Beach in Winthrop, Maine, on Wednesday.

## Public school partners with equine industry

**KY** LEXINGTON — A public school system in Kentucky has partnered with the state's thoroughbred industry to provide students with career opportunities, and experience learning on farms.

Nearly two dozen thoroughbred businesses have pledged more than \$300,000 for the three-year agreement announced Tuesday, said Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent Manny Caulk. The program targets middle and high school students at the public school in Lexington, news outlets reported.

"As our nation grapples with the issue of racial and social justice, our moral imperative in the district is to provide access and opportunity for students who otherwise would not have those advantages," Caulk added.

The instructions will be held at the Locust Trace AgriScience Center. Anne DeMott, the center's principal, told the Lexington Herald-Leader the program will also include internships and apprenticeships opportunities.

## Officials: 3,700 gallons of sewage spills

**NC** MARION — Excessive rain from Tropical Storm Isaias caused nearly 3,700 gallons of sewage to spill into a river in North Carolina, officials said.

The discharge happened at the

## THE CENSUS

# \$10M

The estimated total lost by victims of a telemarketing scam for which a Mexican citizen was sentenced Tuesday in New Orleans. Jesus Adrian Ladesma Bernal, 32, got 18 months in prison. He had pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Authorities said he was part of a conspiracy to bilk owners of time-share properties. The owners were contacted and told there were buyers for their properties and were charged money to facilitate the sale.

Clinchfield sewer pump station in Marion when rainfall entered into the collection system Monday, the city said in a news release. The untreated waste water then spilled into an "unnamed tributary of Lake James" in the Catawba River Basin, the release said.

About 3,500 gallons of untreated water was discharged into the Catawba River Basin from the same sewer pump in May. The McDowell News previously reported. City officials had said that spill was also caused by excessive rain.

## City pays \$45K ransom after cyberattack

**CO** BOULDER — Lafayette, Colo., officials announced Tuesday the city's computer systems were hacked and they were forced to pay a ransom to regain access.

Lafayette officials said hackers disabled the city's network services and blocked its access until the city paid a \$45,000 fee, the Daily Camera reported.

The attack caused city emails,

phones, online payments and reservation systems to temporarily shut down. The city's system servers and computers are still being cleaned and rebuilt. Once finished, the relevant data will be restored into the system and operations will resume. In the meantime, the city is using temporary phone numbers and emails.

A preliminary investigation shows the ransomware entered the network through a phishing scam or by guessing passwords.

To combat future attacks, the city said it is installing cryptosafe backups, deploying additional cybersecurity systems and implementing regular vulnerability assessments.

## Upgraded Space Needle reopens to visitors

**WA** SEATTLE — Seattle's Space Needle has reopened to visitors after recently completing \$1 million in upgrades intended to provide a safer experience during the coronavirus pandemic.

Chief Operating and Marketing Officer Karen Olson said the

skyline-defining tourist attraction, which closed in March, has focused on air quality, sanitation and touchless procedures, The Seattle Times reported.

The Space Needle has installed ultraviolet lights designed to kill airborne viruses and bacteria, a fresh air circulation system in the elevators and reverse-ATM kiosks that will convert cash into card for a more touch-free experience.

There has been no advertising for the reopening, but some people have already started visiting.

## Electric Daisy Carnival postponed until 2021

**NV** LAS VEGAS — The Electric Daisy Carnival in Las Vegas will not be happening this year.

Organizers of the electronic dance music festival announced Sunday that the event will be pushed back to 2021. Typically held in May at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, the festival was postponed initially until October because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Insomniac CEO and Founder Pasquale Rotella says it's now slated for May 21-23 of next year. Tickets for this year's festival will be honored. Anyone who can't make the new dates can fill out an online form.

More than 150,000 people attend each night of the carnival, which features more than 200 performers on eight stages.

From wire reports



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# N. Korea's growing response raises fear of outbreak

By HYUNG-JIN KIM  
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea is quarantining thousands of people and shipping food and other aid to a southern city locked down over coronavirus worries, officials said, as the country's response to a suspected case reinforces doubt about its longstanding claim to be virus-free.

But amid the outside skepticism and a stream of North Korean propaganda glorifying its virus efforts, an exchange between the country and the United Nations is providing new clarity — and actual numbers — about what might be happening in North Korea, which has closed its borders and cut travel — never a free-flowing stream — by outsider monitors and journalists.

In late July, North Korea said it had imposed its "maximum emergency system" to guard against the virus spreading after finding a person with COVID-19 symptoms in Kaesong, near the border with rival South Korea.

State media reported that leader Kim Jong Un then ordered a total lockdown of the city, and said the suspected case was a North Korean who had earlier fled to South Korea before slipping back into Kaesong last month.

North Korea's public admission of its first potential case and the emergency steps it took prompted immediate outside speculation that it may be worried about a big outbreak after months of steadfastly claiming it had no cases. Foreign experts are highly skeptical of North Korea's assertion of no cases, in large part because of its long, porous border with

China, where the virus emerged, and its history of hiding past disease outbreaks.

In a report to the World Health Organization, North Korea said it has quarantined 64 first contacts of the suspected Kaesong case and 3,571 secondary contacts in state-run facilities for a period of 40 days, according to Dr. Edwin Salvador, WHO representative to North Korea.

Salvador said in an email to The Associated Press that North Korea also informed WHO of the suspected first case, saying the person was tested for COVID-19 but the results were inconclusive. He said WHO has requested that North Korea share more information about the person.

Salvador said all of North Korea's borders remain closed, group gatherings are banned, masks are required in public and all educational institutions, including preschools, are on an extended summer break. Since the end of December, North Korea has quarantined and released 25,905 people, 382 of them foreigners, Salvador said.

Many outside observers are all but certain the virus has already entered North Korea because it closed its border with China, its biggest trading partner, weeks after the world's first known virus cases were recorded in China in December. Monitoring groups in Seoul have steadfastly reported about North Korean virus cases and deaths.

A major coronavirus outbreak may ultimately cause a humanitarian disaster because of North Korea's broken public health care system and lack of medical supplies.



ANNETTE RIEDL, DPA/AP

Employees of DB Security and officers of the Federal Police patrol through a train and check whether the coronavirus-related mask requirement is being observed in Berlin, Germany, on Wednesday.

## Germany orders tests for all travelers from 'risk areas'

By FRANK JORDANS  
AND GEIR MOULSON  
Associated Press

BERLIN — Germany will require people arriving from countries deemed high risk, such as the United States, to take coronavirus tests starting this weekend, the health minister said Thursday, as the country recorded its highest daily tally of new infections in three months.

German officials have voiced alarm over a steady upward creep in the number of new infections over recent weeks. The national

disease control center, the Robert Koch Institute, said 1,045 cases were recorded on Wednesday — the first time since May 7 that it has counted more than 1,000 new cases in a day.

Daily figures can be volatile or distorted by delays in reporting, and the number is still far short of the peak of more than 6,000 reached in early April.

"What we are seeing is a lot of small outbreaks," Health Minister Jens Spahn told reporters. "People are getting infected at family parties, at their place of work or at community facilities."

On top of that, school holidays — the dates of which are staggered across Germany's 16 states — are ending in some regions, further increasing concerns that vacationers could bring home the virus.

People entering from countries deemed high-risk — currently most of the world outside the Europe Union, as well as Luxembourg, parts of northern Spain and the Belgian city of Antwerp — are already required to quarantine for 14 days unless they can present a negative test result no more than two days old.

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## FACES

# Recalling Natasha

Filming 'Made in Italy' stirs up memories of late actress for Liam Neeson and son

By LINDSEY BAHR  
Associated Press

When Liam Neeson sits down with a script, he usually knows within five pages whether he wants to do it. He calls it his "cup of tea" test. If he finds himself eager to get one, it's not a good sign.

But he found himself unable to break away from James D'Arcy's "Made in Italy," about an artist and his estranged son who reunite to sell the family's Italian home. It's been nearly deserted since the death of the family matriarch, and the once memory-filled home has fallen into disrepair. The grief aspect hit close to home for Neeson, who lost his wife, actress Natasha Richardson, after a skiing accident in 2009.

"It made me a little scared, but I certainly knew I had to do it," Neeson said from his home in upstate New York. He had another thought, too: What if their son, Michael Richardson, could also play his son in the film?

D'Arcy, who wrote and would be directing, met with him and soon phoned Neeson saying, "I think this is going to work."

They had worked together before. Technically their first appearance was in the "Anchorman" sequel, where Richardson is one of Neeson's History Channel crew. And it wouldn't be the first time they'd played family, either: Richardson played the son in the 2019 film "Cold Pursuit" (which he insisted on auditioning for). But this would be different, and more personal.

Richardson, who changed his name a few years ago to honor his late mother, had decided in the past few years to pursue the family profession. On his mother's side, it's a dynasty extending back to the 1700s. But he didn't want to simply rely on the family name.

After "Cold Pursuit," he told himself to do things on his own, separately from his father. Then "Made in Italy" came along, and the



IFC FILMS/AP

Michael Richardson, left, and his father Liam Neeson costar in "Made in Italy."

parallels were too uncanny to ignore.

"It seemed like my mom had a hand in it," Richardson said.

Again, he insisted on auditioning. And soon enough, the two were in Tuscany shooting the dramatic comedy, which comes out today on video on demand.

Richardson, who was born in Ireland and grew up in New York, wasn't what you might call a "set kid," but he would occasionally visit his parents' rehearsals and shoots for plays and movies. Not knowing the words, he would ask if they were going to "an in or an out." He remembers bits and pieces of things, like visiting his mother's rehearsals for "Cabaret" and "A Streetcar Named Desire," or his father on the set of "The Phantom Menace." Neeson likes to tell a story about how the then-2-year-old Richardson, who had never seen a Star Wars film, ran up and gave K2-D2 a bear hug.

But acting wasn't an inevitability, even if it was always part of his life. It's only been in the past couple of years that he's gotten serious about it. Neeson is supportive, too, but also had a ground rule for set.

"I said to him, 'Look, Michael, there's only room on a set for one director. And that's James D'Arcy,' Neeson said. "If you want to talk about anything to do with the process of acting or whatever, let's talk when we wrap each day's work. On set, you're just another actor to me, and I'll treat you the same as anybody else."

Still, he couldn't help but eavesdrop on a

few of D'Arcy's note sessions with Richardson. He was proud of his son for taking them in stride.

Plus, Neeson said, "They were notes I agreed with."

Natasha Richardson was on their minds during filming, but in different ways. Sometimes it would be in a butterfly that flew through set. Sometimes it would be in mining difficult emotions for a challenging scene.

"Sometimes it hurts and the pain is too much, and your mind can go on autopilot and you push away because it hurts. That's essentially what (my character) Jack did. He couldn't remember a lot of things," Richardson said.

"The takeaway for me is nobody knows how to grieve, but the best way to do it is by carrying your loved ones with you, not shutting them out. And honoring them and doing things in your life day to day that they would be proud for you to do."

Both hope the movie brings people a little bit of joy and escape to a scenic locale. Although it looks idyllic on screen, Neeson said it was actually pouring rain most of their four and a half weeks there.

"We could have been in Belfast," Neeson said. "But the movie gods came to our aid and on the last few days we got that magnificent Tuscan sunshine. You could see why Michelangelo, Leonardo and all the great Renaissance painters fell in love with it, because it truly was like a religious experience being in that geography and in that climate."

## Viola Davis, LeBron James among AAFCA TV honorees

Associated Press

Viola Davis, Sterling K. Brown and LeBron James are among several honorees at the AAFCA TV Honors this month.

The African American Film Critics Association announced the recipients of the second annual event on Wednesday. The virtual ceremony is scheduled to air on Aug. 22.

Davis will be honored for best actress for her role on ABC's "How to Get Away with Murder." Brown will receive best actor recognition for his character on NBC's "This Is Us."

Kenya Barris will be presented the TV Icon award for his contributions to television with his creating of ABC's "black-ish" and "#blackAF" on Netflix. Rashida Jones will present him the award.

"I Promise" will receive the AAFCA's inaugural award for best short film. The documentary series on Qubii chronicled the first year of James launching the I Promise School in his hometown of Akron, Ohio.



VIACOMCBS ENTERTAINMENT/AP

## Comedy Central to reprise 'Ren & Stimpy'

The brazen humor of "The Ren & Stimpy Show" will be revisited in a new Comedy Central version of the animated series.

The original program, which was a hit for Nickelodeon and was reimagined in partnership with Nickelodeon Animation Studio, Comedy Central said Wednesday.

On Comedy Central, the show will join other adult-animation series including "South Park" and a revamped version of "Beavis and Butt-Head," the channel said.

A debut date was not announced.

## Other news

■ A British coroner ruled Thursday that reality TV host **Caroline Flack** killed herself while facing an assault trial she feared would end her career and bring unbearable media scrutiny. Flack, 40, the former host of "Love Island," was found dead at her London apartment in February, weeks before she was due to stand trial for allegedly assaulting her boyfriend.

■ **Shirley Ann Grau**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning fiction writer whose stories and novels told of both the dark secrets and the beauty of the Deep South, died Monday in a New Orleans-area memory care facility of complications from a stroke. She was 91.

## 'Coastal Elites' created new challenges for Midler, Paulson

Associated Press

For Bette Midler and Sarah Paulson, making HBO's "Coastal Elites" in pandemic-forced isolation proved an unsettling challenge.

"It was just bizarre, completely bizarre, because it leads you ... down all these rabbit holes of 'What's next? I mean, what else could happen to me?'" Midler said during an on-line news conference Wednesday about the social satire, which debuts Sept. 12.

For Midler, the unusual working conditions reinforced how hard the pandemic has slammed the entertainment industry. Most TV and film production came to a standstill in March as everyone was trying to recover, including with socially distanced approaches to taping.

"People used to say that showbiz was depression-proof," Midler said, with moviegoers keeping it afloat during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Turns out it's not, she said, and "now we discovered that we're all out of work!"

"Coastal Elites," a series of monologues written by Paul Rudnick ("Sister Act") and directed by Jay Roach ("Bombshell"), also stars Issa Rae, Dan Levy and Kaitlyn Carter. Crews tested the cast at home in early summer under quarantine guidelines aimed at controlling the coronavirus.



Midler



Paulson

The work, originally conceived for New York's Public Theater, offers "contemporary stories of characters breaking down and breaking through as they grapple with politics, culture, and the pandemic," HBO said in a release.

Midler said she welcomed the chance to take part in the project, but couldn't ignore the oddity of making it. Paulson agreed.

The connection actors share on a set is what "I'm usually the most interested in and inspired by," Paulson said. The timing also proved affecting.

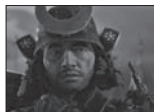
"Because it had happened deep enough into this time (the pandemic), my paranoia level was high already. And there were all of a sudden seven people in my backyard, and that was more people than I had seen in an area in several months," Paulson said. "So it's a little frightening."

Midler said she did gain some emotional release from making the series. In a series clip, her character vents about politics with a New Yorker's passion.

"I identified very, very strongly with the character. I felt almost as if Paul had written it for me, because he knows how nuts I am on the subject of the current inhabitants of the White House. So it was cathartic for me," she said. But not enough: "I'm still in a state of rage and anxiety."



# WEEKEND



Ghost of Tsushima a  
stunning samurai epic  
Video games, Page 22



## Trebek's triumphs

As release of unauthorized biography nears, longtime 'Jeopardy!' game show host also compiles his personal stories in 'The Answer Is ... Reflections on My Life'

Books, Page 32

## WEEKEND: TECHNOLOGY &amp; GADGETS

# Online money transfers good, but not foolproof

## Mobile payment app usage isn't without a few bumps

By LIZ WESTON  
NerdWallet

Money transfer apps including Venmo, Cash App and PayPal have surged in popularity during the pandemic as people seek safe, contactless ways to send and receive money. Unfortunately, many people don't understand the limitations of these payment platforms or how they can put someone's finances at risk.

Like over-the-counter medicines, payment apps can be safe when used as directed — but people often don't read the directions, says James E. Lee, chief operating officer for the Identity Theft Resource Center, a nonprofit that provides victim assistance and public education about identity theft.

"You've got to make sure that you're doing the right things," Lee says. "Because if there is a weak point in these kinds of services, it is that your behavior may make it less secure."

### Quick and convenient

Mobile payment apps allow people to transfer money to others quickly, often for free. They may be downloaded to a phone or other mobile device or accessed online. Some payment systems are available via social media, email accounts or other apps.

Apps such as Venmo and Cash App are

known as "peer-to-peer" platforms because they're designed to facilitate transfers among friends and family. People can search for each other using email addresses, phone numbers or user names, and money is usually transferred within one to three days. Some let users choose an instant transfer for a small fee.

Other systems, including Samsung Pay, are meant for business transactions, such as paying a merchant online or at a register. A few options, including Apple Pay, Google Pay and PayPal, can be used for both personal and business transactions.

### Use is increasing

Even before the pandemic, 79% of U.S. adults used mobile payment apps, according to a NerdWallet survey conducted in January. Since stay-at-home orders hit, use of the apps has soared as more commerce shifted online and people needed to send money to friends and family they couldn't see in person, says Adam Blacker, vice president of insights and global alliances for Apptopia, which tracks mobile application trends.

Installations of the most popular payment apps, which averaged about 14 million per month before the pandemic, rose to 17 million in April and more than 20 million in May and June, Blacker says. Users launched the apps about 1.8 billion times this June, compared to 1.3 billion times in June 2019.



iStock

Mobile payment apps can be a safe, contactless way to make purchases and transfer money to friends and family.

### Secure, but not foolproof

Many people assume their payment apps offer protections similar to those of credit or debit cards, but that may not be the case, says Kathy Stokes, director of fraud prevention programs for AARP.

For example, about half of U.S. adults incorrectly believe that they could reverse a payment made through a peer-to-peer platform, according to an AARP survey conducted in November. If you change your mind, have a problem or make a mistake — input the wrong email address or phone number, for instance — you're usually at the mercy of the recipient.

"The only thing I can do is plead for that person to be ethical and send the money back to me," Stokes says.

Payment apps usually protect you against unauthorized transactions, but not necessarily against other fraud — and that can be true even if you link to a debit or credit card that otherwise would offer such protections. Many peer-to-peer systems specifically warn people not to pay individuals or businesses they don't know, Stokes says.

"If you use (a peer-to-peer app) to buy

those great-priced tickets off of Craigslist, and you never get those tickets, you're out the money," Stokes says.

If you're doing business with a merchant you don't know, use a payment app built for such transactions, such as PayPal, which offers dispute resolution and purchase protection.

Lee recommends reviewing an app's security, fraud and privacy policies before installing. He also recommends using unique, complex passwords, and turning on features, such as facial recognition and passcodes, that could prevent others from accessing your phone. Enable your phone's "find my device" feature, which lets you erase its data if the phone is lost or stolen.

With proper precautions, though, feel free to use mobile payment apps, Lee says. In many ways, they're more secure than traditional payment methods because your financial information isn't exposed during the transaction. Your bank account or credit or debit card numbers can't be intercepted by criminals or stored in a merchant database where they could be accessed by hackers.

## GADGET WATCH

### Mini turntable adds retro look to modern technology

By GREGG ELLMAN  
Tribune News Service

The resurgence of vinyl records never happened in my house, simply because they never left. If the comeback hasn't reached your world, the Crosley's Mini Cruiser and RSD3 turntables are a great way to start.

They won't play any 33 or 45 rpm vinyl records; instead the portable record player plays 3-inch records. Before I laid eyes on the mini turntables at a trade show, I had never heard of them or the 3-inch records. While

they aren't commonly stocked at stores, the pocket-sized records are easily found online.

The whole package with the mini turntable and records is eye-catching — some might say cool, others say cute — with a retro look.

The Mini Cruiser (\$79-by-8.15-by-3.35 inches) is truly portable. When it's closed, it has a carry handle like a mini suitcase. This makes it a mini version of the bigger record-playing Cruiser record player for 33 and 45s.

It's really amazing when you see them perform with all the features packed inside, including a clear dust cover, adjustable pitch control, built-in stereo speakers, a port to connect your headphones or wire it to a stereo system. There's also a Bluetooth transmitter to connect portable speakers.

The silver-toned RSD3 mini belt-drive turntable (\$89.95) will be the centerpiece of conversation when you display it with your sound system. It also plays the 3-inch records with sound coming from built-in speakers, or you can use the 3.5 mm auxiliary port for output to headphones or a sound system.

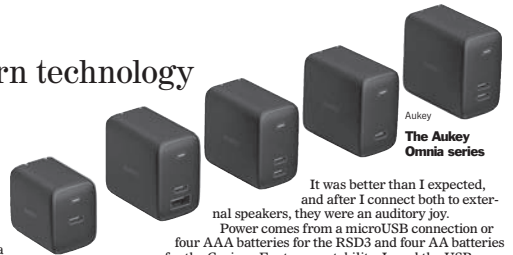
Measuring just 6.16-by-4.50-by-3.25 inches, it's built with a pre-mounted Audio Technica AT3600 moving-magnet cartridge and adjustable pitch control.

Sound from both of the mini turntable's built-in speakers wasn't room-filling, but don't let that discourage you.



Crosley

The retro-styled Crosley RSD3 plays 3-inch records.



Aukey

The Aukey Omnia series

It was better than I expected, and after I connect both to external speakers, they were an auditory joy.

Power comes from a microUSB connection or four AAA batteries for the RSD3 and four AA batteries for the Cruiser. For true portability, I used the USB connection with my high-powered portable USB battery.

Online: [crosleyradio.com](http://crosleyradio.com)

Everyone always needs more power, and when it comes to USB-C devices, the small and powerful Aukey Omnia 100 watt PD GaN charger (\$54.99) is the way to go. It's part of Aukey's new Omnia line, which includes five chargers with various combinations of USB-C and standard USB ports.

The charger has a single USB-C port giving you 100 watts of power for charging, producing quick charging for powerful laptops and smaller smartphone batteries. All chargers are not the same, even if they all power and charge your devices. Specifically for the new Aukey Omnia Series, they have Aukey's latest OmniaChip, which makes use of gallium nitride (GaN) to pack more power into the chargers.

And if you're one who is on the go, you'll love the size (2.2-by-2.2-by-1.2 inches), about half the size of the Apple MacBook charger I got with my last laptop purchase. Foldable plugs help with the portability, fold them out when you need to plug the device into any standard AC outlet and fold them in when not in use.

Online: [aukey.com](http://aukey.com)

## WEEKEND: MOVIES

## Upside-down summer

As pandemic delays new releases, movie fans are returning to the classics



UNIVERSAL PICTURES/AP

By JAKE COYLE  
Associated Press

When historians look back on the top films at the box office in the summer of 2020, they may feel like they've slipped into a time warp, or maybe "Back to the Future."

Over the second weekend in July, "Empire Strikes Back" — 40 years after it was first released — was again No. 1. "Ghostbusters" claimed the July 4th weekend, 36 years after opening. Over the June 19-21 weekend and 27 years after it last led the box office, "Jurassic Park" again ruled theaters.

In a pandemic that has resurrected all kinds of vintage pastimes, from puzzles to drive-ins, even the blockbusters are retro. That is much out of necessity. About 1,000 theaters in the U.S. are currently open, just about one-sixth of the nation's cinemas. That includes the approximately 300 drive-ins that have, since the multiplexes shuttered in March, hosted the majority of moviegoing.

With all major new releases postponed until at least Labor Day weekend, summer moviegoing has again belonged to the classics — the kinds of films that, for many, remain as indelibly linked to the season as E.T. is to Elliott. Brian Keasey, a 44-year-old in Montrose, Colo., has been going every week, when he's not playing movies on his backyard screen.

"I saw 'Jaws' on the big screen. I saw 'Raiders of the Lost Ark' on the big screen. I saw my childhood on the big screen," said Keasey, a few hours before heading to a double-feature of "Ghostbusters" and "The Rental," a new indie horror film by Dave Franco.

This is American moviegoing in the summer of 2020. A nostalgic trip to the drive-in. A white sheet hung off the patio. The comforting reunion with a great white shark. Keasey said he's seen "Jaws" three times this summer, including once on a screen improvised next to a pond.

"It's the classic summer blockbuster. It's

gorgeous. You can freeze frame any piece of that movie and it's a perfect slice of 1975 America," Keasey said. "I feel like those movies of the '70s and '80s had character development. Now, it's 100% right out the gate. There's no room to breathe anymore."

Among catalog films, "Jurassic Park" has led them all with a bit more than \$3 million in ticket sales this summer, according to several people who have seen box-office grosses. The major studios have declined to report ticket sales during the pandemic. The numbers, naturally, are extremely paltry compared to the usual billions generated in Hollywood's prime season.

The unreported grosses for newer releases like "Trolls World Tour" and "Onward" exceed those of the repertory releases. But the likes of "Jaws," "E.T.," "Goonies" and "Ghostbusters" rank among the summer's top draws.

That vacuum has led to some unlikely heavyweights at the box office this summer. The low-budget IFC Films horror film "The Wretched" led all reported films for seven straight weekends in May and early June, a stretch that matches the run of "Avatar." It's made \$1.8 million in 13 weeks, an impressive total for a film made for less than \$100,000.

Mission Tiki, the four-screen, Polynesian-themed drive-in in Montclair, Calif., outside Los Angeles and flanked by the San Gabriel Mountains, also turned into the epicenter of U.S. moviegoing. DeAnza Land and Leisure, which owns Mission Tiki and five other drive-ins, outranks all other circuits with 32% of the market share.

Typically, chains like AMC and Regal would dominate such lists, and urban multiplexes would be the top sellers. But at one point in the spring, when Mission Tiki was one of few operating theaters, the circuit accounted for close to 70% of the national gross.

"It's ridiculous," said Frank Huttering, the company's chief executive.

Huttering, happy for a break from book-keeping, sounded exhausted on a recent eve-



UNIVERSAL PICTURES/AP



ning. He's never worked harder, he said.

"For a while there, we were just turning people away. Now that the theaters are operating at half capacity, we're turning a lot of people away," Huttering said. "We get spill-over due to sell-outs, so all screens do well, regardless of what you're playing. Right now, 'Goonies' with 'Gremlins' is just blowing it out of the park."

Weekend box-office results usually function, like the top 40 radio hits, as cultural signposts. It would be hard to recall the summer of 1981 without mentioning "Raiders of the Lost Ark," or the summer of 1977 without remembering "Star Wars." Summer movies burrow into childhood memories.

This year, it's possible that "Hamilton," on Disney+, has been the most-watched movie of the summer, or that "The Old Guard," on Netflix, filled a void. But viewership for those films, too, hasn't been released. Anyone clinging to a collective moviegoing experience — or the feeling of a must-see movie — has had to make it for themselves.

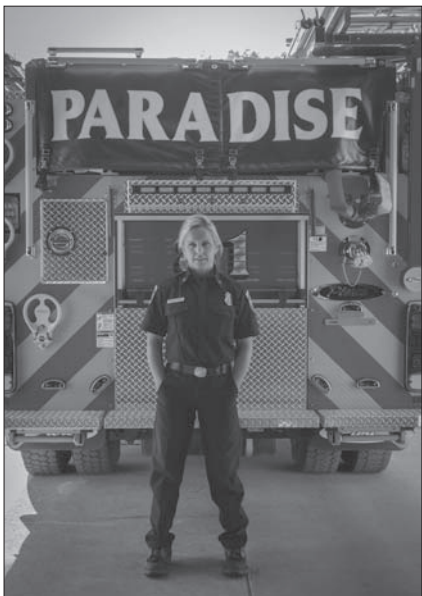
Given the financial pressures on theaters, most of which have been closed for nearly five months, it's not at all clear if moviegoing will survive the pandemic intact. Last week, AMC Theatres and Universal Pictures agreed to collapse the exclusive theatrical window from the traditional 90 days to a minimum of just 17 days. "Jaws," which birthed the modern blockbuster, played for 196 days.

Moviegoers watch a film preview at Mission Tiki drive-in theater in Montclair, Calif., in May. Drive-in theaters have been featuring older films such as "Jurassic Park" (above left) and "Jaws" (top) this summer with comparable success to new releases from last year.

JAE C. HONG, AP/File



## WEEKEND: MOVIES



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC/AP photos

Firefighter Shawna Powell poses in front of a Paradise Fire Department fire truck in California for the documentary "Rebuilding Paradise."



Filmmaker Ron Howard, left, and Steve "Woody" Culleton chat during the filming of "Rebuilding Paradise." The documentary explores the Camp Fire that raged through Paradise, Calif., in 2018, shown at top, and follows the townspeople as they rebuild.

# Paradise NOT LOST

Documentary captures town's tough recovery after a devastating wildfire

By DAISY NGUYEN AND AMANDA MYERS  
Associated Press

**A**lmost two years since a wildfire swept through his mountain town and virtually wiped it out, Steve "Woody" Culleton got to put the final touches on his new home.

Two redwood trees were planted in the ground, and a new lawn and stone patio transformed the once barren yard into a green refuge.

"We're happy," he said. "We're totally home."

The landscaping marked the final chapter of a long ordeal that was captured in "Rebuilding Paradise," a new documentary directed by Ron Howard about the aftermath of the most destructive wildfire in California's history.

Filmed over the course of a year, the documentary focuses on the colossal cleanup and rebuilding efforts after the Nov. 8, 2018, inferno that killed 85 people and destroyed some 19,000 buildings. It follows several wildfire survivors as they piece their lives back together and offers signs of the town's resilience despite many uncertainties about its future.

Howard said he had his doubts when he went to Paradise to witness the devastation. He knew the town, having visited a couple of times when his mother-in-law lived there, and he was overwhelmed by what he saw.

"I just thought, 'Well, how are they going to come back on this? I mean, here's a region that is just getting thrown so many body blows, death blows,'" he said. "How do you respond and recover? And the idea of rebuilding Paradise became the question. Can it even rebuild?"

While it touches upon the failings of Pacific Gas & Electric Corp., the utility whose equipment sparked the wildfire, and changing climate conditions that caused the flames to spread at extreme rates, the documentary mainly focuses on the emotional toll of rebuilding.

Howard's team became close to displaced families going through the trauma of losing their homes, a police officer whose marriage fell apart under the strain of the crisis and school workers who fought to keep classrooms together.

Put through what he called a cruel test, Howard said their struggles became a case study for "what survival looks like, and the possibilities for real healing

and also the inevitability of deep wounds and real pain that can't be avoided in every circumstance."

Michelle John, the schools superintendent in Paradise, was under immediate pressure to shut the school district and enroll students elsewhere in the area after the fire. She worked with other school districts to find space for Paradise students to stick together, and by the end of the school year she pulled off a high school graduation ceremony many thought was impossible six months before.

"The kids lost everything: their homes, their sports teams, their stuffed animals," she recalled. "Why would we take away their teachers and their friends?"

A few days after the graduation, John's husband died of a heart attack. She attributed his death to the trauma of the fire. "There's no doubt in my mind that the stress of the fire and his overall sadness about what happened contributed," she said. "His heart was just broken."

Now retired and living in Reno, Nev., she said she still talks frequently with her former colleagues to guide them through the new hurdle: how to help students amid the coronavirus

pandemic. She bought a new property in Paradise and plans to live there at least part time.

"It's difficult being away because I want to be there to support people," she said. "We have a shared bond because we went through this tragedy; the ties cannot be broken."

Culleton, the town's former mayor and councilman, was one of the first people in town to rebuild and moved into his new home last December. He said he decided to rebuild several days after his house burned down and threw himself into the work to make it happen.

There was little time to reflect on the things he lost in the fire. "Why sit down and think about it?" he said. "To me, it's painful and triggers all kinds of stuff. I want to move forward."

More than 260 homes have been rebuilt and the town has received some 1,200 building permit applications. Paradise is slowly repopulating, a few grocery stores and hardware stores have reopened and Culleton believes the community's heart and soul "is still alive and well."

People came back for Paradise High School's football games, he said, and traditions such as Johnny Applesseed Days and Gold Nuggets Day have been kept alive.

Still, his neighbors are gone and Culleton acknowledges he may not live to see the town make a full comeback. He said he hopes people who watch the documentary come away with a better appreciation of how precious and fragile life is.

"What happened to us on November 8th is that we all thought we were going to die," he said. "You can lose everything with a blink of an eye. So I'm trying to live to the fullest."

National Geographic is releasing "Rebuilding Paradise" in select theaters and on-demand through Laemmle's and ShowcaseNOW's streaming services.

SEE REVIEW ON PAGE 21

## WEEKEND: MOVIE REVIEWS

# 'Black Is King' is supreme Black art

Beyoncé digs into roots for a visual album that celebrates Black culture

By MESFIN FEKADU  
Associated Press

**K**ing Beyoncé's new film takes you on a journey of Black art, music, history and fashion as the superstar transports you to Africa to tell the story of a young man in search of his crown, matched to epic songs she created while inspired by "The Lion King."

The voyage feels even more special during the current state of the world, as the Black experience has been looked at closely in the wake of the many deaths of Black people, and the Black Lives Matter movement that continues to protest racism and inequality. And for those of us who have been stuck in place for months because of the coronavirus pandemic, the voyage and escapism are welcomed.

In "Black Is King," which debuted July 31 on Disney+, Beyoncé continues to dig deep into her roots and share her discovery with the world, like she did on the sweet masterpiece "Lemonade." Black pride is the center of the film, with African artists strongly represented, as Beyoncé shares her stage with Tiwa Savage, Wizkid, Mr Eazi, Busiswa, Salatiel,



DISNEY PLUS/AP

Beyoncé Knowles, center, wrote and directed the visual album "Black Is King."

Yemi Alade, Moonchild Sanelly and more.

They add a great deal of energy and beauty to the film — through lyrical delivery, eye-popping and sharp choreography, and bright and elegant costumes — bringing the songs from "The Lion King: The Gift" to life.

That album was inspired by the time Beyoncé spent voicing the character of

Nala in the latest version of "The Lion King." Audio from the animated film are included, but it's the newer passages that truly resonate.

"When it's all said and done, I don't even know my own native tongue. And if I can't speak myself, I can't think myself. And if I can't think myself, I can't be myself. And if I can't be myself, I will never

know me," a man says. "So Uncle Sam, tell me this, if I will never know me, how can you?"

Powerful.

Later in the film, Beyoncé says: "We have always been wonderful. I see us reflected in the world's most heavenly things. Black is king. We were beauty before they knew what beauty was."

That leads into "Brown Skin Girl," as Naomi Campbell, Lupita Nyong'o and Kelly Rowland — queens that Beyoncé name-drops on the song — make appearances alongside other black and brown women and girls in a deep celebration of melanin, diversity and sisterhood. Beyoncé singing "because you're beautiful," face-to-face with Rowland, could induce tears.

"Black Is King" also highlights music's royal family: The Carters. Jay-Z makes a stunning appearance on "Mood 4 Eva," while 8-year-old Blue Ivy steals the spotlight every time she appears on screen. Tina Knowles as well as Sir and Rumi Carter — to whom the film is dedicated — are also present.

It's a family affair, with musical cousins — both familiar and on the verge — part of the safari ride.

"Black Parade" plays as the credits scroll at the end of "Black Is King," and the song title could be the best way to describe the film: a procession into Beyoncé's black liberation.

OK, now let's get in formation.

"Black Is King" is rated TV-14. Running time: 85 minutes.

# 'Rebuilding Paradise' a stirring portrait of a town devastated by fire

By JUSTIN CHANG  
Los Angeles Times

**T**he sound of wind is rarely as sinister as it is at the beginning of "Rebuilding Paradise," Ron Howard's harrowing and heartrending new documentary. The loud, 40-mph gusts we hear are a grim omen, and they soon merge with other noises — anxious radio chatter, screaming sirens, the crackle of flames, the pop-pop of exploding tires — to form a chorus of fast-mounting dread. Through it all we hear a succession of human voices, trying to remain steady but find the abandoned any pretense of calm: "Please, we need your help, Lord," a woman prays. "I'm scared," another sob. "I'm scared."

You will share her fear. These opening moments return us to Nov. 8, 2018, the day the Camp Fire, the deadliest wildfire in California history, destroyed the Butte County town of Paradise.

Filmed over the year that followed the deadly blaze, "Rebuilding Paradise" is about redemption as well as destruction, which you might guess from both the title and Howard's well-known affinity for uplift. But while the filmmaker keeps his eyes peeled for every possible shred of good news in the wake of disaster, he has little interest in peddling easy inspiration; the stakes are too colossal, the devastation too raw. When the Camp fire swept through Paradise, it left 85 people dead, destroyed



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC/AP

Steve "Woody" Culleton rebuilds his home in Paradise, Calif., in a scene from the documentary "Rebuilding Paradise."

14,000 homes and displaced tens of thousands of residents. For many of them, there was simply no going back. But others, some of them profiled in this movie, saw choice but to return and remain.

One of those historic small towns much idealized for their beauty, close-knit community and idyllic way of life, Paradise commanded intense loyalty among those who called it home. But apart for some briefly footage, Howard doesn't spend a lot of time delving into the past or showing us the town as it once existed. Staying firmly in the present tense, he and his camera crew spend a lot of time following their subjects, some of whom have temporarily relocated to trailer homes in nearby Chico. A few high schoolers, return-

ing to what used to be their houses. A man points out buildings, including a hospital, that no longer exist. In effect, the filmmakers make us imagine what Paradise used to be by sifting through the wreckage of what it has become.

They also adopt the familiar strategy of telling a sweeping, panoramic story through a handful of individuals, using the faces of a few to represent the travails of the many. Given the sheer scale of the destruction, it's a reductive but effective tactic, especially in terms of providing an overall snapshot of municipal recovery. We meet a police officer, Matt Gates, who breaks down while recalling a woman's narrow escape during the blaze, and whose work — dramatically redefined in the wake of the

tragedy — takes its toll on his family life. We also meet former Paradise mayor Steve "Woody" Culleton, who was once the self-described "town drunk" before he sobered up and became an elected official, a turnaround narrative that gently underscores the town's own hopes of regeneration.

The most engaging figure is school superintendent Michelle John, who determinedly goes about the daunting task of providing for the young students of Paradise, many of whom are now homeless. A scene of John comforting students in makeshift classrooms hits especially close to home, as an image of American schools being uprooted, it may remind you, as it reminded me, of the more recent, farther-reaching crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Rebuilding Paradise" was finished and first shown at this year's Sundance Film Festival well before the pandemic erupted, and as a result it doesn't address the myriad ways in which the coronavirus has hindered and even reversed Paradise's recovery. As the film makes clear, the town was facing enough obstacles already, from the gutting of infrastructure to the toxic chemicals that were released during the fire, poisoning the water supply. And that's not even mentioning the enormous financial burdens and the incalculable trauma suffered by those who lost loved ones, homes, memories and an entire way of life.

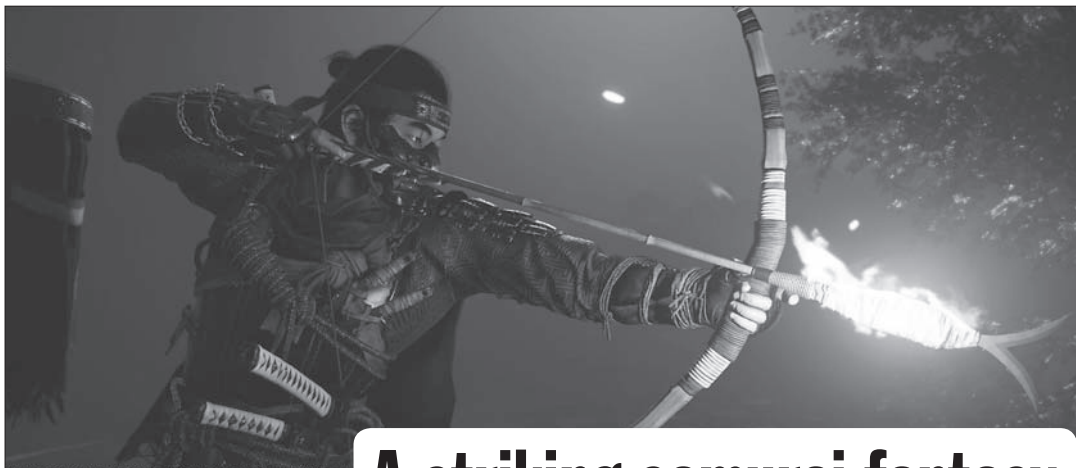
Howard has made documen-

taries before (among them last year's "Pavarotti"), and he also notably played with fire in the 1991 drama "Backdraft." His work here is solid, sensitive and unobtrusive. He and his collaborators (they include cinematographer Lincoln Elie and editor M. Watanabe Milmore) find the stirring drama in quotidian moments, from a bittersweet Christmas celebration to the many tense meetings where the people of Paradise try to figure out a way forward. A lot of those meetings, one of which is attended by Erin Brockovich, are focused on legal action against Pacific Gas & Electric for the role its equipment played in starting the blaze. (Earlier this year, PG&E pleaded guilty to 84 counts of involuntary manslaughter in the Camp Fire.)

But the documentary also points to sustained drought, rising temperatures and other environmental conditions that essentially cleared a path for fires to wipe out Paradise, as well as other communities in the area. Howard sounds a queasy note of alarm, placing the Camp Fire in the context of the recent Australian bushfires, the floods that have decimated South Asia and other deadly disasters exacerbated by climate change. When a Paradise resident gives a speech at film's end and declares, "We aren't alone in this," he ostensibly reassuring words can't help but sound like a warning.

"Rebuilding Paradise" is rated PG-13 for intense scenes of peril, thematic elements and some strong language. Running time: 90 minutes.

## WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES



# A striking samurai fantasy

## Rich characters, stunning visuals propel Ghost of Tsushima

By Christopher Byrd  
Special to The Washington Post

**T**hough Ghost of Tsushima's charismatic characters and intricate combat are a significant draw, what first kindled my admiration for the new open-world RPG set in 13th century Japan is its respect for poetry. Early in the game, Jin Sakai, the samurai hero of the story, encounters an old man sitting on a rock who advises him to take up the art of haiku. The anonymous poet makes a practical case for its utility, telling Jin that haiku can help a warrior clear his mind of internal strife and find equanimity.

Curious to take him up on this advice, I led Jin to a nearby overlook — with a view of the forest in the distance — where he sat down. Using the right thumbstick of the controller to pan the camera back and forth, I was able to focus Jin's attention on specific parts of the landscape by pressing the X button, and compose a haiku. Ghost of Tsushima is a game that abounds with such nifty elements. Rather than depend on an unsightly compass, or a mini-map, on the screen for navigation (as is

typical for most large-scale open world games), you can swipe your finger across the touch pad to rustle up a breeze — the Guiding Wind — to point you in the right direction. In fact, you can discover points of interest in the world without consulting a map at all. From time to time a golden-colored bird or a fox will cross your path. Following them will lead you to convenient locations such as shrines or hot springs where Jin can pray or bathe to increase his stats. Details like these help connect the player to the world in a way that feels more or less organic, and I expect other developers will crib some of these innovative features.

Though it is often said of the best open-world games that the environment is like a character itself, the cliché is born out in Ghost of Tsushima. Set during the time of the Mongol invasion of Japan, this visually-stunning samurai epic tells the story of Jin's quest to repel the invaders who, at the start of his journey, wipe out most of his fellow samurai and capture his uncle, Lord Shimura, the leader of the region. For much of the first act of the campaign, Jin focuses on raising an army to help him free his uncle. Along the way, he encounters

Yuna, a no-nonsense thief. Over time, she comes to exert great influence on his life. She counsels him that to defeat the Mongols he will have to put aside some of his samurai ideals, such as always confronting enemies head-on rather than taking "the coward's way" and sneaking up on them from behind. She also seeds an idea among the peasants that Jin is a "ghost" or an "avenging spirit" whose destiny will lead the haggard population to victory.

I enjoyed watching Jin grapple with the need to loosen his own moral framework. The story skillfully cuts back to scenes from his youth where his uncle instilled in him the values of the samurai code. All of the main characters I've encountered so far have interesting backstories that show how the circumstances of their lives shaped their perceptions of the world. This is an easy heroic fantasy to fall into if one has a weakness for samurai tales.

As Jin makes his way across the island, he meets all manner of foes, from dual-wielding swordsmen to wrathful spirits. There is a fairly deep combat system to learn, but this is balanced by generous quality of life features. For example, you can adjust the difficulty at any time, even midway through a boss fight.

By defeating a set number of Mongol leaders, Jin can increase his repertoire of sword poses. Each of the four stances — Sun, Wind, Water and Moon — are useful in particular situations.

By defeating enemies, Jin builds up "resolve," which is represented by small yellow circles in the lower corner of the screen. He can tap into his resolve to heal himself or perform special moves that can be acquired by tackling the game's supernatural or Mythic tales.

He can add to his stock of resolve by visiting stances where he can practice his swordsmanship by trying to strike through a row of bamboo branches with a single slash. Doing so requires one to input a chain of button presses in a short amount of time, the catch being that once one begins the sequence, the visual prompts vanish from the screen. I found that the easiest way to do this was to close my eyes and use my memory rather than look at the screen; I like it when a game flirts with meditation.

Ghost of Tsushima is a vast game. I have poured at least a couple dozen hours into it, but have much left to see. I suspect it will keep me enjoyably busy until the leaves fall from their trees and the next console cycle begins.

**Platform:** PlayStation 4

**Online:** [playstation.com/en-us/games/ghost-of-tsushima-ps4](https://playstation.com/en-us/games/ghost-of-tsushima-ps4)





## WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

## Europe

## Where three rivers converge

Stroll the streets of Passau, a lesser-known tourist site where the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers meet

By SLOBODAN LEKIC  
*Stars and Stripes*

Although not one of the best-known tourist destinations in Germany, Passau attracts throngs of international visitors each year, many of them on cruise ships making their way down the Danube River, but also many stopping off on their way to Austria, Hungary or Croatia.

Located in the southeastern corner of Bavaria near the Austrian border, Passau is within easy reach of Grafenwoehr. It's also a convenient stopover for those traveling south from other parts of Germany or the Benelux countries.

Founded by the Celts nearly 2,000 years ago and later developed by the Romans, Passau is one of Germany's oldest cities, offering plenty of picturesque Baroque and Gothic buildings in the downtown area.

Among the must-see places in Passau is St. Stephen's Cathedral and its 17,000-pipe organ, which was once the largest in the world. Every day at noon, there's an organ recital in the cathedral that lasts about 30 minutes. It's free of charge, offering a brief respite from the midday heat and life's general chaos.

Another sight to see is the immense Veste Oberhaus fortress, perched on a hill overlooking the city. This is one of Europe's largest fortifications, and to get to it, you have to cross the Danube (there's a bridge to help you) and then climb up a steep incline to the gates. But it's definitely worth it, if only for the jaw-dropping views of the old town and the unique meeting point of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers, which gives Passau its other name, Dreifluessstadt, or three rivers city.

The fortress houses a museum focused on the history of the city and the entire border region, and next door to it is the Oberhaus restaurant, which offers unparalleled views of the town and the confluence of the three rivers.

A stroll around the medieval Altstadt, with its maze of streets, squares and secluded parks, and charming cafes and restaurants, should also be on visitors' to-do list. Cycling tours along the banks of the Danube and Inn rivers are also available.

Passau is one of the main ports for river cruise ships that ply the Danube, and its narrow streets are normally crowded with visitors. But because of the coronavirus epidemic, most cruises aren't operating — many of the ships are, in fact, parked along the river banks. This means there are no throngs of tourists in Passau, making it easy to go for a leisurely stroll and take in the sights of the Dreifluessstadt.

lekic.slobodan@stripes.com



PHOTOS BY SLOBODAN LEKIC/Stars and Stripes

A panorama of Passau, Germany, as seen from the fortress overlooking the confluence of the Danube and Inn rivers. The waters of the Danube are darker, while those of the Inn are a lighter shade of green.



The Baroque, 14th century Old Town Hall on the river bank houses a small museum. The cobblestone square has a number of open-air cafes where you can take a break in the shade.



The Danube River at Passau, with the immense Veste Oberhaus fortress perched on the hill overlooking the old town.

## ON THE QT

## DIRECTIONS

By car from Grafenwoehr, take the A93 south to Regensburg, then the A3 to Passau. From Stuttgart, take the A8 to Munich, then the A92 to the A3 and continue in the direction of the Austrian border.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Passau has numerous hotels, including boutique hotels in the old city. My favorite is the centrally located, no-frills Stadthotel, mainly because it takes pets and costs about 75 euros for a double room. There is a large parking lot a block from the entrance. Address: Grosse Klingergasse 17, Passau 94032. Phone +49 (0)851 33069.

## INFORMATION

The tourist information office is located at Rathausplatz 2.

Phone: +49 (0)851 955980

— Slobodan Lekic



The organ at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Passau was once the largest church organ in Europe.

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

## Experiencing Iceland's untamed beauty

As we've had to postpone our travels because of the pandemic, I believe a weekly dose of travel dreaming can be good medicine. Here's a reminder of the fun that awaits us in Europe at the other end of this crisis.

Iceland, with cinematic scenery showcasing nature in its rawest form, thrills outdoorsy travelers. Its fascinating landscape, from rugged coasts to steaming volcanoes and craggy glaciers, offers visitors a range of adventures hard to find anywhere else.

One of my most unforgettable Icelandic experiences was my first tour into a dormant volcano. The Thrihnukagigur volcano, a half-hour drive from Iceland's capital city Reykjavik, last erupted about 4,000 years ago. When its magma drained out, a cavity big enough to hold the Statue of Liberty remained.

Today, via a pricey six-hour "Inside the Volcano" tour (which includes two mile hikes to and from the volcano), you can ride a lift through a squeeze opening at the volcano's top, then 400 feet down into its vast chamber. Inside, lanterns bring out the chamber's pastel colors, and water, seeping through its ceiling, rains down lightly as you explore the bouldery floor.

For a shorter (one-hour) and much cheaper volcanic experience, you can visit Raufarhólshellir, billed as "The Lava Tunnel." This 100-year-old lava tube was carved by a river of molten rock that was forced to burrow deeper after its surface had hardened. When the lava drained out, it left behind an extensive tunnel covered in colorful formations.

After passing beneath a few "skylights" where the ceiling had collapsed, you enter the intact lava tube — as big as a railroad tunnel in places. Subtle lighting brings out the tube's soft colors and fanciful features. At the turnaround point you can experience a few minutes of utter darkness



Rick Steves

most accessible.

There, several companies offer excursions of varying lengths and difficulty. A half-day outing with Icelandic Mountain Guides starts with a walk past an iceberglake to the foot of the glacier. Then the guide helps attach spiky crampons to your boots for the climb up spooky-looking canyons of ice and black ash.

Once on top, Solheimajökull is smoother and whiter. As you crunch across the ice, the guide explains how the glacier moves, where those mysterious cones of black ash come from, how geyping sinkholes appear, and how climate change is melting the ice so rapidly that Solheimajökull could disappear within a century.

Even on regular land, Iceland is a wonderland for hikers. Thorsmörk — "Thor's Woods" — is a top destination, with well-marked trails leading to thrilling

when the guide shuts off the lights.

Incredibly, Iceland is not only home to 30 active volcanoes, but a number of sprawling glaciers. Of the approximately 10 percent of Iceland that's covered by glacial ice, the Solheimajökull glacier on the South Coast is one of the



GLENN ERIKSEN/Ricksteves.com

Hikers atop Iceland's Valahmukur mountain are rewarded with 360-degree views.

views over volcanoes, glaciers and valleys. Accessible only on gravel roads that require fording rushing rivers and streams, most visitors get there aboard specially equipped, jacked-up buses.

The main reason to visit Thorsmörk is the glorious hike to the top of Valahmukur mountain. Starting from the visitors complex in Husadalur Valley, the hike to the summit is less than a mile, but it's staircase-steep in stretches and gains 900 feet in elevation.

On top, your sweat earns you a commanding view of three glacier-topped volcanoes, including the notorious Eyjafjallajökull, whose 2010 eruptions choked European air travel. Far below, the wide Markarfljót river valley sprawls to the

north and the Krossa river valley to the south, their glacier-fed torrents rushing toward the sea.

For all its ruggedness, Iceland also has its comforts — an abundance of thermal baths heated by the island's geothermal energy. From touristy "premium" baths such as the Blue Lagoon to municipal pools favored by locals, you're never more than a short drive from a thermal bath. Imagine wrapping up a vigorous day of exploring Iceland's magnificent outdoors with a soothing soak in 100-degree water. Aaaaahhh!

Rick Steves (ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

## Museums commemorate the struggle for women's right to vote

On August 18 of 1920, Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment. With three-fourths of the states now in agreement, the amendment had passed its final hurdle, and with that, American women had achieved the right to vote.

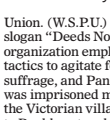
In celebration of a centennial of women's suffrage in the U.S., numerous museums and institutions statewide are offering special exhibits to mark the milestone date. American women fought hard for their right to vote, and their struggle was not unique. Women's rights movements existed around the world throughout the latter half of the 19th century, these groups forged transnational connections. The International Congress of Women, convened in Paris in 1878, was followed by events in London, Berlin, Amsterdam, The Hague, Stockholm, The Hague, Zurich and Vienna.

In the United Kingdom, suffrage for women was gained after decades of struggle with the passing of The Representation of the People Act in 1918. This Act of Parliament extended the right to vote to women over the age of 30 who met qualifications regarding property ownership. In 1928, the Equal Franchise Act extended voting rights to all women over the age of 21 under the same terms as men. The centennial of women's voting rights was celebrated

countrywide in 2018 with activities, awareness campaigns and temporary exhibitions. These three UK museums shed light on the movement.

**The Pankhurst Centre:** The suffragette movement in the United Kingdom traces its roots to Manchester, England, where, in 1903, Emmeline Pankhurst founded the Women's Social and Political Union. (W.S.P.U.) Under the slogan "Deeds Not Words," the organization employed militant tactics to agitate for women's suffrage, and Pankhurst herself was imprisoned many times. In the Victorian villa that was home to Pankhurst and her daughters, The Pankhurst Parlour serves as a memorial to the movement, its Edwardian furnishings evoking the style of the era. A century of voting rights for women in the United Kingdom was celebrated country-wide in 2018, a crowd-funded garden acknowledging the contributions of the suffragettes was opened on site. Although the museum itself is currently closed due to the COVID-19 health risks, the centre located at 62 Nelson Street

Karen Bradbury



regularly offers special events. A creative writing workshop with a guided discussion of feminist texts is scheduled for Nov. 8. Online: pankhursttrust.org

**Museum of London:** In 1906, the W.S.P.U. relocated its Manchester headquarters to London, a decision that transformed the movement. Over the next eight years, the fight for the vote played out against the backdrop of Edwardian London. The suffragettes staged spectacular demonstrations, including a march through central London to Hyde Park on Women's Sunday in June of 1908, and a suffragette Coronation pageant in conjunction with the Coronation of George V in 1911. From 1905 until the outbreak of World War I in 1914, hundreds of women were imprisoned for their activities. Suffragette banners, newspapers, photographs and much more can be seen as part of the People's City Gallery at 150 London Wall, Barbican, London. Online: museumoflondon.org.uk/discover/suffragettes

**Glasgow Women's Library:** The library contains a wealth of materials, from suffragette memorabilia to radical feminist literature. The space at Landressy Street 23 co-houses a women's community centre with a calendar of events for the public. Online: womenslibrary.org.uk The museum, libraries, collections and archives with a specific focus on women's issues

or the creative output of female artists are found throughout Europe. The International Association of Women's Museums unites more than 50 women's museums worldwide — 23 of them in Europe — in the common goal of advocating for gender-democratic societies. All the museums are online at iawm.international.

**Frauenmuseum Bonn:** Founded in 1981, the Bonn Women's Museum was the first museum specifically termed as one to display art by women. In addition to its permanent collection of works by national and international artists, the institution offers more than 700 exhibitions that include the works of thousands of artists.

In conjunction with the 250th anniversary year of the birth of Bonn's native son Ludwig van Beethoven, a temporary exhibi-

tion titled "Eleonore, Emilie, Elise - Beethoven and the question of women" will run through Nov. 8. Its themes include a look at women's living conditions in Bonn from 1750-1800 as dictated by their social status, as well as Beethoven's contemporary female composers. The museum is located at Im Krausfeld 10, 53111 Bonn. Online: frauenmuseum.de

**Frauen Museum:** The permanent exhibition of this museum in Wiesbaden shows differing interpretations of women and goddesses, demonstrating the connection between wisdom and the feminine across cultures. The modest collection is bolstered by temporary exhibitions; upcoming ones include "Women on the Cross," addressing the image of the crucified woman as saint and healer (through Aug. 30); Chaussee 36 Photography, dealing with erotic images in advertising photography (Sept. 26-March 28, 2021); and Leninski-Feminism 1979, concerning the publication of an illegal feminist magazine in the Soviet Union and the fate of its authors (Sept. 13-Dec. 13). Find the museum at Woerthstrasse 5, 65185 Wiesbaden. Online: frauenmuseum-wiesbaden.de/en

This banner for the Women's Writers Union is part of the Museum of London's display of suffragette objects.

Museum of London



## WEEKEND: FOOD &amp; DINING

## Europe

## Bloody unappetizing

At Gregorelli's in Frankfurt, good service can't redeem bad food

By DAVID EDGE  
Stars and Stripes

There are plenty of Italian restaurants scattered around Frankfurt, but oddly, not too many in the city's central area. So if you get a sudden craving for some Italian after touring the city, Gregorelli's would be a prime candidate.

The upscale restaurant, about 30 minutes from the Army's Hainerberg area in the heart of the Frankfurt shopping district, appeared to be a popular choice for locals and visitors alike.

The drink menu is extensive, with more than 20 wines from all over Italy. The beer selections are mostly German but there are a few Italian ones to choose from as well.

Because of the coronavirus restrictions imposed by the German state of Hessen, seating was outside-only when I went there for lunch with a friend in June.

We opted not to get appetizers, but the bread that was brought to our table was hard.

I ordered the rack of rabbit in white wine sauce with black olives and thyme. My plate also came with carrots, spinach and roasted potatoes. The sides were all good, but I couldn't eat the rabbit because it was undercooked. The server did offer to replace my food, but I declined because once I saw the blood coming out, I lost my appetite.

My companion ordered some excellent lamb chops, which came with the same sides that were on my plate. The chops were seared on the outside, medium-rare within and well-seasoned with rosemary, garlic, salt and pepper.

The food at Gregorelli's is a little pricey, like other of its class in the city center. Our meals and wine came to 65 euros, though it was presented by servers who were very attentive, without being

AFTER  
HOURS  
GERMANY

## GREGORELLI'S

**Location:** Meisengasse 12, 60313 Frankfurt am Main  
**Hours:** Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.  
**Prices:** Starters were 8 to 14 euros, main courses were 15 to 35 euros, and desserts were around 7 euros. Credit cards accepted.  
**Menu:** German with English description under each item  
**Information and to reserve:** [www.gregorelli.de](http://www.gregorelli.de). The website is in German.

— David Edge

annoying. I could have used a little more salt on the food that I did eat, but I usually feel that way when I'm eating in Germany.

While the menu selection was impressive, I have no plans to eat at Gregorelli's again. Maybe there's a pasta dish or two among the dozens that I'd like, but the undercooked rabbit — and trying to charge me for it — means I'll be looking elsewhere next time I'm downtown in the city.

edge.david@stripes.com  
Twitter: @DavidEdge96798393



PHOTOS BY DAVID EDGE/Stars and Stripes

A rack of rabbit with white wine sauce, black olives and thyme at Gregorelli's in Frankfurt, Germany. The entree also came with spinach, carrots and roasted potatoes.



Lamb chops with spinach, carrots and roasted potatoes

## Summer squash, spicy sausage pair well in this skillet pasta meal

By ANN MALONEY  
The Washington Post

I will admit I am going a little squash crazy right now. Summer squash are abundant, with readers reporting that they are getting a bounty in their CSA boxes. I can't help grabbing a few each week at the grocery.

Sometimes I simply cut squash into thin slices, sauté it with a little olive oil and minced garlic, sprinkle that with generous amounts of Parmesan and pepper — and dig in.

Summer squash are soft with thin skin that is edible. It's true that zucchini and yellow squash are available year-round, but I crave them more this time of year. Also, this is the time when other varieties show up, especially at farmers markets, such as yellow and zephyr zucchini varieties. Or, maybe you're seeing the fun-shaped pattypan squash around, as well.

The neutral-tasting vegetable slips easily into a savory take on clafoutis, frittatas and muffins. Squash also can be grated and turned into crispy pan-fried fritters or grilled and topped with a bright yogurt sauce and fresh herbs.

Or you can throw together this squash skillet recipe, which is so adaptable that you probably can make it from whatever you have in your pantry or refrigerator.

For this version, I selected both zucchini and yellow squash, adding a little color to the plate.

If you have a favorite jarred marinara or batches of homemade tomato sauce in the freezer, use that. Or do as I did here and rely on a can of quality finely chopped tomatoes and sprinklings of dry herbs to pull together a quick sauce.

The dish gets a kick of flavor from spicy Italian sausage and generous shake of crushed red pepper flakes.

If you don't want to use the porky Italian sausage, try turkey or chicken sausages — both come in Italian-style, so you get that seasoning with less fat. Or switch to a meat-free sausage. Boca, Tofurky and Yves make vegetarian Italian sausage, for example. These will be firmer, so you may have to chop them before adding them to the skillet. Morningstar Farms makes an Italian

sausage crumble, too.

The short, or mezz, rigatoni provides a sturdy foundation for the soft squash and spicy sausage, but it would also be good with just about any pasta shape.

If you have access to fresh herbs, sub them in. Use about double the amount of dried herbs called for in the recipe. Prefer a chunkier sauce? Pick up a can of diced tomatoes rather than finely chopped.

I love a generous sprinkling of Parmesan on top of this dish. And, if my little potted patio herb is cooperating, a few fresh basil leaves as well.

## ITALIAN SAUSAGE, SQUASH AND PASTA SKILLET

## Ingredients

2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
1 pound fresh hot Italian sausage, casings removed  
½ cup (about 2 ounces), chopped yellow onion (from 1 onion)

3 zucchini and/or yellow squash (1 to 1½ pounds, total), sliced ¼-inch thick  
3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced  
½ teaspoon dried basil  
½ teaspoon dried oregano  
½ teaspoon dried thyme  
½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes, plus more to taste

1 (28-ounce) can no-salt finely chopped tomatoes, with their juices

½ cup water, if needed  
1 pound whole-wheat or white mezz rigatoni  
Finely grated Parmesan cheese, for serving (optional)  
Fresh basil leaves, for serving (optional)

## Directions

In a large skillet over medium-high heat, heat the oil until shimmering. Add the sausage and cook, breaking up any large pieces with a wooden spoon, until just browned, about 8 minutes.

Add the onion and cook, stirring, until just softened, about 3 minutes. Add the zucchini, yellow squash, garlic, dried basil, oregano, thyme and pepper flakes. Stir to



TOM MCCORMICK/The Washington Post

## Italian Sausage and Summer Squash Pasta Skillet.

combine and cook until fragrant, about 2 minutes.

Add the tomatoes and their juices, increase the heat to high, stir and bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce the heat to low, cover, and simmer until the squash is softened, stirring occasionally, about 8 minutes. Add about ½ cup water to the tomato can and swirl it around. If the mixture gets too dry, add splashes of the tomato water.

Bring a large pot of water to a rolling boil over high heat. While the sausage mixture is simmering, boil the pasta, about 3 minutes less than the package directions indicate. Drain, reserving the pasta water.

Add the drained pasta to the skillet and toss it with the sausage mixture to coat. Simmer, adding splashes of pasta water if the mixture is too dry, for about 2 minutes, until the pasta is al dente.

Serve the pasta, topping with grated Parmesan and basil, if desired.

Serves 6



## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe



By KATHRYN STREETER/The Washington Post

The author and her family got familiar with the views from the windows of the Edinburgh flat where they spent a two-week quarantine. This was their eastern view.

# A room without much of a view

A family in Scotland for a wedding spent two weeks in quarantine in a 19th century Victorian

By KATHRYN STREETER  
Special to The Washington Post

**W**hen the United Kingdom announced a strict 14-day quarantine requirement for international travelers, it was understandably an enormous disincentive to anyone thinking of crossing the pond — unless they were mission-driven, desperate or crazy. We — my husband, 19-year-old son and I — fell solidly into that camp.

Attending our daughter's July 4 wedding to an amazing Scot she'd fallen in love with during her university years was worth the quarantine, not to mention the effort (and risk) of traveling to Scotland. It's unthinkable not to attend your child's wedding, and our absence would roughly cut the guest list in half; the others were the groom's parents and siblings. With not a little nervousness, we planned our trip to Scotland reserving two-thirds of our time for quarantine.

As former London residents, we're familiar with U.K. travel and living, but knew this would rank as our most memorable trip, a once-in-a-lifetime wedding against the backdrop of a once-in-a-lifetime global pandemic.

Forty-eight hours before our departure on British Airways, we completed the required U.K. Visa & Immigration Public Health Locator Form providing our quarantine address and other pertinent tracking details. Anyone without prearranged lodging would be offered government-arranged housing and be stuck with the bill.

The Dulles-Heathrow leg was aboard a roomy Airbus A350, only about 10% full. All passengers and flight attendants wore masks, and flight attendants also wore gloves to serve meals packed in paper bags. But our Heathrow-Edinburgh flight was surreal: Every seat was taken, and though passengers were all wearing masks, it was impossible to socially distance. We later realized that this single flight was an aberration: Our return British Airways flights were impeccably ordered, including strict protocols such as boarding from the rear to the front of the plane and upon landing, requiring passengers to remain seated and wait for their row to be dismissed.

We were grateful we could quarantine at our daughter's future in-laws' flat, which they rent to students during the school term, located in the quiet residential

neighborhood of Marchmont near the University of Edinburgh. The apartment is in a quintessential 1800s-era Victorian-style structure; the enormous bay windows of the 12-foot-high-ceiling flat offered a glimpse of an old castle in the distance.

We were on the second floor and, apparently, so was Janet, an older longtime resident who was practicing shielding, the British term for quarantine, since she is classified as high risk for COVID-19. Our hosts had briefed her about the Americans who would be living next door for a couple of weeks, and we were asked to resist any type of interaction with her or other neighbors to ensure everyone's peace of mind.

We adopted a quiet-as-a-church-mouse lifestyle, readying ourselves for an unannounced government health official's visit. Per the mandate, health authorities could drop by without warning to make sure we were all there, under threat of penalty (about \$600 per person in Scotland). We were not permitted to leave our place of quarantine except for an emergency, which included medical attention and the much hazier category of purchasing food.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

## FROM PAGE 26

To err on the safe side, we set up an account with a supermarket for two deliveries, but to get us started, our future son-in-law stocked our refrigerator and pantry and also left champagne for our 29th wedding anniversary, which fell during quarantine. Of course, the best anniversary gift was the impossible — to hug our daughter and her fiancé, who were agonizingly close but so far away.

We never received the check-in from government health officials, a bit of a disappointment because, to be honest, we would have enjoyed the visit — and we were excessively diligent.

Aiming to establish some semblance of work/life balance, we promptly dove into remote work each morning. With overnight temperatures dipping to the low 50s, I found myself chasing the sun from the front of the flat to the west-facing rear, where rays fell through kitchen windows overlooking the stonewalled internal gardens of the neighborhood. Through these back windows, besides dark stone buildings and bright green grass, we could see a shock of red geraniums lining a windowsill, blankets airing through open windows, and in one private garden, a swing, which a child — hugging her stuffed bear — would use, playing with her younger sister. In an adjoining garden, we saw a filled clothesline, with the woman of the house sipping from a mug.

When you can't go outside, you're a cat in the window, hungrily watching, observing even mundane neighborhood activities.

My son remarked that if you closed your eyes, the noisy swooping seagulls of the neighborhood were like "wailing flying cats," a fitting image and nice change from the wailing sirens of my Washington neighborhood. Though the very fact of quarantine spoke to the global pandemic, I felt strangely disembodied from it, so stark a contrast was this place to home.

At the stroke of 5 p.m., my husband would hand me a gin and tonic and we'd toast another completed day of quarantine and shift into evening mode. We worked obsessively on a 1,000-piece puzzle featuring a map of the U.K., listened to Pink Floyd and, as the days wore on, caught up on the British gangster series

"Peaky Blinders" on Netflix.

Taking out trash and recycling to the bins in front of the building became a favored chore, something we did in the evening, when the neighborhood had quieted. We rotated the privilege, wearing face masks and moving stealthily down the stairs and out the main door of the building.

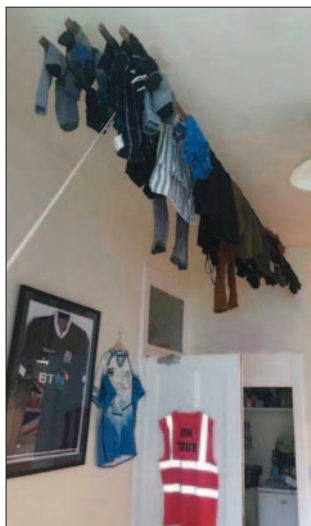
Once outdoors, we removed our masks so as not to draw unwanted attention; from observing pedestrians, we concluded that mask-wearing — unlike social distancing — was not emphasized as a basic practice to stop the spread of coronavirus. In fact, when my husband went to the front of our building to pick up our grocery delivery while wearing a mask, the unmasked driver looked him over fearfully and set the bags on the sidewalk far from my husband and drove away. The driver's actions suggested that he suspected my husband was ill because he was wearing a mask.

Laundry has never been so exciting as it was during quarantine. Many U.K. homes rely on a foldable clotheshorse to air-dry clothes, but in our space-limited flat, a pulley system had been created to dry laundry, lowered to hang wet clothes and then raised high to preserve living space.

Like hanging clothes to dry, using hot water bottles to warm beds before bedtime is an unremarkable part of daily life. Scottish summers are temperamental, bringing cold, wet days that make filling hot water bottles and turning radiators on sensible, along with wearing coats and boots. With clouds moving quickly and weather ever-changing, I saw people go from summer wear one day to winter the next, habits indicative of being so far north and tucked along the Firth of Forth, which connects to the North Sea.

Besides yoga, we used an exercise bike, positioned by the expansive bay windows with great views of the street, to stay active. Once my husband was using it and glanced outside only to meet the gazes of a socially distanced cluster of neighbors peering up at him.

It was an "aha" moment. Naturally, news had reached the neighbors of the Americans quarantining among them. Just as we could observe the neighborhood, the neighborhood could observe us.



PHOTOS BY KATHRYN STREETER/The Washington Post

Left: The flat's indoor clothesline. Right: The kitchen window overlooked neighbors' gardens.

Our suspicions were confirmed a few days later when the door mail-slot clapped loudly, delivering a handwritten note from "Lyn." Apparently, our fresh pack of sponges in the kitchen had sailed through the open window and landed in her garden, thanks to one of many hardy gusts of wind. The sponges "de-

cided they'd had enough of being indoors so flew out and landed on the back green," Lyn wrote, and she was returning them, sanitized. She also empathized, "this is a miserable way for you to spend the pre-nuptial days" and sent "best wishes to the bride and groom."

#AloneTogether has been trot-

ted out a lot during the pandemic, but this was personal. I felt comforted that my Edinburgh neighbors, a group of strangers I'll never meet, internalized our presence and the reason behind it. Though quarantining far from home, we were embedded in a neighborhood, surrounded by kind people.

Germany  
DIRECTORY

## Restaurants

REIN MAIN	REIN MAIN	STUTTGART	STUTTGART
 Cuisine Expérience Germany's Finest Beer and Authentic German Cuisine www.brauhaus-germany.de 0151 544 12 34 11:00 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30 12:00 accepted - Master Card/Visa Tel: 0151 544 12 34 Open daily from 11:00 - 12:00	 Dinner Restaurant <b>Mayflower</b> Cuisine: British 11:30 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30 12:00 accepted - Master Card/Visa Tel: 0151 544 12 34 11:00 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30	 Kirschen Restaurant 11:30 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30 12:00 accepted - Master Card/Visa Tel: 0151 544 12 34 11:00 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30	 dino e pane Restaurant 11:30 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30 12:00 accepted - Master Card/Visa Tel: 0151 544 12 34 11:00 - 11:00 PM 11:30 - 12:30

## Hotels

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During their quarantine, the family completed a 1,000-piece puzzle featuring a map of the United Kingdom.



# WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

Pacific

## Step off the beaten path

It's worth going the extra mile for a meal at KC's Dining in Hamura

BY THERON GODBOLD  
Stars and Stripes

**S**tand at any gate at Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo and throw a rock. Chances are you'll hit an Indian restaurant.

But just a 10-minute drive away, and within sight of Yokota's west-side residential towers, you'll find KC's Dining in Hamura, the northern neighbor to Fussa, where the base is located.

KC's is relatively small, with six tables and seating for about 18 diners. Parking in a small lot nearby is free. The interior is unadorned plywood trimmed to resemble rolling hills or breaking waves.

You'll forget the decor once your order arrives.

After being seated by an English-speaking waiter, the scents and sounds of the kitchen wafted to my table, and my mouth began to water while reading their English menu.

It was 12:45 p.m. and past time for lunch, so I eagerly chose something new for me: the mutton curry set (medium spice level) for about \$8.30, with a \$7 side of chili chicken. Ten minutes later, my order arrived.

The steaming smells from the freshly cooked meal set my stomach to grumbling, and I dug in.



AFTER  
HOURS  
JAPAN

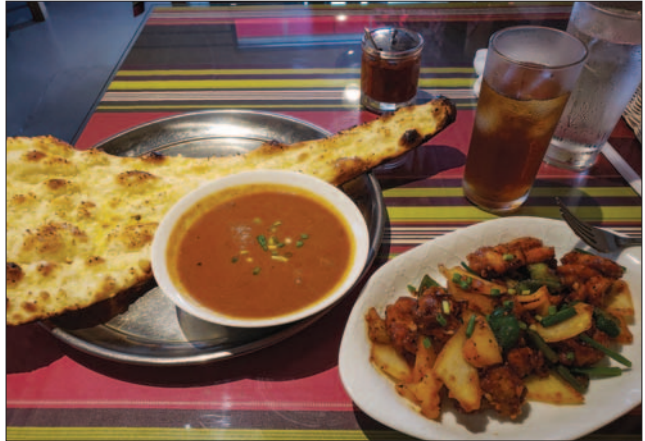
The salad, part of the set meal, was fresh but made a lackluster performance in comparison to the rest of the meal. Shredded lettuce and cabbage with small slices of bell pepper and a light coating of dressing made up the simple dish.

The mutton curry was tender and flavorful; the entire dish tasted like a spicy stew.

The naan, which came with the curry, was toasted perfectly, crispy on the bottom and fluffy on the top. It was drizzled in butter and sprinkled with garlic. Using the naan as a spoon, the flavors of the bread and butter blended perfectly with the curry giving it a creamy sweetness, offsetting the slight heat.

The finale was the chili chicken. Fried dark meat chunks mixed with white onion and yellow bell peppers coated in a sweet chili sauce made the entire dish zesty and amazingly flavorful.

godbold.theron@stripes.com  
Twitter: @GodboldTheron



BY THERON GODBOLD/Stars and Stripes

The mutton curry set with garlic naan and a side of chili chicken from KC's Dining near Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo.



KC's Dining is a staple for Indian food fans near Yokota Air Base.

## KC'S DINING

**Location:** 2-6-35 Futabacho, Hamura, Tokyo 205-0022

**Directions:** 10-minute drive from Yokota's main gate. Google GPS code is Q85J+5X Hamura, Tokyo  
**Hours:** Lunch, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; dinner, 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**Pricing:** Appetizers cost between \$3-5 and meals are from \$7-15. Group and party meals start at about \$22.

**Dress:** Casual  
**Information:** Phone: 042-578-8410

— Theron Godbold

## This cheesy Kansas City corn makes a tasty barbecue side dish

BY GRETCHEN MCKAY  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Corn on the cob is probably one of the greatest of great summer foods, but it's not particularly filling unless you eat a whole dozen yourself. This cheesy corn recipe, though, will fuel you up fast.

Based on an iconic side dish that's one of the most popular dishes at Jack Stack Barbecue in Kansas City, Mo., it's as hearty as it is decadent with the addition of two kinds of pork and two different cheeses.

Called cheesy corn, it's exactly what you'd expect from a city that's known for serving up some of the nation's best barbecue—a creamy, crowd-pleasing side that's a marriage of two summer faves, mac 'n' cheese and fresh corn. Bacon and diced ham make it even more substantial while adding a slightly smoky finish.

### KANSAS CITY CHEESY CORN

#### Ingredients

2 slices bacon  
3 cups corn kernels cut from cobs (from 4 or 5 ears)  
4-ounce ham steak, cut into 1/2-inch pieces  
1 cup whole milk  
8 ounces cream cheese  
1 teaspoon granulated garlic  
1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper  
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper  
6 ounces yellow cheddar cheese, shredded (1 1/2 cups), divided

#### Directions

Adjust oven rack 6 inches from broiler element and heat broiler.

Cook bacon in large saucepan over medium heat until crispy, 5 to 7 minutes. Add corn, ham, milk, cream cheese, garlic, salt, pepper and cayenne to saucepan, breaking up cream cheese with rubber spatula.

Cook, stirring occasionally until cream cheese is melted and mixture just begins to bubble at edges of saucepan, 8 to 10 minutes. (It will be liquid-y.)

Turn off heat, stir in 1 cup cheddar until melted, about 30 seconds. Transfer corn mixture to 1 1/2-quart broiler-safe baking dish and top with remaining 1/2 cup cheddar. Broil until cheese is spotty brown, about 3 minutes.



Memories with STARS AND STRIPES Pacific

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## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

# The revitalization of an American icon

Exterior corridor motels could see a resurgence as social distancing becomes part of the norm

By ROGER VINCENT  
Los Angeles Times

After many years of being looked down on, motels are getting new respect in the era of social distancing.

Guests at open-corridor inns may come and go without passing through crowded lobbies, packed elevators or enclosed hallways where viruses may linger.

"In outdoor corridors, people feel safe," said Mike Riverside of the Asian American Hotel Owners Association. "People can go directly to their rooms" and potentially reduce exposure to the coronavirus.

Outdoor-facing, low-rise motels and hotels also stand to benefit from being typically reached by car, unlike big resorts and urban hotels that rely on air travel to deliver most guests. With many still apprehensive about flying, drive-to destinations are widely expected to be the first beneficiaries of the gradual return of pleasure jaunts away from home.

"There is pent-up demand for leisure travel and nobody is too excited to share an elevator," said Patrick Scholes, an analyst who follows the lodging and leisure industries for investment bank SunTrust Robinson Humphrey. "For the moment, it definitely does give you an advantage" to have outdoor corridors in your hotel.

Inns where every guest's front door opens to the elements loom large in the collective memories of Americans, but they are for the most part relics of the 20th century car culture that gave middle-class people the chance to explore their country. At the beginning of auto travel, overnight options were mostly limited to proper city-style hotels or camping near the side of the road.

Soon, bare-bones "cabin camps" made up of individual shacks sprang up around rural gas stations. Many were so primitive that mattresses and sheets were extra. By the 1930s, according to Smithsonian Magazine, a classier alternative emerged known as cottage courts, made up of tiny cookie-cutter cottages built around a public lawn. Gas stations and restaurants began to appear nearby, and the freedom of the road gained a romantic allure.

The golden age came in the years after World War II when the country was prosperous and President Dwight Eisenhower's interstate highway system had yet to be completed. Motel, a portmanteau of "motor" and "hotel," became the common term for the inns appearing along Route 66 and other undulating roads that passed through the centers of town after town.

By the 1960s, interstate highways became the preferred venue for car travel, and the motel boom winked out. Open-corridor hotels and motels came to be viewed by guests as less safe than competitors with lobbies and indoor halls.

"Non-guests could also drive their cars



SPENCER PLATT, GETTY IMAGES/TNS

Highway proximity and social distancing are factors of the pandemic helping motels — such as this roadside spot in Pine Bluffs, Wyo. — see a resurgence. The outdoor access and relatively contact-free aspect of motels helps guests avoid viral spread.

right up to the rooms," Scholes said.

Open-corridor properties are no longer being built and existing ones are not being replaced, said another hotel consultant, Stanley Turkel.

"Of the 50,000 hotels in the U.S. today, very few of them have exterior corridors," he said. "Only a handful of those are left."

But with the coronavirus laying waste

**'In outdoor corridors, people feel safe. People can go directly to their rooms.'**

Mike Riverside

Asian American Hotel Owners Association

to the hospitality industry because most business and leisure travel is on hold, such inns are getting second looks.

"It's still too early to tell, but there are some signs that the exterior-corridor properties are doing a little bit better," said Los Angeles hotelier Brian Ahir, president of Haley Hospitality Enter-

prises and owner of 10 indoor and outdoor hotels between San Diego and California's central coast.

When the state locked down for the pandemic in the spring, occupancy dropped in his properties from nearly 80% to about 50%, he said, with travel-dependent properties in Solvang and San Luis Obispo taking the biggest hits.

His outdoor-corridor properties, including a 102-room motel in Lancaster, are doing better, perhaps because they serve as short-term housing for many guests on a budget.

"It's too early to say which way this is going to go," he said, but he may upgrade his outdoor properties to make them more appealing to affluent travelers who want to observe social distancing safety measures. "There's a possibility going forward."

One idea might be to rethink the traditional motel room layout, where "the only natural light came in off the parking lot," said hotel architect Michael Strohmer, a principal at HKs.

"What if a developer was looking to reinvent the roadside hotel," he said, by putting the bathroom in front, as it is found in

most indoor hotel rooms because it's next to the windowless hall.

"You could bring the bathroom forward and put views and natural light on the bedside," he said. The fronts of open-corridor rooms typically have small windows because the door and air conditioning units take up space.

Build on that with upmarket finishes such as plank floors, decorative tiles and plush fixtures in the bathrooms, Strohmer suggested, and give guests the sense that the hotel has a "happening" swimming pool and bar.

"It's Instagrammable," he said. "Get your product into social media." Such investment would require reversal of existing industry norms, but Strohmer says travelers' tastes have shifted with the pandemic in ways that could last a long time.

"People may be reluctant to get packed into airports and planes," he said. "You're starting to see the value of road travel again and the nostalgia of a simpler life in the past. Going back to Route 66 and driving to Arizona as a family vacation rather than flying to Hawaii might be more interesting to some people."

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## WEEKEND: MUSIC REVIEWS

## BTS unstoppable on new 'Journey'

BY CRISTINA JALERU  
Associated Press

There is no such thing as a world pandemic that can stop the BTS train. The pop (no K needed) superstars managed to record a full-length Japanese album, "Map of the Soul: 7 — The Journey," while the world was on lockdown. Only two songs on the 13-track album, their eighth overall, are new: "Stay Gold" is an uplifting piano tune with a catchy hook and "Your Eyes Tell" is an up-tempo ballad. The rest are cobbled and translated from BTS' latest Korean records.



**BTS**  
Map of the Soul: 7  
— The Journey (JME)

"The Journey" is a trip for sure with its pure, unadulterated pop that goes from lo-fi guitar with entrancing trap beats like "Black Swan" to a bewitching Latin rhythm on "Airplane Pt. 2," to a cheerleading routine that is steeled with an EDM line on "IDOL." You just can't shake off the hypnotic hoarse trumpet of "Make It Right" or run away from the utter earworm that is "Boy with Luv," the original version of the song hitting the Top 10 of the Billboard Hot 100 chart last year.

The music is infectious. There's nothing left of the dance floor when "The Journey" is done with you. Stay gold, stan BTS.

Universal Music Group



## Joe Ely

Love In the Midst of Mayhem  
(Rock 'Em Records)

Joe Ely's left-overs are keepers, as "Love In the Midst of Mayhem" shows.

Idled by the coronavirus — the "pandamit," as Ely calls it — the West Texas troubadour began digging through his backlog of songs that had not yet found a home. The material served as the foundation for "Love In the Midst of Mayhem," 10 open-hearted tunes about honesty, hope and healing. "A song is a poet's pain," Ely sings on the opening cut, "Soon All Your Sorrows Be Gone."

Indoor tempos match the way the pace of life has slowed, but the ballad-heavy, mostly acoustic set still offers variety. Tex-Mex guitar lightens the despair of "Don't Worry About It," and a carnivalesque coda punctuates "Glare of Glory," while accordion virtuoso Joel Guzman colors in the corners throughout.

It also helps that the 73-year-old Ely is in great voice. His dusty tenor floats over the devotional waltz "Can You Rely on Me," but hits the consonants with New York intensity on the marvelous "Garden of Manhattan."

Ely's vocal is somber on a song of heartache titled "Cry," and he lets one out on the final verse, summing up the sound of 2020.

— Steven Wine  
Associated Press



## Paul Weller

On Sunset (Verve Forecast)

Paul Weller's "On Sunset" is a rapturous collection, filled with a carnival of sounds that finds inspiration in decades past while occasionally stepping into something new.

Weller's 15th solo effort is more The Style Council than The Jam, his former bands, and clearly feels of a kind with the albums he's been releasing since 2008's "22 Dreams," chipping and stretching the mold without breaking it.

At more than seven minutes, opening cut "Mirror Ball" would suit a dance marathon, an homage to the dance floor that ventures outside the nightclub to found sounds, returns with a layer cake of vocal harmonies and drifts off with a hazy music-box piano that marks a transition to dreamland.

"Baptiste" is one of three tracks — along with "Village" and "Walkin'" — featuring The Style Council's Mick Talbot on Hammond organ, and they carry that band's trademark dedication to soul music.

The title tune enters to the sound of waves and a faintly "My Sweet Lord" guitar strum, adding other sounds of the early '70s while adhering to the album's leitmotif of simplicity and rejuvenation, albeit amid deep nostalgia and the acknowledgement of time's unstoppable advance.

Closer "Rockets" may partly be a David Bowie tribute, with Weller lashing out at the systems and institutions we're caught up in but which provide plenty for opportunities for some.

Weller's soulfulness and gift for memorable melodies across "On Sunset," plus his ability to slide between genres without blurring his commitment to quality, make him a specialist in many styles.

— Pablo Gorondi  
Associated Press



## The Pretenders

Hate for Sale (BMG)

Call them the great Pretenders, because that's what they are on their latest studio album that is among the best this legendary band has ever produced.

It starts off punky, complete with a false start on the title track, as raw, urgent and aggressive as they have ever sounded. Close your eyes and you can picture this one blaring out to the leather-and-safety pins crowd at CBGBs in the late '70s.

"The Buzz" follows, a melodic power pop gem in the spirit of "Kid." The buzzsaw guitars return on "Turf Accountant Daddy," a song about a man burning the candle at three ends, juggling lovers.

"I Didn't Know When to Stop" and "Didn't Want to Be This Lonely" capture a garage band energy and optimism that it's all still in front of them — even for a band already in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. And try not humming the melody to "Junkie Walk" after hearing it just once.

Singer-songwriter Chrissie Hynde sounds as good today as she did in 1979. Her trademark vocal catch, where she inserts a tiny hitch into a one syllable word to draw it out, is on full and frequent display. You'll love it, trust me.

Hynde wrote most of the album with guitarist James Walbourne, who also contributes slashing, speedy solos along with perfectly restrained melodic lines, depending on what's needed.



— Wayne Parry  
Associated Press

## WEEKEND: LIFESTYLE

# A ritual worth wishing for

## Can the tradition of blowing out candles on a cake survive COVID-19?

BY CAITLIN GIBSON  
The Washington Post

**P**icture the scene in its nostalgic innocence, the way it's always been captured in photo albums and home movies: family and friends huddled together, voices raised in song; a smiling face illuminated by flickering flames atop a colorful cake; a momentary darkness when the music ends and the room fills with the distinctive whiff of blown-out birthday candles.

Now imagine it again, this time having spent 100-something days in quarantine, barraged by news graphics detailing the spit-plume that erupts from our faces every time we speak, laugh, sing or cough. Visualize that same gathering of loved ones, hovering shoulder-to-shoulder, cheering as someone forcibly exhales a blast of aerosolized germs across the surface of a communal dessert.

Will we ever go back to that? Someday, when we are freed from pandemic purgatory, when our birthday parties no longer involve a grid of pixelated faces on a computer screen, will we still dim the lights and sing as a glowing cake is presented? Should we even want to go back?

"The tradition of blowing out candles on a cake has always kind of grossed me out, to be honest, even before COVID-19," says Caissie St. Onge, a comedy writer and television producer in Los Angeles. "I played the trumpet for years, and have always known too well just how much spit a person's breath contains."

Sure, she's gone along with it at festive parties — "it makes for a festive moment and better pictures," she says — but unless the candle-blower is her husband or her kid, she's passing on dessert.

"Why would I want to eat something I just saw you blow on?" she asks. "No thanks."

But for those who never played in the horn section of the band, a cake crowded with candles might still represent something more pure.

Jennifer Carlson, a 45-year-old human resources director and mom of two sets of twins in Florida, still remembers the climactic moments of

her own childhood birthday parties.

She still remembers the year she wished for a princess doll, and actually got one, and how that made her feel: "Almost as if magic really does happen," she says. "I do hope the tradition of blowing out candles on the cake continues."

History suggests it will, in one form or another.

The pairing of cakes and candles has been part of humanity's story since ancient Greece, says Bethanne Patrick, an author and Washington Post contributor, who researched the origin of birthday cakes and candles for her book "An Uncommon History of Common Things." Back then, candles were ceremonially placed atop a cake and brought as a worshipful offering to the temple of Artemis, goddess of the hunt, Patrick says.

Birthday parties were added to the mix in 18th-century Germany, Patrick says, thanks in part to one Count Ludwig Von Zinzendorf, who celebrated his birthday in 1746 with a lavish bash featuring a massive cake festooned with candles. Germans started placing a candle on cakes — the fire was meant to represent the light of life itself — to celebrate their children's birthdays.

From the start, the act of extinguishing the flames was infused with potent symbolism.

"The original idea is that the smoke would carry your wish up to the gods," Patrick says. "As part of the process of individuation in the industrial age, it became increasingly about a single person's wish instead of the wish of a community. When you blew out the candle, that carried your wish out to the universe."

The tradition took root in the United States at the end of the 19th century, before the devastation wrought by the 1918 flu pandemic. Patrick couldn't say for sure how birthday parties were affected or altered during that particular chapter of history — but that pandemic obviously didn't stop anyone from blowing out birthday candles once the crisis had ended, which perhaps reveals something about how quickly germaphobia subsides once an imminent threat has passed.

And it's not like prior warnings have done much to dissuade us. In 2017, a widely circulated study revealed that "blowing out the candles over the icing surface resulted in 1,400% more bacteria compared to icing not blown on" — meaning that any microorganisms dwelling in the candle-blower's respiratory tract would probably make their way onto your plate. Ugh — and yet, the upshot was still that the scenario is pretty harmless: "In reality if you did this 100,000 times, then the chance of getting sick would probably be very minimal," one of the study's authors told The Atlantic.

Candle industry experts aren't worried about the future of this tradition. Kathy LaVania, president of the National Candle Association, says she's talked to wholesalers and retailers who resort to sign or window sales — in fact, "they're seeing exponential growth in the baking category as a whole, and birthday candles haven't slowed down at all," she says. "I think people are definitely still doing it."

Given everything we're going through as a country, "I don't think people are going to be inclined right now to give up things that make them feel good," she adds. "If anything, we're going to gravitate toward wanting to do more of that."

When something is worth saving, we find ways to make it work — and within the constraints of quarantine, people are already coming up with inventive workarounds: They place a single candle atop an individual cupcake. They wave their hands to extinguish the flames. They poke candles through a paper plate to fashion a homemade cake shield. They offer alternative dessert options for those who have long cringed at the thought of breath-fogged frosting.

But maybe the return we long for isn't really about candles, anyway. It's the ritual that surrounds them — the creation of a happy memory, the voices of friends joined in a familiar melody, our family members gathered to celebrate the passage of another year of life — that feels, especially now, like something worth wishing for.



## WEEKEND: BOOKS



# Honest answers

Alex Trebek discloses struggles in cancer battle as he reflects on life in reluctant new memoir

By AMY KAUFMAN  
*Los Angeles Times*

In a public address to “Jeopardy!” viewers recently, Alex Trebek assured fans that he was fine. “Feeling great,” in fact. The treatment for Stage IV pancreatic cancer was “paying off,” he said, and his numbers were good. Wearing one of his well-pressed blazers, his voice steady as ever, he playfully showed off the goatee he’d grown since the pandemic halted production in March.

But in private, Trebek — who turned 80 on July 22 — has struggled. He admits he had moments of “complete discouragement” when he felt “ready to pack it in,” times when he thought about taking his own life. And that bothers him. It’s not that he’s ashamed that suicidal thoughts have crossed his mind. He just doesn’t want to be perceived as a disappointment.

“You can’t be telling people ‘Keep your chin up, fight on!’ and then all of a sudden you counter that by: ‘What happened to Trebek?’ ‘Oh, he killed himself.’

He just got too discouraged,” the quiz show host said in an interview from his office. “Well, hell, he was telling us to be positive. And then he did this negative thing.” So, yeah. That’s the responsibility that has bothered me.”

Trebek’s new memoir, “The Answer Is ... Reflections on My Life,” is dedicated to “those who are hoping to become survivors.” But as he reveals in the book, the burden of serving as a beacon of hope has weighed on him. When he began chemotherapy, he started having crying spurts out of the blue. He was troubled by this and confided in his oncologist about the tears. The doctor advised Trebek that they were likely a side effect of his treatment.

“He told me not to feel embarrassed, but I said, ‘I do feel a little embarrassed. I feel like a wuss. It’s not that men shouldn’t cry. It’s that, my God, Alex, get yourself together, here,’” Trebek recalled. Just the day before, he said, he started getting “very emotional for no reason that I can think of” while his son, Matthew, was preparing dinner. Noticing his father’s upset, the 30-year-old stopped cooking and came over to the kitchen table to pat his dad’s back. “And then, the moment was gone. Thank God these things don’t last long. I know that now, so it doesn’t scare me as much as it used to.”

Opening up about any of this in a book was never something Trebek planned. He had long rejected entreaties from publishers hoping he would tell his life story. So when, just weeks after his cancer diagnosis in early 2019, he received an email from Simon & Schuster asking him to write a memoir, he promptly turned down the request. “He said he just didn’t feel like he had a story worth telling,” said Sean Manning, executive editor at the publishing company.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

## WEEKEND: BOOKS



JEOPARDY! PRODUCTIONS, INC./AP

Alex Trebek has hosted the quiz competition game show "Jeopardy!" since 1984.

## FROM PAGE 32

Still, Manning continued to check in every few months to see if Trebek might reconsider. The host was steadfast in his decision until he learned that an unauthorized biography of his life by Lisa Rogak — who had also written about Rachel Maddow, Stephen King and Jon Stewart — was set for publication around his 80th birthday. Trebek hated the notion that the author wouldn't "get it right" and decided that if he could give his advance money to charity, the effort might be worth it. But to compete with Rogak's book, Trebek would have to move quickly. "It was a rush job," he acknowledged, noting that he began work on the book only in March.

Given the time constraints — and the fact that he doesn't consider himself a "good enough writer" — Trebek decided he wouldn't write a soup-to-nuts autobiography. He describes it to readers as "a series of quick look-ins" that touch on the highlights of his life, including his early career, his favorite "Jeopardy!" contestants and his 30-year marriage to second wife, Jean.

It was written with the aid of both Manning and "Jeopardy!" supervising producer Rocky Schmidt, who joined conference calls to jog Trebek's memory about major life events. After those conversations, Manning would send notes from the chats back to Trebek for revisions — a format "that was going to cause me the least amount of grief, if you will," the host joked.

Schmidt, who began working on "Jeopardy!" as Trebek's assistant in 1987, already knew most of the stories shared on the three-way calls. But by the end of the process, he says he gained fresh perspective on how Trebek lives his life: With a "fundamental feeling of 'I want the world to be fair.'"

"On the show, there are clear-cut answers, and if you give the right answer, you're gonna get rewarded for it," Schmidt said. "He tells a story in the book about how, when he was at military school, he made hospital corners perfectly on his bed and a [senior cadet] tore up the sheets anyway. He was upset that it wasn't fair."

Trebek's impartiality has become a cornerstone of his reputation. He made a conscious decision to keep his political views private so as not to "offend an important segment of our audience." Born

a Canadian, Trebek became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1998 and writes that he has since voted for both Republicans and Democrats. But because of "the number of crises that are affecting our country right now," he says he is planning to become more vocal about his beliefs before the 2020 presidential election.

"I'm trying to cope with how I want to do it," he said. "You have to do it in a way that doesn't make it seem as if you're picking on certain people or denigrating their points of view or putting them down because they're obviously not bright enough to come up with the same conclusions you've come up with."

He is also a rule-follower when it comes to socializing with "Jeopardy!" contestants. Trebek interacts with players only during commercial breaks, not just because of time limitations — he films five shows a day, twice a week — but also because he doesn't want to create an impression of impropriety. He became closest with Ken Jennings, who won a record-breaking 74 consecutive games, largely because they had so much time to talk on set. Worried his voice wouldn't be able to hold up, Trebek asked Jennings to record the majority of the audiobook for "The Answer Is ...". The player was honored, especially since their social interactions had been limited.

"The reason you can't hang out with Alex is not because he's snooty — it's because he's read all the answers and isn't allowed to fraternize," Jennings said. "It's always funny to see him in non-'Jeopardy!' settings where he doesn't have the Perry Ellis set and he's wearing dad jeans and a bomber jacket. In real life, he could not be more down-to-earth and less like his fussy Will Ferrell stage persona."

Trebek is well aware of what he has come to represent to viewers over his 36 years as the host of "Jeopardy!" He's the reliable figure you can count on to appear on your TV each weeknight, "not so much as a showbiz personality but as an uncle," he writes. He is not intimidating. He's a "second-tier celebrity." Part of the family.

He leans into this persona in the book, offering up wholesome tidbits about how he's happiest sitting on the swing in his backyard or eating fried chicken and broccoli for dinner. He doesn't drink alcohol, save for the "occasional" glass of chardonnay, instead preferring a tall glass of 1% milk in the middle of the night. He

## 'The Answer Is ... Reflections on My Life'

Alex Trebek

Alex Trebek is the one providing the answers and questions in a new memoir that should reinforce his admirers' expectations about the ever-steady "Jeopardy!" host.

The concise chapters, with titles including "What Is a Mentor?" and "The Answer Is Family" and ranging from a few paragraphs to a few pages, make for a readable but not slapdash approach.

The sum of the parts echoes the public figure, the genial and even courtly man that viewers have been watching on the "Jeopardy!" quiz show since 1984.

The fan support and affection that greeted Trebek's 2019 pancreatic cancer disclosure encouraged him to write about his life. But the illness and its toll, while honestly addressed, don't dominate the book.

Instead, the Canada-born Trebek focuses on his roots as the child of an immigrant father and French-Canadian mother, the work ethic that earned him TV success, and the contented marriage he shares with Jean.

There are engaging tidbits about Trebek's former love for flashy cars, the satisfaction he gets out of playing home handyman; the contestants he admires and the one he bonded with.

He is uniformly self-deprecating, including telling a story on himself that involves Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and suggesting modestly that he's known but not celebrated.

Instead, he writes, he's like a visiting relative that the audience finds "comforting and reassuring as opposed to being impressed by me."

A couple of minor foibles in his life get dinged, including "martini" of a priest at a church-run school and a producer who stifled him, but if he's harboring deep hostility it isn't revealed here.

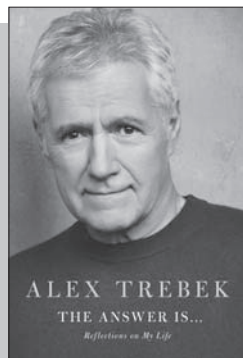
arrives every hour 10 minutes early.

And he lives a routine, always arriving at the Sony Pictures lot in Culver City, Calif., on tape days at 6 a.m. "This gives him time to eat his daily Kit Kat and Diet Pepsi while spending an hour and a half reading through the day's 305 clues. Then he reads the Los Angeles Times and attempts to complete the crossword puzzle."

"I think after 36 years, people have come to realize who I am and what I represent," he said. "I think I'm not a flake. They say I'm a bit of a braggart... There was a survey that I think Reader's Digest did about a year or so ago about America's Most Trusted People, and I made the top 10. I felt really good about that. I dropped right in between Bill and Melinda Gates. I was No. 8."

So if you're expecting there to be a smug "But then 'The Answer Is ...' you'll be disappointed. He does cope to cursing and says that in his younger days he bought a Bentley convertible and a Jaguar roadster and then an Italia Spyder to impress people. (These days, he drives a Dodge Ram so that he can lug around the supplies he uses to get his house repairs.) "I'm kind of dull and boring, aren't I?" he said, assessing himself. "I say it almost apologetically. It would be nice if there was something — not too offensive — but something spectacular that people could say, 'Oh, yeah! I knew Trebek wasn't Mr. Goody-Two-Shoes. He had skeletons in his closet.'"

Trebek doesn't dwell on his hardships. After his parents divorced, his mother began dating a new man and got pregnant, ultimately giving the child up for adoption. Trebek did not learn he had a half-brother until he was in his 40s and writes that he "had kind of a resentment for my mother" as a result. Still, they "settled" things long before her death at 95, which Trebek says "didn't devastate" him because he "had



ALEX TREBEK

THE ANSWER IS...

Reflections on My Life

His even disposition appears to have served him well and consistently over his 80 years.

Trebek overcame the resentment he harbored over his mother's decision to leave an ill-fitting marriage and move to the United States. He's remained friendly with his ex-wife, Elaine, and devoted to her daughter, Nicky, with both parts of an extended family circle that includes Matthew and Emily, his children with Jean.

Trebek's philosophical bent emerges clearly in the memoir, as he shares his perspective on human nature, spirituality and the value of knowledge. The naturalized U.S. citizen only nibbles around the edges of politics and the polarization he condemns as self-defeating, leaving the impression he has much more to say on the topic.

Maybe those answers will come in the next book.

— Lynn Elber/Associated Press

come to terms with it pretty well."

Of his own divorce, Trebek says in the book that he remains close with his first wife, Elaine, and considers her 53-year-old child, Nicky, his "daughter by osmosis." And when he decided to marry Jean, 24 years his junior, her father was initially dismayed, but Trebek insists there "were never any in-law problems."

It was all such plain sailing that even he used to question when the hammer was going to fall.

"And then all of a sudden you say, 'Well, wait a minute, it did fall.' A year and a half ago I'm suddenly diagnosed with one of the worst kinds of cancer, and I've been dealing with it ever since," he said solemnly. "So in a sense, Hey, maybe he had too much of a good thing going. Maybe he needed to be brought back down to earth and taught a lesson in that bad things can happen to good people too. So here it is, Alex. Deal with it."

Trebek is candid in writing about the toll cancer has taken on his body. In one particularly moving section, he reveals that one day on set his stomach cramps were so excruciating that he collapsed on the floor of his dressing room, crying and writhing in pain. Producers suggested they cancel the taping, but he insisted he continue working — something the producers inexplicably helped to ease his physical ailments.

Soon Trebek plans to return to the set, where there will be no audience and contestants will be separated by partitions and more than six feet of distance. He recently started a new chemotherapy program. But if the program fails to improve his health, he writes in his memoir that he has already told his family he'll "probably stop treatment."

"There is an end to all," he said in a straightforward tone. "Dying is part of life. And, hey, guys, it comes with the territory. So hold in there as long as you can, and let's see what happens."

## WEEKEND: TELEVISION



## SCREEN SAVOR

This year's Emmy nods remind us to appreciate the TV we've watched during quarantine

By HANK STUEVER  
The Washington Post

It's tempting to say there's much too much going on in the world right now to pay any mind to something as trivial as awards-show nominations, and normally I'd agree.

But Tuesday's announcement of this year's prime-time Emmy nominees comes at a time in which audiences have never been more prepared to scrutinize, applaud and, in a few cases, rue the choices made by the Television Academy (more formally known as the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences). Under what feels like permanent house-arrest, we'll be even more ready when the awards are presented Sept. 20 on ABC, in a virtual ceremony hosted by the network's late-night guy, Jimmy Kimmel.

If the universe still knows how to unfold correctly, the big winner of the night will be Damon Lindelof's unerringly prescient limited series "Watchmen" for HBO — a show that would have been dazzling in any year, but, with its story of an alt-America caught in a pernicious undertow of historical bigotry that is confronted by a summoning of superhuman resistance, the show became a thematic touchstone for where we stand right now as a country. "Watchmen" received 26 nominations — more than any other individual program — including acting nominations for Regina King, Jeremy Irons, Jean Smart, Louis Gossett Jr., Yahya Abdul-Mateen II

and Jovan Adepo.

Besides protesting and trying not to catch a deadly disease, we've had precious little to do these past four months besides catching up on lots and lots of TV, priming us for the elation of, say, Catherine O'Hara's nomination (and hopeful lock) for lead actress in a comedy series for Pop TV's "Schitt's Creek." And wondering how Hulu's "Normal People" failed to make the cut in the best limited series category, or how the love story's lead actress, Daisy Edgar-Jones, wasn't nominated for her performance while her co-star, Paul Mescal, was. (The success of their performances seemed so exquisitely dependent on each other.)

In addition to other nice notes (Cecily Strong, a key player on NBC's "Saturday Night Live" for eight seasons, received a nomination, at long last, for her work), audiences can take comfort in the idea that Emmy voters seem to share their quirky-est obsessions, particularly where Netflix is involved.

Among its astounding 160 nods across a list of nominations that runs 61 pages: The Emmys give awards for practically every aspect of TV making, voters nominated some of our guiltiest Netflix pleasures, such as the documentary series "Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness"; the desert-disaster pandemonium of "Nailed It!"; the meet-weird reality series "Love Is Blind"; and the movingly exuberant "Cheer"; a docuseries about competitive cheerleaders from a Texas junior

college. Docuseries may be the hottest category for homebound viewers, who gobble them up. ESPN's Michael Jordan epic "The Last Dance" was nominated, as was HBO's scam saga "McMillion\$." I was also glad to see Hulu's "Hillary" in this list because of how much it differed in structure and technique from other political documentaries.

This could well have been the year for the academy to open voting up to the great masses, for surely we have watched as much or more TV than academy members usually do. Already experts at bingeing, we've now become completionists of the highest order. People write to me begging for a suggestion of something new to watch: I send back a list; they write back to say they've already watched all those shows.

People who still believe COVID-19 is a dire threat haven't strayed far from home and perhaps have already recognized that a fresh discovery on TV is an increasingly rarer commodity. Others tend to settle in with a show that is pretty good rather than really great. (Looking at you, "Ozark" — nominated again this year for outstanding drama series, which it isn't, but let's not fight when there is so much else in this year's crop of nominees on which to agree.) And then there are those who got bored and started to go out to restaurants and bars and go on "safe" mini-vacation trips, tured into unguarded social contact by misinformation or their own stubbornness. The rate of contagion then spiked.

Don't you wish they could just sit still and watch a little more TV?

The Emmys' 2019-2020 eligibility cycle, which ended May 31, sort of straddles the before-and-after aspect of our quarantined lives. The shows, of course, are all about the world that no longer exists, in which people gather, travel, dine, carouse, hug, kiss, sob, attend weddings or funerals and, sometimes quite messily, kill. Their lives are spattered in one another's many fluids, and they hardly care.

This can provoke many feelings at once: envy of their pre-pandemic freedom; an abstract worry that they're not safely distanced from one another; and, most of all, gratitude to these characters — and the people who brought them to us — for the welcome reprieve from our reduced worlds.

Television, my friends, is still our surtest and easiest escape, and I do worry about what's in store for us in the season ahead, as completed shows play out and Hollywood's shutdown catches up to the schedule. Obviously, the longer the industry is not able to shoot, the greater the likelihood that next year's tally of Emmy contenders will begin to resemble an endangered species list. After all, there are only so many Zoom-based ways to make TV, and there are only so many Canadian/Australian/Scandinavian crime dramas to bridge the gap. We're reaching a twilight hour, and this year's impressive roster of Emmy nominations are a fitting reminder to savor the view.



## WEEKEND: TELEVISION &amp; DVD

## NEW ON DVD

**“The High Note”:** Personal assistant Maggie Sherwoode (Dakota Johnson) has a dream of becoming a professional music producer. But this is a no-no at her day job, since she's at superstar singer Grace Davis' (Tracee Ellis Ross) side more or less every minute of the day as her assistant. But after secretly producing a cut of her boss' new album, she meets a talented singer, David Cliff (Kelvin Harrison Jr.), and lets him think she's a “real” producer to convince him into teaming up.

It's a simple, cute riches-to-more-riches Los Angeles story. The songs are catchy, and the cinematography is bold and bright, giving the gift an extra pop amid scenic backdrops. And the script has a degree of playful self-awareness not often seen in the entertainment biz big-break subgenre.

Also available on DVD: **“Archive”:** A scientist (Theo James) works on creating sentient AI in an effort to interact with his deceased wife.

**“Are You Afraid of the Dark?”:** The three-part Nickelodeon series follows a group of kids who tell scary stories that come to fruition in their town.

**“G-LOC”:** After fleeing the planet, a man (Stephen Moyer) heads to planet Rhea, where settlers are homicidally hostile to Earthen refugees.

**“Gold Digger, Season 1”:** The six-part BBC miniseries follows a romance between a wealthy woman in her 60s (Julia Ormond) and a man in his 30s (Benjamin Greene) who may have ulterior motives.

**“How to Build a Girl”:** A working-class teenager (Beanie Feldstein) chases her dreams and reinvents herself as a confident, apathetic indie rock critic.

**“I Am Vengeance: Retaliation”:** An ex-special forces soldier (Stu Bennett) gets revenge on the enemy who betrayed him on a very personal mission.

**“Max Reload and the Nether Blasters”:** A video game store employee (Tom Plunkley) inadvertently releases an evil entity from a game into the real world.

**“NCIS: New Orleans: The Sixth Season”:** Pride (Scott Bakula) makes his way back to the field office in the latest season of the CBS hit series.

**“Playing for Keeps”:** An ex-soccer player (Gerard Butler) takes over coaching his son's (Noah Lomax) team.

**“The Blacklist - Season 07”:** The seventh season of the hit NBC series picks back up with Red (James Spader) post-arrest as the Task Force tries to find him before it's too late.

**“The Wretched”:** A teenager (John-Paul Howard) struggling with his parents' divorce connects with his next-door neighbor (Zarah Mahler), who happens to be possessed by an evil witch.

**“Valley of the Gods”:** A quirky trillionaire (John Malkovich) develops a multilayered relationship with the man attempting to write his biography (Josh Hartnett).

—Katie Foran-McHale/TNS

# Under the radar but not underrated

## 10 standout TV shows you might have missed these past few years

By BETHONIE BUTLER  
The Washington Post

**T**he last few years have been a boon for good television — so much that you could be forgiven for missing a few standouts. We put together this list of TV shows from the past few years that deserve your attention despite the odds that they have managed to fly under the radar for one reason or another.

### David Makes Man

This OWN drama about a South Florida teenager navigating life in the projects while simultaneously attending a magnet school for gifted children was created by Tarell Alvin McCraney, whose semi-autobiographical play served as the basis for “Moonlight.” This series, similarly inspired by McCraney's childhood, won a Peabody Award last year for “its visually stunning interiority, its heart-wrenching, immersive world, and its contemplation of identity as fluid, plural, restrictive and powerful.” The show, available to stream on HBO Max, has been renewed for a second season on OWN — and counts network owner Oprah Winfrey and Michael B. Jordan among its executive producers.

### The Good Fight

Even if you watched and loved CBS' “The Good Wife,” you may not have seen this spinoff — following the unexpected second act of veteran prosecutor Diane Lockhart (Christine Baranski) at a predominantly black law firm — because it's only available on CBS All Access, the network's streaming platform. Let us reiterate what Washington Post TV critic Hank Stuever said following the show's 17th premiere: It's worth yet another subscription. Now on the heels of its fourth season (shortened because of the global pandemic), “The Good Fight” has continued to impress critics with sharp if forceful commentary on the legal system and its limitations. It helps that the show is infused with the slightly surreal DNA of its predecessor — a trademark of creators Robert and Michelle King.

### Godfather of Harlem

Forest Whitaker plays legendary Harlem drug kingpin Bumpy Johnson in this thrilling prequel series to the “American Gangster” film. The show begins with Johnson's release from Alcatraz; his return to New York pits him against Italian mob boss Vincent “The Chin” Gigante (Vincent D'Onofrio). The Epic series also incorporates other real-life figures including Malcolm X (Nigel Thatch, in a repeat role) and Adam Clayton Powell Jr. (Giancarlo Esposito), both of whom build a strategic alliance of sorts with Johnson.

### Gentleman Jack

This HBO period drama, a collaboration with the BBC, explores the life and diary of Anne Lister, the 19th-century landowner who flouted societal mores as an open and unapologetic lesbian. Suranne Jones plays the protagonist, whom we meet as she is reeling from a breakup with a woman who rejected her by accepting a marriage proposal from a man. Anne sets her sights on upgrading the now-historic estate she inherited from her family — and courting the heiress neighbor she hopes to make her wife. Stuever called the eight-episode series, renewed for a second season, one of last year's “most engaging dramas.”

### Search Party

This tongue-in-cheek satire follows a group of self-absorbed millennials, led by Dory (Alia Shawkat), who become obsessed with the mysterious disappearance of a college classmate. The series became a sleeper hit after landing somewhat unceremoniously on TBS in 2016. It has since moved over to HBO Max, where the dark comedy's third season premiered last month. As Dory and her friends confront the consequences of their inadvertently criminal high jinks, “Search Party” continues to deliver smart, exacting commentary on the listlessness of young adulthood.

### Wynonna Earp

This Syfy series follows Wynonna (Melanie Scrofano), great-great-granddaughter of the legendary Wyatt Earp, as



Jon Pack/HBO Max

**Alia Shawkat stars as Dory in HBO Max's “Search Party.” Though the show might not have come across your radar when it first premiered on TBS in 2016, it deserves your attention as among the best shows of the past few years.**

she battles literal demons: the ghosts of the outlaws slain by her forefather. Creator Emily Andras has said the supernatural Western draws inspiration from “Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” which she told the Hollywood Reporter was ultimately “about being a woman in the modern world and carving your path and making your own family.” “Wynonna Earp” excels at those themes, and has also earned praise for LGBT representation, particularly around the show's most-shipped couple, “Wayhaught.” Stream the show's first three seasons on Netflix; the fourth will arrive July 26 on Syfy.

### Sorry for Your Loss

Not everything that pops up on Facebook is good, but we highly recommend this series, which stars Elizabeth Olsen as Leigh Shaw, a widow grieving the sudden death of her husband. The chaos that unfolds in the wake of this monumental loss feels poignant and real. It's a shame Facebook Watch canceled the series after two seasons.

### Imposters

A beautiful con artist (Inbar Lavi) is pursued by several of her former victims in this comedy that aired on Bravo for two seasons before being canceled. Their vengeance takes them on an international journey that's twisty and fun. Available to stream on Netflix, “Imposters”

makes for a perfectly respectable binge.

### Twin Peaks: The Return

We get it: At 18 episodes, Showtime's ambitious “Twin Peaks” reboot seems like a long slog. Perhaps that's why the series courted such a small audience when it premiered opposite HBO's “Game of Thrones” in summer 2017. But if you've got time — and a subscription to the premium cable network — it's worth your (re)consideration. As Stuever wrote that August, the reboot “turned out to be a stunning rumination on heroic good and innate evil, told through a refreshingly coherent, expertly paced plot that managed to keep its loyal fans and curious newcomers guessing the entire way.”

### The Baby-Sitter's Club

Netflix's adaptation of Ann M. Martin's beloved novels honors our enduring nostalgia around the franchise, while also giving the BSC universe a few updates that feel contemporary and important — but never forced. The show's cast, notably more diverse than other adaptations, introduces a host of new talent who embody the spirits of Kristy, Mary Anne, Claudia and Stacey. The series is anything but underrated (critics have offered high praise), but you might overlook this gem if you fall outside the target demographic. That would be a mistake.

## WEEKEND: HEALTH AND FITNESS

# Deadly disease deja vu

## The next coronavirus might already be circulating in bats, study suggests

By TOM AVRIL

The Philadelphia Inquirer

**W**hile the exact origin of the novel coronavirus remains murky, scientists have been racing to determine how it jumped from animals to humans so they can prevent another pandemic.

The next one could just be a matter of time, a new study suggests.

The authors said a virus with similar ability to infect humans may already be out there, carried by a type of bats known for having horseshoe-shaped "leaves" on their noses.

Scientists made that prediction after constructing a family tree of the coronavirus — tracing its ancestry by comparing its genetic code with that of other coronaviruses found in bats, humans and a scaly animal called the pangolin.

The lineage of the virus that causes COVID-19 appears to have branched off from its closest viral relatives about 40 to 70 years ago, the authors wrote this week in *Nature Microbiology*. And other viruses in the same branch of the family likely share a similar ability to latch onto cells in human airways, said Maciej F. Boni, a Pennsylvania State University biologist and lead study author.

"It's very likely there are lots of other lineages that nobody knows about, become nobody has sampled, that are circulating quietly in bats," he said. "Potentially all of them could have this ability to infect human cells."

Tracing the family trees of viruses is a challenge, as the microbes mutate and swap sections of their genomes in ways that make it difficult to tell what happened when.

Coronaviruses, in particular, are prone to this type of recombination, in part because a bat can carry several types at once. A virus inside a bat can easily pick up bits of genetic code from other viruses infecting the same animal — say, grabbing the instructions

for latching onto human cells from one source, while picking up the code to penetrate cell membranes from another.

Yet by using a battery of statistical techniques, the scientists identified three genetic regions in the coronavirus that appeared to have remained intact for decades. They identified the same three regions in another coronavirus that came from a bat found in Yunnan, a province in southern China near Laos.

That virus cannot infect humans, but is otherwise highly similar to the one causing the pandemic, which was first identified in human patients in the city of

**Viruses have been jumping from animals to humans for centuries, and it will happen again. Coronaviruses carried by bats are a prime suspect.**

Wuhan. The two viruses seem to have branched apart in the family tree sometime in the 1960s, and almost certainly have undiscovered cousins with the potential to infect humans, said Boni, who collaborated with scientists in Europe and China.

The research represents a valuable advance in tracing the origin of the coronavirus responsible for COVID-19, said Alina Chan, a molecular biologist at the Broad Institute in Cambridge, Mass., who was not involved in the study.

"They've narrowed it down," she said.

A good way to hunt for cousins of these two coronaviruses would be to take samples from bats along the hundreds of miles separating Yunnan and Wuhan, said Boni, a member of Penn State's Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics. That could guide strategies to prevent such viruses from "jumping" from bat to humans in the future, perhaps by identifying live ani-

mal markets where better hygiene measures could be implemented.

The coronavirus responsible for COVID was originally thought to have jumped from animal to human at such a market in Wuhan, but Chinese officials later discounted that possibility, as some of the first patients had no apparent connection to that market. Scientists have since speculated that the fateful transmission occurred at some other market. U.S. intelligence officials have suggested that it may have been accidentally released at a research lab, but virologists in academia are generally skeptical of that theory.

By itself, the presence of similar coronaviruses in bats would not mean another pandemic is imminent, said Kevin Olival, vice president for research at EcoHealth Alliance, a nonprofit that works with scientists worldwide to protect people and animals from infectious diseases.

The size and range of the relevant bat population and the behavior of humans also are part of the equation.

"To calculate the risk, you've got to put all those pieces together," he said.

Among the countries where the nonprofit has worked with local scientists to sample bat populations is China, though U.S. funding for that collaboration was put on hold by the Trump administration, with officials citing the virus-released-from-a-Chinese-lab theory. More than 70 Nobel laureates denounced the move.

What is not in dispute is that viruses have been jumping from animals to humans for centuries, and that it will happen again.

And coronaviruses carried by bats are a prime suspect.

Similar predictions have been made before — such as in a 2013, when a *Science* magazine article was headlined "Bats May Be Carrying the Next SARS Pandemic."

Sure enough, as the world now knows too well, that came true.



## WEEKEND: FAMILY

## Less stress, better grades

Distance learning has benefited many students

By ANDREW J. CAMPA  
Los Angeles Times

Those annoying puffy spots under the eyes of eighth-grader Natalie Alvarez began to disappear, followed by the 10 a.m. hunger bouts and the midafternoon yawns — much to the Carson, Calif., girl's delight and surprise.

At first, Natalie had resisted the distance learning thrust upon her when schools closed amid the coronavirus emergency.

"I was worried about the distractions of being home with my mom and my sister and doing extra chores," Natalie said. "But then things changed."

Things changed, too, for Marcos Adame, whose grades improved because he could spend more time on problematic subjects. They also changed for Sebastian Hernandez, who has more energy.

At a time when many of their peers struggle with isolation, uneven online teaching or lack of access to computers, a fraction of students have discovered that distance learning can offer a unique kind of relief — and they have thrived.

Educators and school psychologists stress that campus closures and the suspension of in-class learning have exacted harm on children, especially those who are not fortunate enough to have a quiet, comfortable study space or whose families are coping with deep hardships and illness brought on by the pandemic.

Natalie, Marcos and others have adapted well in part because their schools were experienced with online learning, and they had home support to help them.

Josephine Kim, a Harvard University lecturer and licensed mental health counselor, said children can be surprisingly adaptable and hardy.

"There are intrinsic characteristics that may allow a child to thrive more under the current circumstances," she said. Children who are introverted or those who process information internally and gain energy from time and space for reflection "would likely fare well."

Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent Austin Beutner agreed that some students, especially adolescents navigating middle school, have excelled at home, away from the pressures of school and a strict routine. He praised Natalie's school, the Harry Bridges Span School in the Wilmington area of Los Angeles, as an example of one doing "extraordinary work" with online learning.

Teve Skrumbs, principal at Harry Bridges, said his school had an online component to its instruction before the spread of COVID-19, giving his staff and students a head start when schools closed in mid-March.

Before then, Natalie's mornings consisted of 6:20 a.m. wake-up calls, half-consumed breakfast shakes, rushing out of the house at 7:55 and



JASON ARMOND, LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

**Benjamin and Sebastian Hernandez pose with their parents, Margaret and Alex. Many children have felt bored or isolated during the pandemic, but the Hernandez brothers have relished the opportunity to slow down.**

a tense ride to school, worried that she'd be late for first period at 8:15.

With online learning, Natalie could roll out of bed at 9 a.m., which gave her enough time to prepare a bowl of Chobani Greek yogurt and fruit before her first online period at 9:30.

That extra sleep, endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, paid dividends in multiple ways for Natalie and others.

Most of their online classes were asynchronous, meaning teachers would leave assignments, lesson plans and videos ahead of time for students through the school's platforms, such as Schoology and Google Classroom.

Instructors did not require students to turn on their computers' cameras, meaning Natalie and others could take notes, listen in and ask questions while eating — even in the comfort of their pajamas.

"Everyone had their cameras off," Natalie said, "which was great for me. I didn't have to worry about how I looked. I could just focus on class."

And her grades? "Straight As," she said.

Marcos, who will attend Banning High School, also in Wilmington, in August, had often been a C student, but last semester he got all B's and A's. He said he benefited from the ability to email his eighth-grade teachers as many questions as he liked without fear of bullying.

"I didn't know what to think at first, but it seemed to work out," Marcos said. "Maybe it's because I'm a natural introvert."

Natalie, who considers herself an extrovert, said she wants to go back when campuses reopen. She'll be starting at the California Academy of Mathematics and Science in Carson and realizes the difficulty of making new friends "when you're not at school."

However, she also believes that

the past three months of the academic year should serve as a wake-up call to schools.

"If you're not embracing technology," she said, "you're not helping your students."

On the other side of Los Angeles County, Sebastian, a sophomore at Loyola High School from East L.A., said he feels like he has come into his own — while on his own.

He used to carry a lot of anxiety, Sebastian said — worries over being late to school, of getting snarky looks when he'd raise his hand in class again and again.

"Honestly, it is nice being home," the teen said. "It's a lot less stressful and easier to keep up with the work. Plus, with two hours of extra sleep, I'm much more energized."

His brother, Benjamin, 12, also thrived at home. He and classmates teamed up to check each other's work and complete assignments on time, thus leaving more time for video games.

"It's a good way to keep your friends motivated, because everyone wants to play," he said.

The surprising gains have been a relief to parents, but they now worry those advancements could be lost when campuses reopen.

Margaret Hernandez, Sebastian's mother, said going back to past routines will be challenging.

"My sons do miss being with their friends, but I don't know if they can also go back to normal," she said. "They've changed during this time."

Her husband, Alex Hernandez, worries about kids missing out on social interaction.

"It's great my sons and others are doing well online, but this is a generation that struggles communicating outside of gadgets and the internet," he said.

Still, for some kids, even younger ones, school at home works.

## THE MEAT AND POTATOES OF LIFE

Lisa Smith Molinari



## Pandemic party fashion faux pas

For a few minutes last weekend, I was winning at life. My husband, Francis, and I were getting ready for a small gathering of friends on our neighbors' wraparound porch overlooking the bay. It was a warm summer evening, my stomach felt flat for once, and I was in the mood for a cocktail.

I scanned the few dresses in my closet for just the right thing to wear. These neighbors had not spent the majority of their careers in the military, earning public salaries limited by the government. They had all worked in the lucrative private sector for decades, enabling them to afford the houses closest to the water. Our house was the one at the top of the street, with a partial water view if you sit on the south edge of the porch and crane your neck to see over the neighbor's hedge.

I grabbed the floral sheath dress my mother-in-law had given me years ago. It was from her favorite department store, Lord & Taylor, which is to a neurologist's wife what Target is to a military spouse. Over the years, my mother-in-law had tried to polish my image by dressing me in finer things, and encouraging me to wear heels and more makeup. When I'd wear my normal getup — jeans, comfortable flat, flat shoes and maybe a dab of mascara if any at all — she was likely to greet me with a concerned expression, reach a hand out to my shoulder, and say, "You look a little ill ... are you feeling all right, my dear?"

I zipped the dress up over my tummy control underwear, slipped into low-heeled cork wedges and applied makeup appropriate for the occasion. The tube of neglected lipstick I found in the back of my vanity drawer was a shade that matched the dress perfectly.

"Wow, you're a total Baberham Lincoln!" Francis blurted when I walked into our kitchen. Although I hadn't heard that term since the early '90s, his outdated compliment put an extra spring in my step. At age 54, I'll take whatever I can get.

Infatigating my own ego even further, I was proud of the gourmet pizzas I'd made for the party. At potlucks past, I'd often contributed dishes that were too basic or not trendy enough. But this time, I'd knocked it out of the park with thin-crust caramelized Vidalia onion, blue cheese and walnut pizzas.

As Francis and I walked toward our friends' waterfront house, I was firing on all cylinders. We strolled across the manicured lawn toward the wide porch, already abuzz with a handful of neighbors. Our timing was perfect.

But then, we noticed it. The neighbors were wearing masks. Everyone. Except us.

I stopped on the porch steps in my Lord & Taylor sheath dress, holding the chilled chardonnay and gourmet pizza, an idiot's smile plastered on my lipstickied mouth.

"Oh, well ... uh," Francis stuttered awkwardly, "I guess I'll be right back!"

Giving me a quick glance, he scrambled back up our street while I stood frozen, embarrassed by our pandemic fashion faux pas. Francis returned in a flash, sporting a forehead full of sweat beads and a crumpled mask he'd grabbed out of his car. He handed me one, too, which I quickly yanked over my head.

The night wasn't ruined, but my self-confidence was. Despite it all, we carried on, hobnobbing with our neighbors within this bizarre new normal. Conversations were interrupted by "Pardon?" or "Can you repeat that?" because words were fabric-muffled without the benefit of lip-reading. No one figured out how to gracefully lift a mask to drink from a wine glass. While eating, everyone let their masks dangle strangely from one ear, mine smeared with guacamole.

Walking home under the high moon, I realized that after years of struggling to keep up with fashion and etiquette, the pandemic had thrown me a curveball just when I thought I'd finally gotten it right. Next time, instead of caramelized onions, sheath dresses and chardonnay, I'll focus on pandemic party rule #1: Wear a mask.

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: [themeatandpotatoesoflife.com](http://themeatandpotatoesoflife.com)  
Email: [meatandpotatoesoflife@googlemail.com](mailto:meatandpotatoesoflife@googlemail.com)



# WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

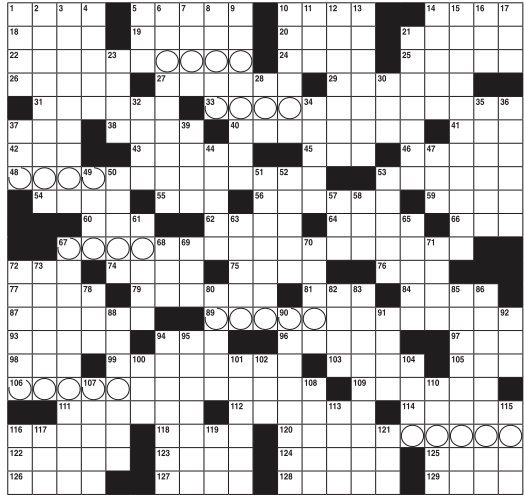
## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

### MADE TO ORDER

BY TRENTON CHARLSON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Trenton Charlson, 24, is a crossword constructor and Scrabble aficionado from Columbus, Ohio. The North American Scrabble Players Association currently ranks him No. 213 among all players and No. 5 in his state. Trenton's Twitter page declares that he's the founder of Z.I.X.Q. — Americans Against Accurate Acronyms. This is his 21st puzzle for The Times. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Miss Genesis  
5 More than excited  
10 Grub for a grub  
14 Elliptical  
18 Where a phone might be tapped  
19 Last Oldsmobile model  
20 Site of the Bocca Nuova crater  
21 Regional flora and fauna  
22 Facial feature of a Lego man?  
24 Sparkling Italian wine  
25 With 81-Across, flashy basketball play  
26 Completely remove  
27 Blew off steam?  
29 "Hold your horses"  
31 Word before job or joke  
33 M.C. during a power outage?  
37 Regulus is its brightest star  
40 Most eccentric  
41 Formerly  
42 What means most in the end?  
43 Some somber music  
45 "So what?"  
46 Tailor's measurement  
48 "The elite fighter pilots may skip the rest of the lecture?"  
53 New Cub Scout
- 54 Hairy hunter of Genesis  
55 Looney Tunes devil, for short  
56 Hostile declaration  
59 Decision  
60 Expense for a political campaign  
62 List of available courses  
64 What the abscissa and ordinate are measured from  
66 Take in  
67 Drive a getaway car through Australia's outback?  
72 Cousin \_\_\_\_\_ ("Jimmy Kimmel Live!" regular)  
74 Major account  
75 Nickname of a 2010s pop idol, with "the"  
76 Bird in Liberty  
77 Work mates  
79 Answer  
81 See 25-Across  
84 When Caesar is told to "Beware the ides of March?"  
87 Give in  
89 What you might do after the movie previews are finally over?  
93 Yeshiva instructor  
94 Civil War side: Abbr.  
96 Group who ought to know better?  
97 Rx prescribers  
98 Pioneering programmer  
99 Fish whose name means "very strong" in Hawaiian
- 103 Put away  
105 "The devil's lettuce"  
106 Where spaghetti and orzo rank in terms of their suitability for making neckties?  
109 Resident of Japan's "second city"  
111 \_\_\_\_\_, Mendeleev, creator of the periodic table  
112 Martin \_\_\_\_\_, star of 1960s TV's "Route 66"  
114 Opera singer  
115 Fleming  
116 Play with, as a toy mouse  
118 To boot  
120 One who believes exclusively in a sea god?  
122 Political columnist  
123 Noted Christian  
124 Role in the 2005 hit musical "Jersey Boys"  
125 Electric-flux symbols told to "Pretty please?"  
127 Like the child's play  
128 County on the Thames  
129 Legal postponement
- DOWN**
- 1 What Winthrop speaks with in "The Music Man"?  
2 Give in  
3 Musicians' 'slip-ups  
4 Hang-ups  
5 Famine  
6 Isaac Newton, by hobby  
7 Classic soda brand
- 8 Source of the word "galore?"  
9 Xbox and GameCube  
10 Cause  
11 Long-distance travelers, informally  
12 Composer Dvorak  
13 Passed out  
14 De-squeaked  
15 Thick cloud above a peak  
16 Took in  
17 \_\_\_\_\_ of the land  
21 System used in computer code  
23 Frist's successor as Senate majority leader  
28 That, in Spanish  
30 Quizzical utterances  
32 Actress Conn of "Gimme"  
34 Popular tablets  
35 Antique-shop deal  
36 Stovetop item  
37 Where a herd might be heard  
39 Aretha Franklin's Grammy-nominated sister  
44 Thingamajig  
47 Kind of order for the circled letters in this puzzle  
49 Swedish Air Force supplier  
50 Guys  
51 Making a clerical error?  
52 Exercise in dexterity  
53 Grease  
57 Cry from a nursery  
58 The king of diamonds carries one  
61 It might be glassy or icy



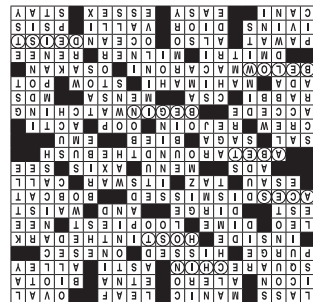
- 63 Ragtime great Blake  
65 Shrub that produces a crimson-colored spice  
67 Two-time Emmy winner for "30 Rock"  
68 Common thing to lie about  
69 Rule that ended in 1947  
70 Prime cut  
71 "\_\_\_\_ is life"  
72 Curving in a cartouche
- 73 Business whose patrons are often fighting  
78 Entanglement  
80 No. 44  
82 Completely embarrasses, slangily  
83 Piece of music that evokes the countryside  
85 Certain percussion player  
86 Home of the Komodo dragon
- 88 Knuckleheads  
90 "Swoon"  
91 Southwestern ski resort  
92 Prime meridian std.  
94 Absurd pretense  
95 20-Across's island, to locals  
100 Sum total: Abbr.  
101 Storehouse  
102 \_\_\_\_\_ polloi  
104 Voting district  
107 Like the newspaper Al-Shabha
- 108 Ancient empire builders  
110 Something to play for  
113 Some are shockers  
115 Online handicrafts marketplace  
116 Part of many a postcard, briefly  
117 Gardner of old Hollywood  
119 Nine-symbol message  
121 Word often spoken in pig Latin

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## OPINION

## Only a safe, effective vaccine will get FDA's OK

By STEPHEN M. HAHN  
Special to The Washington Post

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, developing a safe and effective vaccine has been an urgent worldwide priority: to save lives, and to bolster the public's confidence in returning to a semblance of normal life.

At the Food and Drug Administration and our parent agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, we recognize the vital importance of vaccine development. The framework in the United States to support a COVID-19 vaccine is now in place. Testing is underway, and manufacturing capacity is rapidly expanding. But let's be clear: The development effort must adhere to standards that will ensure any COVID-19 vaccine's safety and effectiveness.

Large-scale clinical trials already have begun for several promising vaccine candidates. The data from these trials will enable the scientists at the FDA to determine which of these candidates has the greatest potential to provide protection from the virus, what the possible side effects are and how long immunity is likely to last. FDA scientists will need the information to decide whether approval of the vaccine for general use is justified. This fall, we expect to start identifying which vaccine candidates are truly viable.

At the same time, our colleagues at Operation Warp Speed, which operates independently of the FDA as a partnership between HHS and the Defense Depart-

## Success will hinge, of course, on the data that emerges from clinical trials. This testing by its very nature takes time.

ment, have been arranging for the stockpiling of trials and other equipment needed for a national immunization program.

Success will hinge, of course, on the data that emerges from clinical trials. The data testing by its very nature takes time: It takes time for the human body to develop immunity, and it often takes time for side effects to emerge. While speed is essential in this global emergency, we at the FDA are committed to maintaining strict scientific principles and protection of those who volunteer as vaccine test subjects.

To prepare for the completion of tests and data submission, our agency has announced that any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine would need to show that it prevents the disease, which the new coronavirus causes, or decreases its severity in at least 50% of people who are vaccinated. This is a reasonable standard given the nature and impact of the pandemic.

One key element in the FDA's testing requirements is assuring diversity among the test subjects. All phases of vaccine clinical development should include the people most affected thus far by COVID-

19, specifically racial and ethnic minorities, elderly individuals, and people with other medical conditions. Only by gathering data on these populations can we gain a full understanding of a vaccine candidate's safety and effectiveness.

I have been asked repeatedly whether there has been any inappropriate pressure on the FDA to make decisions that are not based on good data and good science. I have repeatedly said that all FDA decisions have been, and will continue to be, based solely on good science and data. The public can count on that commitment.

Once FDA scientists determine that a COVID-19 vaccine candidate meets the appropriate regulatory standards for safety and efficacy, a pathway will be created by the government to make the vaccine available without delay. And, of course, after authorization or approval by the FDA, the safety of any vaccine will be closely monitored.

Principles at the FDA are the final arbiters of whether a particular vaccine is safe and effective. I cannot make any predictions about timing of an emergency use or final approval of a COVID-19 vaccine. But I can attest that every FDA resource has been, and will continue to be, at the ready to facilitate clinical testing programs, and to review clinical data and manufacturing facilities. I can further provide assurances that any vaccine authorized for widespread use will meet the appropriate standards for quality, safety and efficacy.

Stephen M. Hahn, a physician, is commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration.

## Virtual college classrooms can stifle free speech, too

By CASS R. SUNSTEIN  
Bloomberg Opinion

Universities have come under fire from many directions for discouraging students from speaking up.

A number of conservatives have said that they risk ostracism, ridicule and even threats if they express their views, or if they simply say what they see as a liberal orthodoxy. Some women complain that men dominate class discussion, while some Black and other minority students say that they resent having to explain themselves, as if they were representatives of their race or ethnicity.

Can online learning reduce the problem of self-censorship? All of a sudden, with the coronavirus changing how students engage with one another and their professors, that's a pertinent question.

For the many students who are inclined to self-censor, what's needed is what Virginia Woolf described as "a room of one's own" — a place of freedom to say what they think, "a quiet room or a sound-proof room," one of safety and a kind of immunity.

According to a recent poll by the Cato Institute, 62% of Americans are afraid to disclose their political views. The percentage of Republicans who say this is especially high (77%). But a majority of Democrats say so as well (52%). Independents also claim that they self-censor (59%).

In universities, self-censorship can be a particular problem. As a general rule, students should feel free to say what they think, at least if it is relevant to the topic. Education depends on that. Yet most experienced teachers have heard plenty of students say, after class, "I thought the discussion was way off, but I didn't feel comfortable saying so."

For every student who is willing to take the trouble to say that, how many just stand

by in silence?

Some students are afraid to disclose their political convictions.

They might be right-of-center, and think that most other students are on the left, and will dislike or despise them if they say what they think. They might be moderates and be afraid to say so in front of classmates whom they respect but consider to be extreme. (In some universities, that is a growing problem.)

Among Black or Hispanic students, some say they don't participate because they dislike being condescended to or marginalized, or put on the spot in some unpleasant way, if they challenge the apparent consensus.

Some self-silencing students are female. They might be in a mostly male environment, or an environment dominated by men, and conclude that all things considered, silence is golden. (From Virginia Woolf in "A Room of One's Own": "Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman.")

Whether students will self-silence depends, of course, on their perception of prevailing norms — and of what they might lose from saying what they think.

Suppose, for example, that you are pro-life and think that Roe v. Wade was wrongly decided. If so, you might believe that if you say that in a law school class, your classmates will think a lot less of you, or (worse) define you in those terms.

Can online learning increase people's willingness to say what they think?

Actually, it might make things much worse. What students say might be recorded by fellow students; it's easy to take screenshots. From several law students, I have recently heard that this is a serious problem for online learning, increasing people's reluctance to take controversial stands. Even making an argument, just for the sake of argument, is as risky.

In many circles, people have become

extremely cautious about what they say on email, simply because a candid or provocative comment, or an ill-timed or ill-considered one — even a series of words that can be taken out of context — might end up in the wrong hands. Many people are fully aware of that and will not speak honestly. At colleges and universities, there is a real risk that online learning will magnify self-silencing — and increase the marginalization of students who already feel pretty marginalized.

At the same time, there's a difference between sitting in a classroom of (say) 70 people, and sitting in a room by oneself, looking at a screen.

In the former case, you can feel that all eyes are on you as you speak, and they probably are, in some literal sense. That can be pretty intimidating. Online, you are likely to be in a room of your own.

Recording or not recording, screenshots or no screenshots, you might feel liberated to speak your mind. Whether students feel that way will depend, in part, on the culture of learning that professors try to inculcate, and whether they work to weaken social norms that produce pernicious forms of self-silencing. For example, a professor might take unambiguous steps to display real openness to points of view — on abortion, on gun rights, on reparations — that are not widely shared.

Under current circumstances, that's a unique opportunity, and also a responsibility.

In actual one classes, Virginia Woolf's words would be a good way to start the semester: "I find myself saying briefly and prosaically that it is much more important to be oneself than anything else. ... Think of things in themselves."

Cass R. Sunstein is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is the author of "The Cost-Benefit Revolution" and a co-author of "Nudge: Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth and Happiness."



## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

## Trump looking out for himself, not the vital Postal Service

To hobble the U.S. Postal Service under the guise of "treating it like a business" is to undermine public confidence in yet another vital American institution at exactly the time when confidence is most needed, as much of the nation prepares to vote by mail in the Nov. 3 election....

President Donald Trump has long relied against the Postal Service as a money-losing operation, and it's quite true. Public mail delivery isn't a profit-making business. Nor should it be. It's a government service that should no more be expected to produce profits than, say, the Food and Drug Administration.

Trump also reportedly dislikes the Postal Service because it delivers packages for Amazon, which is owned by Jeff Bezos, who also owns The Washington Post, which is critical of Trump in its coverage. That may be a stretch, or it may be right on the money; Trump has indeed criticized the Postal Service for charging Amazon rates that he says are too low.

Of more concern, though, is Trump's constant harassment against voting by mail, which he says — without evidence — is a hotbed of fraud. Many states plan to conduct their balloting by mail, so making sure the Postal Service has a hard time delivering election-related material in a timely fashion — or even appearing to do so — gives him ammunition to attack the validity of election results that don't go his way.

In June, the all-Trump-appointed U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors selected major Republican Party fundraiser Louis DeJoy to lead the agency as postmaster general. In the weeks since, DeJoy has put in place cost-cutting policies that he says are meant to stem financial losses, but that Democrats and other critics say may result in post office closures and slower and less reliable delivery service just as the election approaches....

This country is already suffering from a series of self-inflicted wounds, the most obvious of which is its inept handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. What it needs now is a shot of confidence in its most basic process, voting, to shore up the integrity of its most basic value, democracy. That coincides with the nation's interest in keeping the Postal Service intact and its service reliable. Unfortunately it does not coincide with the interests of the nation's adversaries. Or its current president.

## Audience-free presidential debates avoid distractions

The University of Notre Dame last week pulled out of hosting the first presidential debate, scheduled for Sept. 29, citing "constraints" brought on by the coronavirus pandemic. It was the second school to pull the plug; the University of Michigan said it couldn't host the debate slated for Oct. 15 because the challenge of trying to reopen the campus safely amid the COVID-19 outbreak made it "not feasible." The two debates have been moved to other locales — Cleveland and Miami, respectively — but the decisions by these schools should serve as a reality check on how to conduct the debates.



Foremost among the issues to be decided by the Commission on Presidential Debates, the nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that convenes the general-election debates, is: Why have in-person audiences in the first place? Even if the pandemic weren't making large indoor gatherings risky, audiences bring no value to the debates. In fact, they detract from the effort to get candidates to engage in a thoughtful exchange about their plans and policies.

The debates during the last presidential election in 2016 reached a particular low with partisans of the candidates — Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton — shouting out, clapping and generally disrupting the events. Debate moderators tried hard — some were better than others — to remind members of the audience they were there to watch and listen, but that didn't stop the outbursts. No surprise that Trump delighted in the reality show cast given to the debate....

The public health issues posed by COVID-19 give the debate commission an opportunity to rethink the format so that the debates can become more useful. The first televised presidential debate, between John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon in 1960, took place in a television studio, not a grand hall, and served its purpose. But tickets to attend the debates have become one more perk for big donors. Universities had been willing to serve as hosts because they, too, could raise money from the prestige of holding such an event.

Businesses, social organizations and other institutions have adjusted to the pandemic with new approaches. The Commission on Presidential Debates should be equally nimble.

## Teachers' unions overstepped in response to the pandemic

For most Americans the coronavirus is a scourge. But teachers unions seem to think it's also an opportunity — to squeeze more money from taxpayers and put their private and public charter school competition out of business. That's the only way to read the extraordinary effort by national and local union leaders to keep their members from returning to the classroom.

Last week Randi Weingarten, leader of the powerful American Federation of Teachers, declared support for "safety strikes" if local unions deem insufficient the steps their school districts are taking to mitigate COVID-19. And on Monday an alliance of teachers unions and progressive groups sponsored what they called a "national day of resistance" around the country listing their demands before returning to the classroom. They include: "We support for our communities and

families, including canceling rents and mortgages, a moratorium on evictions/foreclosures, providing direct cash assistance to those not able to work or who are unemployed, and other critical social needs.

■ Moratorium on new charter or voucher programs and standardized testing.

■ Massive infusion of federal money to support the reopening funded by taxing billionaires and Wall Street.

The phrase for this is political extortion. Rather than work to open schools safely, the unions are issuing ultimatums and threatening strikes until they are granted their ideological wish list. Children, who would have to endure more lost instruction, are the hostages.

The teachers unions have a cynical interest in forcing their competitors to shut down. What a humiliation it would be if charter and private schools reopen and demonstrate that in-person education can be done with the right risk mitigation. Or if parents unsatisfied with the public schools' response to the coronavirus decide a private school would be better for their child. If there's a silver lining here, it's that Americans are getting a closer look at the true, self-interested character of today's teachers unions. They are allies of the political left. And they wield monopoly power that they are now using to coerce parents and taxpayers to dance to their agenda if they want their children to learn.

The proper political response should be to give taxpayer dollars to parents to decide where and how to educate their children. If parents want to use the money for private schools that are open, or for new forms of home instruction, they should have that right. No political force should have veto power over the education of America's children.

## Lawmakers have obligation to staffers, nation to avoid virus

Rep. Louie Gohmert, Republican of Texas, is not the first member of Congress to test positive for the coronavirus. At least 14 lawmakers, hailing from both parties and both chambers, are known to have either tested or been presumed positive for the coronavirus.

But something about the diagnosis of Gohmert, who has belligerently flouted public health recommendations such as mask wearing and social distancing, prompted a convulsion of rage on Capitol Hill.

From maintenance workers to legislative aides, employees came forward with anonymous accounts of how the patchwork of precautions — each lawmaker's office operates with its own rules — and cavalier

behavior by some members was endangering the thousands of people who keep the Capitol complex running. In addition to the lawmakers and members of their staff who have been infected, around 90 workers in support roles such as the Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol, are known to have contracted the virus.

Many lawmakers are approaching the pandemic with appropriate seriousness: running skeleton crews in their offices, encouraging masks and following social distancing guidelines.

Others are not. Some are ignoring public health advice for political reasons, while others seem to believe the virus cannot touch them. Rep. Clay Higgins, Republican of Louisiana, told CNN that wearing a mask was "part of the dehumanization of the children of God."

This sort of denial leads to unnecessary tragedy, as was driven home by the death of Herman Cain. The former pizza magnate and Republican presidential candidate tested positive for the coronavirus nine days after attending President Donald Trump's June 20 campaign rally in Tulsa, Okla. — where he was shown in a number of photos sitting close to other attendees without a mask.

Elected officials have a particular responsibility both to model responsible behavior during this pandemic and to take extra precautions so they don't become super spreaders.

The danger extends far beyond Capitol Hill. Members of Congress have an essential and unusually public, mobile job. In any given week, hundreds of members jet back and forth across the country, some to coronavirus hot spots. Rep. Kay Granger is currently self-quarantining after sitting next to a non-masked Gohmert on a flight back to Washington from their home state of Texas on July 26. Rep. Raul Grijalva, Democrat of Arizona, has been self-quarantining as well, after chairing a hearing on July 28 that Gohmert attended, at times unmasked. On Saturday, Grijalva announced that he had tested positive for the virus. Who knows how many other people Gohmert may have potentially exposed?

In response to the Gohmert news, congressional leaders reminded members of the safety protocols already in place. The House speaker, Nancy Pelosi, went further, tightening the rules on mask wearing to require face coverings on the chamber floor and inside the House office buildings. (Mask wearing has been mandatory in committee hearings since mid-June.) Those who fail to comply can be denied entry or removed by security.

This is a welcome, if belated, step. But that may not be enough. For one thing, Gohmert's experience has led to renewed calls by members and staff workers to implement a testing regimen on the Hill. That's an important next step.

The spring, when a minority leader, Kevin McCarthy, looked into a preliminary testing plan. One suggestion from the experts he consulted was to focus on members and staff members scheduled to participate in hearings or other meetings requiring prolonged contact with others. Likewise, Hill employees who face a higher risk of exposure probably ought to be prioritized.

More ambitious plans include testing members every week or two, before they fly back to their home districts.

Congress members are influential figures, and in this time of crisis they ought to be leading by example. By taking steps to protect themselves, their staff members and their constituents, lawmakers can send a signal about the seriousness of this situation to a confused and weary public.

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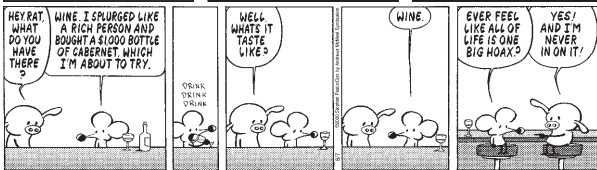
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



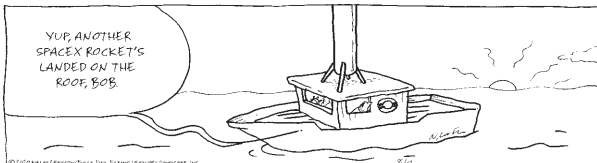
Non Sequitur



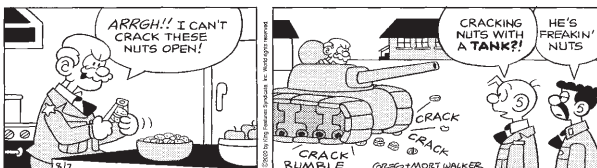
Candorville



Carpe Diem



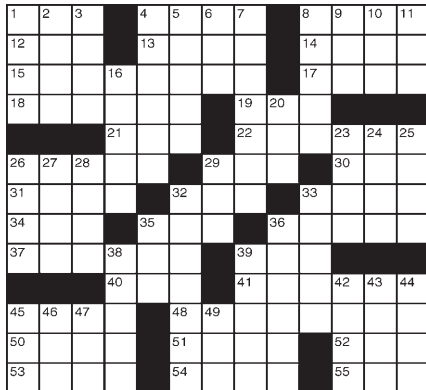
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Muppet eagle
- 4 Wine region
- 8 Test tube
- 12 Sashimi fish
- 13 Roster
- 14 Guesser's words
- 15 Quaint streetlights
- 17 Beansies
- 18 Soak up
- 19 Santa — winds
- 21 "Today" rival, briefly
- 22 Talk turkey?
- 26 Leers at
- 29 Prohibit
- 30 Candy-heart word
- 31 Ocho —, Jamaica
- 32 Gloomy guy
- 33 Singer Mitchell
- 34 Swelled head
- 35 Abysmal
- 36 Roll with a hole
- 37 Indian instruments
- 39 Author Fleming
- 40 Texer's chuckle
- 41 Rhodes locale
- 45 Lettuce variety
- 48 Hellum, for one
- 50 Beige
- 51 NBA's Archibald
- 52 Dean's list stat

- 53 Actor Neeson
- 54 And others (Lat.)
- 55 Thee

### DOWN

- 1 Long story
- 2 Melville captain
- 3 Fail to see
- 4 Frightens Jackson
- 5 "The Lion King" lion
- 6 Recipe abbr.
- 7 "Jumpin' Jack Flash" refrain
- 8 Word list, for short
- 9 Lyricist Gershwin
- 10 Nile biter
- 11 — Angeles
- 16 Theater boxes
- 20 Dijon denial
- 23 Online journal
- 24 "Clair de —"
- 25 Satan's forte
- 26 Raw materials
- 27 Leslie Caron role
- 28 Booty
- 29 Future flower
- 32 Fuel conduit
- 33 "Nasty" singer
- 35 Buddy
- 36 Container for pickles
- 38 Photo book
- 39 "— Kick Out of You"
- 42 Like custard
- 43 Mafia boss
- 44 Jacob's twin
- 45 — canto
- 46 Here, to Henri
- 47 Bikini half
- 49 D.C. baseballer

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



### 8-7

### CRYPTOQUIP

HPWRJ FDMPPFV LFPVPHMFVQ  
 HV NSHLS LFRLSWQ LRV  
 HVQMUJLM MSWHU RMSJWMWQ:  
 MURHVWW NWRMSWU.  
 Yesterday's Cryptquip: THOSE SMALL  
 SONGBIRDS WERE DEFINITELY NOT STRANGERS.  
 THEY KNEW EACH OTHER FROM WAY BACK  
 WREN.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: S equals H



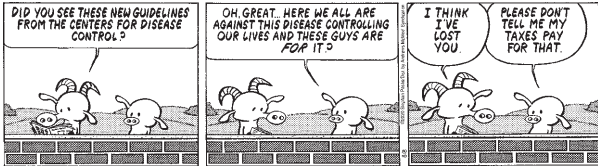
Frazz



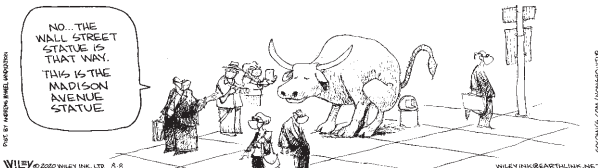
Dilbert



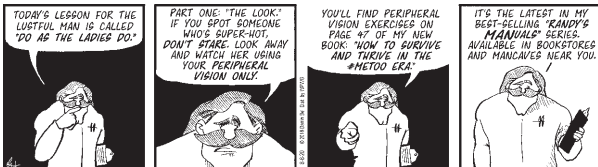
Pearls Before Swine



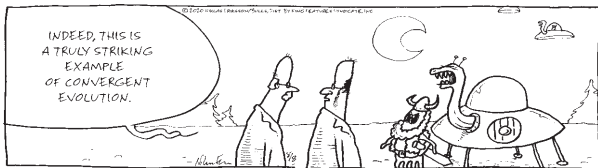
Non Sequitur



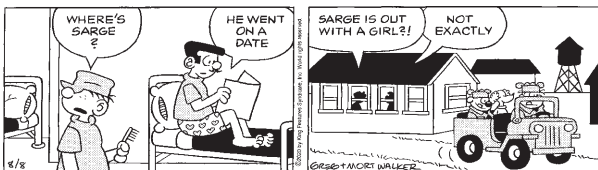
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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

### ACROSS

- 1 Cellist Casals
- 6 — of steel (steady courage)
- 12 Undo, as a law
- 13 Frozen fries brand
- 14 Fish-eating hawk
- 15 Substance in red wine
- 16 Lavish affection (on)
- 17 Hosp. scans
- 19 Casual shirt
- 20 Carton sealer
- 22 Long time
- 24 Have a bug
- 27 Prima donna
- 29 Drudge
- 32 Fulfillment of a fantasy
- 35 Droops
- 36 "The — the limit"
- 37 Fr. holy woman
- 38 Small batteries
- 40 Vittles
- 42 Oahu or Maui (Abbr.)
- 44 NBA All-Star Jason
- 46 "That — close one!"
- 50 Athletic shoe giant
- 52 Unprincipled
- 54 "No doubt!"
- 55 Boat basin

### DOWN

- 1 Mexican money
- 2 Calendar entry (Abbr.)
- 3 Jaunty chapeau
- 4 New Guinea port
- 5 Games hosted by Rio in 2016
- 6 Terse denial
- 7 Obliterate
- 8 Stimp's pal
- 9 Wine producers
- 10 Falco of "The Sopranos"
- 11 Logical
- 12 Scepter
- 18 Took back
- 21 USN bigwig
- 23 Choose
- 24 Billboards
- 25 Nest egg acronym
- 26 Courtroom jargon
- 28 "Julie & Julia" actress
- 30 Ump's call
- 31 Born abroad?
- 33 Simile part
- 34 Superlative suffix
- 39 Hybrid garment for women
- 41 Duel tool
- 42 Showy flower
- 43 Big rig
- 45 Furniture brand
- 47 Met melody
- 48 Without
- 49 — carte
- 51 Clear the tables
- 53 Chairman of China

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

8-8

### CRYPTOQUIP

GEJU S WSZLC OJC CEJ

RHOAXUP'L BSZJRCHZ HW

CQ XUB UJGLAXAJZL, S LXS B

"QJZP USRJ CH OJBSX."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IDEAL OUTDOOR CONDITIONS IN WHICH COACHES CAN INSTRUCT THEIR ATHLETES: TRAINEE WEATHER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals Y

# KANSAS CITY/REB/ARD/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

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## Deals

### Wednesday's transactions

**BASEBALL**  
**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
**BALTIMORE ORIOLES** — Placed LHP John Means on the bereavement list. Options of OJ Steward and alternate training site.  
**KANSAS CITY ROYALS** — Placed RHP Glenn Sparkman and OF Bubba Starling on the 10-day IL. Recalled C Melby's Villoria and RHP Scott Blewett from alternate training site. Sent C Oscar Hernandez outright to alternate training site.  
**LOS ANGELES ANGELS** — Options RHP Kyle Kellner to alternate training site. Reinstated RHP Julio Tieshan from the 10-day IL.  
**NEW YORK YANKEES** — Activated RHP Luis Cessa from the 10-day IL.  
**TEXAS RANGERS** — Traded RHP Ariel Jurado to the New York Yankees for cash considerations and player to be named later.  
**NEW YORK YANKEES** — Reinstated OF Derek Fisher on the 10-day IL. Recalled OF Billy McKinney from the Taxi Squad.  
**NATIONAL LEAGUE**  
**ATLANTA BRAVES** — Placed INF Ozzie Albies on the 10-day IL. Recalled RHP Nick Markakis from alternate training site. Activated RHP Nick Markakis from the restricted list.  
**COLORADO ROCKIES** — Added C Brian Seven to the 60-man player pool and assigned him to alternate training site.  
**LOS ANGELES DODGERS** — Recalled 2B Zach McKinstry from alternate training site. Options RHP Victor Gonzalez to alternate training site and RHP Ryan Corbin to assignment.  
**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** — Activated IF OF JT Riddle from the IL. Placed RHP Nick Burd on the 45-day IL.  
**ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Recalled RHP Alex Reyes and LHP Genesis Cabrera from alternate training site. Selected the contracts of 2B Max Schrock and RHP Relo Ramirez from alternate training site. Placed IF Rangel Ravelo on the 10-day IL. Added C Jose Godoy to the Taxi Squad.  
**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**ARIZONA CARDINALS** — Signed S Kentrell Brown and WR Andre Patton.  
**ATLANTA FALCONS** — Signed QB Danny Efling, S Jaylinn Hawkins, DT Tyler Eason and LB Foyesade Oluokun from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Waived LB Ahmad Thomas and DE Roelsterman Fournette.  
**BUFFALO BILLS** — Activated CB Ike Brown and S Siran Neal from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Waived RB Antonio Williams, LB Mike Bell and DE Jonathan Woodard.  
**CLEVELAND BROWNS** — Placed G Colby Gossett on the reserve/opt out list. Activated QB Garrett Gilbert from the reserve/COVID-19 list.  
**DENVER BRONCOS** — Activated RB Kenny Galloway from the reserve/COVID-19 list.  
**DALLAS COWBOYS** — Claimed FB John Lovett off of waivers from Kansas City.  
**MIAMI DOLPHINS** — Placed DT Davon Godchaux on the reserve/COVID-19 list.  
**MINNESOTA RAIDERS** — Released RB Jeremy Hill.  
**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** — Re-signed WR Josh Allen.  
**NEW YORK GIANTS** — CB Sam Bell has been waived from the roster.  
**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** — Claimed FS D.J. Reed off waivers from San Francisco.  
**KENNESAW TITANS** — Activated LB Jayon Brown from the PUP.  
**SOCER**  
**Major League Soccer**  
**NEW YORK RED BULLS** — Transferred M Olu Kelechi from the roster to the injured list.  
**National Women's Soccer League**  
**CHICAGO PRIDE** — Waived D Erin Greene.

**ARMY** — Named Arlen Marshall assistant men's hockey coach.

**Pro soccer**

**MLS is back**

**Semifinals**  
Wednesday, Aug. 5  
Portland 2, Philadelphia 1  
Thursday, Aug. 6  
Orlando 1 vs. Minnesota United FC  
Final  
Tuesday, Aug. 11  
Portland vs. Orlando-Minnesota winner

By Aaron Beard  
Associated Press

Notre Dame opens its season as an Atlantic Coast Conference football member against visiting Duke on Sept. 12 and won't face Navy for the first time in more than nine decades as part of the ACC's reconfigured schedule due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The league on Thursday released the schedule featuring the Fighting Irish, who are giving up their coveted football independence and competing for the ACC title this season. The ACC had announced plans last week for a 10-game league slate with one nonconference game and its championship game played either Dec. 12 or 19.

Those nonconference games are required to be played in the member school's home state, while opponents must meet ACC medical protocol requirements that include regular testing for athletes, coaches and staff to try to control the potential spread of coronavirus.

That report from ACC's medical advisory group also recommends schools evaluate travel policies for games, including modes of travel

such as buses or flights, lodging accommodations and the use of the travel party. That comes as the 15 teams travel within an ACC footprint spanning nearly the entire Atlantic Seaboard from Massachusetts to Florida, and moving west into Kentucky and Indiana.

Games within 250 miles of the school are considered reasonable for bus travel while schools typically take charter flights when needed, according to information the league provided by email to The Associated Press. The ACC "maxed out" on 17 scheduling opportunities to pair league schools within 250 miles of each other while the decision on whether to travel by bus or plane beyond that distance is left to the member schools.

Until Thursday, league teams had been holding offseason workouts or starting preseason practices without knowing for sure who they would play or where in roughly a month.

The Fighting Irish and Midshipmen were originally scheduled to play for the 94th straight season in Dublin, Ireland. The pandemic forced the relocation to Navy's home field in Annapolis,

Md., for the first time in the history of the series on Sept. 5, along with the cancellation of Notre Dame's games against Wisconsin, Stanford and Southern California as the Big Ten and Pac-12 went to league-only schedules.

Notre Dame's lone nonconference game will be a previously scheduled visit from Western Michigan on Sept. 19.

Notre Dame, a member in all other league sports, already had a scheduling agreement to annually play five or six games with ACC teams as an independent. The Irish were set to play five-time reigning ACC champion Clemson, Wake Forest, Pittsburgh, Duke, Georgia Tech and Louisville this year.

Notre Dame's marquee matchup at home with Dabo Swinney's Tigers remains in its originally scheduled Nov. 7 slot, while the Fighting Irish added ACC matchups with Florida State, Boston College, Syracuse and North Carolina — with that game coming on the road the day after Thanksgiving.

The ACC's home-state requirement for nonconference games mixed three notable early season

matchups in Atlanta — North Carolina-Auburn, Virginia-Georgia and Florida State-West Virginia — but created a path to save traditional rivalries with Southeastern Conference schools such as Georgia Tech-Georgia, Florida State-Florida, Clemson-South Carolina and Louisville-Kentucky.

But the SEC went to a league-only schedule a day later to eliminate those games, too.

UCF's visit to Georgia Tech on Sept. 19 stands as the most notable nonconference game on the schedule. The first game of the season is UAB's visit to Miami on Sept. 10 on a Thursday night, followed by VMI's trip to Virginia a day later.

Three teams — North Carolina State, Syracuse and Virginia Tech — have Liberty, Virginia Tech and one of their previously scheduled nonconference opponents at the originally planned venue, while Wake Forest flipped a season-opening trip to Old Dominion into an Oct. 9 home game with the Monarchs of Conference USA.

Clemson and UNC have yet to announce a nonconference opponent. Both of those games will come Sept. 19.

## College: With no blanket rule from NCAA, schools, conferences maintain hope of playing

### FROM BACK PAGE

"You have to look at the huge variability around the country. When you look at what are the facts on the ground in Syracuse, New York, versus Miami, Florida, they're very different. And those schools are going to have to operate consistent with their local municipal policies, their state policies, federal policies, and then also whatever they decide collectively in the conference."

"So it really isn't the time where you can say we're going to have one rule to govern all of the football or all of any sport at that sense." Instead of making a broad decision across three divisions, the Board of Governors set parameters for each to make its own call.

Within hours of the board's announcement, presidents convening in both Division II and III canceled fall sports championships and determined they will not be made up in the spring.

According to the board's decision, at least 50% of teams competing in a fall sport in any division must conduct a regular season or season-long competition for a championship to be held.

The board emphasized that all fall sports activities, whether it be pre-season or regular-season games or postseason national championship tournaments, must follow the NCAA's return-to-sport guidelines.

"What we did today with the board is we said, look, you have to meet these kinds of standards and you have to provide these kinds of opportunities and this kind of information to stakeholders to even move forward on this," Emmert said.

The NCAA has little, if any, control over the highest tier of Division I football, where the Big Ten competes with the other Power Five conferences, the Big 12, Atlantic Coast Conference, Southeastern Conference and Pac-12.

Those leagues along with the five other FBS conferences have methodically put plans in place to play a season that will be worth billions in revenue — most of it landing in the Power Five.

The commissioners of those conferences talked a lot about collaboration, but in the end each league did what was in its best interest. The NCAA's main role has been to provide guidelines for how to attempt to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 as athletes return to campus, practice and ultimately competition.

The NCAA cannot stop regular-season competition. When the board considered pulling the plug on fall championships last month, conference leaders throughout all of Division I pushed back. There was even discussion among the most powerful conferences that they could stage their own championship events without the NCAA.

The pandemic has exposed college sports' lack of clearly defined, top-down leadership, though Emmert said the current problems wouldn't be easier to solve with a different structure.

"We're at a place where all of the answers to all of the questions are complicated because they are very complicated questions," Emmert said. "And so I guess I understand people that say, 'You know, somebody make a decision.' And I would hope that those same people would recognize that I and my board are more than willing to make decisions. We did it in March (canceling the NCAA basketball tournament)."

"This isn't about any one person or any one group not wanting to take leadership. It's about trying to find the right answer for our student-athletes and it's complicated. And anybody that doesn't recognize that is not playing attention."

Around the same time the NCAA made its announcement Wednesday regarding fall championships and other issues related to

COVID-19's impact on college sports, a second panel of rights' movement announced its formation.

#BigTenUnited joined the "WeAreUnited" group of Pac-12 players in making an organized call for more transparency, oversight and monitoring of COVID-19 testing and standards.

The Big Ten players focused solely on COVID-19 protocols and targeted the NCAA more than their conference.

The NCAA's directive addressed some of the issues raised by both groups, including retention of scholarships and eligibility if a athlete opts out of the coming season because of COVID-19 concerns.

The NCAA is also setting up an email address and phone hot line to allow athletes, parents and others associated with college athletic departments to report "alleged failures" of COVID-19 protocols and guidelines. "When we as players are united, our voices will be heard. These are important victories but players still don't have any uniform, enforceable COVID standards to keep players safe," Washington State defensive lineman Dallas Hobbs said in a statement released by #WeAreUnited.

Emmert said the burgeoning player movements were not discussed by the board and neither group has communicated with the NCAA.

"But that's not to say that this wasn't the result of a lot of conversations with students," Emmert said.

Later in the day, the College Football Playoff put another piece in this jigsaw puzzle of season in place by announcing that the selection of the four teams to compete for the national title would be delayed two weeks to Dec. 20.

It was another sign of hope — coming not long after Louisville announced it had suspended team activities in men's and women's soccer, field hockey and volleyball after 29 athletes tested positive for COVID-19.

"There is no guarantee," Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren said on Big Ten Network, "that we'll have fall sports or a football season."

## NBA

## Scoreboard

## Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
x-Toronto	49	18	73.1
x-Boston	45	23	66.2
x-Philadelphia	41	27	60.4
Brooklyn	32	36	47.1
New York	1	45	.316

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
x-Miami	43	25	63.2
Orlando	32	37	46.4
Charlotte	23	44	35.4
Washington	14	44	31.2
Atlanta	20	47	29.9

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
y-Milwaukee	44	14	.754
x-Indiana	42	26	.618
x-Chicago	42	26	.618
Detroit	20	40	.333
Cleveland	19	46	.292

## Western Conference

Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
x-Houston	42	25	.627
x-Dallas	39	29	.571
Memphis	32	37	.464
San Antonio	29	38	.433
New Orleans	19	38	.333

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
x-Denver	49	16	.754
x-Utah	43	25	.632
x-Oklahoma City	42	26	.618
Portland	31	38	.449
Minnesota	14	45	.237

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
x-L.A. Lakers	51	16	.761
x-L.A. Clippers	46	22	.677
Phoenix	39	29	.571
Sacramento	29	38	.433
Golden State	15	50	.231

Tuesday's games			
Brooklyn 119, Milwaukee 116			
Dallas 114, Sacramento 110, OT			
Phoenix 111, L.A. Clippers 115			
Indiana 120, Orlando 109			
Portland 110, Houston 102			

Wednesday's games			
Utah 108, Memphis 98			
Denver 132, San Antonio 126			
Brooklyn 107, Washington 98			
Oklahoma City 105, L.A. Lakers 86			
Toronto 109, Orlando 99			
Boston 149, Brooklyn 138			

Thursday's games			
New Orleans at Sacramento			
Indiana at Phoenix			
Miami at Milwaukee			
L.A. Clippers at Dallas			
Portland at Denver			
Lakers at Houston			

Friday's games			
Utah at Portland			
Oklahoma City at Memphis			
Sacramento at Brooklyn			
Orlando at Philadelphia			
Washington at New Orleans			
Boston at Toronto			

Saturday's games			
L.A. Clippers at Portland			
Utah at Denver			
L.A. Lakers at Indiana			
Phoenix at Miami			
Milwaukee at Dallas			

## Wednesday

## Celtics 149, Nets 115

**BROOKLYN** — Harris 6-14 1-2 14, Thomas 12-22 6-11 5-14, Allen 3-8 2-5 3-8, Brown 0-0 0-0 0-0, LeVert 6-14 3-13, Anderson 2-5 1-6, Hall 4-4 3-11, Kuzma 3-5 2-5 1-6, Luwabu-Cabarrot 1-5 2-4 1-3, Musa 4-8 5-13, Thomas 2-0 0-0, Chiozza 3-8 0-7, Martin 19-26 10-19, Totals 149-115.

**BOSTON** — Hayward 5-15 7-18, Tatum 11-19 2-12 6-11, Smart 5-12 2-12, Brown 7-13 2-13, Smart 2-5 6-12, Green 4-6 0-9, Langford 1-3 2-2 1-6, Ples 3-5 0-9, Boston 149, Nets 115.

**BOSTON** — Hayward 5-15 7-18, Tatum 11-19 2-12 6-11, Smart 5-12 2-12, Brown 7-13 2-13, Smart 2-5 6-12, Green 4-6 0-9, Langford 1-3 2-2 1-6, Ples 3-5 0-9, Boston 149, Nets 115.

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## Thunder 105, Lakers 86

OKLAHOMA CITY			
	W	L	Pct
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662

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Thunder 105, Lakers 86			
Thunder	49	18	.731
Lakers	45	23	.662



ASHLEY LANDIS/AP

Philadelphia center Joel Embiid (21) grabs a rebound during the first half Wednesday, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Embiid had 30 points and 11 boards in the 76ers' 107-98 win over the Washington Wizards.

## Roundup

## Embiid, Sixers survive against Wiz after Simmons hurts knee

## Associated Press

**LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla.** — Joel Embiid had 30 points and 11 rebounds, and the Philadelphia 76ers held on to beat the Washington Wizards 107-98 on Wednesday despite losing two-time All-Star Ben Simmons to a knee injury in the third quarter.

There was no immediate word from the 76ers on the extent of Simmons' injury which occurred as he landed awkwardly after grabbing an offensive rebound. At the next break in the action he walked gingerly to the locker room and did not return.

He was shown leaving the locker room in street clothes late in the fourth quarter.

Tobias Harris added 17 points for the 76ers, who pulled within a game of the Pacers for fifth place in the Eastern Conference standings.

Thomas Bryant had 19 points and 10 rebounds for the fast-fading Wizards, who have gone 0-4 since the restart and are on the brink of being eliminated from playoff contention.

**Thunder 105, Lakers 86:** Chris Paul had 21 points, seven rebounds and six assists in Oklahoma City's victory over basketball Los Angeles.

Danilo Gallinari scored 19 points and Steven Adams had 18 for the Thunder (42-25), who never trailed in their first win over the Lakers in four meet-

ings this season. Oklahoma City pulled even with Houston for the fifth seed in the Western Conference playoff picture with five games left.

LeBron James had 19 points and 11 rebounds for the Lakers (51-16), who had another possibly concerning offensive performance while dropping to 2-2 in the bubble. Los Angeles, which has already clinched the top seed in the West and the Pacific Division title, never held a lead for the first time all season.

The Lakers went a season-long 5-for-37 on three-pointers and made only 35% of their shots overall. Los Angeles dropped two games behind Milwaukee for the NBA's best overall record.

**Nuggets 132, Spurs 126:** Michael Porter Jr. had 30 points and 11 rebounds as Denver rallied in the fourth quarter to beat San Antonio.

Two days after posting a career-high 37 points in Denver's win over Oklahoma City, Porter stayed hot, scoring 10 of the Nuggets' first 16 points against San Antonio.

San Antonio, which started the day two games behind Memphis for the final playoff spot in the West, dropped to 2-2 since the restart.

**Jazz 124, Grizzlies 115:** Joe Ingles scored 12 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, and Utah kept Memphis winless in the NBA bubble.

Mike Conley had 23 points and seven assists against his former team for the Jazz (43-25), who improved to 2-2 in the seeding round and nudged ahead of Houston (42-25) for the fourth spot in the Western Conference standings.

Jonas Valanciunas had 21 points and 14 rebounds, and Ja Morant added 20 points and nine assists for Memphis (32-37). But the Grizzlies have lost five straight overall since March, and Portland (31-38) leads a pack of four teams now within three games of the eighth seed.

**Raptors 109, Magic 99:** Fred VanVleet had 21 points and 10 assists, and Toronto held on to beat Orlando.

The Raptors (49-18) have won their last seven dating back to before the hiatus and three straight games since the restart.

The Magic (32-37) missed an opportunity to clinch a playoff spot following Washington's loss to Philadelphia.

**Celtics 149, Nets 115:** Jaylen Brown stayed hot with 21 points on five three-pointers, and Boston rolled past Brooklyn with All-Star point guard Kemba Walker.

Jayson Tatum added 19 points, and Gordon Hayward had 18 for the Celtics, who posted a season high in points and improved to 2-2 at Disney World.



# NHL

## Roundup

# Blackhawks edge Oilers, take 2-1 series advantage

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — Matthew Highmore tied the score with 5:47 left in the third period, and Jonathan Toews got his second of the game 4½ minutes later to give the Chicago Blackhawks a 4-3 win over the Edmonton Oilers in Game 3 of their quick-swinging round series Wednesday night.

“We stuck with it and I think it was a great team effort,” Toews said.

On the winner, Oilers defenseman Ethan Bear errantly tipped a Blackhawks shot off Toews and past Mikko Koskinen. It was Toews’ fourth goal of the series.

Olli Maatta also scored for Chicago, which trailed by a goal entering the third period. Corey Crawford finished with 25 saves.

“(There were) some great contributions from all over our lineup,” Toews added. “A one-goal lead is a tough lead to hang onto for that long. In that situation we can always simplify our game and put pucks down in their zone ... and eventually things develop.”

Leon Draisaitl scored twice for Edmonton, and Connor McDavid got his fifth of the series to give the Oilers a 3-2 lead with 8 seconds left in the second period.

Koskinen had 21 saves as Edmonton was pushed to the brink of elimination in the best-of-five series.

“It’s obviously disappointing, no question,” Draisaitl said. “I think we have to be a little more disciplined.”

**Pathers 3, Islanders 2:** Mike Hoffman and Brian Boyle scored 2:07 apart in the opening minutes of the third period, and Florida avoided a sweep by New York in Toronto.

Erik Haula also scored and Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 20 shots. The 10th-seeded Panthers trail the best-of-five series 2-1 with Game 4 on Friday.

Jean-Gabriel Pageau and Brock Nelson, with 1:27 remaining, scored for the Islanders, the East’s seventh seed. Semyon Varlamov stopped 19 shots and made a costly error leading to Hoffman’s go-ahead goal 41 seconds into the third period.

With Varlamov penalized for playing the puck inside the trapzone 7 seconds into the frame, Florida defenseman Keith Van Orden faked a shot, before feeding Hoffman, who blasted the puck in from the right circle.

Boyle made it 3-1 when he corralled a loose puck inside the New York zone and snapped a 40-foot-er inside the left post.

### Coyotes 4, Predators 1:

Connor Garland and Taylor Hall each scored in the third period to lead Arizona past Nashville in Edmonton, Alberta.

The Coyotes, seeded 11th in the West in the NHL’s restart, can eliminate the sixth-seeded Predators in Game 4 on Friday in this best-of-five qualifying series.

Christian Dvorak scored on Arizona’s first shot of the game, and the Coyotes scored three in the third for the victory, capped by Carl Soderberg’s empty-netter inside the final two minutes.

Nashville thought it had a 2-1 lead 1:13 into the third period on a goal by Kyle Turris, but the Coyotes won their challenge of offense with Predators center Matt Duchene found over the blue line on review. Turris later hit the post with 6:19 left.

Garland put the Coyotes ahead to stay with his wristler from the slot at 7:08 of the third.

**Lightning 3, Bruins 2:** Tyler Johnson scored the tiebreaking goal with 87 seconds left and Tampa Bay handed Presidents’ Trophy-winning Boston its second straight loss in the NHL’s playoff seeding round in Toronto.

Andreï Vasilevsky stopped 25 shots for the Lightning, who improved to 2-0 in the three-game round-robin. Tampa Bay would earn the No. 1 seed in the East with a victory over Philadelphia on Saturday.

Tuukka Rask made 32 saves for the Bruins, who led the NHL with 100 points in the pandemic-shortened regular season but can now finish no higher than the No. 3 seed in the Eastern Conference.

**Avalanche 4, Stars 0:** High-scoring 21-year-old rookie defenseman Cale Makar connected on an early power-play goal, 30-year-old Pavel Francouz recorded a shutout in his postseason debut and Colorado defeated Dallas in round-robin play in Edmonton.

Jonas Donskoi, Vladislav Namestnikov and Andre Burakovsky also scored as the Avalanche improved to 2-0 in the three-game round that will determine playoff seeding for the top four teams in the Western Conference. The Stars have lost both of their games and are likely to finish where they started as the fourth seed.

Donskoi scored 3 seconds after a power play ended in the first period, and Burakovsky connected early in the third period after Mattias Janmark was called for tripping late in the second.

Anton Khudobin finished with 36 saves.



FRANK GUINN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

A shot by Montreal Canadiens center Phillip Danault hits the post behind Pittsburgh Penguins goaltender Matt Murray in Montreal’s 4-3 win Wednesday in Toronto.

## Canadiens push Penguins to the brink

Associated Press

TORONTO — Jeff Petry scored 5:33 into the third period as the Montreal Canadiens rallied from two goals down and beat Pittsburgh 4-3 in Game 3 on Wednesday night, pushing the Penguins to the brink of elimination in the best-of-five series.

Shea Weber had a goal and two

assists for Montreal, Paul Byron added a goal and an assist, and Jonathan Drouin also scored. Ben Chiarot also had had assists.

Carey Price stopped 30 shots for the Canadiens — the 12th seed in the Eastern Conference as part of the NHL’s 24-team restart to its pandemic-delayed season. Montreal can advance to the normal first round with 16 teams

with a win Friday in Game 4.

Patric Hornqvist, Jason Zucker and Teddy Blueger scored for fifth-seeded Pittsburgh, which led 3-1 after Blueger’s goal 5:34 into the second. Matt Murray finished with 27 saves.

“We’ve just done it by working hard,” Canadiens coach Claude Julien said.

## NHL scoreboard

### Stanley Cup qualifiers

(Best-of-five) 1st necessary EASTERN CONFERENCE		
<b>At Toronto</b>		
Carolina 3, N.Y. Rangers 0		
Carolina 4, N.Y. Rangers 1		
<b>Tuesday:</b> Carolina 4, N.Y. Rangers 1		
<b>N.Y. Islanders 2, Florida 1</b>		
N.Y. Islanders 4, Florida 1		
<b>Wednesday:</b> Florida 3, N.Y. Islanders 2		
<b>Friday:</b> Florida vs. N.Y. Islanders		
<b>x-Sunday:</b> N.Y. Islanders vs. Florida		
<b>Montreal 2, Pittsburgh 1</b>		
Montreal 3, Pittsburgh 2		
<b>Wednesday:</b> Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 3		
<b>Friday:</b> Montreal vs. Pittsburgh		
<b>Saturday:</b> Pittsburgh vs. Montreal		
<b>Columbus 1, Toronto 1</b>		
Columbus 2, Toronto 0		
<b>Thursday:</b> Columbus vs. Toronto		
<b>Friday:</b> Columbus vs. Toronto		
<b>x-Sunday:</b> Toronto vs. Columbus		

(determines playoff seeding)		
Philadelphia 4, Boston 1		
Tampa Bay 3, Washington 2, So		
<b>Wednesday:</b> Tampa Bay 3, Boston 2		
<b>Thursday:</b> Philadelphia vs. Washington		
<b>Friday:</b> Chicago vs. Edmonton		
<b>Saturday:</b> Washington vs. Boston		
<b>Sunday:</b> Tampa Bay vs. Philadelphia		

WESTERN CONFERENCE		
<b>Chicago 2, Edmonton 1</b>		
Edmonton 0, Chicago 0		
<b>Wednesday:</b> Chicago 4, Edmonton 3		
<b>Friday:</b> Chicago vs. Edmonton		
<b>x-Saturday:</b> Edmonton vs. Chicago		
<b>Calgary 2, Winnipeg 1</b>		
Calgary 4, Winnipeg 1		
<b>Tuesday:</b> Calgary 6, Winnipeg 2		
<b>Thursday:</b> Winnipeg vs. Calgary		
<b>x-Saturday:</b> Calgary vs. Winnipeg		

Arizona 2, Nashville 1		
Nashville 4, Arizona 2		
<b>Friday:</b> Arizona vs. Nashville		
<b>x-Saturday:</b> Nashville vs. Arizona		
<b>Minnesota 3, Vancouver 0</b>		
Minnesota 4, Vancouver 1		
<b>Thursday:</b> Minnesota vs. Vancouver		
<b>Friday:</b> Vancouver vs. Minnesota		
<b>x-Saturday:</b> Vancouver vs. Minnesota		
<b>(determines playoff seeding)</b>		
Colorado 2, St. Louis 1		
Las Vegas 3, Dallas 0		
<b>Wednesday:</b> Colorado 4, Dallas 0		
<b>Thursday:</b> St. Louis vs. Las Vegas		
<b>Saturday:</b> Colorado vs. Las Vegas		
<b>x-Sunday:</b> St. Louis vs. Dallas		

### Wednesday

Blackhawks 4, Oilers 3		
Edmonton 1	1	2 0-3
Chicago 2	0	2-4
<b>First Period—1, Chicago, Maatta 2</b>		
(Kane, Highmore), 9:14, 2, Edmonton, Draisaitl 7 (Ennis), 9:42, 3, Chicago, Toews 3 (Dach, DeBrincat), 19:55 (pp).		
<b>Second Period—4, Edmonton, Draisaitl 3</b>		
(Benning), 4:07, 5, Edmonton, McDavie 5 (Nugent-Hopkins, Draisaitl), 19:52 (pp).		
<b>Third Period—4, Chicago, Highmore 1</b>		
(Koekeke, Maatta), 14:13, 7, Chicago, Murphy 1 (Carpenter, Keith), 18:44.		
<b>Shots on goal—Edmonton 9-11-28.</b>		
Chicago 9-8-25.		
<b>Power-play opportunities—Edmonton 1 of 3</b>		
(Chicago 2 of 6).		
<b>Goals—Edmonton, Koskinen 1-1-0</b>		
(27 shots/25 saves), Chicago, Crawford 2-1-0 (28-29).		
T-2:34.		

### Canadiens 4, Penguins 3

Canadiens 4, Penguins 3		2 1 0-3
Pittsburgh	First	2 1 1-4
Montreal	Period—1, Montreal, Weber 1	
	(Byron, Lehoucq), 4:57, 2, Pittsburgh, Hornqvist 1 (Malkin, Crosby), 8:40 (pp).	
	Pittsburgh, Zucker 2 (Rust, Marner), 9:39 (pp).	
	<b>Second Period—4, Pittsburgh, Blueger 1</b>	
	(Astori-Reese, Tanvee), 5:34, 5, Montreal, Drouin 1 (Weber, Chiarot), 10:13, 6, Montreal, Byron 1 (Weber, Suzuki), 15:50.	
	(Chiarot, Danault), 5:33.	
	<b>Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh 14-11-8</b>	
	Montreal 13-13-31.	
	<b>Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 2 of 3</b>	
	Montreal 0 of 5.	
	<b>Goals—Pittsburgh, Murray 1-1-1</b>	
	(31 shots/24 saves), Montreal, Price 1-1-0 (33-30).	
	T-2:41.	

### Avalanche 4, Stars 0

Colorado	2	1	1-4
Dallas	0	0	0-0
<b>First Period</b> —1, Colorado, Makar 1 (Kadri, Landeskog), 3:19 (pp), 2, Colorado, Donskoi 1 (Girard, Burakovsky), 15:29.			
<b>Second Period</b> —3, Colorado, Namestnikov 1 (Rantanen, MacKinnon), 17:30.			
<b>Third Period</b> —4, Colorado, Burakovsky 1 (Donskoi, Girard), 1:31 (pp).			
<b>Shots on Goal</b> —Colorado 14-13-40, Dallas 13-8-27.			
<b>Power-play opportunities</b> —Colorado 2 of 3; Dallas 0 of 2.			
<b>Goals</b> —Colorado, Girard 1-0-0 (27 shots/27 saves), Dallas, Khudobin 0-1-0 (40-36).			
T-2:27.			

### Lightning 3, Bruins 2

Tampa Bay	2	0	1-3
Boston	0	1	1-2
<b>First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Point 1</b>			
(Palat, Kucherov), 7:33, 2, Tampa Bay, Killorn 1 (Johnson, Hedman), 10:32 (pp).			
<b>Second Period—3, Boston, McAvoy 1</b>			
(Krug, Bergeron), 16:43.			
<b>Third Period—4, Boston, Wagner 2</b>			
(Chara), 1:47, 5, Tampa Bay, Johnson 1 (Killorn, Gormley), 18:33.			
<b>Shots on goal—Tampa Bay 8-11-16—</b>			
35, Boston 9-9-27.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—Tampa Bay 1 of 2; Boston 0 of 4.</b>			
<b>Goals—Tampa Bay, Vasilevsky 1-0-0</b>			
(27 shots/25 saves), Boston, Rask 0-0-0 (33-32).			
T-2:35.			

### Coyotes 4, Predators 1

## Coyotes 4, Predators 1

Nashville	0	1	0-1
Arizona	1	0	3-4

**First Period**—1, Arizona, Dvorak 2 (Hjalmarsson, Hall), 5:09.

**Second Period**—2, Nashville, Arvidsson 2 (Johansson, Forsberg), 7:31.

**Third Period**—3, Arizona, Garland 1 (Keller, Stepan), 7:08, 4, Arizona, Hall 1 (Ekman-Larsson, Kessel), 15:38 (pp), 5, Arizona, Soderberg 1, 18:08 (en).

**Shots on Goal**—Nashville 19-16-40, Arizona 9-10-28.

**Power-play opportunities**—Nashville 0 of 1; Arizona 1 of 2.

**Goals**—Nashville, Saros 1-2-0 (27 shots/24 saves), Arizona, Kuemper 2-1-0 (40-39).

T-2:30.

### Pathers 3, Islanders 2

**Partners 3, Islanders 2**

N.Y. Islanders	0	1	1-2
Florida	1	2	1-3

**Second Period—1, Florida, Haula 1** (Hoffman, Dadonov), 4:02 (pp), 2, N.Y. Islanders, Pageau 2 (Beauvillier), 16:26.

**Period—3, Florida, Hoffman 2** (Barkov, Yandle), 0:41 (pp), 4, Florida, Boyle 1, 2:48, 5, N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 1 (Toews, Pulock), 18:33.

**Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders 8-4-10—22, Florida 6-11-5—22.**

**Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 0 of 3; Florida 2 of 5.**

**Goals—N.Y. Islanders, Varlamov 2-1-0** (22 shots/19 saves), Florida, Bobrovsky 1-2-0 (22-22).

T-2:21.

## NHL

## In merchandise, ticket sales, Seattle expansion team is already Kraken

BY GEOFF BAKER  
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — Hockey cards, jerseys and even libations. There's been no slowing the Seattle Kraken down when it comes to getting fans to part with their money in the name of all types of merchandise.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the team confirmed its season-ticket waitlist had expanded by about 13,300 since the naming announcement just under two weeks ago and now sits at 51,700. Meanwhile, sales of Kraken merchandise across all platforms of online retail giant Fanatics are roughly four times greater than the opening two-week sales for the NHL's prior 2017 expansion team, the Vegas Golden Knights.

"Even though we're kind of in an interesting August circumstance right now where the NHL is happening, NBA is happening and MLB is happening — despite all those other leagues, the Kraken are still a top-five selling team since they launched," Fanatics spokesperson Seth Schlechter said Tuesday.

The team also had the Nos. 2 and 3 best-selling items across all Fanatics platforms, including NHLShop.com and the official merchandise sites of most major sports leagues and several individual teams. The No. 2 best-seller is a Kraken navy logo T-shirt, while No. 3 is a branded tri-blend T-shirt, both trailing only the WNBA orange hoodie sent to celebrities and athletes to promote the league's season starting.

Upper Deck last Friday made available the franchise's first official hockey card, featuring a photo of the Space Needle with the Kraken flag flying atop it. The digital card is being made available for a limited time as part of the Upper Deck Game Dated Moments series and can be unlocked by purchasing any qualifying NHL pack.

"We're getting orders from Europe, we're getting orders from Asia and it's kind of just unique to see the interest in a card like this," said Chris Carlin, Upper Deck's Senior Manager of Customer Experience. "Certainly, there is interest in North America — in the United States and Canada — but to see it coming from all over is a sign that we anticipate there's going to be a lot of interest in the Seattle Kraken when they take the ice in 2021."

Last week, Kraken Rum officially announced it was becoming the NHL team's official rum partner, confirming an earlier Seattle Times report. Though there's no immediate word of any impact on regional sales, hockey fans instantly took to social media displaying Kraken Rum bottles and the company's other accessories in posts about the team.

Bustyn York, an associate professor of communications at Maryville University in St. Louis

## By the numbers

# 51,700

Wait list for season tickets for the Seattle Kraken, who will begin play next season.

# 2

A Kraken navy logo T-shirt is the No. 2 selling item on Fanatics. A branded tri-blend Kraken T-shirt is the No. 3 item on the site.

SOURCE: Associated Press

and director of the school's graduate and undergraduate communications programs said the team did two big things right in launching the name.

"I think their salespeople did a really good job at branding," said York, who's worked with brands like Nike, Pepsi and Scottrade Financial Services and also on Barack Obama's 2008 Presidential campaign. "It could have been a bit. It could have been a miss. Either way, there are a lot of examples of hits and misses. I know with rebranding, recently the Clippers didn't come out so well with their new logo."

But the Kraken did, he added, by nailing two specific things — a cultural rapport with their local audience and their success at hitting all marketing channels.

"Just the geographic location near water and the mythical creature of the Kraken, I think there are some neat things you can do with the name," he said, adding it works despite the mythology of the creature hailing from the Norwegian Sea and not the Pacific Ocean. "Simply being close to water is an opportunity. Also, having a similar color scheme as the Seahawks and local teams, some of that says Pacific Northwest branding does very well."

And like the Tennessee Titans, another team with a name not specifically linked to regional geography, he sees the Kraken "going for something big and strong" and connecting with the local community. One thing to watch out for, he added, is equating educating the general public on what a Kraken is.

"I think that has some opportunity there," he said. "But also, the weakness is you kind of have to create it from scratch. There's the movie version of a Kraken that's basically an octopus or a squid. But what is their mascot? I think that can be a miss if not taken well. But also, an opportunity."



FRANK GUNN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Boston Bruins defenseman Brandon Carlo, bottom, picks up a tripping penalty as he takes down Columbus Blue Jackets center Pierre-Luc Dubois. The bulk of playoff penalties have been minors.

# Racking up the minutes: Penalties rising in playoffs

BY STEPHEN WHYNO  
Associated Press

The morning after Phillip Danault's first career three-penalty game, agitating Montreal teammate Brendan Gallagher turned to him and joked, "I'm rubbing off on you."

Judging from the first few days of the NHL's restart, it looks as if Gallagher is rubbing off on a lot of players. Referees' arms must be tired after, through Wednesday's games, calling 249 minor penalties through 28 games — an average of almost nine that's nearly double from the regular season.

Perhaps officials are seeing more in empty arenas without the distraction and noise of fans, though players and coaches in the midst of the parades to the penalty box have other theories.

They chalk it up to a combination of rust from months off and players' natural adjustment to the standard of officiating that's being set in the chase for the Stanley Cup.

"We've been off as long as any offseason or longer, and (referees are) just reestablishing their game," Boston Bruins agitator extraordinaire Brad Marchand said.

"I also think that guys are excited to get back on the ice and they're running around and guys aren't in the same control of their sticks and their bodies than maybe they are a month out from now. So, we're all a little sloppy and more penalties come from that."

Most are not penalties of aggression, aside from the majors handed out for the fights that

## DID YOU KNOW?

Through 28 playoff games, teams have been called for 249 minor penalties, an average of 8.89 per game, nearly double the average during the regular season.

SOURCE: Associated Press

have broken out. The most common are hooking, tripping and slashing with the odd holding or spearing thrown in.

"There's been too many stick penalties," Colorado coach Jared Bednar said. "There's been too many penalties with guys just reaching in and just poor habits with their sticks and defending details and they're getting called for it."

Arizona coach Rick Tocchet said there haven't necessarily been complaints about inconsistent officiating because it's pretty tight across the board.

Maybe some grumbling here or there about too many calls for the playoffs, but the obstruction and interference is what the NHL wanted to get out of the game years ago to create more offense.

"If the referees are calling it, they must be penalties," Philadelphia coach Alain Vigneault said. "The refereeing has been fine. The guys, it's not an easy job and they're calling what they're seeing."

Several teams got a chance to witness the tight officiating on Day One of the playoffs, including 16 minor penalties being called in the first game back between the Carolina Hurricanes and New York Rangers. That helped some

teams such as the Minnesota Wild and New York Islanders limit their disciplinary issues.

"I think everyone was watching those games, especially the early time games," Minnesota forward Ryan Hartman said. "A lot, a lot of penalties were being called and there wasn't much getting by. I don't know if it was more us keeping out of it or of them trying to send a message in the early games."

The Hurricanes learned their lesson the hard way with 17 minor penalties through three games. They swept the New York Rangers in their best-of-five qualifying round series anyway but understand this isn't sustainable.

"Just can't be careless with stick penalties," Carolina forward Vincent Trocheck said. "We can understand if you're being physical or making plays and playing hard and you get a penalty, those are penalties that we're willing to kill. The stick penalties are the ones that we really need to stay away from."

By the second period of their Game 2 against the Calgary Flames, the Winnipeg Jets were cognizant of what captain Blake Wheeler said was a "sensitivity" to games being called pretty tight. But the teams still combined for 14 penalties Tuesday afternoon.

It figures to stick those numbers will come down.

"In a game or two, I think you're going to see less penalties," Tocchet said. "I think you're going to see guys adjust to it, plus the coaches are probably barking at players to be disciplined anyways."

# MLB SCOREBOARD

## American League

	East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York Yankees	9	2	818		
Atlanta Braves	6	4	458	1 1/2	
Toronto	4	5	444	4	
Baltimore	5	7	417	4 1/2	
Tampa Bay	5	7	417	4 1/2	
Minnesota	3	8	383	—	
Chicago	7	5	583	3	
Cleveland	5	7	538	3 1/2	
Detroit	5	5	500	3	
Kansas City	5	10	231	7 1/2	

	West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	8	4	667	—	
Seattle	5	5	585	3 1/2	
Los Angeles	4	8	333	4	
Texas	7	7	300	3	

## National League

	East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	5	1	833		
Los Angeles	4	5	444	2 1/2	
Washington	4	5	444	2 1/2	
Philadelphia	4	5	444	2 1/2	
New York	8	8	385	3 1/2	

	West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	4	5	444	2 1/2	
St. Louis	4	5	444	2 1/2	
Cincinnati	5	7	417	5	
Pittsburgh	7	9	167	8	

## Wednesday's games

Philadelphia 11, N.Y. Yankees 7, 1 innings, 1st game	
Philadelphia 3, Philadelphia 1, 2 innings, 2nd game	
Los Angeles 9, Pittsburgh 2, 1st game	
Miami 2, Baltimore 7, 1st game	
Boston 5, Tampa Bay 4	
Minnesota 3, Pittsburgh 2	
Cleveland 2, Cincinnati 0	
Atlanta 2, Atlanta 0	
Milwaukee 1, Chicago White Sox	
Oakland 3, Kansas City 1	
Oakland 1, Texas 4	
N.Y. Yankees 1, Houston 7	
A.L. Dodgers 7, A.L. Angels 6	
Philadelphia at Miami, p.d.	
San Francisco at Colorado 3	

## Thursday

Detroit at St. Louis, p.d.	
Minnesota at Pittsburgh	
St. Louis at Oakland	
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh	
N.Y. Yankees at Philadelphia	
Cincinnati at Cleveland	
Chicago Cubs at Kansas City	
Houston at Arizona	
Toronto at Atlanta	
Baltimore at Miami	
Milwaukee at Chicago White Sox	

## Friday's games

Baltimore (TBD) at Washington (TBD)	
N.Y. Yankees (Tampa 0-A) at Tampa Bay (0-0)	
Detroit (Balt 0-0) at Pittsburgh (Balt 0-0)	
Toronto (TBD) at Toronto (Webster 0-2)	
Minnesota (TBD) at Kansas City (TBD)	
Cleveland (Civale 1-1) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 1-1)	
Los Angeles (TBD) at Texas (Lyons 0-1)	
Houston 2, Greinke 0-0 at Philadelphia (Bassitt 1-0)	
Atlanta (Wright 0-1) at Philadelphia (Velezquez 0-0)	
Miami (Alcantara 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Wacha 1-1)	
Cincinnati (Bauer 1-0) at Milwaukee (TBD)	

Chicago Cubs (TBD) at St. Louis (TBD)	
Los Angeles (TBD) at St. Louis (TBD)	
Colorado (TBD) at L.A. Dodgers (Urias 1-0)	
Colorado (Senzatella 2-0) at Seattle (Kobayashi 0-0)	

## Wednesday

## Mariners 7, Angels 6

	Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi
Fletcher	3	1	1	1	1
Adair	3	1	1	1	1
Rendon	3	0	0	0	0
Upton	3	0	0	0	0
Smith	3	0	0	0	0
Pujols	3	0	0	0	0
Goodwin	3	0	0	0	0
Stassi	3	0	0	0	0
Wright	3	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	5	6	6	6

## Seattle

	ab	r	h	bi
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Totals	33	5	6	6

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Totals	33	5	6	6

## Seattle

	ab	r	h	bi
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Totals	33	5	6	6

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Totals	33	5	6	6

## Seattle

	ab	r	h	bi
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Wright	3	1	1	1
Totals	33	5	6	6

## Dodgers 7, Padres 6

	Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0	0

## San Diego

	ab	r	h	bi
Tatis Jr.	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## San Diego

	ab	r	h	bi
Tatis Jr.	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## San Diego

	ab	r	h	bi
Tatis Jr.	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## San Diego

	ab	r	h	bi
Tatis Jr.	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## San Diego

	ab	r	h	bi
Tatis Jr.	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## San Diego

	ab	r	h	bi
Tatis Jr.	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Pham	5	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## Los Angeles

	ab	r	h	bi
Pollock	4	0	0	0
Munby	4	0	0	0
Bullinger	4	0	0	0
Taylor	4	0	0	0
Betts	4	0	0	0
Smolton	4	0	0	0
Hirshbein	4	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	0	0

## San Diego

th dh	3	0	1	2	Soto lf	4	0	2	1
3b	3	1	1	0	Kndrick dh	3	0	0	0
ss	4	0	1	0	Cabrera 3b	3	0	1	0
c	3	0	1	0	Thames 1b	3	0	1	0
me 2b	4	0	1	1	Suzuki c	3	0	0	0
ton cf	4	0	0	0	Robles cf	3	0	0	0
	31	3	7	3	Totals	31	1	5	1



## MLB

## Roundup

# Undermanned Marlins sweep O's, stay in first

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Five pitchers combined on a four-hitter for Don Mattingly's undermanned, gritty and first-place Miami Marlins, who beat the Baltimore Orioles 2-1 Wednesday night for a doubleheader sweep.

Brian Anderson homered in opener, and Miami won 1-0 despite getting only two hits.

The sweep kept the Marlins atop the NL East and earned Mattingly his 281st win as Miami's manager, tying Jack McKeon's club record.

The Marlins won their third straight game since emerging from a coronavirus-promoted layoff that left them with a roster filled with callups, free agents and rookies. Miami has allowed a total of one run and 10 hits in those three games at Camden Yards.

In the nightcap, Jon Berti hit an RBI double off Asher Wojciechowski (0-2) in the first inning and scored on a fly ball by Jesus Aguilar. That proved to be enough. Josh A. Smith started, Brian Moran (1-0) struck out three over one inning and Stephen Tarpley got four outs for his first save.

In the opener, Anderson produced the game's lone run with an opposite-field drive to right off Alex Cobb (1-1).

Miami starter Elieser Hernandez gave up a one-out double to Chance Sisco in the fifth and Pedro Severino followed with a single before Nick Vincent (1-0) got Hanser Alberto to hit into a double play, ending Baltimore's only threat.

**Phillies 11-1, Yankees 7-3:** Mike Tauchman's triplebreaking double in the seventh inning sent visiting New York over Philadelphia and a split of their doubleheader.

Bryce Harper and J.T. Realmuto homered to back Zach Wheeler (2-0) and lead the "visiting" Phillies to a victory over the Yankees in the opener, snapping New York's seven-game winning streak despite Aaron Judge hitting his seventh homer in just the 10th game of the season.

Phillies ace Aaron Nola tied a career high with 12 strikeouts in the nightcap, allowing one run on Luke Voit's homer and three hits in six innings. Giancarlo Stanton and Voit greeted reliever Tommy Hunter (0-1) with consecutive singles, and Tauchman lined a double to right-center for a 2-1 lead.

**Nets 3, Nationals 1:** Nationals starter Max Scherzer exited because of a hamstring problem after laboring through just one inning, overshadowing Juan Soto's eventual 20th debut for the World Series champs, and Red Porello collected his 150th career win.

Porello (1-1) went seven innings, allowing one run and five hits and retiring the last 10 batters he faced.

Scherzer revealed afterward that he first felt something wrong with the hamstring before his previous start, six days earlier against Toronto. But he pitched anyway in that one and ended up throwing an MLB season-high 112 pitches.

**Dodgers 7, Padres 6:** Joc Pederson had two homers and five RBIs, left fielder Chris Taylor threw out Trent Grisham at the plate for the final out and visiting Los Angeles beat San Diego.

Kenley Jansen made it interesting in the ninth by allowing one run before the game ended on a double play. With runners on the corners, Manny Machado lined out to Taylor, who threw out Grisham trying to score the tying run. The Padres challenged but the play stood after review.

**Brewers 1, White Sox 0:** Adrian Houser dominated over seven innings and visiting Milwaukee snapped Chicago's six-game winning streak.

Milwaukee held struggling star Christian Yelich out of the lineup, with the 2018 NL MVP and two-time defending NL batting champion mired in a season-opening 3-for-34 slump.

**Mariners 7, Angels 6:** Scorching slugger Kyle Seager hit a three-run homer, rookie Kyle Lewis stayed hot with an RBI single, and host Seattle overcame two more runs by Mike Trout.

Albert Pujols remained on 659 career home runs,



Gregory Bull/AP

**The Dodgers' Joc Pederson reacts after hitting a three-run home run during the sixth inning against the Padres. Pederson homered twice.**

one behind Willie Mays on the career list.

Marco Gonzales (2-1) gave up solo home runs to Trout, Max Stassi and David Fletcher but was otherwise strong. The lefty didn't walk a batter and struck out seven.

**Athletics 6, Rangers 4:** Matt Olson homered twice, Ramon Laureano also went deep and host Oakland rallied to beat Texas.

Austin Allen hit his first career homer, a go-ahead, two-run drive in the seventh inning.

Shin-Soo Choo homered on the game's first pitch for the second time in six days for the Rangers.

**Twins 5, Pirates 2:** Minnesota's Randy Dornak dominated in his homecoming, allowing three hits in six innings.

Dornak, who grew up a half-hour south of PNC Park in the Pittsburgh suburb of South Park, didn't walk a batter and struck out just one.

Marvin Gonzalez went 2-for-4 with two RBIs for the Twins.

**Red Sox 5, Rays 0:** Martin Perez pitched out of trouble all night, and Alex Verdugo and Michael Chavis homered to help visiting Boston stop a four-game skid.

Perez (2-1) allowed four hits and three walks, wiggling out of jams for five innings. Colten Brewer, Austin Brice, Matt Barnes and Brandon Workman completed a four-hitter.

**Blue Jays 2, Braves 1:** Hyun-Jin Ryu combined with four relievers on a three-hitter and visiting Toronto beat shorthanded Atlanta.

Ryu (1-1) lasted only five innings but was dominant as he gave up only one hit, an infield single by Adam Duval in the second.

The Braves were forced to recast their lineup after placing Ozzie Albies and Matt Adams on the injured list and giving Freddie Freeman a day off.

**Diamondbacks 14, Astros 7:** Kole Calhoun hit his first career inside-the-park homer with the help of a crazy bounce, David Peralta had four RBIs and host Arizona used nine-run burst in the fourth inning to beat Houston.

Calhoun hit a pitch from Lance McCullers Jr. (1-1) down the right-field line, and the ball hit the metal base of the fence in the corner, which sent it ricocheting past George Springer and down the warning track into right center.

**Giants 4, Rockies 3:** Brandon Belt extended his success against Colorado starter Jon Gray with a three-run homer and a double, and visiting San Francisco won despite Nolan Arenado homering in his third straight game.

**Cubs 6, Royals 1:** Yu Darvish (2-1) pitched seven sharp innings and visiting Chicago earned its sixth straight victory.

Javier Baez drove in two runs for the Cubs, who handed Kansas City its sixth consecutive defeat. Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo each had two hits and scored twice.

**Indians 2, Reds 0:** Mike Clevinger didn't have his best stuff but did enough to pitch into the sixth inning and lead host Cleveland as the Indians wait for manager Terry Francona's return from a gastrointestinal problem.

Clevinger (1-1) worked around five walks, including three in the sixth. The right-hander's strong start he gave up just two hits — continued a pattern for the Indians, who have had great pitching while their offense remains in a team-wide funk.

# Virus protocols to be tightened

## Violators could be banned for rest of season

By JAKE SEINER

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball is cracking down on coronavirus safety protocols, mandating that players and staff wear face coverings at all times, including in the dugouts and bullpens, except for players on the field of play.

The league sent a memo to teams Wednesday outlining changes to its 2020 operations manual after outbreaks on the Miami Marlins and St. Louis Cardinals led to 21 postponements in the first two weeks of a shortened 60-game season.

The memo, obtained by The Associated Press on Wednesday night, says that repeated or flagrant violators of the protocols could be banned from participating in the 2020 season and postseason.

That includes those who don't wear face coverings while watching from the dugout. Although such measures were suggested in MLB's operations manual before Wednesday, some players have continued to not wear face masks, offer high fives, spit and violate the protocols in other ways during games.

Umpires are also being instructed to wear face masks at all times, except when it would make it unfeasible for them to do their jobs.

Compliance officers have been appointed for each team, and they have been charged with enforcing protocols outlined in the operations manual in an effort to keep baseball's season running.

Players and staff must wear face coverings at all times at team hotels and in public places while on the road. On team buses and airplanes, personnel must wear

surgical masks or N95/KN95 respirators.

At hotels, teams have been instructed to provide a large private room — a ballroom, for instance — where staff and players can get food and other amenities with enough space to keep their distance. Players are discouraged from talking to each other or facing each other if their mask is pulled down while eating.

If players want to leave the hotel, they must get approval first from the team's compliance officer.

While in their home cities, players and staff are banned from visiting bars, lounges, malls or other places where groups of people are gathered.

Clubs are being instructed to provide spaces for visiting players that are covered and outdoors, and that home and visiting teams must have access to areas where personnel can socially distance during weather delays. Players are being told to use those outdoor areas as much as possible, rather than linger in the clubhouse.

Among other changes: teams must limit the size of traveling parties to essential personnel, maintain unoccupied rows between passengers on team buses, and distance seating on airplanes while ensuring players do not change locations.

MLB said in the memo it made many of the changes after evaluating results of its investigation into the Marlins outbreak. The league also said it is working with the union to review contact tracing protocols, specifically the requirements for identified close contacts. Close contacts do not currently include passing interactions or physical contact unlikely to pass secretions, such as elbow bumps.



KATHY WILLEMS/AP

**The Red Sox celebrate a home run by Xander Bogaerts, far left, behind two masked coaches. The league is mandating that players wear face coverings at all times, including in the dugouts.**

## NFL

# Bucs rookie Wirfs preps to help Brady

By FRED GOODALL  
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Tristan Wirfs knows he has a critical role to play in helping Tom Brady transform the Tampa Bay Buccaneers into winners. The rookie is undaunted by the challenge of preparing for the task without the benefit of a normal preseason.

The former Iowa star was the 13th pick in this year's NFL Draft, addressing the need to bolster an offensive line responsible for protecting the team's 43-year-old quarterback and opening holes for what has a chance to be an improved rushing attack.

Although Wirfs, 21, is expected to be an immediate starter at right tackle, he concedes he and other first-year players have a lot of ground to cover in training camp. They must get up to speed after not being able to participate in a full offseason program due to the coronavirus pandemic.

With preseason games also eliminated, the Bucs won't line up against anyone in opposing jerseys until the club's scheduled season opener at New Orleans on Sept. 13.

"We missed out on 400 or 500 live reps of plays, so just trying to make that up as best we can is going to be really huge for us," Wirfs said, adding he's not overly concerned about potentially being at a disadvantage entering his first season.

"I don't really know how much different it'll be for me coming from college. We didn't really have preseason games. We just had camp and then started playing. They were non-conference, but still," the 6-foot-5, 320-pound tackle said.

"This we have now, I know we have some good pass rushers on the

Bucs, so just getting some work in with them and doing the best I can," Wirfs added. "If the case is that I'm going against (Saints defensive end) Cam Jordan, I'll be excited and just give it my best."

Tampa Bay traded up one spot in the draft to ensure an opportunity to select Wirfs, a dominant blocker in college who continued to impress at the NFL scouting combine. He had the fastest 40-yard dash time (4.85 seconds) among linemen and set a record for his position in the vertical jump (36½ inches).

Bucs coach Bruce Arians said linemen probably are the players most affected by not having a normal offseason of work.

"I think both lines of scrimmage, the offensive line and defensive line not being able to work on pad level," Arians said. "We're going to have 14 days in pads. That is not a lot of time to get ready to play in a ballgame against really quality opponents, but we're going to have to get it done."

At Iowa, Wirfs became only the second true freshman to start a game at tackle under longtime Hawkeyes coach Kirk Ferentz. Now, he's unfazed by the prospect of stepping right in with the Bucs, who've missed the playoffs 12 consecutive seasons — the second-longest drought in the NFL behind Cleveland, which hasn't earned a berth since 2002.

"That's kind of how my college career started. I was kind of just tossed in there. It happening this way, at this level, I'd be all right with it. I've just got to go out there and do my best — that's all I can ask of myself," Wirfs said.

"You've got to prepare every week and come out and execute. That's really what it comes down to," he added. "If that's the case where I have to get tossed in there, then so be it. I'll be as ready as I can be and give it my all."



The Arizona Cardinals acquired DeAndre Hopkins, who had at least 1,000 yards receiving in five of the past six seasons, in an offseason trade with the Houston Texans.

## WR Hopkins ready for next chapter in Arizona

By DAVID BRANDT  
Associated Press

Quarterback Kyle Murray is the young star who hopes he's at the beginning of a long and successful run with the Arizona Cardinals. Veteran receiver Larry Fitzgerald is winding down one of the NFL's great offensive careers.

DeAndre Hopkins — a man in the prime of his NFL life — said there's plenty he can learn from both of them.

The Cardinals pulled off a stunner during the offseason when they landed the 28-year-old receiver in a trade with the Houston Texans. Last weekend, he put on his Cardinals jersey for the first time and relished the feeling of newness that came with his mid-career move.

"Felt great, felt good, gave me chills," Hopkins said. "Not going to lie, it felt real good to be part of a great organization. The Cardinal red, white and black looked good on me, if I do say so myself."

The three-time All-Pro was one of the league's most consistent and durable receivers during his seven seasons with the Texans. He had at least 1,000 receiving yards in five of the past six seasons.

Second-year Arizona coach Kliff Kingsbury, known for his Air Raid-style passing offense, said the only danger of having someone like Hopkins on the roster is trying to do too much with him.

"It's tough when you're in quarantine, you've got a bunch of time just to draw up crazy plays," Kingsbury said. "We're going to try to minimize that and just let DeAndre be the great player he is. We're going to have different things, different ways to get him the football, obviously."

"We like the progress of this offense, the direction it took late last year. We feel like we found our identity and (Hopkins) just going to be an added weapon that just makes us that much better moving forward."

Hopkins has spent his time during the offseason getting to know his new teammates, including Murray, the 22-year-old who was the No. 1 overall pick in 2019 and had an encouraging first season — earning Offensive Rookie of the Year honors. The receiver said he's learned that Murray is a fierce competitor despite his soft-spoken personality.

Hopkins added that when Murray gathered a handful of offensive players in Dallas during the offseason, it was clear he wants build relationships on the way to winning.

"It's not just on the field but off the field," Hopkins said. "Us communicating, texting each other, calling each other and building that camaraderie of something that's going to last a long time, not just while we're playing football but after football."

"My expectation is us becoming best friends and doing everything together. I have to be on the same page as my quarterback, no matter what."

Murray was usually good — and occasionally great — during his rookie season. He threw for 3,722 yards, 20 touchdowns and 12 interceptions and also ran for 544 yards and four touchdowns. He said he'd like to make quicker decisions in the passing game. Murray was sacked a league-high 48 times and many were caused by his tendency to hold on to the ball for too long.

"I think that's honestly one of the main focal points is improving our dropback game, which obviously, it was mediocre last season," Murray said. "But I think a lot of that comes with reps and time playing with the guys."

"Getting D-Hop is obviously tremendous." One of the Cardinals' other important offensive pieces is nearly 15 years older than Murray. Fitzgerald, who turns 37 later in the preseason, is entering his 16th season in the NFL and with the Cardinals.

Hopkins said he was fortunate to have a mentor like Andre Johnson early in his career with the Texans. He expects Fitzgerald can provide the same type of support.

"To have another Hall of Fame receiver is great," Hopkins said. "I wouldn't ask for it to be any other way. Going into my eighth year I'm considered a veteran, but obviously, Larry is almost double that, and wisdom beats anything."

Tristan Wirfs, picked 13th overall out of Iowa, is expected to start for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

AP



NFL

# Colts' camp a whole new world for Rivers

Longtime Chargers quarterback donning different shade of blue

By MICHAEL MAROT  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Philip Rivers walked into a whole new world at training camp this year.

Masks became standard fare. A slow, finely turned ramp-up to padded practices became all the rage. And Rivers' go-to look over the past 16 years, clad in Chargers gear, was replaced by Colts attire.

Yes, it will take some getting used to seeing Rivers in new colors but the 38-year-old quarterback already seems to be getting comfortable in his new digs.

"It's a great environment here, from the top down. It's a neat place," Rivers said Wednesday on a Zoom call, emphasizing he also enjoyed his time in Los Angeles and San Diego. "I know it's a new place and I'm still on a high from Day 2 or 3 (of workouts). But it's a great place, a great environment and I'm excited to see what we can get done this year."

The Colts are eager to find out what Rivers has left, too, after signing him to a one-year, \$25 million contract in March, with the hope he'd make them a playoff team and possibly a Super Bowl contender.

It's a risky move given the mixed results of other late-career changes.

For every Peyton Manning, who won his second Super Bowl ring after leaving Indy for Denver at age 36, there are Hall of Famers such as the late Johnny Unitas or Joe Namath, who struggled.

Some critics contend Rivers belongs in the second category after throwing 20 interceptions last season and for the second-highest total of his career and third most in the NFL last season. His rating of 85.5, the lowest since 2007, only fueled the perception Rivers was nearing the end of a brilliant career.



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

The Indianapolis Colts are eager to find out what former Los Angeles Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers has left. They signed him to a one-year, \$25 million contract in March, with the hope he can take the team to the playoffs — and possibly beyond.

But when Colts coach Frank Reich pored through Rivers' tape from 2019, he saw the same competitor, the same winner, the same quarterback he worked with in San Diego.

Offensive coordinator Nick Sirianni and new tight ends coach Jason Michael, who also worked with Rivers as Chargers assistants, also saw no slippage. So general manager Chris Ballard went all-in on a new quarterback, seven months after Andrew Luck's early retirement.

"As far as anything that's changed with Philip, I don't see anything," Sirianni said last week. "He's still the same consistent 16-year vet."

It's not the first time Rivers has switched teams. After being selected with the fourth

overall pick in the 2004 draft, the New York Giants dealt Rivers to San Diego for Eli Manning.

But instead of arriving as a highly hyped rookie trying to prove himself, Rivers comes to Indianapolis with a long, illustrious resume.

He needs three touchdowns passes to become the sixth player in league history with 400. He needs 92 completions to become the fifth player with 5,000. He needs 60 completions, 2,091 yards and 24 TD passes to pass Dan Marino for fifth all time in each category.

He has the league's longest active streak of consecutive starts (224), No. 2 all-time among quarterbacks.

But after all that success, and no Super

## By the numbers

# 85.5

Philip Rivers' quarterback rating last season with the Chargers. It was his lowest since 2007. His 20 interceptions were tied for the second-most of his career.

SOURCE: Associated Press

Bowl appearances, the Colts asked Rivers to make some changes.

"He's had to buy into some things that we do here nutritionally and workout wise that he's never had to experience before," Ballard said last week. "It's just different for him, but he bought into it."

There will be more changes on the field and in the locker room, too.

The COVID-19 pandemic reduced the offseason workout routines between Rivers and his new receivers — second-round draft pick Michael Pittman Jr., veterans Parris Campbell and Zach Pascal and Pro Bowler T.Y. Hilton, who went on the active/non-football injury list Sunday with an injured hamstring.

The Zoom calls Indy used, in part, to help offensive players get accustomed to Rivers' voice and cadence seems to have worked. Rivers credits those sessions for no false starts on the first day of walkthroughs.

One other thing is clear: Rivers' new fashion statement is already a big hit.

"As old as Philip is, he's youthful in terms of his energy," left tackle Anthony Castonzo said. "Just being around him in the locker room and hearing him talk and the messages he gives, he's got that kiddish excitement."

# Dolphins believe Howard, Breida represent upgrade at RB

By STEVEN WINE  
Associated Press

MIAMI — With two new running backs, the Miami Dolphins' ground game will look a lot different in 2020, and that's good.

"There aren't a whole lot of things that we can be certain of this year," quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick said, "but I would put a lot of money on me not being the leading rusher."

He was last year. The achievement was a testament to the 37-year-old Fitzpatrick's pluck, but also a reflection of the dismal productivity by Miami's running backs.

The Dolphins believe veteran newcomers Jordan Howard and Matt Breida represent a significant upgrade at the position, providing more punch and versatility for an offense that last year averaged 72 yards rushing per game, worst in the NFL since 2006.

"We brought in some dynamic talent, and guys that are hungry," Fitzpatrick said.

Last year the Dolphins went 5-11, and their running backs averaged less than 3 yards per carry. Kalen Ballage led the team with 74 carries but averaged 1.8 yards,



AP photos

The Miami Dolphins believe veteran newcomers Matt Breida, left, and Jordan Howard, right, represent a significant upgrade at the running back position after the team averaged just 72 yards rushing per game last season, worst in the NFL since 2006.

the lowest figure for a running back with at least 70 carries since 1936.

Fitzpatrick bested any of the running backs with 243 yards and a 4.5 average. Breida smiled Wednesday when asked about Fitzpatrick's odd

accomplishment.

"At first I thought it wasn't true," Breida said. "Me and Fitz talked about that the other day. I just told him, 'You can still run, Fitz. You're going to have to give me a run for my money this year.'"

**"We brought in some dynamic talent, and guys that are hungry."**

Ryan Fitzpatrick

Miami Dolphins quarterback, on the team's new additions at running back

The Dolphins hope not; they would prefer Breida and Howard do the bulk of the ball carrying. The duo will run behind a line that should be more formidable after Miami added tackle Austin Jackson and guard Robert Hunt in the first two rounds of the draft.

A better ground game may be a necessity. Two of the Dolphins' top five receivers, Albert Wilson and Allen Hurns, this week opted out of the season because of the coronavirus.

Howard, a power runner, signed as a free agent in March. Breida, a speedy breakout threat, was acquired in April from the San Francisco 49ers for a fifth-round draft pick.

They're expected to share playing time under new offensive coordinator Chan Gailey, who has a long history of success in the ground game.

"I know he has big plans for

the running backs and how he is going to use us," Breida said.

Those plans likely include getting Breida into space. He averaged 5.0 yards per carry in three seasons with the 49ers, and last year 15% of his runs went for at least 10 yards, best in the league.

The native of Brandon, Fla., considers himself the NFL's fastest player.

"I got a Lamborghini not too long ago," he said. "I like doing everything fast."

Breida helped the 49ers reach the Super Bowl last season, but Howard has appeared in only one playoff game in his four NFL seasons.

"I definitely feel overlooked," Howard said. "When I was racking up a lot of those yards, I was on a losing team, so people don't really pay attention to that, and I don't really blame them."



## SPORTS

**Buc's big responsibility**

Rookie Wirfs expected to be key protector for Brady » **NFL, Page 54**

**VIRUS OUTBREAK**

# Making the tough calls

Signs ominous and hopeful as college sports hang in the balance

By RALPH D. RUSSO  
Associated Press

The announcements came within 40 minutes of each other Wednesday morning, one bleak, the other providing a glimmer of hope for a college football season that is looking iffy at best right now.

First, Connecticut canceled what was supposed to be its first season as a major college football independent because it could not endure the strains of the coronavirus pandemic.

Then the Big Ten unveiled the conference-only schedule it devised to withstand COVID-19 disruptions, with football games slated to kick off in a month.

Those two decisions epitomized the current state of college sports and help explain why the NCAA Board of Governors on Wednesday directed each division of the association to decide independently by Aug. 21 whether it will be able to safely conduct championship events in fall

sports such as soccer and lower-division football.

NCAA President Mark Emmert told The Associated Press that whether college sports, and more specifically major college football, can play through the pandemic is likely to be determined not by the association or even conferences.

"It's actually going to have to be each institution," Emmert said.

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**A Connecticut football helmet sits on the sideline during a game in East Hartford, Conn., in 2017. UConn on Wednesday canceled its 2020-2021 football season, becoming the first FBS program to suspend football because of the coronavirus pandemic.**

AP