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STARS AND STRIPES

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WINIFRED BROWN/U.S. Army

Col. Varman Chhoeung, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Presidio in Monterey, Calif., speaks with Zane Whetstone, who is moving to Japan with his family, as movers pack up his household goods in Pebble Beach, Calif., on July 16.

Smooth moves

US firm wins \$6.2B contract to handle all shipments of military household goods

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

The Defense Department on Thursday awarded a \$6.2 billion contract to a Houston-based firm for managing the movement and storage of household goods for members of the military, Coast Guard and federal workforce.

HomeSafe Alliance LLC will provide “complete door-to-door” transportation of household goods, the U.S. Transportation Command said in a news release.

It represents the first time a single firm has handled household goods moves.

The contract runs Dec. 1 to Aug. 31, 2025. The earliest any moves will take place under

HANDLE WITH CARE?

Thursday’s contract represents the first time a single firm has handled the roughly 325,000 annual shipments of military household goods. The change comes after complaints by military families about delays in pickups and deliveries of goods and damage to items during transportation. A 2020 Inspector General report found that a fifth of such shipments in 2018 had at least one damage claim.

the new contract would be late 2022, according to the release.

HomeSafe won the contract after disputing the original April 2020 award to American

Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier Group. HomeSafe and another bidder, Connected Global Solutions LLC, appealed to the Government Accountability Office, which sustained their protest in October 2020.

The command and HomeSafe will integrate their information technology systems and processes as part of the changeover for the roughly 325,000 annual shipments of household goods.

The selection of a single company to handle movement of all goods is intended to streamline a system that uses more than 900 commer-

SEE SMOOTH ON PAGE 7

Nuclear sub leaders fired after probe

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

The Navy fired the USS Connecticut’s top officers and enlisted sailor on Thursday, days after an investigation found the nuclear-powered submarine was damaged last month when it struck an uncharted undersea mountain, according to the service.

Navy Vice Adm. Karl Thomas, the commander of the 7th Fleet, relieved Cmdr. Cameron Aljilani of his command of the submarine and removed Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Cashin and Master Chief Petty Officer Cory Rodgers from their duties as the vessel’s executive officer and chief, respectively, according to a Navy statement. Thomas cited a “loss of confidence” in their leadership after an investigation into the Oct. 2 incident in which the fast-attack submarine was damaged when it struck the mountain, the Japan-based 7th Fleet said.

Thomas’ investigation, which had not been made public as of Thursday, appeared to find the collision was avoidable, according to the statement. The admiral “determined sound judgment, prudent decision-making and adherence to required procedures in navigation planning, watch-team

SEE FIRED ON PAGE 3



THIEP VAN NGUYEN II/AP

The nuclear-powered submarine USS Connecticut struck an uncharted undersea mountain in the South China Sea on Oct. 2.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

China exports steady; trade surplus tops \$80B

Associated Press

BEIJING — China's exports remained strong in October, a positive sign for an economy trying to weather power shortages and COVID-19 outbreaks.

The country's customs agency said Sunday that exports totaled \$300.2 billion, up 27.1% from a year ago. That was down from a 28.1% increase in September, but still healthy. Imports came in at \$215.7 billion, a 20.6% rise.

Exports and imports are much higher than a year ago, when

much of the world was in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is widespread concern that economic headwinds are slowing growth. The world's second-largest economy grew 4.9% in the three months ending in September, down from 7.9% in the previous quarter.

China's trade surplus in October was \$84.5 billion, up from \$66.8 billion the previous month, the customs agency said. The surplus with the United States was down slightly to \$40.7 billion,

compared to \$42 billion in September. With the European Union, it was \$25.9 billion.

China and the U.S. are mired in a trade war that dates from the administration of former President Donald Trump. The U.S. imposed tariffs on Chinese products, and China retaliated with tariffs on American ones. U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said last month that she planned frank talks with her Chinese counterparts over their differences.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		South Korea (Won)	
Euro costs (Nov. 8)	\$1.13		1,183.43
Dollar buys (Nov. 8)	0.8452	Switzerland (Franc)	.9126
British pound (Nov. 8)	\$1.31	Thailand (Baht)	33.16
Japanese yen (Nov. 8)	111.00	Turkey (New Lira)	9.6969
South Korean won (Nov. 8)	1,155.00		

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

Commercial rates		INTEREST RATES	
Bahrain (Dinar)	.3770	Prime rate	3.25
Britain (Pound)	1.3482	Interest Rates Discount rate	0.75
Canada (Dollar)	1.2458	Federal funds market rate	0.09
China (Yuan)	6.3989	3-month bill	0.05
Denmark (Krone)	6.4394	30-year bond	1.88
Egypt (Pound)	15.7011		
Euro	.8658		
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7845		
Hungary (Forint)	310.66		
Israel (Shekel)	3.1097		
Japan (Yen)	113.40		
Kuwait (Dinar)	.3019		
Norway (Krone)	8.5683		
Philippines (Peso)	50.21		
Poland (Zloty)	3.98		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7509		
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3509		

WEATHER OUTLOOK



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

Yokosuka adds 3rd floating barracks

By ALEX WILSON

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy's newest berthing barge arrived recently at the home of the U.S. 7th Fleet to ease a shortage of living space for sailors whose ships are undergoing long-term maintenance.

Officially called an Auxiliary Personnel Lighter, but more commonly referred to as a "barracks ship" or "berthing barge," APL 67 is meant to provide housing for sailors whose ships are dry-docked or otherwise unavailable.

The 269-foot-long vessel can accommodate 609 sailors: 537 enlisted sailors, 44 chief petty officers and 28 officers.

By mooring the barge near the vessel it supports, the ship's crew has a place to live close enough to respond to emergencies, said April Bairdain, a supervisor with U.S. Naval Ship Repair Facility and Japan Regional Maintenance Center.

"The ready response teams and duty sections live onboard here," she told Stars and Stripes on Tuesday. "Also, if we have geo-bachelors who don't have housing on the base and habitability has been affected by [ship maintenance], then they have to live onboard the barge also."

No one lives aboard the new barge just yet. It's moored in a dry dock while undergoing final preparations but should be in service by the end of December, Bairdain said.

But the barge offers more than just a place to sleep. It also provides a variety of amenities, including classrooms, mess halls, a convenience store, a barbershop, a clinic and a small gym.

Built for approximately \$40 million by VT Halter Marine in Pascagoula, Miss., the barge arrived in Yokosuka on Oct. 19. With no means of propulsion, it was hauled by tugboats first to San Diego in July, then for 36 days across the Pacific Ocean.

The barge provides more space and amenities than the average warship, but its living spaces are still cramped and crowded. For example, compartments for enlisted sailors hold between 15 and 24 beds, with one or two bathrooms for each compartment de-



PHOTOS BY DANIEL BETANCOURT/Stars and Stripes

Auxiliary Personnel Lighter 67, a berthing barge that arrived recently at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, is meant to provide housing for sailors whose ships are dry-docked or otherwise unavailable.



Auxiliary Personnel Lighter 67, a 269-foot-long berthing barge that recently arrived at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, can accommodate 609 sailors.

pending on its size.

Sailors can expect to live aboard the barge four to nine

months at a time, depending on their ship's maintenance schedule, Bairdain said.

APL 67 joins two other berthing barges in Yokosuka, YRB 30 and APL 40, both of which were built

in 1945. Despite their age, they are expected to be in service another 10 years, Bairdain said.

So many ships are undergoing maintenance at one time at Yokosuka that the two available live-aboard barges were overcrowded, she said. At one point, four ships' crews were berthed aboard APL 40.

"It was tough," until Pacific Fleet approved another barge, Bairdain said.

Even with a new barge, Bairdain said, sailors still have a limited amount of living space available while their ship is dry-docked. She said the new barge could house two or three crews at a time, depending on the circumstances.

Naval Base Sasebo, in southern Japan, will also receive a new berthing barge, although its expected delivery is still three years out, Bairdain said.

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Fired: The Connecticut will head to Washington for continued repairs

FROM PAGE 1

execution and risk management could have prevented the incident," the statement reads.

Navy officials have provided few details about the underwater collision, in which the service initially said the submarine struck an

"unidentified object" in Indo-Pacific waters. A service official last month said about a dozen sailors aboard suffered minor injuries, from which they were expected to fully recover. U.S. Naval Institute News reported the collision occurred in the South China Sea.

After the collision, the Connec-

ticut traveled to Guam for damage assessment and initial repairs, defense officials said. It remains in Guam and will eventually travel to its homeport at Naval Base Kitsap-Bremerton, Wash., for further repair, according to the statement on Thursday.

Navy Capt. John Witte will soon

assume interim command of the submarine, the Navy said. Cmdr. Joe Sammur will assume duties as interim executive officer and Command Master Chief Petty Officer Paul Walters will assume duties as interim boat chief, the service said.

The Connecticut is one of three

of the Navy's Seawolf-class nuclear attack subs, which date back to the Cold War era. It had been deployed in the Indo-Pacific region since late May, according to the Navy.

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MILITARY

Woman admits to killing 3-year-old son of US soldier

By DAVID CHOI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — A Filipina bartender said in court Friday that she killed the 3-year-old boy left in her care by a U.S. soldier in September.

Jamaica Eblacas, 30, at her first appearance at the Pyeongtaek branch of Suwon District Court, told a judge that she killed Noa Calhoun, 3, the son of Army Pvt. James and Kourtney Calhoun.

Chief Judge Kim Seyong, part of a three-judge panel, asked Eblacas if she had killed the child. She replied that she had.

The Calhouns were present in court, both of them in black, civilian attire. James Calhoun is assigned to the 61st Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Company at nearby Camp Humphreys.

Authorities charged Eblacas, a local bartender, with murder in conjunction with child abuse, a crime that carries a minimum sentence of three years in prison and a maximum penalty of death.

The judge ordered a psychiatric evaluation for Eblacas before an evidentiary hearing to be scheduled later this month.

According to police, James Calhoun left Noa and his 7-year-old brother in Eblacas' care in Pyeongtaek City the night of Sept. 5. Calhoun expected to pick his children up the next morning, he told Stars and Stripes in September.

Later that night, however, police responded to a disturbance call and discovered the boy's bruised body in a home near the bar where Eblacas worked.

Investigators told Stars and Stripes that the Calhouns' older son was found outside the home crying and telling neighbors, "My

younger brother appears dead."

Around the same time, police responded to a separate call of an incoherent woman, whom police later identified as Eblacas, wandering the streets nearby for about 40 minutes.

Chief Judge Kim Seyong addressed the Calhoun family prior to Friday's hearing.

"As a representative of the judge panel, I express our condolences to you," he said. "We hope your [other son] can overcome shock and pain and grow healthy and warmly."

Kim said he would deny any motion by Eblacas for a jury trial, saying it would be "inappropriate for her ... considering the nature of the case."

Eblacas appeared to have difficulty understanding the questions posed to her in English through a translator during the hearing. She provided several responses that prompted the translator and the judge, who spoke Korean, to repeat their questions.

Eblacas grew visibly emotional after admitting the charges. Asked by Kim if she had a message for the Calhouns, she did not reply.

"She doesn't deserve to have emotions right now," Kourtney Calhoun told Stars and Stripes after the hearing. "She deserves to pay for what she did."

Eighth Army and the 2nd Infantry Division, in an email to Stars and Stripes in September, described the incident as a "terrible tragedy" and said they "will do everything possible to care for the family in this time of profound grief and loss."

Stars and Stripes reporter Yoo Kyong Chang contributed to this report.
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ALEX WILSON/Stars and Stripes

Bar 894 Base near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, is off-limits until further notice because of multiple curfew violations, base commander Capt. Rich Jarrett said Thursday.

Curfew-busting drinkers put Yokosuka city bar off-limits to US troops in Japan

By ALEX WILSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The base commander has placed a local bar off-limits to uniformed service members following several occasions where Navy shore patrol found troops drinking there after curfew.

Bar 894 Base, in the Wakamatsucho district of Yokosuka City, is off-limits until further notice, base commander Capt. Rich Jarrett announced on Thursday.

Citing "reports and evidence of illicit activities," Jarrett said the bar "constitutes an imminent and substantial risk of harm" to service members.

Active-duty U.S. military personnel are prohibited from consuming alcohol in public off base between midnight and 5 a.m., ac-

ording to the U.S. Forces Japan liberty order. The ban on Bar 894 is limited to uniformed personnel only, but Jarrett encouraged civilians and contractors affiliated with the Navy to also avoid the establishment.

A Bar 894 manager declined to comment Thursday to Stars and Stripes.

The ban was also posted to the base's official Facebook page, where it garnered nearly 40 comments as of Friday afternoon.

One commenter alleged that the bar was closing and locking its doors to hide sailors from shore patrol. Base spokesman Randall Baucom said Friday that he could not comment on those allegations. He said the "illicit activities" Jarrett cited refer specifically to finding sailors inside past curfew.

Baucom said base representatives have met with bar owners to discuss limitations placed on sailors.

"We make a concerted effort to ensure that if there are questions about what the rules are and how they apply, that we have avenues which they can approach us with any questions — through our legal office, or base security or our military liaison," he said.

Bar 894 joins six other establishments deemed off-limits to service members in the region. In Tokyo, that list includes The Night Club, Empire Lounge Bar and Vibrations Bar. In Yokosuka, Mona's Bar, Manila Vibe and Sasha Latin Resto Bar are prohibited.

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USS Antietam sailors recover dead body from Tokyo Bay near Yokosuka

By ALEX WILSON
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The crew of a U.S. Navy guided-missile cruiser recovered a body last week while the ship was in Tokyo Bay.

The USS Antietam was anchored near Yokosuka on Oct. 28 when its crew spotted a person in the water around 7 p.m., according to an email Thursday from Task Force 70 spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Keiley.

The individual was clearly deceased when pulled from the bay, a spokesman for Japan's 3rd Regional Coast Guard Headquarters told Stars and Stripes on Friday. Government officials in Japan typically speak to the media on condition of anonymity as a condition of their employment.

The Antietam sailors carried the body to shore via a rigid inflatable boat, Keiley said.

He said the person was neither an American citizen nor an

individual under the status of forces agreement that applies to people in Japan with the U.S. military. Keiley said he had no other information to provide.

The coast guard spokesman said the body has been identified, but he declined to identify the person or provide further details. He said no foul play is suspected in the death.

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RYRE ARCIAGA/U.S. Navy

The USS Antietam steams past the USS Shiloh as the Shiloh's sailors salute the missile cruiser in the Philippine Sea on March 9, 2020.

PACIFIC

USFK lifts limits; travel on peninsula OK

By DAVID CHOI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — Americans affiliated with the U.S. military in South Korea were free to move about the country as of Friday, when U.S. Forces Korea lifted its coronavirus travel restrictions.

USFK, the command responsible for roughly 28,500 American troops on the peninsula, said in a news release its troops and other personnel are no longer subject to travel restrictions meant to curb the spread of COVID-19, the coronavirus respiratory disease.

Looser restrictions for U.S. personnel, including Defense Department civilian employees, contractors and family members, “better align with the [South Korean] gov-

ernment’s ‘Living with COVID-19’ initiatives,” according to USFK.

The U.S. military population has lived with some form of travel restriction since the early days of the pandemic. At first, individual installations were locked down as cases erupted. Widespread curbs on travel and other activities became the norm and were imposed, eased and reimposed as the pandemic ebbed and flowed.

Since August, the U.S. military has prohibited or discouraged its population from visiting districts in South Korea that confirmed 50 or more COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people over seven days.

USFK will continue to update its COVID-19 hotspot map but travel restrictions for those areas no longer apply. The U.S. military

population is expected to adhere to local restrictions, however, and unvaccinated personnel are still prohibited from entering saunas, bathhouses, karaoke bars and adults-only businesses.

Individual commanders may be “more restrictive” in imposing additional social distancing measures at their discretion, according to USFK.

“We’re getting close to the end of the pandemic, that’s for sure,” USFK’s command surgeon, Army Col. Douglas Lougee, told Armed Forces Network Pacific on Oct. 22.

The South Korean government on Monday announced it would loosen its social distancing measures due to the “public fatigue” from nearly two years of mitigating the coronavirus.

Over 76% of South Koreans felt a new social-distancing policy was called for due to the country’s vigilant response to the pandemic, according to a recent survey from Seoul National University.

Despite some setbacks in vaccinating its population, South Korea has been lauded for its COVID-19 response and enforcing mitigation measures earlier during the pandemic.

The plan announced Monday by the Ministry of Health and Welfare will relax restrictions in several steps and evaluate its efficacy over a span of two weeks. Each step would ease restrictions for business hours, curfews and group gatherings.

The ministry described its plan as “the road map for gradual re-

turn to normal,” with the goal of becoming “the better Korea.”

“Today is a day we take the first step toward a gradual return to normal life,” Health Minister Kwon Deok-cheol said during a public briefing earlier this week. “We have gone through so many great and small crises.”

The country reported 2,344 new COVID-19 infections Friday, down from the record-high of 3,273 daily cases in September, but higher than the weekly average of 2,133 cases.

Over 76% of South Koreans were fully vaccinated as of Friday, and at least 80% had received the first dose of a vaccine.

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Marine family brings Eagle Scout projects to Okinawa

By FRANK ANDREWS
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Two teenagers with the Boy Scouts of America on Okinawa grew a food garden and built a haven for children affected by domestic violence at a nonprofit community center run by a retired Marine and his wife.

Life Scouts Nijrell Jackson, 15, and Leila Jackson, 13, recently completed the projects as part of their Eagle Scout journey. To achieve the organization’s highest rank, they must complete a meaningful service project for their schools, religious institutions or communities.

Nijrell and Leila continue a Scouting legacy begun by their father, Gunnery Sgt. Earl Jackson, a senior noncommissioned officer for an ammunition company at 3rd Supply Battalion on Camp Schwab. He became a Bear Scout at age 9. Today, on his second tour on the island, he’s a district chairman, adviser and a leader for Scouts ages 14 to 21.

The siblings volunteered their time to Help Oki, a community center in Misato founded 10 years ago by Chris Nesbitt, a retired Marine from New Jersey, and his wife, Yuko. The center has a pantry, a large thrift store and a small room that provides shelter for women fleeing domestic violence.

Nijrell turned an empty space at the center into a garden with rows of sweet corn, carrots, daikon, radishes, cucumbers, melons and spinach.

“The whole garden was covered in weeds,” he told Stars and Stripes while working in the garden on a recent Saturday morning. “The first weekend we cut the weeds. I wanted to do a construction project for my Eagle Scout project, and this is something that

I thought would be a good idea for the Help Oki community center.”

Leila saw a need to help families coping with domestic violence find a place that sheltered children along with women. Nesbitt said many Okinawa shelters won’t accept clients if they arrive with kids older than 13.

Leila discussed several projects — a table or staircase for the center — but settled on turning a room within Help Oki into a place where anyone caught in an unsafe home environment can stay overnight.

“Building a staircase doesn’t have much impact on people,” she said. “A room can help people a lot more than a staircase, or a table, so I thought it would help a lot of people.”

Earl Jackson, his wife, Maria Jackson, and their children arrived on Okinawa in March 2020. Their involvement in Scouting goes back several years.

The family was active in the Boy Scouts’ California Inland Empire Council where Leila became a Cub Scout in 2016. In August 2018, Boy Scouts of America — also known as Scouts BSA — opened its ranks to young women.

Earl Jackson connected with Nesbitt at a meeting of Japanese and American Scout supporters in June 2021 where he came to seek help for the center.

“We do a lot of food drives,” Nesbitt said. “We ask BSA or military if anybody would like to drop off food during our normal working hours of operations, that would be greatly appreciated.”

Nijrell first showed interest in a project at Help Oki, and encouraged Leila to find an opportunity there, too.

“She said I would love to do that for the domestic violence haven room,” Earl Jackson said. “They



PHOTOS BY FRANK ANDREWS/Stars and Stripes

For his Eagle Scout project, Nijrell Jackson turned an empty space at an Okinawa community center into a garden with rows of sweet corn, carrots, daikon, radishes, cucumbers, melons and spinach.



Eagle Scout hopefuls Leila and Nijrell Jackson pose outside the Help Oki community center with their father, Gunnery Sgt. Earl Jackson, a district chairman, adviser and a Scout leader.

got in contact with Chris, and they have been working on the projects for the last three months.”

Although an increasing number of young women are becoming

Eagle Scouts, it’s an achievement that still earns local headlines.

“I know it will help my future a lot,” Leila said. “I know that not a lot of people have gotten Eagle



For her Eagle Scout project, Leila Jackson decided to help Okinawa families coping with domestic violence find a place that sheltered children along with women.

Scout before, so I think it’s an honor to get something very rare.”

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MILITARY

N. Korea stages artillery drill in weapons testing

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea has conducted artillery firing exercises to bolster its defense capability, state media reported Sunday, its latest weapons test as Pyongyang continues to pressure Washington and Seoul to abandon what it calls their hostile policy.

An artillery firing competition among mechanized units was held on Saturday, with senior government and military officials present, the official Korean Central News Agency reported.

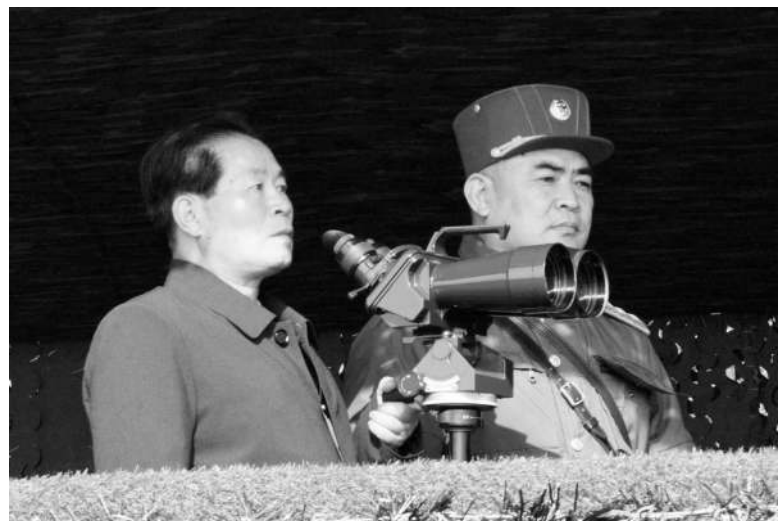
Leader Kim Jong Un was not mentioned in the report, suggesting he did not observe the training. He supervised a similar artillery firing drill last year.

This year's drills were designed to inspect the mechanized units' progress in their mobile combat capabilities and to further intensify

competitive training throughout the North's military, KCNA said.

Since September, North Korea has test-launched a series of newly developed missiles, including nuclear-capable weapons that place U.S. allies South Korea and Japan within striking distance. Some experts say North Korea wants its rivals to accept it as a nuclear power state and work to ease international sanctions on the country.

The North's artillery tests draw less outside attention than its missile tests, particularly ballistic weapons launches that are banned by multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions. But its long-range artillery pieces deployed near the border with South Korea pose a serious threat to the South's populous metropolitan region and other areas, experts say.



KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, KOREA NEWS/AP

North Korean senior official Pak Jong Chon, left, inspects the army's artillery firing competition Saturday, in an undisclosed location in North Korea.

Consulate to host virtual chat for US in Germany

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt is holding an hourlong virtual information session Monday for veterans, military families and all interested Americans living in Germany.

The event will run from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and provide information on the resources available to U.S. citizens at the consulate as well as from the federal benefits unit.

That unit provides services from the Social Security Administration, the Department of Veter-

ans Affairs, the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Labor and Medicare, among others.

This is a chance for Americans to hear directly from U.S. consular officers, ask questions and connect with staffers in the American citizen services unit, according to event organizers.

To join the zoom meeting, enter 879 416 7658 for the meeting ID, and Y3LHPY for the passcode.

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IRANIAN ARMY/AP

Troops attend a maneuver in a coastal area in southeastern Iran, on Saturday.

Iran begins annual war games ahead of nuke talks with West

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's military began its annual war games in a coastal area of the Gulf of Oman, state TV reported Sunday, less than a month before upcoming nuclear talks with the West.

The report said navy and air force units, as well as ground forces, were participating in a more than 386,100 square-mile area east of the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

Nearly 20% of all oil shipping passes through the strait to the Gulf of Oman and Indian Ocean.

The drill comes amid heightened tensions between Iran and the U.S. in the wake of former President Donald Trump's unilateral withdrawal of America from Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

State TV said brigades including commandos and airborne infantry deployed for the annual exercise. Fighter jets, helicopters, military transport aircraft, submarines and drones were also expected to take part in the drill. It wasn't immediately clear how long the exercise would last.

Dubbed "Zolfaghar-1400," the war games are aimed at "improving readiness in confronting foreign threats and any possible invasion," state TV said.

The nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA, promises Iran economic incentives in exchange for limits on its nuclear program, and is meant to prevent Tehran from developing a nuclear bomb.

After the U.S. withdrew from the

deal in 2018 and restored sanctions on Iran, the Islamic Republic gradually — and publicly — abandoned the deal's limits on its nuclear development.

Iran says its stockpile of 20% enriched uranium has reached over 463 pounds, the latest defiant move ahead of upcoming nuclear talks with the West.

Under the historic nuclear deal, Iran was prohibited from enriching uranium above 3.67%. Enriched uranium above 90% can be used for nuclear weapons, though Tehran insists its nuclear program is peaceful.

After months of delays, the European Union, Iran and the U.S. announced last week that indirect talks to resuscitate the deal would resume Nov. 29 in Vienna.

Afghanistan begins polio vaccine push

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — The Taliban-run Afghan public health ministry announced Sunday the start of a four-day nationwide polio vaccination campaign aimed at inoculating children under age 5.

For the past three years before taking control of Afghanistan, the Taliban had barred U.N.-organized vaccination teams from doing door-to-door campaigns in parts of the country under their control. The group apparently was suspicious the team members could be spies for the previous government or the West.

Because of the ban and ongoing fighting, some 3.3 million children over the past three years have not been vaccinated.

"Without any doubt polio is a disease that without treatment will either kill our children or

cause them with permanent disability, so in this case the only way is to implement the vaccination," said Dr. Qalandar Ebad, the Taliban's acting public health minister.

Afghanistan and neighboring Pakistan are the only countries in the world where polio remains endemic and the disease can cause partial paralysis in children. Since 2010, the country has been carrying out regular inoculation campaigns in which workers go door to door, giving the vaccine to children. Most of the workers are women, since they can get better access to mothers and children.

The four-day campaign will start Monday and take place countrywide, Ebad said. The estimated target population is Afghanistan's 10 million children under age 5, including the more than 3.3 million

who could not be reached since 2018.

"Vaccination of (children) less than five years of age in the country during the national immunization days is a gigantic task. It is not possible for the ministry of public health alone to complete this task successfully, so we need the support of all lined departments," said Nek Wali Shah Momin, a health ministry official in the polio eradication department.

The Taliban's reported endorsement of the campaign appeared aimed at showing the international community they are willing to cooperate with international agencies. The longtime militant insurgent force has been trying to win the world's recognition of its new government and re-open the door for international aid to rescue the crumbling economy.

MILITARY

Navy launches ship named for gay rights leader

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A Navy ship named for slain gay rights leader Harvey Milk, who served four years in the Navy before being forced out, was christened and launched in San Diego Bay on Saturday.

The replenishment oiler USNS Harvey Milk slid down the shipyard ways after a bottle of champagne was smashed on the bow by former Navy officer Paula M. Neira, clinical program director for the John Hopkins Center for Transgender Health.

Milk's nephew, Stuart Milk, and Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro watched the traditional ceremony.

"The secretary of the Navy needed to be here today, not just to amend the wrongs of the past, but to give inspiration to all of our LGBTQ community leaders who served in the Navy, in uniform today and in the civilian workforce as well too, and to tell them that we're committed to them in the future," Del Toro said.

Del Toro said that, like many others, Milk had to "mask that very important part of his life" while he served in the Navy.

"For far too long, sailors like Lt. Milk were forced into the shadows or, worse yet, forced out of our beloved Navy," Del Toro said. "That injustice is part of our Navy history, but so is the perseverance of all who continue to serve in the face of injustice."

Milk was one of the first openly



ALEX GALLARDO/AP

U.S. Navy shipman Aaron Henderson looks over at the USNS Harvey Milk prior to the ship's launching in San Diego on Saturday.

gay candidates elected to public office. He was serving on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1978 when a former political colleague, Dan White, assassinated him and Mayor George Moscone at City Hall.

In 2016, then-Navy Secretary Ray Mabus decided that six new oilers scheduled to be built would be named after civil and human rights leaders. In addition to Milk, they include Sojourner Truth, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Robert F. Kennedy, suffragist Lucy Stone and Rep. John Lewis of Georgia.

Del Toro told Mabus, who attended the christening, that it was

a courageous decision.

"Ship names are important because they express what we value as a Navy and as a nation and communicate those values around the globe in every port of call," Del Toro said.

Stuart Milk, co-founder and president of the Harvey Milk

Foundation, thanked Mabus for providing the family details of his uncle's discharge from the Navy.

"He has a less-than-honorable discharge. He was forced to resign because he was gay," Stuart Milk said, adding that "we have to teach our history to prevent ourselves from going backwards and repeat-

ing it."

Although there is a process for reversing such discharges, he said it was important to not do that for his late uncle in order "to keep the memory of how we did not honor everyone in this very honorable service."

The naval tradition of having ship "sponsors" went to Neira and U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., who was unable to attend.

Feinstein was in San Francisco City Hall when Milk and Moscone were shot and then made the stunning announcement of their deaths. The ship "will carry a rich legacy of civic leadership," Feinstein said in a letter read at the ceremony.

"When the Harvey Milk sails, she will send a very strong message both domestically and around the globe to everybody that believes in freedom and justice and liberty, that there is a place for you in this family," said co-sponsor Neira.

General Dynamics NASSCO began construction of the six oilers in San Diego in 2018 under a \$3.2 billion Navy contract. The first ship in the class, the John Lewis, was christened this summer.

Smooth: DOD changes housing shipments after complaints from families

FROM PAGE 1

cial entities, the release said.

The change is driven by complaints by military families about delays in pickups and deliveries of goods and damage to items during transportation.

A 2020 analysis by the Department of Defense Inspector General found that a fifth of all domestic household goods shipments in 2018 had at least one damage claim. The analysis also concluded that the Transportation Command did not have reliable data to determine whether service members' goods were being delivered on time or in fit condition.

The switch to contracting a single manager for shipments is a key part of the command's reforms aimed at improving on those problems for the thousands of service members and Defense Department employees who relocate

each year, the news release said.

"The long-term stability and consistent business this contract presents will provide industry with the confidence and rationale to make lasting capital investments and relationships with trusted suppliers to meet DOD's demand," Air Force Col. Joel Sfranek, director of the Defense Personal Property Program, said in the release.

In October 2020, the GAO overturned the American Roll On Roll Off contract after concluding that the Transportation Command had "conducted misleading discussions with HomeSafe" and had inadequately evaluated the technical capabilities of the bidding firms, among other shortcomings in the bid evaluation process.

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VIRUS OUTBREAK

What is changing with travel to US

Associated Press

More than a year and a half after COVID-19 concerns prompted the U.S. to close its borders to international travelers from countries including Brazil, China, India, South Africa, the United Kingdom and much of Europe, restrictions are shifting to focus on vaccine status.

Beginning Monday, bans on travel from specific countries are over. The U.S. will allow in international travelers, but they must be vaccinated — with a few exceptions.

The U.S. is also reopening the land borders with Canada and Mexico for vaccinated people. Most trips from Canada and Mexico to the U.S. are by land rather than air.

Here are some questions and answers about the changes:

Why are these changes happening?

The goal is to restore more normal travel while limiting the spread of COVID-19, the government says. The travel industry and European allies have pushed for an end to country-specific bans. Americans have been allowed to fly to Europe for months, and Europeans have been pushing the U.S. to change its policies.

What are the main requirements?

All adult foreign nationals trav-

eling to the U.S. must be fully vaccinated before boarding their flight.

Like before, travelers will still have to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of departure to the U.S.

Everyone needs to be vaccinated?

Yes, with some exceptions. Children under 18 don't need to be vaccinated but they do need to take a COVID test. Kids 2 and younger are exempt from testing requirements.

What about adults who aren't vaccinated?

Since half the world remains unvaccinated, and vaccine distribution has been so skewed to rich countries, the Biden administration is leaving a loophole for people who live in countries where vaccines are scarce. That list includes about 50 countries where fewer than 10% of people have been vaccinated.

Travelers from those countries will need permission from the U.S. government to come, and it can't be just for tourism or business travel.

The U.S. government says it will permit unvaccinated international visitors to enter the country if there is a humanitarian or emergency reason, such as an emergency medical evacuation. Those



RICK BOWMER/AP

Passengers walk through Salt Lake City International Airport on Oct. 7, 2020, in Salt Lake City. Beginning Monday, bans on travel from specific countries are over. The U.S. will allow in international travelers, but they must be vaccinated — with a few exceptions.

exceptions will be applied “extremely narrowly” and require approval from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There could also be a medical exception, with documentation from a doctor.

What will Americans have to do?

Americans who are unvaccinated have to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test within one day of international travel.

If you're vaccinated, you need to take a test within three days of your departure, for both Americans and citizens of other countries.

Who is going to enforce the vaccine rules?

That's up to airlines. They will have to verify vaccine records and

match them against ID, and if they don't, they could face fines of up to nearly \$35,000 per violation. Airlines will also collect information about passengers for contact tracing efforts. There will be CDC workers spot-checking travelers for compliance in the U.S.

What if you drive in from Mexico or Canada, or take a ferry?

The land borders have only been open for “essential” travel. Now, anyone can come, if they're vaccinated against COVID. Be prepared to show proof of the shot to Customs and Border Protection agents.

How will this affect travel?

While the administration is characterizing this as a reopening, some people who were technically

allowed to fly to the U.S. earlier in the pandemic are now blocked because of their vaccination status. Other roadblocks to normal travel resuming are big delays in issuing U.S. visas, which people in most countries need to visit the U.S. for business and tourism, and restrictions in other countries that make travel difficult.

Which vaccines will let you in?

Most but not all of them. Any COVID-19 vaccine approved for emergency use by the World Health Organization, which include the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines used in the U.S. as well as most used overseas, such as AstraZeneca and China's Sinovac. Not currently allowed is Russia's Sputnik V vaccine, which is authorized in 70 countries.

Appeals court stays vaccine mandate on larger businesses

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A federal appeals court on Saturday temporarily halted the Biden administration's vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted an emergency stay of the requirement by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration that those workers be vaccinated by Jan. 4 or face mask requirements and weekly tests.

Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry said the action stops President Joe Biden “from mov-

ing forward with his unlawful overreach.”

The U.S. Labor Department's top legal adviser, Solicitor of Labor Seema Nanda, said the department is “confident in its legal authority to issue the emergency temporary standard on vaccination and testing.”

OSHA has the authority “to act quickly in an emergency where the agency finds that workers are subjected to a grave danger and a new standard is necessary to protect them,” she said.

A spokesman for the Justice Department, Anthony Coley, said in a statement: “The OSHA emer-

gency temporary standard is a critical tool to keep America's workplaces safe as we fight our way out of this pandemic. The Justice Department will vigorously defend this rule in court.”

Such circuit decisions normally apply to states within a district — Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, in this case — but Landry said the language employed by the judges gave the decision a national scope.

“This is a great victory for the American people out there. Never before has the federal government tried in a such a forceful way to get between the choices of an American citizen and their doc-

tor. To me that's the heart of the entire issue,” he said.

At least 27 states filed lawsuits challenging the rule in several circuits, some of which were made more conservative by the judicial appointments of President Donald Trump.

The Biden administration has been encouraging widespread vaccinations as the quickest way to end the pandemic that has claimed more than 750,000 lives in the United States.

The administration says it is confident that the requirement, which includes penalties of nearly \$14,000 per violation, will with-

stand legal challenges in part because its safety rules preempt state laws.

Lawrence Gostin, a professor at Georgetown University Law Center and director of the World Health Organization's center on global health law, said it was troubling that a federal appeals court would stop or delay safety rules in a health crisis, saying no one has a right to go into a workplace “unmasked, unvaxxed and untested.”

“Unelected judges that have no scientific experience shouldn't be second-guessing health and safety professionals at OSHA,” he said.

Arizona reports more than 3K COVID-19 cases for 3rd straight day

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona on Saturday reported more than 3,000 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases for the third straight day as virus-related hospitalizations reached their highest level since late September.

The state Department of Health Services'

coronavirus dashboard reported 3,592 additional cases and 60 deaths, increasing the state's pandemic totals to 1,186,477 cases and 21,408 deaths.

As of Friday, 1,904 COVID-19 patients occupied hospital inpatient beds, the most since 1,933 on Sept. 20.

Virus-related hospitalizations during this fall's surge peaked at 2,103 on Sept. 11. Hospitalizations then dropped to a low of 1,663 on Oct. 15 before starting to gradually rise again.

COVID-related emergency room visits on Friday totaled 1,623, the most since Sept. 29.

According to Johns Hopkins University da-

ta, the seven-day rolling average of daily new cases in Arizona rose over the past two weeks, increasing from 2,243.1 on Oct. 21 to 2,809.7 on Thursday.

The seven-day rolling average of daily deaths in Arizona dropped during the same period, decreasing from 47 to 36.00.

NATION



GABE CASEY/AP

This still image taken from a cellphone video, fans attending a performance by rapper Travis Scott, shout to people to “back up” during the Astroworld music festival Friday.

‘Stop the show!’: Houston concertgoers recall chaos

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Screaming. Suffocating. Panicked. Unconscious.

The concertgoers at a highly anticipated Houston music festival Friday night say they were shocked to witness how the rager brewed into fatal pandemonium that left at least eight people dead.

Rapper Travis Scott was the headliner for the sold-out Astroworld Festival in NRG Park, which was attended by an estimated 50,000 people.

Here, some of them describe the chaos they’re still trying to understand:

Ariel Little of New York was in the middle of the crowd in a prime viewing spot with her husband for only a brief minute before she started to struggle.

It was in trying to escape the increasingly packed venue that the couple realized how dangerous it was becoming.

Little’s voice quivered with emotion as she described how small she felt gasping for air as she was battered by the crowd.

“My chest is in so much pain from people pushing and crushing — literally crushing — my chest and in my lungs. And all I can remember is just screaming for him. ‘I gotta get out! I gotta get out!’ And people weren’t moving,” Little said. “They thought it was a joke but it was like literally people dying.”

Her husband, Shawn, surveyed the scene quickly to find a way out.

“There was a lot of people in my section that were kind of like

screaming and having panic attacks just because it felt almost as if you were under an elevator and the elevator was coming down on you and there was nothing you could do about it,” Shawn Little said. “No one in my section at the time was moving because I think everyone was just in shock of how crazy and how panicked that everyone was. There was a lot of fear in people’s eyes.”

Madeline Eskins is an intensive care unit nurse who said she was one of the festivalgoers who passed out as the mass of people pressed closer to the stage. She was taken to a slightly less crowded area for medical attention, where she woke up.

Eskins, 23, of Houston, said she then saw someone nearby who needed medical help, and she told them she was a nurse. When a security guard overheard her, he asked if she could start helping others, Eskins said.

“There was three people on the ground getting CPR and the most disorganized chaos that I have ever seen in my life,” Eskins said.

Eskins said she tried to guide medical staff and volunteers on how to use a defibrillator, and she also helped to check for pulses and do CPR compressions on several people.

“When the main performer came out — like Travis — people got, like, compressed cause they just wanted to see him,” said Sal Salinas. “It was like you were suffocated in there. If you weren’t on the side or anything, you were getting suffocated.”

Niaara Goods, 28, of New York,

said the crowd surged as a timer clicked down to the start of the performance.

“As soon as he jumped out on the stage, it was like an energy took over and everything went haywire. All of a sudden, your ribs are being crushed. You have someone’s arm in your neck. You’re trying to breathe, but you can’t,” said Goods, who traveled to Texas to see friends and to celebrate a birthday.

She said she and her friends, one of whom was punched on the head and jaw, were quickly separated from each other but all escaped. Goods said she was so desperate to get out that she bit a man on the shoulder to get him to move.

“Some people are laughing at us — those who are screaming to get out. Because they thought it was funny. They didn’t realize it was terror,” she said.

Later, after getting to safety, she saw the injured streaming to safety in gurneys or in wheelchairs.

“It was literally the scariest night of my life. I literally thought I was going to die trying to get out. That’s just not what you pay for,” she said.

Julian Ponce said there were signs of injuries but he didn’t realize there were deaths until he got home.

“It was kind of mind-blowing, like we kept hearing people say, ‘Stop the show. Stop the show,’ but we didn’t know what was going on. We heard somebody was bleeding. We heard a lot of stuff and we weren’t too sure,” Ponce said. “I don’t even know how to feel. It’s just breathtaking.”

Officials start probe of deadly surge at concert

By JUAN A. LOZANO
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Authorities said they would watch video, interview witnesses and review concert protocols to determine how eight people died at a Houston music festival when fans suddenly surged toward the stage to watch rapper Travis Scott.

City officials said Saturday that they were in the early stages of investigating the pandemonium that unfolded Friday evening at Astroworld, a sold-out, two-day event in NRG Park with an estimated 50,000 people in attendance. One attendee said that as a timer clicked down to the start of Scott’s performance, the crowd pushed forward.

“As soon as he jumped out on the stage, it was like an energy took over and everything went haywire,” concertgoer Niaara Goods said. “All of a sudden, your ribs are being crushed. You have someone’s arm in your neck. You’re trying to breathe, but you can’t.”

Goods said she was so desperate to get out that she bit a man on the shoulder to get him to move.

The dead ranged in age from 14 to 27, and 13 people were still hospitalized Saturday, Mayor Sylvester Turner said. He called the disaster “a tragedy on many different levels” and said it was too early to draw conclusions about what went wrong. Dozens were injured.

“It may well be that this tragedy is the result of unpredictable events, of circumstances coming together that couldn’t possibly have been avoided,” said Judge Lina Hidalgo, Harris County’s top elected official. “But until we determine that, I will ask the tough questions.”

Experts who have studied deaths caused by crowd surges say they are often a result of density — too many people packed into a small space. The crowd is often running either away from a perceived threat or toward something they want, such as a performer, before hitting a barrier.

G. Keith Still, a visiting professor of crowd science at the United Kingdom’s University of Suffolk, has testified as an expert witness in court cases involving crowds. He said he usually does not look at eyewitness reports in the early stages of analyzing an incident because emotions can cloud the picture, and witnesses can see only

what’s immediately around them.

Based on fire codes, the venue could have held 200,000 people, but city officials limited the attendance to 50,000, Houston Fire Chief Samuel Peña said.

“It was the crowd control at the point of the stage that was the issue, especially as the crowd began to surge toward the stage,” Peña said.

The deaths called to mind a 1979 concert by The Who where 11 people died as thousands of fans tried to get into Cincinnati’s Riverfront Coliseum. Other past crowd catastrophes include the deaths of 97 people in an overcrowded Hillsborough Stadium in 1989 in Sheffield, England, and numerous disasters connected with the annual hajj in Saudi Arabia.

People in the Houston crowd reported lots of pushing and shoving during the performances leading up to Scott’s set.

Then when Scott took the stage, the crowd seemed to rush to the front, trying to get closer to the stage, said Nick Johnson, a high school senior from the Houston suburb of Friendswood who was at the concert.

“Everyone was passing out around you, and everyone was trying to help each other. But you just couldn’t move. You couldn’t do anything. You can’t even pick your arms up,” Johnson said. “It just got worse and worse.”

Johnson said fans started to crush each other, and people started screaming. He said it felt like 100 degrees in the crowd.

Scott seemed to be aware that something was going on in the crowd, but he might not have understood the severity of the situation, Johnson said. A social media posting shows fans who appear to be dozens of rows from the stage chanting “stop the show” while Scott is performing. Another post shows two fans climbing a ladder aboard a platform and asking a cameraman to do something.

On video posted to social media, Scott could be seen stopping the concert at one point and asking for aid for someone in the audience: “Security, somebody help real quick.”

In a tweet posted Saturday, Scott said he was “absolutely devastated by what took place last night.” He pledged to work “together with the Houston community to heal and support the families in need.”

NATION

Newark drinking water will soon be lead free

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — On a recent sun-drenched morning, the staccato rhythms of a jackhammer ricocheted off buildings as a work crew dug into a Newark street to remove an aging pipe that carried water — and potentially a poison — to a small apartment building.

The new pipe is copper. The old one was lined with lead, which can be harmful to human health even at minute levels.

The water service line was one of more than 20,000 made with the toxic metal the city began replacing in 2019 amid public outrage over revelations about high lead levels in the tap water in schools and homes across the city.

Less than three years after the work began, the replacement project, initially projected to take up to 10 years, is nearly complete.

City residents who switched to bottled water during the crisis are breathing — and drinking — easier. Newark, once castigated and sued over its sluggish response to the problem, is being held up as a potential national model.

“I’m just happy that it’s happening and that it’s finally getting taken care of so we finally get to drink tap water again,” Newark resident Cesar Velarde said as he watched the crew work. “I have three cases of bottled water right now. I don’t drink faucet water no

more because of this.”

The pipe replacement project has been a vindication of sorts for Mayor Ras Baraka, who faced mounting public pressure in 2018 after the National Resources Defense Council, a nonprofit environmental advocacy group, sued, claiming New Jersey’s largest city had failed to adequately monitor lead levels and had downplayed the problem to residents.

Deteriorating lead-lined pipes, some a century old, are a problem in many older U.S. cities, a recent example being Benton Harbor, Michigan. But Newark’s replacement project proceeded faster than expected, thanks to an infusion of state and local funds and an amendment to state law to protect homeowners from having to bear the cost.

“I’ll feel better when we’re completely finished, but I’m excited that we’re at the end of this thing. It’ll be a huge milestone for us,” Baraka said last week.

Newark’s efforts led to the lawsuit being settled last January, and drew praise from the National Resources Defense Council.

“It’s a pretty significant turnaround from the early days when the city was denying they had a lead problem,” Erik Olson, NRDC senior strategic director for health, said. “We are pointing to it as a model for other cities to fol-



SETH WENIG/AP

Workmen prepare to replace older water pipes with a new copper one Oct. 21 in Newark, N.J.

low. They’re doing it much faster than other cities have even tried to do.”

The NRDC estimated recently that there are as many as 12 million lead service lines in the U.S. Nearly half of all states don’t even track the number of lead lines within their borders, they found.

Lead in drinking water has been linked to developmental delays in children and can damage the brain, red blood cells and kidneys.

The challenge of removing lead from drinking water in the U.S. came into sharp focus after the Flint, Mich., scandal in which city leaders switched water sources in 2014 to save money. That led to criminal charges, though many later were dropped, and a \$641 million settlement for the residents of the poor, majority Black city.

Several hundred lead lines re-

main to be replaced in Newark, many connected to buildings that were not accessible earlier in the project.

The process can take up to five hours, though many replacements take less time because they involve smaller pipes that can be pulled out and replaced by making a smaller cut in the curbside, said Mark Wleklik, foreperson for Underground Utilities, a company that has done thousands of pipe replacements in Newark.

More than 70% of Newark residents are renters, and many of the buildings are owned by limited-liability corporations based elsewhere that can be hard to track down, said Kareem Adeem, director of the city’s water and sewer department.

“It’s hard to chase an LLC down to Texas or Missouri or Louisiana or California,” Adeem said. “The renters always want the line to be

replaced, but they don’t own the property.”

That led the Newark City Council to pass an ordinance allowing tenants to provide access to buildings. An amendment to a state law paved the way for public money to be used for the replacements — which can cost thousands of dollars per home — and Newark was able to borrow \$120 million. All those efforts allowed the city of more than 310,000 people to accelerate its line replacements to as many as 120 per day.

The city also created a program that trained about 75 unemployed and underemployed residents to work on the line replacement crews, Adeem said.

Looking back, Baraka described the confrontation with the National Resources Defense Council as “tough, tense, with no love lost,” but he admitted learning some lessons.

90-year sentence tossed in 2019 Mardi Gras bicyclist deaths

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A Louisiana appeals court has thrown out the 90-year prison sentence for a drunken driver who struck nine bicycle riders near a Mardi Gras parade route in March 2019, killing two of them.

The state 4th Circuit Court of Appeals said the judge who sentenced Tashonty Toney failed to sufficiently spell out the reasons

for handing out the maximum sentences following Toney’s guilty plea. Therefore, the ruling said, appellate judges could not adequately review Toney’s argument that the total sentence was excessive.

The ruling, dated Wednesday, sent the case back to the criminal court in New Orleans for what the panel requested to be a “meaningful sentencing hearing.”

Blood tests showed Toney was

driving with a blood-alcohol level above .21% as he sped down New Orleans’ prominent Esplanade Avenue, which was bustling with auto, bicycle and pedestrian traffic after the popular parade of the Krewe of Endymion.

Driving at speeds reaching 80 mph, Toney veered at times into the bicycle lane, sending bicycles and their riders flying, court records show. Authorities said he

sideswiped other cars and eventually collided with another vehicle before coming to a stop in the median. He ran away but was followed and held by witnesses until police arrived, according to court records.

The two killed were Sharree Walls, 27, of New Orleans and David Hynes, 31, a Seattle man and Tulane Law School graduate who was visiting during Mardi Gras.

The two died not far from where the Endymion parade — an annual spectacle of huge, brightly lit floats and marching bands — had just passed.

Toney pleaded guilty in October 2019 to 16 criminal counts, including two counts of vehicular homicide, each of which carried a maximum 30-year sentence. His plea agreement did not include a sentencing agreement.

High wind delays the SpaceX crews homecoming after 6 months aloft

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — High wind off the Florida coast has prompted SpaceX to delay the return of four space station astronauts in orbit since spring.

The U.S., French and Japa-

nese astronauts were supposed to leave the International Space Station on Sunday, with their capsule splashing down in the Gulf of Mexico on Monday morning. But with gusts exceeding safety limits, SpaceX bumped the departure

to Monday afternoon, with a nighttime return to conclude their six-month mission.

SpaceX still is aiming for a Wednesday night launch, at the earliest, of their replacements. This flight also has been delayed by bad weather,

as well as an astronaut’s undisclosed medical issue. The issue, described as minor, should be resolved by launch time, officials said.

Last week, SpaceX and NASA flipped the order of the launch and landing because of

the deteriorating weather and the looming deadline to get the capsule back from the space station. SpaceX capsules are certified for a maximum 210 days in orbit, and the one up there now is approaching 200 days.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man burst into flames after Taser used on him

NY CATSKILL — An upstate New York man was in grave condition at a hospital after police used a Taser to subdue him and he burst into flames, authorities said.

The Times Union of Albany reported that a 29-year-old man walked into the Catskill village police department and got into a confrontation with officers. Chief Dave Darling confirmed to the newspaper that officers deployed a Taser to subdue the man, who had just doused himself with hand sanitizer, and the man then burst into flames.

Darling said the officers were familiar with the man from previous encounters.

"I think they were afraid he was going to hurt himself, and that's what started it," Darling said.

Police: Man convicted of providing illegal autopsies

KS ALMA — A Kansas man has been convicted of six counts related to illegally performing autopsies in Wabaunsee County, Kan., Attorney General Derek Schmidt said.

Shawn Parcels, 42, who lived in Leawood and Topeka, was convicted of three counts of felony theft and three misdemeanor counts of criminal desecration.

Parcels, a self-taught pathology assistant with no formal education, was convicted of unlawfully obtaining money from the county to perform three autopsies and of performing three autopsies without a pathologist, which violates state law.

Schmidt alleges in a lawsuit he filed in 2019 that Parcels duped at least 82 consumers.

Woman arrested in murder-for-hire plot

MS JACKSON — A central Mississippi woman has been arrested for her involvement in an attempted murder-for-hire plot.

Jessica Leeann Sledge, 39, of Pelahatchie, is charged with the use of interstate commerce facility in the commission of murder-for-hire, Acting U.S. Attorney Darren J. LaMarca announced in a press release.

Court documents allege that between September 2021 and Nov. 1, Sledge tried to hire a hitman on the internet with the intent to hire an assassin to murder someone in Mississippi. Unknown to Sledge, the "hitman" she hired to commit murder was an FBI Special Agent. The intended victim was unharmed.

Postal worker abducted over missing cocaine

RI PROVIDENCE — Four men face charges in Rhode Island after authorities



RANDY HOEFT, THE YUMA (ARIZ.) SUN/AP

Catching some rays on the river

A man and woman use plastic discs to help navigate the Colorado River during a float down Friday, in Yuma, Ariz.

said they kidnapped a postal worker who they mistakenly believed had stolen a shipment of their cocaine.

The Boston Globe reported the men were engaged in a scheme to ship drugs from Puerto Rico to Rhode Island and became convinced the mailman had stolen one of their packages. They held the man at gunpoint and forced him to take them to his home, but released him when they realized their error.

The incident was reported to police, who uncovered the larger plot to import drugs. Authorities arrested the men after intercepting three packages containing 3 kilograms of cocaine.

DA: Remains found belong to teen missing 40 years

MA BILLERICA — Human remains found in a Massachusetts river have been positively identified as those of a 17-year-old girl who went missing almost 40 years ago, authorities said.

The remains were confirmed as belonging to Judith Chartier through dental records, according to a statement from the office of Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan.

The remains were found in the Concord River in Billerica in 10 feet of water about 15 to 20 yards from shore, the day after pieces of the car Chartier was driving the night she disappeared were located in the water. Divers also found

THE CENSUS

9 The height in feet of a video game joystick made of wood, rubber and steel that made it into the Guinness World Records 2022. Dartmouth College professor Mary Flanagan created the giant controller — nearly 14 times the size of an original classic Atari controller — in 2006 to celebrate her childhood experience of "maniacally" playing Atari 2600 video games. It takes at least two people to operate the joystick and push the button to play classic Atari games such as "Centipede" and "Breakout."

clothing and Chartier's laminated work ID.

Chartier, who lived in Chelmsford, was last seen at around 2 a.m. on June 5, 1982, when she left a party in Billerica, authorities said.

The state medical examiner's office and a forensic anthropologist will now work with the district attorney's office to reconstruct the remains in an attempt to determine a cause of death, Ryan said.

Man shooting air rifle at squirrel injures driver

IA IOWA CITY — An Iowa City man shooting at a squirrel in his yard with an air rifle unintentionally shot and wounded a man from Missouri who was driving by at the time, law enforcement authorities said.

Philip Olson, 69, of Iowa City, turned himself in to police after hearing about the man being injured, Iowa City police and the Johnson County prosecutor's office said.

Olson said he was shooting at the squirrel from inside his home and missed.

Police found a 20-year-old man inside a vehicle that had crashed.

He appeared to be suffering from a gunshot wound to the head.

The man's family identified him as Gabriel Heefner, of Kirkwood, Mo., a lance corporal in the Marines, who was visiting his grandparents, The Cedar Rapids Gazette reported. Heefner was taken to a hospital and remained hospitalized Friday.

Cop hit by truck fleeing shoplifting, 3 arrested

CT NAUGATUCK — Three people have been arrested after a pickup truck fleeing a shoplifting incident struck and wounded a Connecticut police officer before leading authorities on a multi-town chase.

Naugatuck police said a local officer was directing traffic at a construction site on Route 63 when the truck sped up and struck him after he signaled it to stop. The officer, who managed to call for help on his radio, was hospitalized with two broken legs and will need surgery, authorities said.

The pickup had fled a shoplifting incident at a Walmart in Naugatuck, and another officer arrested one of the three people at the

scene, police said.

Officers chased the truck into Waterbury, Wolcott and back to Waterbury before stopping it in Middlebury, authorities said. During the pursuit, police said people in the truck threw out drugs, money and a pistol, all of which were recovered.

Hospital to pay off loans to entice nurses

MS GULFPORT — A Mississippi hospital looking to hire more nurses amid a nationwide nursing shortage is now offering to help pay off student loans of new hires.

The Sun-Herald reported that Memorial Hospital in Gulfport is offering to repay loans up to \$20,000 for inpatient nurses and registered nurses who work in long-term care facilities and sign a two-year contract. This is on top of incentives the hospital is already offering such as seasonal pay, more money per hour, and tuition reimbursement.

"As the preeminent health-care system for the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Memorial realizes that in order to recruit, retain and develop top talent, our health system must offer a competitive total rewards package in order to maintain our standing as the best in the region," Memorial Vice President of Human Resources Myron McCoo told the newspaper in a statement.

WORLD

Iraq PM survives failed assassination attempt

Associated Press

BAGHDAD—Troops deployed around Baghdad on Sunday following the failed assassination attempt with armed drones that targeted the residence of Iraq's prime minister. The attack significantly ramped up tensions sparked by the refusal of Iran-backed militias to accept last month's parliamentary election results.

Seven of Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi's security guards were wounded in the attack by at least two armed drones in Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone area, according to two Iraqi officials. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to give official statements.

Al-Kadhimi was unharmed. He later appeared on Iraqi television, seated behind a desk in a white shirt, looking calm and composed. His left hand appeared to be wrapped in a bandage. An aide confirmed a light cut.

"Cowardly rocket and drone at-

tacks don't build homelands and don't build a future," he said. Later on Sunday, he received Iraqi President Barham Salih and headed a government security meeting.

Residents of Baghdad heard the sound of an explosion followed by heavy gunfire from the direction of the Green Zone, which houses foreign embassies and government offices. Handout photos showed the damage in al-Kadhimi's residence, including smashed windows and doors blown off their hinges.

There was no claim for the attack, but suspicion immediately fell on Iran-backed militias who had been publicly attacking al-Kadhimi and issuing threats. It came amid a stand-off between security forces and the pro-Iran Shiite militias whose supporters have been camped outside the Green Zone for nearly a month. They gathered after rejecting the results of Iraq's parliamentary elections, in which they lost around two-thirds of their seats.

Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool, spokesman for al-Kadhimi and Iraq's commander in chief, told the Beirut-based Al-Mayadeen TV that the drone flew in from southeast Baghdad at low altitude and could not be detected by defensive systems.

Some of the leaders of the most powerful militia factions loyal to Iran openly blamed al-Kadhimi for Friday's clashes and a protester's death.

Qais al-Khazali, leader of the Asaib Ahl al-Haq militia, in a statement Sunday, suggested the militias were being framed, calling for an investigation and for the punishment of the perpetrators.

Influential Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who won the largest number of parliament seats in the Oct. 10 elections, denounced the "terrorist attack," which he said seeks to return Iraq to the lawlessness and chaos of the past. While al-Sadr maintains good relations with Iran, he publicly opposes external interference in Iraq's affairs.



IRAQI PRIME MINISTER MEDIA OFFICE/AP

Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi was unharmed in an assassination attempt by armed drones that targeted his residence early Sunday. The attack was a major escalation amid tensions sparked by the refusal of Iran-backed militias to accept last month's parliamentary election results.

COP26 attracts tens of thousands of protesters

Bloomberg News

Tens of thousands of protesters marched peacefully through the center of Glasgow, Scotland, on Saturday, urging politicians and business leaders attending the COP26 climate talks to do more to stem global warming.

More than 100,000 people braved rain and wind to chastise the world's biggest emitters for not doing enough to cut planet-warming pollution, according to the COP26 Coalition, a U.K.-based network of environmental groups and non-governmental organizations. They said that about 300 demonstrations took place around the world.

Spirits were high even as the downpour soaked placards. People carried loud speakers and banged on steel drums. As the demonstration turned down Sauchiehall Street, one of the city's main shopping areas, residents stuck their heads out of apartments, waving and cheering along. An inflatable cow floated above the crowd to highlight the need to tackle emissions of super-warming methane gas.

Anger focused mainly on some of the world leaders including former U.S. President Donald Trump and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who leads one of the only major developed nations



ANDREW MILLIGAN/AP

Climate activists attend a protest organized by the COP26 Coalition Saturday in Glasgow, Scotland.

that's resisted calls to set more credible climate targets. "Bad politicians ruin the planet," read one sign. Brazil's leader Jair Bolsonaro was also a common target as the Amazon rainforest burns.

One attendee held a banner that said "environmentalism without

class struggle is just gardening." The slogans underscored how climate change is an unfair problem: Countries that contributed the least greenhouse gases to the atmosphere are often the ones most vulnerable to the impacts of global warming.

Boat with 800 migrants lands in Sicilian port

Associated Press

ROME — A German humanitarian ship with more than 800 rescued migrants, including 15 very young children, steamed into a Sicilian port on Sunday after being granted permission by Italian authorities following days of waiting in the Mediterranean Sea.

The charity group Sea-Eye said the vessel Sea-Eye 4 was assigned to the port of Trapani, in western Sicily, on Saturday evening. Most of the adults were to be transferred to other ships for preventative quarantine against COVID-19, while some 160 minors, including babies and other children younger than 4, were to be taken to shelters on land.

Many of the passengers came from countries in West Africa, Egypt or Morocco, said Giovanna di Benedetto, an official from Save the Children in Italy.

Shouts of joy from those aboard Sea-Eye 4 could be heard on Trapani's dock as the vessel drew near, SkyTG24 TV reported.

About half of the migrants were rescued from a sinking wooden boat on Nov. 4, while the other passengers had been plucked to safety from the sea in separate operations.

German train attacker stabbed passengers 'at random'

Associated Press

VIENNA — A 27-year-old man who stabbed four people with a knife on a German high-speed train apparently attacked his victims "at random" and showed signs of mental illness, authorities said Sunday.

Police and investigators told reporters in Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz that the attacker's intentions were still unclear, but there is no indication currently of a terror mo-

tive.

Shortly before 9 a.m. on Saturday, police received a call alerting them that a man with a knife was attacking passengers on Intercity Express train 928, which was traveling from Regensburg to Nuremberg in southeastern Germany.

Using a 3.1-inch folding knife, the suspect first went after a 26-year-old man in the same train car, wounding him in the head. The sus-

pect then attacked a 60-year-old man, who was wounded on his head and torso, and another 60-year-old man, who also was wounded.

At that point, the suspect fled to another train car and stabbed a 39-year-old man on his upper body.

All four victims were from the Regensburg and nearby Passau area and were taken to nearby hospitals.

Police said the suspect, a Syrian

citizen, came to Germany in 2014 and was granted asylum in 2016. He had been living in Passau. Investigators said an initial evaluation suggested he suffered from mental illness.

The high-speed train pulled into Seubersdorf, a station between Regensburg and Nuremberg, and police officers quickly arrested the suspect "without resistance."

WORLD

Pompeii dig offers glimpse into the daily life of enslaved

Associated Press

MILAN — Archaeologists in Pompeii excavating a villa amid the ruins of the 79 A.D. volcanic eruption that destroyed the ancient city have discovered a cramped dormitory and storage room that offers “a very rare insight into the daily life of slaves,” officials said Saturday.

The room was discovered in a villa in the Pompeii suburb of Civita Giuliana, just a few steps

from where archaeologists in January discovered the remains of a well-preserved ceremonial chariot.

The room, with just one high window and no wall decorations, contains the remains of three beds made out of wood. The beds were adjustable, with two measuring 1.7 meters and one just 1.4 meters, possibly indicating that a family with a child had lived there.

Nearby, a wooden chest contained metallic objects and textiles that “appear to be part of harnesses for horses,” according to the archaeological park. There also was a wooden steering element for a chariot.

Chamber pots and other personal objects were under the beds, while eight amphorae — an ancient vessel used as a storage jar — were in a corner, suggesting storage for the household.



AP

A view of the latest finding in Pompeii, Italy. Archaeologists, excavating a villa amid the ruins of the 79 A.D. volcanic eruption, have discovered a room that served as both a dormitory and storage area, which officials said offered “a very rare insight the daily life of slaves.”

Rescuers in west Australia search for man attacked by sharks

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Rescue services in western Australia were searching for a man who was attacked by multiple sharks, police said.

Two teenagers on a boat saw what they believed was a shark attack at Port Beach in the North Fremantle suburb of Perth on Saturday morn-

ing and alerted other swimmers to get out of the sea and called emergency services.

Police were unable to confirm how many sharks were involved in the attack but Western Australia Police Acting Inspector Troy Douglas said it was “obviously at least one.” Some reports quoting witnesses

said the attack involved a white shark and a tiger shark.

“I was about to go into the water and actually a lady stopped me and said ‘don’t go in there. There’s been a shark sighting,’” said Suzette Harding. “And then within a minute or so ... these young boys in the dinghy came screaming up along the beach,

waving everyone out of the water.”

Douglas said the 57-year-old man was a regular at the beach. He said the search would go on for as long as possible Saturday and resume at first light on Sunday, if he is not found.

Douglas praised the teenagers for making “a fantastic effort” and re-

acting quickly by alerting emergency services and providing information to assist the search.

At least five Water Police and rescue boats and two helicopters were scouring the area and an ambulance was sent to the scene.

All beaches in the area have been closed.

STARS AND STRIPES SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Transportation 944

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Q&A

Power in poetry

Hailee Steinfeld has superhero swagger, but Emily Dickinson kept her up at night



Apple TV+

Hailee Steinfeld is pictured in “Dickinson,” a daring look at iconic 19th century American poet Emily Dickinson during her formative years.

BY LORRAINE ALI
Los Angeles Times

Powerful young women with strong points of view. Those are the roles Hailee Steinfeld has grown into on screen since her first feature film, when she was nominated at age 14 for an Oscar for her portrayal of the sharp-witted Mattie Ross in the Coen brothers’ “True Grit.” She’s died as a star-crossed lover in an adaptation of “Romeo and Juliet,” romped alongside giant Transformers in the sci-fi film “Bumblebee” and immersed herself in the dark coming-of-age comedy “The Edge of Seventeen.” On Steinfeld’s soaring trajectory, no two girls, teens or women are alike.

Now 19th century poet Emily Dickinson comes alive through Steinfeld in the third and final season of the quirky period dramedy “Dickinson,” which premiered Friday on Apple TV+. A daring look at the poet in her formative 20s, the final installment of the ambitious series marks the end of a unique production about an enigmatic American icon.

“I probably wouldn’t have understood the depth of Emily, her work or her story without the series, so I’m grateful to this show for serving as an introduction to her. I hope that it does that for others,” said Steinfeld, 24, who also serves as an executive producer on the series.

Along with “Dickinson” creator Alena Smith, Steinfeld spoke about the challenges of bringing the beloved poet to life, what prepared her for the role and what lies ahead for the actor and singer from Tarzana, Calif. — namely her leap into the Marvel Cinematic Universe as the avenging archer Kate Bishop in the Disney+ superhero series “Hawkeye.” (This interview has been edited for length.)

Los Angeles Times: You’ll go from the kerosene-lit “Dickinson” to the billion-watt “Hawkeye ...”

Steinfeld: Going from a corset to a superhero suit, not so different.

There are heroic elements to both women.

Steinfeld: With something like “Hawkeye,” where it is this epic, show-stopping, mind-blowing Marvel Cinematic Universe (production), it’s like I still can’t believe I’m in it. It’s so crazy to me. It’s so big. But the character feels so real it didn’t ever not feel that way when we were doing it. That’s something I think I’m ultimately drawn to.

The final season of “Dickinson” takes place in the middle of the Civil War, when

the characters and country are faced with tragedy, hopelessness and division. Emily and her poetry become a ray of light in the darkness, so in a sense, she’s also saving the day — or at least feeding the depleted soul. That had to feel close to the bone, since all 10 episodes were shot midpandemic and within months of the Jan. 6 insurrection.

Steinfeld: I personally was feeling the hopelessness of the time. And with Emily, I felt she was in a similar situation because she’s really struggling to find how she can be of use to the the war effort — and not just the war in the country, but in her family. I was like, “In what way, shape or form can I do something?” This season served as a les-

son and a reminder that Emily didn’t necessarily have to be on the front lines to help and to make change and to make a difference and to bring light into people’s world.

Emily was a private person, and what we know of her today is largely extrapolated from her writing. Did that ambiguity afford you freedom as a performer, or was it like, “Oh no, I don’t have a blueprint?”

Steinfeld: It was intimidating at first, but mostly because I was not able to personally understand the poetry. I was initially frustrated by that. I didn’t get her poems off of the first read, but I loved the fact that they kept me coming back, desperately trying to understand. ... A three-line poem had me up for days. At the beginning, I was like, “This is the worst thing ever. How am I ever going to get to the bottom of this and break this down and feel connected to it?” But it kept me coming back, and I loved that. The poetry is the reason we’re able to make this show.

Alena, why did you choose Hailee for the role of Emily?

Smith: She is such a phenomenal, multi-faceted talent. My writing and the tone of “Dickinson” goes to a million different places. It’s a broad comedy, it can be extreme, it’s a personal family drama. There’s magical realism and crazy, almost music-video moments. Hailee can handle all of that and just go on the ride. She’s a force of nature herself, much the way that I was trying to portray Emily Dickinson. She was not supposed to be a shy, retiring, strictly period-biopic version of Emily. Hailee is really masterful, even in her young age, at being present, and that feels like a real secret to this character. Because it’s through Emily’s consciousness that the world becomes the magical place that it is.

Part of that surrealism is in the dialogue and mannerisms of the characters. They use modern slang, they throw dance parties, they hook up in the barn and go to

the spa.

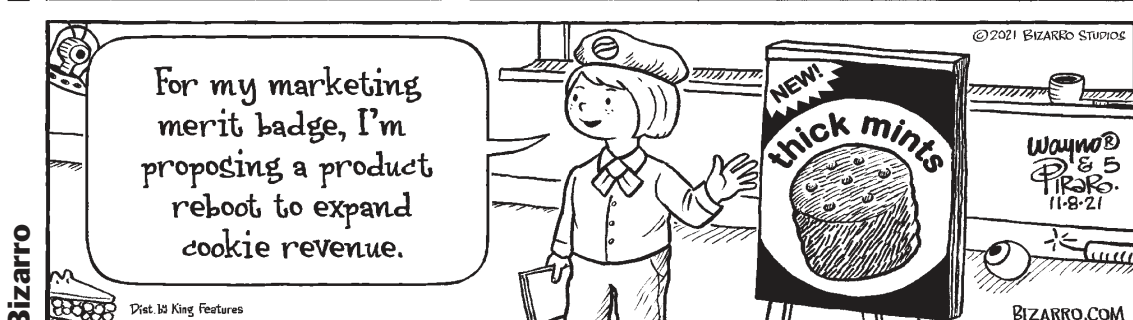
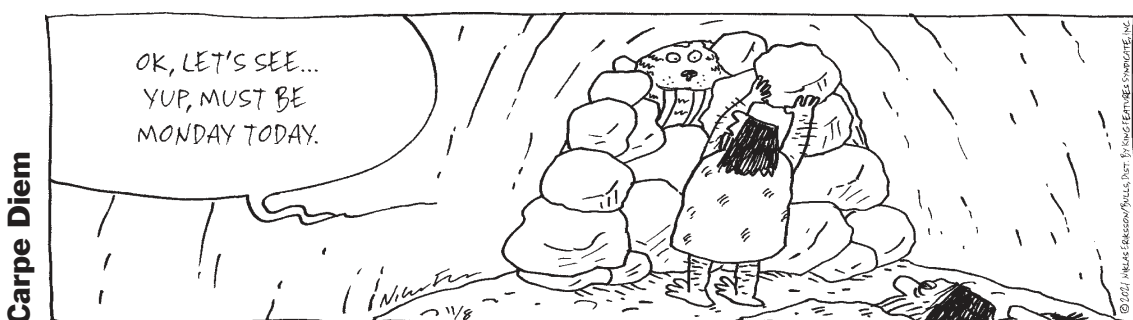
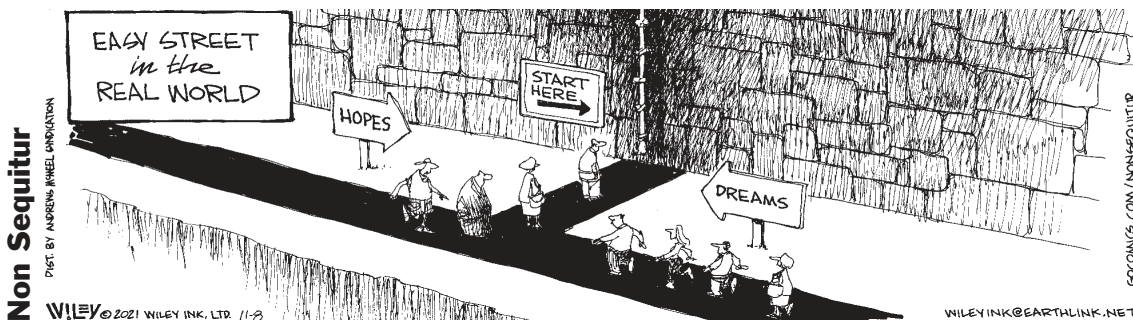
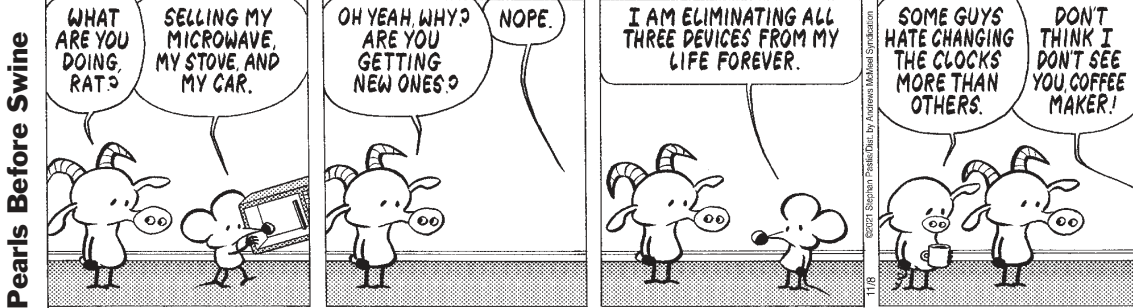
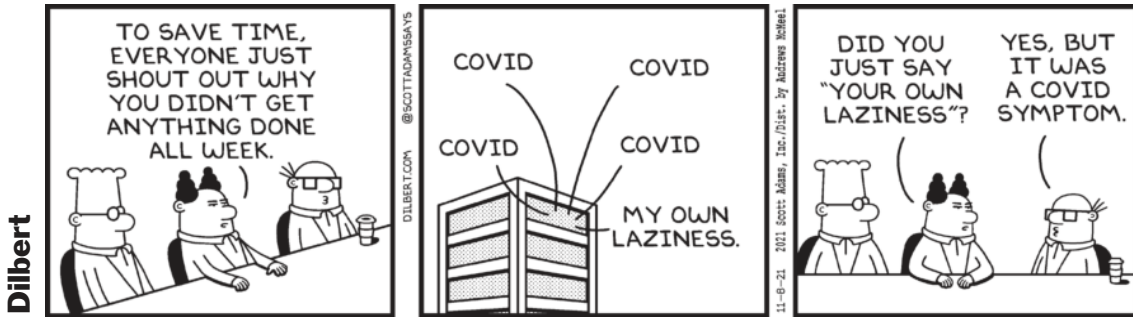
Steinfeld: Right, the dialogue. I loved that idea initially, but then we went to do it. ... I’m in a corset that’s super tight, in this incredibly detailed and specific set and thinking, “This is weird. It’s not working.” This show is so rooted in history, so to speak so casually felt very strange. I went to Alena multiple times, and I said, “There’s got to be another version of this.” She just was like, “Trust me.” David Gordon Green, who shot our pilot, also helped us find that quirkiness in the tone of this show. ... Ultimately, the poems needed to feel like a conversation and be part of her inner monologue for me to find confidence and be comfortable in that balance [with] the modernism.

Some folks were upset that the show infused these 19th century characters with contemporary attributes.

Steinfeld: It was one of the things I loved about this show when I read the first two episodes of Season 1. It was like, how fun! Who’s to say they didn’t speak like this? They got angry. They curse. Maybe they had different words or different terminology, but whatever. They were human!

Alena, did Hailee’s previous roles give you confidence that she’d nail the tricky dualism of “Dickinson”?

Smith: Hailee was 13 in “True Grit,” a period piece that was brought to life in this incredibly contemporary, bold way. She turned in a performance that felt so authentic and truthful to a contemporary coming-of-age story. And her music performances too — Hailee has swagger, and I wanted my Emily Dickinson to have swagger. That is a defining characteristic of this character, particularly in Season 1, when the world has really got her down but she just refuses to be stymied by it, and she’s basically telling everybody things that they don’t know how to handle and what to do with. It wasn’t a part for a delicate flower. I needed somebody with fire and charisma and power.



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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37	38	39					40					
41					42	43				44	45	46
47					48							
49					50				51			

ACROSS

- 1 — B'rith
- 5 Hirohito's title (Abbr.)
- 8 Beer ingredient
- 12 Typical BTS fan
- 14 Luau strings
- 15 Sci-fi passage
- 16 Funny person
- 17 Mornings, briefly
- 18 Fire engine sounds
- 20 Quartz variety
- 23 Greek salad cheese
- 24 Pivot
- 25 Church activity
- 28 Cauldron
- 29 Brash
- 30 "How frustrating!"
- 32 Vocabulary
- 34 Apple center
- 35 Swiss river
- 36 Orderly grouping
- 37 Nome's state
- 40 Blackbird
- 41 Deep cut
- 42 Training session
- 47 Memory method
- 48 "Scarface"
- 49 Tag sale words
- 50 "Of course"
- 51 Halt

DOWN

- 1 Texter's "Incidentally"
- 2 "The Matrix" character
- 3 — Lingus
- 4 Prisoner
- 5 Conceits
- 6 Director Brooks
- 7 Keep
- 8 "Yay!"
- 9 Tom Joad, for one
- 10 Drudge
- 11 Swift jets
- 13 Words said with a sigh
- 19 Teeny
- 20 Nile biter
- 21 Radiate

- 22 Car
- 23 Make a name for oneself?
- 25 Erode
- 26 Mr. Stravinsky
- 27 Law firm aide, for short
- 29 Minn. neighbor
- 31 "Psst!"
- 33 Skin problems
- 34 Fruity desserts
- 36 "Diana" singer
- 37 Taj Mahal site
- 38 Asian nation
- 39 Wine region
- 40 Curved lines
- 43 Flamenco cheer
- 44 Stolen
- 45 Sean — Lennon
- 46 Vigor

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	H	A	D		P	F	C	S		P	A	S
P	O	L	O		L	E	A	H		O	R	L
U	N	D	O		A	E	R	O		S	I	A
D	E	A	R		N	D	A			W	H	A
					T	S	E			F	R	A
S	T	O	O	P	S					E	I	L
H	O	R	D	E						G	L	A
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J	E	E	R		S	M	U			W	I	I
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11-8

CRYPTOQUIP

EPFB OBYRKNB SV OEKGE
 BDBMCYSXC NHJZR HYSNP
 NEBKM UHVGC UJSOBM-ESJXKVF
 GSVNHKVBMR: DHRBYSSZ.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: INSTRUMENT RECORDING HOW FAST SOMEBODY IS TWIDDLING LARGE DIGITS OF THEIR HANDS: A THUMB TACH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals H

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Iran won't cave on nuclear program

BY JOHN GHAZVINIAN

Special to The Washington Post

Nearly 10 months since President Joe Biden was inaugurated, and three months after Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi assumed office, Washington and Tehran are nowhere near reaching an accord over Iran's controversial nuclear program. There are many reasons for this failure. But one, in particular, is routinely underappreciated in the United States: what a fundamental matter of principle the nuclear program is for most Iranians.

"We should never have signed it," said Akbar Etemad, the founder of Iran's nuclear program, in 2009. "It was not a fair treaty. I never would have allowed it."

But Etemad was not referring to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) — commonly referred to as the "Iran nuclear deal" — as one might expect. Instead, the "it" was the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Significantly, like thousands of Iranians who fled their country around the time of the 1979 revolution, Etemad nurses a vigorous dislike of the Islamic Republic that came into power that year — and a staunch loyalty to the pro-Western monarchy that it overthrew. However, when it comes to Iran's nuclear program, he directs surprisingly little of his frustration at the ruling ayatollahs. Instead, Etemad blames his former boss, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, for signing the NPT — and the Western powers for keeping Iran subjugated ever since.

He is not the only one. Other former aides and officials from the Shah's government — who regularly condemn and vilify the country's current rulers — have expressed their begrudging respect for how Iran has handled its nuclear disagreements with the United States and other powers. This curious unity among Iranians of such radically different political persuasions derives from the history of Iran's nuclear program and helps explain why the country refuses to shutter its program de-

spite Western sanctions and pressure.

Iran first joined the atomic age in 1957 when the Eisenhower administration — under a landmark U.S.-Iran Nuclear Cooperation Agreement — pledged to assist the country in developing nuclear technology for medical purposes — and offered six kilograms of low-enriched uranium for nuclear research. This, ironically, was just four years after Eisenhower had authorized the CIA to overthrow Iran's popular prime minister, Mohammad Mosaddegh, for attempting to nationalize the country's oil industry and move Iran in the direction of controlling its own energy destiny. For the Shah, the promotion of nuclear energy was an important demonstration of the country's modernity — but also of the idea that a close alliance with the United States could pay significant dividends in Iran's advancement.

In the years since, the controversy over Iran's nuclear program has become something of a self-fulfilling prophecy — Iran enriches uranium far beyond the point that it actually needs, and the United States undertakes erratic and inconsistent policies toward Iran's nuclear program, many of which have simply widened the gap between the sides.

For Etemad and others like him, however, the problem is actually the NPT, and the entire framework of international regulations that it enforces. They assert this framework has held back scientific progress in Iran, while unfairly promoting the interests of the United States and the world's other nuclear superpowers.

"Only small countries joined" in 1968, Etemad explains. "Burkina Faso, Nicaragua, the Fiji Islands. The countries that actually had a chance of getting nuclear power — India, Pakistan, Israel — they stayed out. Only we signed." This may seem like ancient history, but Iranian leaders — as well as some of their most vigorous critics abroad — feel that, when it comes to the nuclear program, their country has been punished for following the rules-based international order, while other midsized countries have been rewarded for flouting

it.

Indeed, the countries mentioned by Etemad have all developed nuclear weapons since 1968 without facing the harsh sanctions levied against Iran. Dozens of other signatories to the NPT have faced questions about their nuclear programs in the way Iran has — but without finding themselves subjected to harsh sanctions or bellicose rhetoric about regime change.

Seen from the perspective of Tehran, then, the only reason Iran's nuclear program has produced so much controversy is because Iran operates within the framework of the NPT — which means that even the slightest question raised by international inspectors immediately gets escalated into a political crisis in the United States.

Iranians see the controversy over their nuclear program as a political issue — one born not out of Iranian misbehavior or violations of the international order, but of the enmity between their nation and the United States. The United States and its allies, both in Europe and the Middle East, have a very different take. They have legitimate concerns about a range of Iranian activities, including support for regional militias and domestic human rights issues, which help frame the conflict over Iran's nuclear program.

But the history helps explain why Iranians across the political spectrum support the nuclear program, despite the harsh sanctions imposed by the West. It also reveals that they have a legitimate complaint about the provisions of the NPT being enforced inconsistently, depending on a country's relationship with the United States. Understanding this historical reality also helps explain why Iran probably will continue taking a hard line in negotiations with the Western powers, and why the best chance of limiting Iran's nuclear program may, ironically, be accepting its existence.

John Ghazvinian is executive director of the Middle East Center at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of "America and Iran: A History, 1720 to the Present."

New vistas appear in fight against COVID-19

Washington Post

The promise of a pill — an oral antiviral that would fight the coronavirus — is becoming a reality. Pfizer's announcement Friday that it has achieved excellent results in a clinical trial with an antiviral that can prevent hospitalization and death is a very encouraging moment in the complex and difficult struggle.

Vaccines are still the best protection. But a simple pill that people can take on their own could be easier and more accessible than vaccines or therapies that require intravenous delivery. It won't have to be kept at very cold temperatures, so distribution will be easier. It might help expand treatment to poor and neglected corners of the world that are still short of vaccines. Together with Merck's development of a similar antiviral, there is reason to hope for a wave of effective treatments.

These drugs have been developed with unprecedented speed — it usually takes years — and Pfizer must still publish de-

tailed results, complete the trials still underway, and get government authorization, which the company said it would seek as soon as possible. The antiviral, to be marketed as Paxlovid, reduced the risk of hospitalization or death by 89% compared with a placebo in high-risk adults with COVID-19 who were not hospitalized. If borne out, this could dramatically take the pressure off overloaded hospitals.

Unlike a vaccine, which protects against infection, an antiviral is effective when taken right after infection — within three days in this case. This will require much wider use of rapid diagnostic testing than exists today so people will know they are infected with COVID-19 and can reach for the drug.

The Merck drug mimics the building blocks of ribonucleic acid, or RNA, causing viral replication to go haywire by creating mutations — so many that the viral genetic machinery fails. This has caused some worry about possible side effects, especially in pregnancy. The Pfizer antiviral uses a different approach, what's known as a pro-

tease inhibitor, which blocks the activity of an enzyme that the coronavirus needs to replicate. It functions at a stage before viral RNA replication. Pfizer said in a preclinical study, the drug showed no evidence of "mutagenic DNA interactions." The drug appears to work against different coronavirus variants. Pfizer's clinical trial combined the new antiviral with a low dose of ritonavir, an antiretroviral used in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, which helps prolong the presence of the new antiviral in the body.

In the vaccine rollout, rich nations got first claim on the shots while poor ones waited. Pfizer must work hard to overcome this imbalance with the new antiviral. The company pledged to use tiered pricing, charging more to those who can afford it and less in low-income countries.

In the battle against the virus, every step counts, from face masks and hand hygiene to vaccines and ventilation. Now comes another potentially groundbreaking stride toward reducing sickness and death, and none too soon.

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NBA/BOXING/SPORTS BRIEFS

NBA Scoreboard

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	8	2	.800	—
Brooklyn	6	3	.667	1½
New York	6	3	.667	1½
Toronto	6	4	.600	2
Boston	4	6	.400	4
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	7	2	.778	—
Washington	6	3	.667	1
Charlotte	5	5	.500	2½
Atlanta	4	6	.400	3½
Orlando	2	8	.200	5½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	6	3	.667	—
Cleveland	6	4	.600	½
Milwaukee	4	5	.444	2
Indiana	3	7	.300	3½
Detroit	1	8	.111	5

Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	6	3	.667	—
Memphis	5	4	.556	1
San Antonio	3	6	.333	3
Houston	1	8	.111	5
New Orleans	1	9	.100	5½
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	7	2	.778	—
Denver	5	4	.556	2
Portland	5	5	.500	2½
Minnesota	3	5	.375	3½
Oklahoma City	2	6	.250	4½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	7	1	.875	—
Phoenix	5	3	.625	2
Sacramento	5	4	.556	2½
L.A. Clippers	4	4	.500	3
L.A. Lakers	5	5	.500	3

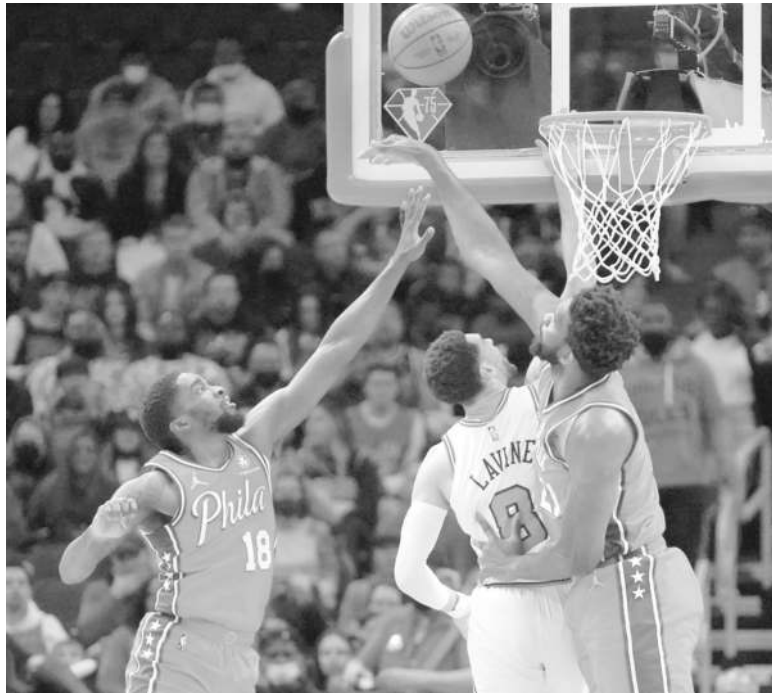
Saturday's games
 Denver 95, Houston 94
 Miami 118, Utah 115
 Philadelphia 114, Chicago 105
 Dallas 107, Boston 104
 Phoenix 121, Atlanta 117
 Portland 105, L.A. Lakers 90

Sunday's games
 Brooklyn at Toronto
 Cleveland at New York
 Indiana at Sacramento
 Milwaukee at Washington
 Utah at Orlando
 San Antonio at Oklahoma City
 Houston at Golden State
 Charlotte at L.A. Clippers

Monday's games
 New York at Philadelphia
 Brooklyn at Chicago
 Minnesota at Memphis
 New Orleans at Dallas
 Miami at Denver
 Atlanta at Golden State
 Phoenix at Sacramento
 Charlotte at L.A. Lakers

Tuesday's games
 Milwaukee at Philadelphia
 Atlanta at Utah
 Portland at L.A. Clippers

Leaders Through Saturday Scoring					
	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, BKN	9	99	42	255	28.3
George, LAC	8	80	36	223	27.9
Antetokounmpo, MIL	9	85	60	244	27.1
DeRozan, CHI	9	86	61	241	26.8
LaVine, CHI	9	83	51	238	26.4
Rebounds					
	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Gobert, UTA	9	29	117	146	16.2
Valanciunas, NO	10	41	101	142	14.2
Jokic, DEN	9	23	98	121	13.4
Assists					
	G	AST	AVG		
Paul, PHO	8	97	12.1		
Young, ATL	10	96	9.6		
Harden, BKN	9	81	9.0		



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

Philadelphia center Joel Embiid, right, blocks the shot of Bulls guard Zach LaVine as Sixers guard Shake Milton, left, also defends on Saturday in Chicago. The 76ers won 114-105.

NBA ROUNDUP

76ers top Bulls again, extend streak to six

Associated Press
 CHICAGO — Joel Embiid had 30 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Philadelphia 76ers to their sixth straight victory, 114-105 over the Chicago Bulls on Saturday night.

Furkan Korkmaz matched his career best with seven three-pointers and added 25 points for Philadelphia, which topped Chicago for the second time in four nights.

Zach LaVine had 32 points and DeMar DeRozan added 25 for Chicago.

The Bulls led 97-96 after LaVine ended a 10-0 run with a three-pointer with 5:48 to play, but Embiid answered with a three a minute later and the Sixers never trailed again. Korkmaz gave Philadelphia a bit of a cushion with his final three-pointer with 3:03 left and Chicago played catch-up the rest of the way.

Embiid finished the Bulls with the last of his four three-pointers with 15 seconds left.

Trail Blazers 105, Lakers 90: Damian Lillard scored 25 points before sitting out the fourth quarter and host Portland took advantage of short-handed Los Angeles.

Jusuf Nurkic added 15 points and 17 rebounds for the Blazers, who led by as many as 34 points despite playing the second of a back-to-back.

Former Blazer Carmelo Anthony had 12 points off the bench for the Lakers, who were without LeBron James because of an abdominal strain.

Suns 121, Hawks 117: Devin Booker scored 38 points, Frank Kaminsky added 16 off the bench

and Phoenix rallied from a 12-point deficit in the fourth quarter to beat visiting Atlanta.

Young led the Hawks with 31 points and 13 assists. John Collins added 26 points and 10 rebounds.

Mavericks 107, Celtics 104: Luka Doncic hit a high-arching three-pointer at the buzzer, another magical moment for the All-Star to give host Dallas a victory over Boston.

Doncic finished with 33 points to 32 for fellow All-Star Jayson Tatum, who bounced back from two rough shooting nights to help the Celtics rally from a 17-point half-time deficit.

Heat 118, Jazz 115: Tyler Herro scored 29 points, Kyle Lowry had his 19th triple-double and Miami held off visiting Utah.

The Heat led by 19 points with 5 minutes remaining but the victory wasn't assured until Donovan Mitchell missed a three-pointer in the closing seconds.

Lowry finished with 20 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists. Jimmy Butler scored 27 points for Miami.

Mitchell finished with 37 points and Mike Conley added 18.

Nuggets 95, Rockets 94: Nikola Jokic blocked Jae'Sean Tate's drive to the basket as time ran out and short-handed host Denver escaped with a victory over Houston.

Jokic finished with 28 points and 14 rebounds as the Nuggets won despite the absence of forward Michael Porter Jr.

Porter left the game with 4:50 remaining in the first quarter and didn't return because of what the team called lower back soreness.

Álvarez tops Plant to cement his title

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — With a destructive barrage of power punches in the waning minutes of a difficult fight, Canelo Álvarez added another achievement to his overflowing list of boxing accomplishments.

The Mexican pound-for-pound superstar is the undisputed super middleweight champion of the world.

Álvarez became the first four-belt world champion at 168 pounds in boxing history Saturday night, stopping Caleb Plant in the 11th with two dramatic knock-downs.

Álvarez (57-1-2, 39 KOs) added Plant's IBF title to his own WBC, WBA and WBO belts with a steady tactical performance culminating in a display of his vaunted power to finish the previously unbeaten Plant at the MGM Grand Garden Arena.

Canelo is generally recognized as the top fighter in the world regardless of weight class, and now he has complete dominance in one weight class. He became the sixth man to be a four-belt champion, and he joined junior welterweight Josh Taylor as the only current undisputed champs of their weight class.

BRIEFLY

Usman holds onto UFC belt

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kamaru Usman defeated Colby Covington by unanimous decision to retain the UFC welterweight championship at UFC 268 in New York on Saturday night.

With the win, Usman improved to 20-1-0, and has won 19 fights in a row, including five title defenses.

"I am the pound-for-pound best alive right now," he said.

Covington, the former interim welterweight champion, dropped to 16-3-0.

New York State Athletic Commission judges Derek Cleary (49-46), Dave Tirelli (48-47) and Sal

D'Amato (48-47) all submitted scorecards in Usman's favor.

Kenyans sweep in New York City marathon

NEW YORK — New York sought a comeback story for its 50th marathon, and Albert Korir delivered.

Korir and Peres Jepchirchir made it a Kenyan sweep at Sunday's New York City Marathon, with Korir winning the men's race two years after finishing second and Jepchirchir becoming the only woman to take a marathon major in the fall after earning an Olympic gold medal.

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NHL

Panthers tie record, deny Canes

Florida matches league's best 11-game start, ends Carolina's win streak at 9

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

SUNRISE, Fla. — For the Florida Panthers, history. For the Carolina Hurricanes, history denied.

The Panthers matched the best 11-game start in NHL history and kept the Hurricanes from what would have been a league record-tying start of their own, with Anthony Duclair getting two goals and two assists in a 5-2 victory on Saturday night.

"I don't think it's a statement game," Panthers interim coach Andrew Brunette said. "There are none in November. They don't really present trophies in November."

They do put entries in history books, however.

Spencer Knight made 28 saves for Florida (10-0-1), which tied the 1994-95 Pittsburgh Penguins and 2006-07 Buffalo Sabres as the only NHL teams to reach 21 points after 11 games. Carolina (9-1-0) was bidding to join the 1993-94 Toronto Maple Leafs and those '06-07 Sabres as the lone teams to start a season with 10 consecutive wins.

It was the first game in NHL history pitting two teams with season-opening point streaks of at least



MARTA LAVANDIER/AP

Florida Panthers right wing Patric Hornqvist, right, scores a goal against Carolina Hurricanes goaltender Frederik Andersen (31) during Florida's 5-2 win Saturday in Sunrise, Fla.

nine games. Duclair got the Panthers on the board 2:28 into the contest and they led the rest of the way.

"Tonight was a good test," Duclair said. "Obviously, the whole league's watching. It was a really big game."

The Hurricanes hadn't trailed by more than two goals in any of their first nine games, but were down 4-0 in the first period against Florida and couldn't pull off a comeback.

Vincent Trocheck had a goal and

an assist for Carolina, and Jesper Fast also scored for Carolina.

"I mean, 9-1's a great start," Hurricanes defenseman Jacob Slavin said. "It's definitely a good start and gets us going in the right direction."

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	11	10	0	1	21	46	24
Toronto	12	7	4	1	15	32	32
Tampa Bay	11	6	3	2	14	35	35
Buffalo	11	5	4	2	12	33	31
Detroit	12	5	5	2	12	34	42
Boston	9	5	4	0	10	25	26
Ottawa	11	3	7	1	7	28	40
Montreal	13	3	10	0	6	26	45

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	10	9	1	0	18	39	20
N.Y. Rangers	12	6	3	3	15	29	34
Philadelphia	10	6	2	2	14	32	25
Columbus	10	7	3	0	14	32	28
Washington	11	5	2	4	14	37	29
N.Y. Islanders	9	5	2	2	12	25	20
New Jersey	10	5	3	2	12	26	30
Pittsburgh	10	4	3	3	11	33	32

Western Conference

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	9	7	1	1	15	36	21
Minnesota	10	7	3	0	14	32	34
Winnipeg	11	6	3	2	14	37	32
Nashville	11	6	5	0	12	31	31
Dallas	10	4	4	2	10	22	29
Colorado	10	4	5	1	9	30	36
Chicago	12	1	9	2	4	26	47
Arizona	12	1	10	1	3	19	49

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Edmonton	10	9	1	0	18	45	28
Calgary	11	7	1	3	17	40	22
San Jose	11	6	4	1	13	32	30
Anaheim	12	5	4	3	13	38	36
Vegas	11	6	5	0	12	31	33
Los Angeles	11	5	5	1	11	30	31
Vancouver	11	4	6	1	9	27	30
Seattle	12	4	7	1	9	34	40

Saturday's games

- Tampa Bay 5, Ottawa 3
- Florida 5, Carolina 2
- Philadelphia 2, Washington 1
- Columbus 4, Colorado 2
- Detroit 4, Buffalo 3, OT
- N.Y. Islanders 2, Winnipeg 0
- Toronto 2, Boston 2
- Vegas 5, Montreal 2
- Minnesota 5, Pittsburgh 4, SO
- Arizona 5, Seattle 4
- Calgary 6, N.Y. Rangers 0
- New Jersey 3, San Jose 2, SO

Sunday's games

- Vegas at Detroit
- Nashville at Chicago
- N.Y. Islanders at Minnesota
- St. Louis at Anaheim
- Dallas at Vancouver

Monday's games

- Buffalo at Washington
- Florida at N.Y. Rangers
- Los Angeles at Toronto

Tuesday's games

- Carolina at Tampa Bay
- Florida at New Jersey
- Los Angeles at Montreal
- Ottawa at Boston
- Edmonton at Detroit
- St. Louis at Winnipeg
- Pittsburgh at Chicago
- San Jose at Calgary
- Anaheim at Vancouver
- Seattle at Vegas

Wednesday's games

- Toronto at Philadelphia
- Nashville at Dallas
- Minnesota at Arizona

Scoring leaders

Through Sunday

	GP	G	A	Pts
Leon Draisaitl, EDM	10	10	13	23
Connor McDavid, EDM	10	8	14	22
Alex Ovechkin, WSH	11	10	8	18
Kyle Connor, WPG	11	8	16	16
Brad Marchand, BOS	9	4	10	14
Johnny Gaudreau, CGY	11	4	10	14
Steven Stamkos, TB	11	6	8	14
Andrei Svechnikov, CAR	10	7	7	14
Elias Lindholm, CGY	11	7	7	14
Anze Kopitar, LA	11	7	7	14

ROUNDUP

Coyotes rally past Kraken for first win

Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Scott Wedgewood had been here before.

The last time Arizona started a season with 11 losses — four years ago — Wedgewood was the goaltender when the Coyotes finally got their first win.

He returned to the team Friday after being claimed on waivers from New Jersey, and came off the bench Saturday night to help Arizona pick up its first win this season in a comeback 5-4 victory over the Seattle Kraken.

Wedgewood relieved Karel Vejmelka 59 seconds into the game, after the Kraken took a 2-0 lead on their first two shots.

"Happy to be back, I enjoyed my first time here," said Wedgewood, who hadn't even practiced with the team after rejoining them Friday in Anaheim. "Legs are shaking a little bit, your new team, you know what's at stake and you're down early and you just want to keep them in it."

Wedgewood stopped 27 shots. Lawson Crouse scored two goals, including the game-winner with 1:05 remaining. Arizona (1-10-1) avoided breaking the franchise record for most losses to start a season, set in 2017-18. The only team with a worse start in NHL history was the 1943-44 New York Rangers, who lost their first 11 and didn't get their first win until their 16th game.

Wild 5, Penguins 4 (SO): Nick Bjugstad scored the deciding goal in a shootout that came



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Seattle Kraken right wing Jordan Eberle, right, falls to the ice over Arizona Coyotes goalie Scott Wedgewood, left, during the Coyotes' 5-4 win Saturday in Glendale, Ariz.

after Minnesota erased two-goal deficit at Pittsburgh in the final five minutes of regulation.

Bjugstad, who had 16 points in 45 games during parts of two seasons with the Penguins, beat Tristan Jarry with a wrist shot in the shootout.

Red Wings 4, Sabres 3 (OT): Moritz Seider scored 3:45 into overtime and Tyler Bertuzzi had two goals and two assists in Detroit's win at Buffalo.

Rookie Lucas Raymond had three assists and Pius Suter added a goal and an assist for the Red Wings.

Devils 3, Sharks 2 (SO): Damon Severson scored in the third round of a shootout to help

New Jersey snap a three-game skid with a win at San Jose.

Flyers 2, Capitals 1: Derick Brassard and Sean Couturier scored in the second period and Martin Jones stopped 31 shots as Philadelphia won at Washington.

Golden Knights 5, Canadiens 2: Alex Pietrangolo and Chandler Stephenson each had a goal and an assist, and Las Vegas rallied to win at Montreal.

Blue Jackets 4, Avalanche 2: Host Columbus stretched its winning streak to three games by beating Colorado with a three-goal third period.

Maple Leafs 5, Bruins 2: Auston Matthews and John Tavares had two goals as Toronto picked up its fifth straight victory by defeating visiting Boston.

Flames 6, Rangers 0: Johnny Gaudreau had two goals and an assist, Jacob Markstrom made 22 saves for his league-best fourth shutout of the season and Calgary extended its point streak to 10 games with a win over visiting New York.

Islanders 2, Jets 0: Anders Lee and Brock Nelson scored and Ilya Sorokin made 24 saves as New York ended Winnipeg's undefeated string at home.

Lightning 5, Senators 3: Steven Stamkos scored his sixth goal of the season to break a tie midway through the third period and Ondrej Palat added the game-winner with under two minutes to play as Tampa Bay won at Ottawa.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

No. 3 Alabama holds on to beat upstart LSU



VASHA HUNT/AP

Alabama wide receiver Jameson Williams (1) celebrates a touchdown pass reception by wide receiver John Metchie III (8) during No. 3 Alabama's 20-14 defeat of LSU on Saturday in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

By JOHN ZENOR

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama was living dangerously, with a missed extra point, a nonexistent running game and a lead repeatedly in jeopardy.

The third-ranked Crimson Tide's defense kept turning away heavy underdog LSU late and Bryce Young passed for 302 yards to survive for a 20-14 victory on Saturday night.

"Sometimes we have an expectation that we're going to win easy, but sometimes it's not so easy," Alabama coach Nick Saban said.

The Crimson Tide (8-1, 5-1 Southeastern Conference, No. 2 CFP) preserved their national championship hopes in a game that was as tight as some meetings when both were nursing such ambitions. The injury-depleted Tigers (4-5, 2-4) and lame-duck coach Ed Orgeron didn't act like 29.5-point underdogs, which they were according to FanDuel Sportsbook.

It wasn't over until the final play, a Hail Mary that fell incomplete in the end zone. LSU came up empty in three fourth-quarter trips into Alabama territory, including that quick venture to the 30 in the final minute.

Young, the Heisman Trophy front-runner, completed 24 of 37 passes with a couple of touchdowns, including a 58-yarder to Jameson Williams. Williams caught 10 passes for 160 yards. The Tigers harried Young all night and held Brian Robinson Jr. to 18 yards on 13 carries for a team that netted 6 yards on the ground, thanks largely to sacks.

But the Crimson Tide returned the favor with Will Anderson Jr. racking up 12 tackles, 1½ sacks and four tackles for loss.

"Relentless effort, that's all I can say," Anderson said about the defensive performance. "It was relentless effort."

Max Johnson completed 16 of 32 passes for 160 yards with two touchdowns and an interception for LSU. Tyrion Davis-Price ran for 104 yards.

Orgeron didn't buy that his team had nothing to lose.

"I felt like we had something to lose — we had the game to lose and that's important to us," he said.

"We should have won the game," Orgeron added. "Our guys played their hearts out."

Ahead for most of the first half, LSU had pulled to 20-14 on Johnson's 8-yard touchdown with 2:27 in the third quarter.

No. 7 Oregon avoids stumble, rallies to defeat Washington

By TIM BOOTH

Associated Press

SEATTLE — By the time the final seconds ticked away, most of the purple had vacated, leaving Oregon to once again dance around the field and celebrate in the stands of arguably its most-heated rival.

On a windy, rainy night the seventh-ranked Ducks showed a bit more "prowess" — the word of the week in this rivalry — than Washington.

"Proud of the way our guys came out and showed our prowess in handling inclement weather," Oregon coach Mario Cristobal said. "We continued to play hard throughout the entire game making sure every critical situation our team responded really well."

Travis Dye rushed for a career-high 211 yards and a touchdown, Anthony Brown ran for a score and passed for another and the Ducks overcame a sluggish start to beat Washington 26-16 on Saturday night.

A year after the rivals didn't play due to a COVID-19 outbreak within the Huskies program, Oregon (8-1, 5-1 Pac-12) fell behind early before scoring 21 straight points to beat Washington for the seventh time in the past eight games played in Seattle.

"The 'W' means everything to me. The performance is just a plus," Dye said.

Brown threw a 31-yard TD pass to Devon Williams late in the first half to take a 10-9 lead at the break and scored on a 2-yard run early in the third quarter. Dye capped the scoring streak when he rumbled 19 yards for a score on the first play of the fourth

quarter to give the Ducks a 24-9 lead.

Dye put up the most yards rushing by an Oregon back against the Huskies since Jonathan Stewart went for 251 yards in 2007.

The Ducks had 215 yards rushing, averaging 6.9 yards per carry in the second half.

"When you can run the ball down somebody's throat, that's the best feeling in the world," Dye said. "When you have the confidence in your offensive linemen and running backs where you're just running it, it is the best feeling."

Washington's languishing offense that had done nothing all night suddenly went the length of the field and pulled to 24-16 with 11:13 remaining on Sean McGrew's second TD run.

Oregon was able to grind nearly nine minutes off the clock even though they didn't score. The drive was helped by a long run from Dye and Brown hitting Johnny Johnson III for 13 yards on a third-and-10. It was Johnson's only catch after he was suspended for the first half following a targeting ejection last week.

The Huskies (4-5, 3-3) got the ball back with 2:14 left and 90 yards to go but had two dropped passes, an incompleteness and when coach Jimmy Lake opted to punt, the snap went over Race Porter's head for a safety.

Lake said he opted to punt because Washington had two timeouts left and felt the Huskies could get the ball back with about 50 seconds left and better field position.

"We obviously weren't planning on a safety there with our punt operation," Lake



STEPHEN BRASHEAR/AP

Oregon wide receivers Mycah Pittman, left, and Devon Williams celebrate Williams' touchdown catch during Saturday's 26-16 win over Washington.

said.

Washington had won two straight on the road, but its offensive deficiencies led to several missed chances to create a cushion after taking a 9-3 lead.

Carson Bruener intercepted Brown's pass on the Ducks' opening drive and returned it 50 yards to the 7. In less than three minutes Washington had a 7-0 lead after McGrew scored on a 1-yard run. The Huskies added a safety soon after for a 9-3 lead.

But Washington failed to extend the lead. It punted twice on fourth-and-short near midfield. Morris was intercepted in Oregon territory trying to force a pass into triple coverage. And McGrew was stopped on a fourth-and-1 run at the Oregon 23 late in the second quarter.

No. 2 Cincinnati holds off Tulsa, improves to 9-0

By JEFF WALLNER

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Tulsa's Steven Anderson fumbled as he was reaching for the goal line on fourth-and-goal from the 1, Jabari Taylor recovered for a touchback and No. 2 Cincinnati held off Tulsa 28-20 on Saturday.

Desmond Ridder threw for 274 yards and two touchdowns, and Alec Pierce had five catches for 113 yards and a touchdown to help the Bearcats (9-0, 5-0 American Athletic) extend the nation's second-longest home winning streak to 25 games.

"Well, that was a wild one," Bearcats coach Luke Fickell said. "It's about winning against a team that is a much better football team than their record shows."

Shamari Brooks ran for 132 yards for Tulsa (3-6, 2-3). Anthony Watkins added 105.

When the Golden Hurricane was stopped short on fourth down at the 4, it appeared Cincinnati would run out the clock. But Ridder fumbled on a sneak, giving Tulsa life.

"The snap slid right through my hands," Ridder said. "No excuses. Shout out to the defense for saving my butt there."

Anderson gave it back on the fourth-and-goal play from the 1.

"It's a tough, tough way to lose," Golden Hurricane coach Philip Montgomery said. "We get the ball back, we've got to get it in the end zone."

The Bearcats beat Tulsa 27-24 on a last-second field goal in the AAC championship game last season.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Law saves day, Army overcomes Air Force in OT

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Jordyn Law recovered teammate Christian Anderson's fumble at the goal line for an overtime touchdown and Army defeated Air Force 21-14 on Saturday.

After Law's game-saving recovery, the Black Knights (5-3) denied the Falcons (6-3) the end zone when Jabari Moore broke up Haaziq Daniels' fourth-down pass. "I got lucky," Anderson said. "We never stopped battling at the end. We just executed when we needed to. It feels really good. It's definitely nerve-wracking having it come down to the last drive."

The victory means Army can do no worse than a tie for the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, which goes to the service academy with the best record in round-robin competition. The Black Knights will retain the prize whether they win or lose against Navy in December as Air Force defeated the Midshipmen earlier this season. Army came in having won three of the past four trophies.

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Army ended a run of three consecutive losses after losing 28-16 at Ball State, 20-14 at Wisconsin and 70-56 vs. Wake Forest.

SOURCE: Associated Press

"That trophy that we're fighting for, every team is desperate to win it to get it in their trophy case," Black Knights coach Jeff Monken said. "I am really proud of these guys."

The Falcons tied the game on Matthew Depore's second field goal of the game, a 30-yarder with 23 seconds left in regulation. They had reached the Army 11 before a 15-yard chop-block penalty stalled the drive.

After a scoreless first half, the Black Knights took the second-half kickoff and with the help of a 39-yard pass from Tyhier Tyler to Tyrell Robinson, scored on Tyler's 9-yard run. Air Force responded with Dapore's 39-yard field goal and Army came right back with a 79-yard



TIM HEITMAN/AP

Army offensive lineman Jordyn Law (77) recovers a fumble for a touchdown in the Black Knights' 21-14 overtime win Saturday against Air Force in Arlington, Texas.

pass play from Christian Anderson to Robinson and a 13-3 lead after three quarters.

The Falcons closed the gap to 14-9 early in the fourth on Daniels' 4-yard toss to Dane Kinamon with the key play on the drive a 31-yard completion to David Cormier.

Air Force and the Black Knights came in as the nation's top two rushing teams but turned to the pass in the second half. The Falcons outgained Army 401-322 in total yards, including 226-214 in the air. Robinson had 118 yards receiving for the Black Knights while Bran-

don Lewis had 106 for Air Force.

"When we throw the ball and have to throw the ball, it's usually not a great formula for us to win because we are a running football team," Monken said. "We try to control the clock and keep away from the other team."

No. 8 Irish ride Coan's arm, defense to win over Navy

BY JOHN FINERAN
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — After getting an earful from Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly, Jack Coan delivered the big blow — a 70-yard touchdown pass to Kevin Austin at the end of the first half — and the No. 8 Fighting Irish shut down Navy's triple-option attack in a 34-6 victory Saturday.

"Coach was screaming at me because it was open the play before," said Coan, a grad transfer from Wisconsin who completed 23 of 29 passes for 269 yards who threw for 269 yards. "He told me to throw it there, so that's exactly what I did. I followed his plan. When you can get the ball to a guy like Kevin Austin, he can take it the distance every time."

The touchdown play ended a 5-play, 95-yard scoring drive that took one minute to complete and it provided a 17-3 halftime lead for the Irish (8-1, No. 10 CFP). It was one of six receptions for Austin, who totaled 139 yards for the game.

"It's a difficult game to prepare for," Kelly said after Notre Dame's fourth straight victory of the season after its 24-13 loss Oct. 2 to No. 2 (CFP No. 6) Cincinnati, a team that the Midshipmen battled to a 27-20 home loss Oct. 23. "I'm extremely proud how the team prepared all week and the way they executed. We were detailed and focused."

Kyren Williams ran for 95 yards and two scores as the Irish offense totaled 430 yards. Williams, who had a career-high 199

yards last week in a 44-34 shootout victory over North Carolina, scored on runs of 1 and 20 yards.

Grad nose tackle Kurt Hinish had a career-high 10 tackles after making just 14 in six games coming in. Notre Dame dominated Navy (2-7) with its size and physical play. The Midshipmen controlled the clock, with 34:33 of possession — but completed just one pass for 18 yards and rushed for 166 yards — 73 on 22 carries by fullback Isaac Ruoss.

"We couldn't run the ball in the first half, and in the second half we had a hard time tackling," Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo said. "We got worn down."

It was the Irish's fourth straight victory in the series that began in 1927 but was interrupted last year by the COVID-19 pandemic. Notre Dame has an 80-13-1 lead in the series that will continue at least through 2032.

The Midshipmen led 3-0 after the first quarter on the first of two field goals by Bijan Nichols. But the Irish scored 17 points in the second quarter — Jonathan Doerer's tying field goal, Williams' 1-yard TD run and the Coan-to-Austin's touchdown aerial with 50 seconds remaining — for a 17-3 halftime lead.

"Giving up that late touchdown (in the first half) was tough because we deferred," Niumatalolo said.

Notre Dame got a safety when Navy backup quarterback Xavier Arline, replacing injured starter Tai Lavatai, recovered

his own fumble in the end zone early in the fourth quarter. Williams then recovered his goal-line fumble in the end zone to finish off his 20-yard scoring scamper. Freshman Logan Diggs completed the scoring with an 8-yard run.

The takeaway

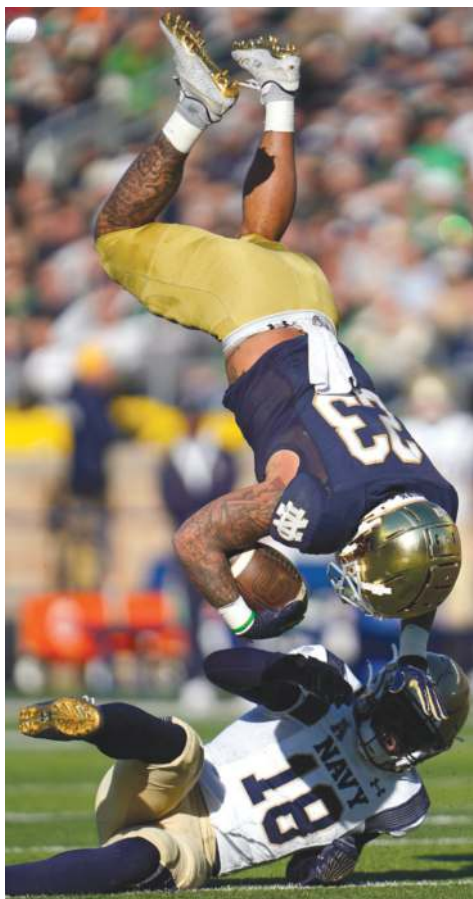
Navy: The Midshipmen struggled against Notre Dame's physical front four. Back-to-back quarterback sacks of Lavatai by Hinish and Jordan Botelho forced Navy to settle for a 49-yard field goal by Nichols and a 3-0 first-quarter lead.

Lavatai then suffered a neck injury late in the second quarter and didn't return. Arline replaced him and completed one of two passes for 18 yards but managed just eight yards on eight carries.

"We ate up so much clock and came away with nothing," Niumatalolo said after the Midshipmen managed just two field goals with its time of possession advantage.

Notre Dame: After being held scoreless in the first quarter, the Irish outgained the Midshipmen 225-12 yards in the second quarter, including 158-0 through the air while scoring 17 straight points behind quarterbacks Coan and freshman Tyler Buchner, who alternated over the last three quarters.

Coan had two big completions to Austin in the first half — a 38-yarder completion to set up Doerer's tying 24-yard field goal and then their 70-yard completion that put the Irish up 17-3 with 50 seconds left.



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Navy safety Rayuan Lane (18) upends Notre Dame running back Kyren Williams (23) in the first half of Notre Dame's 34-6 win Saturday South Bend, Ind.

SPORTS



Undisputed champion
Álvarez unifies super middleweight titles for first time » **Boxing, Page 19**

TOP 25 TAKEAWAYS



Giant Killers

Purdue, UNC stun No. 5 Michigan St., No. 10 Wake

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**
Associated Press

When the first College Football Playoff rankings come out, it is tempting to play What if?

What if this team wins out? What if that team remains unbeaten? What would the CFP field look like then?

It's a fun game, but usually the teams that most surprisingly reach November in playoff contention don't stay that way.

If you spent any time this week wondering: What if No. 5 Michigan State (CFP No. 3) or No. 10 Wake For-

est (CFP No. 9) finished undefeated, well, that's not a thing anymore. Two of the most surprising teams of the season lost Saturday.

A week after the Spartans surged up the rankings with a dramatic victory against Michigan, they became the latest AP top-five team taken down by the Big Ten's Giant Killers.

The Spoilermakers struck again. Purdue now has 17 victories against top-five teams as an unranked team, six more than the next closest program. Just three weeks ago, star receiver David Bell and the

SEE KILLERS ON PAGE 22



Top: Purdue running back King Doerue, center, celebrates a touchdown against Michigan State in West Lafayette, Ind., Saturday. Purdue won 40-29. **Right:** North Carolina quarterback Sam Howell runs against Wake Forest during the Tar Heels' 58-55 victory in Chapel Hill, N.C., on Saturday.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CONROY, TOP, AND GERRY BROOME, RIGHT/AP

Law, Army prevail over Air Force in OT » College football, Page 23

