Biden makes historic pick

Kamala Harris becomes first Black woman chosen as running mate

BY KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — Joe Biden named California Sen. Kamala Harris as his running mate, making history by selecting the first Black woman to compete on a major party’s presidential ticket and acknowledging the vital role Black voters will play in his bid to defeat President Donald Trump.

In choosing Harris, Biden embraced a former rival from the Democratic primary who is familiar with the unique rigor of a national campaign. The 55-year-old first-term senator, who is also of South Asian descent, is one of the party’s most prominent figures. She quickly became a top contender for the No. 2 spot after her own White House campaign ended.

She was scheduled to appear with Biden for the first time as his running mate at an event Wednesday near his home in Wilmington, Del.

In announcing the pick Tuesday, Biden called Harris a “fearless fighter for the little guy, and one of the country’s finest public servants.”

SEE PICK ON PAGE 6

Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., seen in Las Vegas in October, is the first woman of color selected for a major party’s presidential ticket.

JOHN Locher/AP

Ex-VA official says residents of veterans homes ‘left behind’ during pandemic

BY NIKKI WENTLING
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON—When Linda Schwartz first heard about coronavirus outbreaks killing residents of veterans homes in multiple states, she wanted to dig more deeply.

Schwartz was the longtime commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs. She served as an assistant secretary of the VA under former President Barack Obama, leading the VA’s policy and planning initiatives. She’s also a Vietnam War veteran who served in the U.S. Air Force for nearly 20 years, retiring in 1986 after she was injured in an aircraft accident.

When she watched the news this spring about veterans dying alone in nursing homes, Schwartz saw herself and her family.

“For many Vietnam War veterans, it was like we were back in Vietnam again and the same thing is happening — we’re being left behind,” Schwartz said.

Under the direction of Vietnam Veterans of America, she assembled a committee to investigate what had gone wrong. What they found was startling: a lack of transparency about the number of coronavirus deaths at veterans homes, and a VA leadership team that shirked responsibility for the facilities.

The committee assembled its findings and recommendations into a 16-page report that will be shared with members of Congress.

The main takeaway, Schwartz said, was that the VA should be more involved with veterans homes to ensure they’re in good condition. In the case of the coronavirus pandemic, better collaboration could’ve saved lives, she said.

SEE HOMES ON PAGE 10
Associated Press

BEIJING — Antagonisms between China and the United States didn’t stop Beijing’s burger lovers from standing in line for hours for a bite of Shake Shack’s snacks.

The New York burger brand opened its first restaurant in the Chinese capital on Wednesday in Beijing’s TaiKoo Li, a shopping area popular among young people.

Shake Shack opened its first restaurant in mainland China in Shanghai last year.

Nearly 200 customers wound around the Beijing restaurant ahead of its 10:30 a.m. opening.

Yang Fan, 18, said she got there at around 6 a.m. and was first in line, keen to enjoy an experience she had first while visiting the capital city at a time when relations between China and the U.S. are at their worst in decades, amid disagreements over trade, Hong Kong, human rights and Beijing’s claims to territory in the South China Sea.

For Yang and others, all that took a backseat to American-style cheeseburgers, hot dogs, fries and ice-cold beverages.

“Although we are Chinese, we should not discriminate against U.S. brands, because it (government-level tensions) have nothing to do with its people,” she said.

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Army begins second round of green uniform rollout

By Corey Dickstein
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army this month will distribute its World War II-inspired green service uniforms to drill sergeants at installations hosting basic training as it begins its second round of the phased introduction, service officials said Tuesday.

By March, nearly all soldiers stationed worldwide should have the option to purchase the Army Green Service Uniform, said Army Col. Stephen DeYoe, a project manager who led the Army’s development of the uniforms for Program Executive Officer Soldier. The Army greens — modeled after the popular “pinks and greens” uniform worn by officers during World War II — will slowly replace the blue Army Service Uniform as soldiers’ daily business wear, Thomas said. It will become mandatory in 2027.

Recruiting students at Fort Knox, Kentucky’s Recruiting and Retention College received the uniform last month, and hundreds of soldiers with the Army Band and its 3rd Infantry Regiment, the ceremonial unit based in Arlington, Va., known as the Old Guard, have also received it. Some high-profile general officers and senior enlisted soldiers have been donning the new look around the Pentagon, during hearings on Capitol Hill and in other public appearances, including those conducted virtually — for several months.

Thomas said the feedback on the uniform he has received from soldiers has been overwhelmingly positive.

“Let me tell you, the Army is ready for this uniform,” Thomas told reporters in a phone call Tuesday. “I get constant positive feedback on the uniform’s appearance, and the next question I get after they say how good it looks is, ‘When can I get it?’”

The answer to that question, at least to some extent, remains to be determined, depending on a given soldier’s job and home station. Drill sergeants for Basic Combat Training and One-Station Unit Training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, Fort Benning in Georgia, Fort Jackson in South Carolina and Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri will be issued the Army greens in the coming weeks.

By December, the Army plans to begin issuing the new uniforms to incoming recruits and to recruiters spread out across the country, Thomas said. It should be available for purchase in Army and Air Force Exchanges at all posts by spring, starting early next year at installations within the continental United States and then in Hawaii, Alaska and overseas, he said.

Early adopters of the new uniform will pay more for it. The standard uniform now costs about $500, said Daniel Koglin, a project manager who led the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. That does not include any optional items available to soldiers, including the so-called “Ike” jacket, inspired by the cropped jacket made iconic by Gen. Dwight Eisenhower during World War II.

Thomas said over time the cost of the uniform will decrease as the Army ramps up production. Enlisted soldiers, he said, are encouraged to use their annual clothing replacement allotment to offset the cost of the new uniform. Officers will have to pay for it out of pocket.

Ultimately, the Army intends for the greens, or AGSUs, to become the standard everyday uniform for most soldiers working in an office-like setting. It will be required Oct. 1, 2027. The blue Army Service Uniform at that time will become standard for more formal occasions.

Thomas said the AGSUs were meant to last at least six years, as opposed to the four years the blue uniform is intended to be worn. They are also more form-fitting, especially for women.

For the first time in the Army’s history, Thomas said, the service took input from an all-female panel in designing the version of the uniform for women. Among the suggestions that group made were to make pants standard for female soldiers, as opposed to skirts.

“We want all of us, as soldiers, to look the same,” he said of their recommendation. “I thought that was pretty profound for that all-female board to come up with that decision.”

The feedback on the uniform for women has proven overwhelming.

Thomas said the AGSUs were more form-fitting,用户可对文本进行分段。
**Marines’ Ospreys fill need in debut at Saber Junction**

**BY IMMANUEL JOHNSON**  
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — U.S. Marines are showcasing the Corps’ aviation strengths as they take part in the annual Army-led Saber Junction exercise, being held most of this month in Bavaria.

The Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force-Crisis Response-Africa 20.2 flew at least three MV-22 Ospreys more than 1,200 miles from Moron in Spain to Grafenwoehr training area for the exercise, which began Aug. 3 and runs until the end of the month.

The Marines are thought to be taking part in Saber Junction for the first time, said Maj. Christopher Bradley, spokesman for the 173rd Airborne Brigade, which has two battalions at Grafenwoehr.

“We are here to conduct joint training with the Army that will highlight our aviation assets and afford us the opportunity to train,” said Marine Osprey pilot Capt. Elijah Smith.

“The Osprey can take off and land vertically and has the range of an airplane, he said.

The exercise, which this year involves some 4,000 troops from nine countries, got underway days after Defense Secretary Mark Esper outlined which bases in Germany U.S. troops would be withdrawn from, where they would go, and how many troops would be affected by a reduction in the number of forces ordered by President Donald Trump.

Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels, the other training area hosting Saber Junction, were not among the military installations slated to be closed.

About half the troops who will leave Germany will return to the U.S., while the rest will be redeployed elsewhere in Europe, Esper said.

The realignment would help to deter Russian aggression in Europe, strengthen NATO, reassure allies and improve flexibility of military forces in the region, he said.

In addition to the U.S., the troops participating in this year’s Saber Junction are from Albania, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania and Ukraine.

Saber Junction is set to end Aug. 27.

**IMMANUEL JOHNSON/Stars and Stripes**

**US military delivers food, medical aid to Beirut**

**BY CHAD GARLAND**  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The U.S. military has delivered some 260 tons of humanitarian aid to Lebanon since an explosion last week damaged much of the capital city and left more than 200 people dead or missing.

U.S. Air Forces Central Command and Air Mobility Command delivered more than a half-million pounds of food, water and medical supplies in four days since Thursday, when the first C-17 transports brought 11 pallets of aid from Qatar to Lebanon following the Aug. 4 explosion, the military said.

Also on Tuesday, U.S. soldiers and airmen in Europe helped deliver about 12,000 pounds of emergency medical kits to Beirut via Ramstein Air Base. U.S. Army Europe said in a statement that the kits are “designed to help local hospitals address critical medical needs,” USAREUR said.

International donors have pledged some $300 million in aid after the blast that wounded some 6,000 people, overwhelming hospitals in the capital.

The explosion, which rattled windows more than 150 miles away on Cyprus, dug a 460-foot crater at the port, leveled surrounding buildings and left some 300,000 residents homeless.

Hospitals had already been struggling to pay staff and secure medical supplies before the blast, as the country faced the worst economic crisis in its history following the collapse of its government in October and the spread of COVID-19 this year, a Congressional Research Service report said last week.

The extensive damage at the port, including a grain silo and other food storage facilities, is likely to exacerbate the crisis, analysts say.

The blast is believed to have been caused by a fire that ignited a store of about 2,750 tons of ammonium nitrate that had been left in a port warehouse for several years, despite repeated warnings about the danger.

Economic losses were estimated at up to $15 billion, The Associated Press reported. In a speech on Monday, Prime Minister Hassan Diab said he and his government were stepping down, following weekend clashes between security forces and demonstrators.

The U.S. last week said it would send $17 million in emergency aid to Lebanon on top of more than $400 million provided since September.

As the largest provider of development, humanitarian and security assistance to the country, the U.S. also has in place measures meant to prevent aid funds from being transferred to Hezbollah, an Iran-backed political party that the U.S. has sanctioned as a foreign terrorist organization.

After the initial shipment of supplies from Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Dorothy Shea said in a video statement that some 30,000 Meals, Ready to Eat and other assistance would be distributed through “our trusted partner,” the Lebanese Armed Forces.

The U.S. works closely with the country’s military, which it views as a counter to Hezbollah. It has provided more than $2 billion in aid to the armed forces since 2006.

Since the initial aid delivery, more supplies were sent from Camp As Sayliyah in Qatar and Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait, AFRICENT said this week in a video.

“U.S. Central Command will continue to work with the Lebanese Armed Forces, U.S. Embassy in Beirut and (U.S. Agency for International Development) to provide support to the Lebanese people,” the AFRICENT video said.

“We are in this together.”

**JUSTIN PARSONS/U.S. Air Force**

**IMMANUEL JOHNSON/Stars and Stripes**
Taliban likely to oppose any US presence in Afghanistan

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Taliban negotiators are likely to oppose any proposal for the U.S. to establish a lasting counterterrorism presence in Afghanistan during upcoming peace talks with the government in Kabul, analysts said.

While President Donald Trump has often called for a troop withdrawal, he also said the U.S. is “going to always have a presence” in Afghanistan for counterterrorism in an interview on Fox News radio last fall. Trump has also said the U.S. is not interested in maintaining a large footprint in the region.

Some lawmakers, including Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, also have proposed leaving such a residual U.S. force to prevent the Taliban from seizing power again as a launchpad for terrorism.

But any remaining foreign presence is a nonstarter among Taliban members, said Andrew Watkins of the International Crisis Group, which released a report Tuesday on the group’s internal views.

“Members of the Taliban we spoke to, at all levels of the organization, in all parts of the country, said this was a non-negotiable issue, that there cannot be a Western footprint,” said Watkins, the Brussels-based think tank’s senior analyst for Afghanistan.

The report, based on interviews with Taliban, Afghan and Western officials over several years, comes ahead of intra-Afghan negotiations expected to begin after the government’s representatives depart for Qatar on Thursday.

The initial talks are expected to review terms for a cease-fire. The U.S. promised withdrawal of all American and allied forces by the middle of next year isn’t contingent on the success of the talks, but on whether the Taliban break ties with al-Qaida and block such terrorist groups from using Afghan soil to train, recruit or raise funds.

The U.S. already has fewer than 10,000 soldiers in the country, and both Trump and Defense Secretary Mark Esper have said recently that plans call for that number to drop below 5,000 by Election Day.

So far there is little indication that the hard-line Islamist insurgents have distanced themselves from al-Qaida.

Lawmakers in Washington have questioned how the U.S. plans to ensure the group complies with the peace terms after foreign troops leave. Military planners and analysts have suggested continuing a presence of mostly special operations.

“The right answer is to reduce U.S. troops strength, but maintain sufficient forces to prevent a resurgence of terrorism activities,” said James Stavridis, a retired admiral who oversaw operations in Afghanistan as NATO’s supreme allied commander from 2009 to 2013.

That would require about 5% of the 150,000-troop force Stavridis commanded at the height of the war, he said.

Another national security expert, Kamran Bokhari, said at least 4,000 troops, intelligence officials and contractors are required for effective counterterrorism operations.

But Taliban leadership would have a hard time selling the notion to the rank-and-file, said Bokhari, of the Washington-based Center for Global Policy. It would require major concessions, he said.

“How do you compromise and not look like you caved to?” Bokhari asked. “They’re going to want something really big in exchange, like changing the [Afghan] constitution.”

Even if a U.S. force were to remain, the prospect of cooperation with the Taliban raises doubts, Bokhari said.

“It’s not easy to go from shooting people to saying, ‘Let’s all go fight (Islamic State-Khorasan) and al-Qaida and the other foreign fighters,’” Bokhari said.

The Taliban faces being viewed as an international pariah like it was in the 1990s if it can’t convince other nations that they’re serious about fighting terrorist groups, said Omar Samad, a former Afghan ambassador and government adviser.

“One of the purposes is to continue to prove to their parties they’re part of a future counterterrorism setup,” said Samad, who is now with the Washington-based Atlantic Council. “And part of the burden is on the Americans to hold their feet to the fire.”


Russia makes Open Skies flight over US bases in Germany

By Jennifer H. SVAN and Slobojan LERIK
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — A Russian surveillance plane flew over Ramstein Air Base on Wednesday as part of its second Open Skies treaty flight this year, through German airspace, military officials said.

The Russian Air Force Tupolev Tu-154M aircraft also had a look at Spangdahlem Air Base and flew near U.S. Army bases in Bavaria, officials said.

The Open Skies treaty allows its 35 signatories to conduct short-notice, unarmed reconnaissance flights over the territory of other party states, to collect data on military forces and activities.

President Donald Trump said in May that he wants to pull out the Russian presence in Germany.

“The U.S. out of the treaty, but Germany and other European allies have vowed to remain, which means surveillance flights over U.S. bases by a country the U.S. views as an adversary will likely continue,” a defense analyst said.

Both Spangdahlem and Ramstein air bases were flown Wednesday by the Russian Tu-154, Erica Vega, a U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa spokeswoman, said in a statement.

The mission was the second of two Russia was authorized to fly over Germany this year under the terms of the treaty.

“While we do not know what bases they are most interested in, the previous mission followed a similar path,” Vega said.

Trump said in May that the United States would withdraw from the treaty within six months, accusing Russia of repeatedly violating the terms of the agreement, including by denying or restricting observation flights by other parties over the heavily fortified Russian encloae of Kaliningrad and parts of Georgia that have been occupied by Russia since 1991.

In addition to allowing surveillance flights with as little as 72 hours’ notice, the Open Skies treaty authorizes signatories to ask for images obtained by others during those overflights. All European countries except Switzerland, Austria and Serbia, are signatories.

Since 2002, the U.S. has conducted a total of 201 overflights — two-thirds of them over Russia — while Russia has flown a total of 77 missions over NATO’s European allies, Canada and the U.S., according to treaty statistics. Last year, Germany flew 11 reconnaissance missions over Russia, which conducted six flights over Germany.


FBI probes shooting of military helicopter during training in Va.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI is investigating the shooting of a military helicopter during a training mission this week in northern Virginia, injuring one crew member who was aboard, officials said Wednesday.

The Air Force helicopter was flying over Middleburg on Monday when it was shot from the ground nearby, according to authorities. The helicopter made an emergency landing at the Manassas Regional Airport, and federal agents were called to the scene to investigate, the FBI said in a statement.

The crew members aboard the UH-1N Huey helicopter, assigned to the 1st Helicopter Squadron at Joint Base Andrews, were on a routine training mission when the helicopter was struck by a bullet, the Air Force said in a statement. The helicopter was about 10 miles northwest of the airport, near Middleburg, and was flying about 1,000 feet above the ground when it was hit, according to officials.

One crew member in the helicopter was injured, but the FBI said he has since been treated and released from the hospital, according to authorities. The FBI investigation is expected to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident.


Stars and Stripes

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Harris’ selection as VP resonates with Black women

By Kat Stafford
Associated Press

DETROIT — China Cochran met Kamala Harris at a campaign event in Detroit last year and was swept away by her ambition, charisma and leadership. She hoped the win would lead to a seat in Congress.

So when Joe Biden named Harris on Tuesday as his running mate — making her the first Black woman on a major party’s presidential ticket — Cochran wasn’t just struck by the hurt. It represented a full-circle moment for Black women, who for generations have fought for their voices to be heard and political aspirations recognized.

“It tells Black girls that they can be president,” said Cochran, who recently ran for state representative in Michigan. “If you look back at Shirley Chisholm, she ran as a candidate and could lead at this moment. I think it’s important for us to look at that and see other young women of color realize that they can have their dreams and really make change in our world.”

Harris’ selection is historic in many senses. It also marks the first time a person of Asian descent is on the presidential ticket.

Born to a Jamaican father and Indian mother, she often speaks of her deep bond with her late mother, whom she has called her single biggest influence.

Harris’ boundary-breaking potential serves as an affirmation of the growing power of voters of color, according to nearly a dozen interviews with political strategists, potential voters and activists.

“Joe Biden understood this historic moment required a tough, smart and respected public servant,” said Donna Brazile, who managed Al Gore’s campaign in 2000 and served as Democratic National Committee chair in 2016.

Black women in particular helped rescue Biden’s campaign earlier this year by delivering a resounding victory in the South Carolina primary, powering him to the Democratic nomination.

As he prepares for the general election, Biden is trying to re-create the multi-racial and cross-generational coalition that twice sent Barack Obama to the White House.

That will hinge on Black voters in battleground states like Michigan to turn out in force in November.

“We’ve seen from an electoral process what happens if we don’t vote, that can mean the difference between winning and losing a state,” said Karen Finney, a senior political strategist and spokesperson for Hillary Clinton’s 2016 presidential campaign. “We’re in this moral inflection point of this country and Vice President Biden is someone who’s talked about healing the soul of our country and certainly one of the ways to do that is to uplift the voices of Black women.”

Strategists said that Harris will help that effort.

Ravi Perry, Howard University’s political science chair, said Harris’ elevation also represents the first time that a graduate of a historically Black college or university will be represented on the ticket. Harris graduated from the Washington-based university and is a member of the storied Black sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha.

While Harris’ selection has largely been applauded among the Democratic Party and voters, some have raised concerns. She joins the ticket at a time of immense racial tensions and crises in the nation. The coronavirus pandemic has disproportionately affected Black Americans and other people of color. Protests against systemic racism and brutality are top of mind for potential voters.

Alicia Garza, the co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement, said the nation is in a moment where “deep and profound change is needed.”

“For some activists, it is important that a Black woman is represented on this ticket, and for other activists, substance is going to be much more important than symbolism,” Garza said. “The trick of getting people out to vote will be a successful combination of the two. This is an incredible moment of opportunity, it’s a moment that is ripe with possibility and I’m still hopeful that this newly announced ticket will rise to meet the moment.”

Pick: Biden makes history with selection of former rival for vice president

From Front Page

She said Biden would “unify the American people and ‘build an America that lives up to our ideals.’”

Harris joins Biden at a moment of unprecedented national crisis. The coronavirus pandemic has claimed the lives of more than 160,000 people in the U.S., far more than the toll experienced in other countries. Business closures and disruptions resulting from the pandemic have caused severe economic problems. Unrest, meanwhile, has emerged across the country as Americans protest racism and police brutality.

Trump’s uneven handling of the crises has given Biden an opening, and he enters the fall campaign in strong position against the president. In adding Harris to the ticket, he can point to her relatively centrist record on issues such as health care and her background in law enforcement in the nation’s largest city.

The president told reporters Tuesday he was “a little surprised” that Biden picked Harris, pointing to their debate stage disputes during the primary. Trump, who had donated to her previous campaigns, argued she was “about the most liberal person in the U.S. Senate.”

“I would have thought that Biden would have tried to stay away from that a little bit,” he said.

Biden, who spent eight years as President Barack Obama’s vice president, has spent months weighing who would fill that same role in his White House. He pledged in March to select a woman as his vice president, easing frustration among Democrats that the presidential race would center on single biggest influence.

Biden’s search was expansive, including Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a leading progressive; Florida Rep. Val Demings, whose impeachment criticism of Trump won party plaudits; California Rep. Karen Bass, who leads the Congressional Black Caucus; former Obama national security adviser Susan Rice; and Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, whose passionate response to unrest in her city garnered national attention.

A woman has never served as president or vice president in the United States. Hillary Clinton was the Democratic presidential nominee in 2016. Two women have been nominated as running mates on major party tickets: Democrat Geraldine Ferraro in 1984 and Republican Sarah Palin in 2008. Their parties lost in the general election.

The vice presidential pick carries increased significance this year. If elected, Biden would be 78 when inaugurated in January, the oldest man to ever assume the presidency. He’s spoken of himself as a transitional figure and hasn’t fully committed to seeking a second term in 2024.

Harris, born in 1964 to a Jamaican father and Indian mother, spent much of her formative years in Berkeley, Calif. She has often spoken of the deep bond she shared with her mother, whom she has called her single biggest influence.

Harris won her first election in 2003 when she became San Francisco’s district attorney. In that post, she created a reentry program for low-level drug offenders and cracked down on student truancy.

She was elected California’s attorney general in 2010, the first woman and Black person to hold the job, and focused on issues including the foreclosure crisis. She declined to defend the state’s Proposition 8, which banned same-sex marriage and was later overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.

After being elected to the Senate in 2016, she quickly gained attention for her assertive questioning of Trump administration officials during congressional hearings.

Harris launched her presidential campaign in early 2019 with the slogan “Kamala Harris For the People,” a reference to her courtroom work. She was one of the highest-profile contenders in a crowded Democra
Minnesota Rep. Omar holds off primary challenger

BY JEFF AMY
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Rep. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota survived a stiff Democratic primary challenge Tuesday from a well-funded opponent who tried to make an issue of her national celebrity, the latest in a string of victories by a new generation of emboldened progressive lawmakers.

Omar, seeking her second term in November, easily defeated Antone Melton-Meaux, an attorney and mediator who raised millions in anti-Omar money.

Omar and her allies gained confidence in her reelection chances after primary victories last week by fellow “Squad” member Rashida Tlaib in Michigan and by Cori Bush, a Black Lives Matter activist who ousted a longtime St. Louis-area congressman. They also claimed momentum from the renewed focus on racial and economic justice after George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis.

“Tonight, our movement didn’t just win,” Omar tweeted. “We earned a mandate for change. Despite outside efforts to defeat us, we once again broke turnout records. Despite the attacks, our support has only grown.”

Melton-Meaux used the cash to paper the district and flood airwaves with his “Focused on the Fifth” message that portrayed Omar as out of touch with the heavily Democratic Minneapolis-area 5th District, which hasn’t elected a Republican to Congress since 1960. He conceded defeat and acknowledged that his efforts weren’t enough, while declining to speculate on why.

Omar in 2018 became one of the first two Muslim women elected to Congress, building on a national profile that started when the onetime refugee from Somalia was elected to the Minnesota Legislature just two years earlier. Her aggressive advocacy on liberal issues, and her eagerness to take on Donald Trump, made her even more prominent.

Democratic U.S. Sen. Tina Smith and Republican challenger Jason Lewis easily won their primaries in the only statewide races on the ballot.

Elsewhere, in western Minnesota’s conservative 7th District, former state Sen. Michelle Fischbach won a three-way Republican race for the right to challenge Democratic Rep. Collin Peterson. Peterson, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, is one of the GOP’s top targets to flip a House seat in November.

2 conservative Ga. districts choose GOP House nominees

ATLANTA — Republicans in two conservative north Georgia districts chose nominees to Congress on Tuesday, with voters in northwest Georgia’s 1st district embracing construction executive Marjorie Taylor Greene despite warnings from establishment Republicans about her support of conspiracy theories and racist remarks.

Republicans in northeast Georgia’s 9th District chose gun dealer and Navy veteran Andrew Clyde, spurning anti-establishment rebel and state Rep. Matt Gurtler. Democrats also choose nominees in the 9th District and in coastal Georgia’s 1st District.

Greene led a nine-way June primary and beat Rome neurosurgeon John Cowan on Tuesday. Greene’s victory came despite national criticism over her support for conspiracy theories, her racist and anti-Semitic remarks, and opposition by some high-profile Republicans. A vocal Donald Trump supporter, Greene said she ran for Congress to defend the country against socialists, protesters and those who tear down Confederate monuments.

Greene received over 40% of the ballots cast in the initial June 9 primary, while Cowan got 21%.

Greene will face Democratic candidate Kevin Van Ausdal in November.

In the 9th Congressional District, Clyde narrowly trailed state Rep. Matt Gurtler in a nine-way primary in June, but reaped support and endorsements from many state Republicans.

Clyde will be a heavy favorite in November in one of the nation’s most reliably Republican congressional districts.

On the Democratic side, Army veteran Devin Pandy won the nomination in the district. He defeated Brooke Siskin in Tuesday’s runoff after trailing her in a three-way June primary.

Former lawyer Joyce Marie Griggs, an Iraq combat veteran, won a runoff for the Democratic nomination in Georgia’s 1st Congressional District, overcoming questions about her disbarment. Griggs beat 2018 Democratic nominee Lisa Ring on Tuesday.

There were 17 party runoffs and one special election runoff for House and Senate seats in the General Assembly.

Six runoffs were between Democrats, and 11 were between Republicans.

Conn. candidate quits race after his arrest

A Republican candidate for Congress in Connecticut dropped out of the race Tuesday as voters were going to the polls in his primary election following his arrest in an assault case.

Thomas Gilmer, the party-endorsed candidate, was arrested Monday night on charges of first-degree unlawful restraint and second-degree strangulation. He posted a $5,000 bond. The charges stem from a May 2017 attack on a former girlfriend and a July 22 interview with the victim according to Wethersfield police.

Gilmer was arraigned Tuesday and is due back in court Sept. 23.

According to the arrest warrant affidavit, police have a video of the incident that was provided by Gilmer’s Republican opponent, Justin Anderson.

If Gilmer, 29, wins after formally withdrawing, the Republican Party will be able to nominate someone to take his place in the general election, according to Gabe Rosenberg, a spokesman for the Connecticut Secretary of the State.
Facebook: Virus affected removal of harmful content

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Looks like the machines aren’t ready to take over just yet.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected Facebook’s ability to remove harmful and forbidden material from its platforms, the company said Tuesday. Sending its content moderators to work from home in March amid the pandemic led the company to remove less harmful material from Facebook and Instagram around suicide, self-injury, child nudity and sexual exploitation.

Sending its human reviewers home meant that Facebook relied more on technology, rather than people, to find posts, photos and other content that violates its rules.

“Today’s report shows the impact of COVID-19 on our content moderation and demonstrates that, while our technology for identifying and removing violating content is powerful, there will continue to be areas where we rely on people to both review content and train our technology,” Guy Rosen, Facebook’s vice president of integrity, wrote in a blog post.

The company said Tuesday that it has since brought many reviewers back to working online from home and, “where it is safe,” a smaller number into offices.

Facebook also announced Tuesday that it is banning caricatures of Black people in the form of blackface, as well as dehumanizing depictions of Jewish people that include images or other depictions of Jewish people running the world or controlling major institutions such as media news or the government.

Georgia

CANTON — A Georgia school district has quarantined more than 900 students and staff members because of possible exposure to the coronavirus since classes resumed last week and will temporarily shut down a hard-hit high school in which a widely shared photo showed dozens of maskless students posing together.

The quarantine figures from the Cherokee County School District include at least 250 students, according to data the district posted online.

On Tuesday, Georgia posted its highest single-day death total in the pandemic at 137 fatalities, according to the Georgia Department of Public Health. The state is currently averaging reports of more than 60 deaths each day though people may have died earlier.

Of the fatalities reported on Tuesday, Department of Public Health spokesperson Nancy Nydam said 72 occurred in August, 54 in July and eight earlier. More than 4,300 people have died overall in Georgia.

Indiana

MUNCIE — An eastern Indiana school district sent 228 students home to quarantine to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, but in what appeared to be the largest isolating case among state schools amid the coronavirus outbreak.

The Delaware Community Schools took action after a football player at Delta High School tested positive for the virus several days ago. The school district is aware of only that one case, The Herald-News reported.

“I haven’t seen a situation like this before, where it is that severe,” Superintendent Tim Reece Mann told the newspaper.

It’s the largest student quarantine in the state reported, topping the roughly 48 students affected in the Lanevel Community Schools in southern Indiana’s Harrison County.

The Delaware Community Schools quarantine affected 153 students at Delta High School, 68 at Delta Middle School and seven others at two elementary schools. The district has about 2,600 students.

Kentucky

FRANKFORT — Having tested negative for COVID-19 after feeling ill, Kentucky’s governor said Tuesday that the experience gave him “newfound empathy” for people dealing with the anxiety of waiting for their own test results.

Gov. Andy Beshear said he and his family tested negative for the coronavirus. But he described it as a “real scare” after he showed symptoms Tuesday morning that might suggest someone has the virus.

The Democratic governor said he immediately isolated himself and canceled afternoon events. He was tested a few hours later and it came back negative, Beshear said in a video statement.

“The even more difficult part is that I have to endure this with all those who are having to wait just a couple days to get their test results back, knowing that they may be separated from their family and wondering what their immediate future is going to be,” he said.

Beshear on Tuesday announced 562 new coronavirus cases in Kentucky, raising the total number of cases to at least 35,793 since the pandemic began. The governor reported eight more virus-related deaths, raising the statewide death count to 783.

Montana

HELENA — Montana is allocating $50 million to increase the state’s coronavirus testing capacity in response to COVID-19, Gov. Steve Bullock said Tuesday.

“As more Montanans return to work and families prepare for the upcoming school year, we must ensure there are options to provide high quality and flexible care during this emergency,” Bullock said in a statement.

The funding was allocated from the state’s $1.25 billion in federal coronavirus relief money.

“The majority of the funding, $34 million, will be distributed in grants to providers who care for school-age children out of school time,” officials said. The money can be used to address health and safety needs related to COVID-19, tuition, transportation, training, and other expenses to maintain and expand care for school-age children.

The governor’s announcement came on the same day as the state announced two new COVID-19 related deaths, bringing Montana’s death toll from the respiratory virus to 77.

North Carolina

RALEIGH — Campus workers in the University of North Carolina system have filed a lawsuit saying working conditions are unsafe and that workers are reporting for work with inadequate protective equipment amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

Some university employees, including housekeepers and other campus workers, are provided one or two masks per week and many don’t have access to face shields or gowns, The News & Observer of Raleigh reported Tuesday, citing a statement from the N.C. Public Service Workers Union.

The case was filed in Wake County on Monday and seeks class-action status.

The policy failures also include fall hardest on Black and Brown workers’ shoulders, putting them at risk during a pandemic that disproportionately impacts their health, the union said.

The group, which represents housekeepers, professors and other staff, is asking the court to require that the UNC System “fulfill its non-delegable duty to provide conditions of employment and a place of employment free of hazards that are likely to cause serious harm, even death, to employees,” according to the union.

Texas

AUSTIN — Texas surpassed 500,000 confirmed coronavirus cases Tuesday as Republican Gov. Greg Abbott suggested family and neighborhood gatherings are behind a sharp rise in the rate of positive tests, which has climbed to record levels just as schools are beginning to reopen across the state.

He also said more testing in Texas is likely after dropping off in recent weeks, a trend seen across the U.S. even as deaths mount.

Texas has reported more than 1,400 new deaths over the past week, including 220 on Tuesday.

Although health officials say there are encouraging signs in Texas — particularly hospitalization levels that have dropped more than 30 percent since July’s peak — infection rates have been on a steady increase. On Tuesday, the rolling average of positive cases over the past seven days jumped to 24%, by far the highest of the pandemic, according to figures from the state Department of Health Services.

The rising infection rate comes as testing in Texas has plummeted, with the seven-day average dropping below 30,000 on Tuesday for the first time since June, according to state figures.

In Austin, health officials say testing has fallen off dramatically from more than 6,000 a week in July, but said the reason was a decrease in demand. Widespread testing is considered essential to managing the outbreak as the U.S. surpassed 5 million confirmed infections this month.

Washington

OLYMPIA — Some coronavirus restrictions on in-person worship have been relaxed for churches, under new guidance issued by Gov. Jay Inslee.

The Tacoma News-Tribune reported that the guidance issued late Monday includes worship, religious study classes, religious ceremonies and religious holiday celebrations.

While drive-in services or remote sessions are still the recommended option, counties in Phase 1 of the state’s COVID-19 reopening plan can hold outdoor services for up to 100 people, with a required six feet of distancing and a maximum of 25% of the room capacity.

While indoor services can be attended by up to 200 people with the same masking and distancing requirements as Phase 1, and indoor services can be held for up to 25% of the room’s capacity or 200 people, whichever is less.

Indoor services can expand to up to 50 percent capacity or 400 people with distancing and masks in place for Phase 3. Outdoor services can accommodate up to 400 people as well with social distancing enforced.
Science and politics tied up in global race for a vaccine

By Ben Fox
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The announcement Tuesday by Russian President Vladimir Putin that his country was the first to approve a coronavirus vaccine did not provoke the awe and wonder of the Soviet Union’s launch of the first satellite into orbit in 1957. Instead, it was met by doubts about the science and safety.

But it also underscored how, like the space race, the competition to have the first vaccine is about international rivalries as well as science. The first nation to develop a way to defeat the novel coronavirus will achieve a kind of celebrity status that goes along with it.

Putin said the Health Ministry gave its approval after the vaccine underwent the necessary tests and said one of his two adult daughters had been inoculated.

Nonetheless, officials said vaccine testing may begin as early as this month, according to situation reports by the World Health Organization.

Putin gave its approval after the vaccine underwent the necessary tests and said one of his two adult daughters had been inoculated.

No proof was offered and scientists in Russia warned that more testing would be necessary to prove it is safe and effective.

Nevertheless, officials said vaccination of doctors could start Aug. 11 if the initial results are positive. Large-scale vaccination may begin as early as October.

Stars and Stripes has partnered with the Association of Military Spouse Entrepreneurs on the first-ever

Military Spouse Entrepreneur Guide!

Pick up the guide on August 20th at a base near you!

You can also check it out online at stripes.com!
The antibody drugs are “very promising” and could be available quickly after a successful trial, said Janet Woodcock, a U.S. Food and Drug Administration official who is leading government efforts to speed virus therapies. Key studies are underway, and some answers should come by early fall. One company, Lilly, already started manufacturing its antibody drug, betting that studies now underway will give positive early results.

“Our goal is to get something out as soon as possible,” said Lilly’s chief scientific officer, Dr. Daniel Skovronsky, who helped lead that work. “Regeneron’s drug uses two antibody drugs to treat and prevent COVID-19. Companies test antibody drugs to treat and prevent COVID-19.
Cow chase leads to helicopter rescue

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A confrontation between an elderly couple and a cow and her calf required the intervention of the California Highway Patrol in Northern California.

Authorities said on Facebook that the unidentified couple had fallen to the ground after a cow gave chase to them in the Lynch Canyon Regional Park. They were hoisted into a helicopter to elude the angry bovine.

In a video taken by highway patrol midair, a cow and calf are seen standing near the couple on the barren trail. As the chopper hovers above the site, the cow is seen rearing its head and bellowing, while the calf stands nearby.

Highway patrol succeeded in moving the cow by sounding the helicopter’s alarm, CHP wrote in a Facebook post. Officials lifted the couple 75 feet into the air and took them to a hospital.

Climate activists hang banner on iconic sign

MA BOSTON — Members of an activist group hung a banner that read “CLIMATE CHANGE NOW” on the iconic Citgo sign near Boston’s Fenway Park, leading to eight arrests, police said.

The group unfurled the banner as the Red Sox began their game against the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday in Ogunquit, Maine. Temperatures in southern Maine were expected to continue to climb into the 90s for a couple more days before cooler, drier air moves in later this week.

Taking the plunge

Girls take part in a summertime ritual as they jump off a bridge into the Ogunquit River on Tuesday in Ogunquit, Maine. Temperatures in southern Maine were expected to continue to climb into the 90s for a couple more days before cooler, drier air moves in later this week.

Museum officials said they the roughly $225,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services will help build an online collections website with free public access to 7,000 of its more than 35,000 artifacts.

The digital collections will include high-resolution 360-degree photographs. The two-year projects start next month with help from Chicago Public Schools teachers.

The artifacts cover a wide range of items, from a treadmill for dogs used to power farm equipment to a WWII German U-505 submarine. The digital collections will include high-resolution 360-degree photographs. The two-year projects start next month with help from Chicago Public Schools teachers.

The artifacts cover a wide range of items, from a treadmill for dogs used to power farm equipment to a WWII German U-505 submarine.

Museum officials said the approximately number of dolphins that were rescued by volunteers after becoming stranded on a beach on Cape Cod, Mass. Stacey Hedman, a manager with the International Fund for Animal Welfare, said many of the dolphins were sunburned and overheating by the time the organization’s Marine Mammal Rescue and Research team responded. She said the team of roughly 50 volunteers used beach-ready stretchers to carry nearly a dozen of the dolphins to safety. They also gave the marine mammals IV fluids and vitamins, and deployed boats to guide them back to deeper waters. Two dolphins, however, were in poor health and ultimately were euthanized, Hedman said.

Boat explosion injures 2, damages 6 vessels

TN KINGSTON — Two people were seriously injured when an explosion happened while their boat was docked at a marina in East Tennessee, officials said.

Crews responded to Blue Springs Marina on Watts Bar Lake over the weekend after small explosions were reported on moored vessels, news outlets reported, citing a statement from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

There was significant damage to the dock and six vessels, two of which sank, the statement said.

Parachutist hurt after crashing into building

OH CLEVELAND — A parachute crashed into the side of an apartment building in downtown Cleveland and ended up injured and suspended about 40 feet in the air until he was rescued by firefighters, authorities said.

The 35-year-old man told police he and four friends jumped from a plane about 2 a.m. Sunday. The four other parachutists landed safely in a park, but the 35-year-old man’s parachute drifted until it became entangled on top of a parking garage when he hit the apartment building, which is across the street from the park.

State Fair to go on as planned but virtually

NM ALBUQUERQUE — Next month’s New Mexico State Fair is going all virtual.

KOB-TV in Albuquerque reported that organizers plan to hold the fair entirely online to circumvent challenges from the coronavirus pandemic.

There will still be 4-H and Future Farmers of America virtual competitions.

Musicians who would have performed live at the fair will do so digitally. Vendors will also be selling merchandise on the fair’s web page.

The fair runs from Sept. 14 through Sept. 20.

Police: Man steals SUV with 2 kids inside

SC NORTH CHARLESTON — A shoplifting suspect claimed to be high on methamphetamine when he stole an SUV with two small children inside, authorities in South Carolina said.

The Post and Courier reported that the suspect was caught after leading police on a chase in North Charleston.

Police said that the children, ages 2 and 6, were not harmed.

The chase happened after police were told shoppers were at a North Charleston store. When an officer approached one suspect, authorities said he pushed a shopping cart into her, then stole the SUV with the children inside.

Gary Jamar Nelson, 55, of North Charleston, was charged with kidnapping, assaulting a police officer while resisting arrest, shoplifting and other charges, according to jail records.

From wire reports
USS Essex delivers WWII warbirds

3 Hawaii flyovers to commemorate end of Pacific war

By Wyatt Olson
Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — Massive cranes began hoisting 14 World War II-vintage warplanes from an amphibious assault ship Tuesday at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, two weeks before they will take to the sky for a series of aerial parades over Oahu to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the war's end.

The collection of warbirds made the journey from San Diego aboard the USS Essex, along with some owners and maintenance crews of the planes.

The first two flyovers are scheduled for the afternoons of Aug. 29 and 30. The routines have not yet been announced, but planners have said one will likely be viewable from Honolulu’s Waikiki Beach, while the other will be over the western part of Oahu.

The final aerial parade will commence immediately after a ceremony on Sept. 2 aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial in Pearl Harbor that marks the exact day Japan formally surrendered.

Among the warbirds arriving:
- A B-25 Mitchell bomber, the kind used in the daring Doolittle Raid in April 1942
- A Grumman F8F Bearcat, which served as a long-range, high-altitude bomber escort
- A Grumman TBM Avenger, a Navy torpedo bomber that the Navy first used in the Battle of Midway
- A P-51 Mustang, which was introduced late in the war
- A Boeing-Stearman Model 75, one of more than 10,000 training planes of this type produced during the war
- A Grumman FM2 Wildcat, a carrier fighter that was used by the Navy and Marine Corps in battles at Guadalcanal, the Coral Sea, Midway and the Solomon Islands
- A Grumman F8F Bearcat, Grumman’s last piston-engine fighter, which was introduced in 1941
- A TBM Avenger, the same kind of aircraft flown in the historic Doolittle Raid in April 1942, is unloaded from the Essex at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on Tuesday.

Ten U.S. veterans who witnessed Japan’s surrender aboard the USS Missouri while in Tokyo Bay in 1945 plan on attending the Sept. 2 ceremony called “Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope.” Among the events originally planned to commemorate the war’s end have been dropped due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Fourteen U.S. veterans who witnessed Japan’s surrender aboard the USS Missouri while in Tokyo Bay in 1945 plan on attending the Sept. 2 ceremony called “Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope.” Among the events originally planned to commemorate the war’s end have been dropped due to the coronavirus pandemic. Visiting veterans and their chor-ones will be kept in “bubbles” intended to keep them separated from others. They will be among the small group allowed to attend the ceremony on the Missouri, which will be livestreamed.

Kenneth Rodriguez Santiago/U.S. Navy

The USS Essex transports a bevy of World War II-era warbirds from San Diego to Hawaii on Tuesday.
Iraq military says Turkish drone kills 2 senior commanders

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A Turkish drone strike killed two senior Iraqi security officials, Iraq’s military said Tuesday, marking the first time that Turkey’s operation to root out Kurdish rebels in Iraq’s north produced fatalities among high-ranking Iraqi personnel.

The drone targeted a vehicle belonging to the Border Guards in the Bradost area, north of Irbil, the military statement said, causing the deaths of two commanders and the vehicle’s driver.

Gen. Mohammed Rushdi, commander of the Border Guards’ 2nd Brigade and Brig. Zubair Halli, commander of the 3rd Regiment, were killed in the attack. Ihsan Chelebi, the mayor of Bradost, told The Associated Press. He said they had been establishing new posts in the area.

Attempts to reach Turkish military officials for comment were not successful.

Turkey has been conducting a military operation in northern Iraq, saying regional Kurdish officials have been using its territory to stage attacks. They did not say whether they were military personnel or civilians.

A PKK official in northern Iraq said the meeting had taken place in Bradost.

“The purpose of the meeting was to bring stability to the area,” he said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

On June 17, Ankara launched an airborne-and-land offensive into the border region of Hafitan, some 9 miles from the Turkey-Iraq border.

Outcry rises in Somalia as new bill would allow child marriages

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — An outcry is rising in Somalia as parliament considers a bill that would allow child marriage once a girl’s sexual organs mature and would allow forced marriage as long as the family gives their consent.

The bill is a dramatic rework of years of efforts to bring formal marriage laws, and after five years of analysis in 2014-15.

The new Sexual Intercourse Related Crimes Bill “would represent a major setback in the fight against sexual violence in Somalia and across the globe” and should be withdrawn immediately, the United Nations special representative on sexual violence in conflict, Pramila Patten, said in a statement Tuesday.

The bill also weakens protections for victims of sexual violence, she said.

Already more than 45% of young women in Somalia were married or “in union” before age 18, according to a United Nations analysis in 2014-15.

Somalia in 2013 agreed with the U.N. to improve its sexual violence laws, and after five years of work, a sexual offenses bill was approved by the Council of Ministers and sent to parliament.

But last year, the speaker of the House of the People sent the bill back “in a process that may have deviated from established law” asking for “substantive amendments,” the U.N. special representative said.

Thousands of people in Somalia are circulating a petition against the bill, including Ilwad Elman with the Mogadishu-based Elman Peace center.

As Somalia prepared to mark International Youth Day on Wednesday, Elman tweeted this week: “I don’t wanna see any Somali officials participating online to celebrate … when you’re trying to steal their childhood away from them RIGHT NOW with the intercouse bill legalizing child marriage.”

Somalia’s presidency and health ministry had no immediate comment Wednesday. It was not clear when the bill would be put up for a vote.

“We want to make sure it goes in line with Islamic law and traditions,” the deputy parliament speaker, Abdwel Muday, said after the new bill emerged.
Rhimes readies podcasts

Prolific TV producer turns to new medium to tell stories

By Laura Zornosa
Los Angeles Times

From the makers of the hit TV series "Grey's Anatomy" and "Scandal" comes ... a whole slate of new podcasts.

Untangle your ear buds and flex back to your morning commute with the new Hall of Fame '90s country superstars Marty Stuart and Shondaland Audio and iHeartMedia are teaming up for three new original podcasts this month, with more to come in the months ahead.

In October, TV producer titan Shonda Rhimes inked a deal with iHeartMedia, the global top publisher of commercial podcasts. On Tuesday, Rhimes' production company announced exclusively to the Los Angeles Times the upcoming lineup of shows, which will be made with iHeartMedia and sponsored by GroupM.

"You Down?" is a talk-show-style podcast hosted by Obama's Other Daughters — an LA comedy group of four Black women — kicked off the podcast series Tuesday. Next week will see the arrival of the historical-true-crime show "Criminalia" and "Go Ask Ali," hosted by actress Ali Wentworth.

"I think that some of the programming was, interestingly enough, already on the slate before we started to see this recent upsurging," Bailey said. "And it will be just absolutely amazing for us to get some of these stories told now."

Hank Williams Jr. leads Hall inductees

Hank Williams Jr., Marty Stuart and songwriter Dean Dillon are the newest inductees to the Country Music Hall of Fame. Announced by the Country Music Association on Wednesday, Williams, who often is referred to as Hank Jr. or the nickname Bocephus, will join his father, country legend Hank Williams, in the Hall of Fame's rotunda.

Bocephus has been eyeing an opening theme song for "Monday Night Football." He has had the day's theme, that made me feel like the Shondaland slate was even more timely and relevant. ... Anyone in any disposition right now in quarantine will have a choice to listen to something based on this slate.

By early next year, that slate will expand to include "American Cop," a scripted series exploring the story of Firefighter Ed Wilson, who essential-ly took over the Oval Office; "#Matter," a scripted drama about a reporter reflecting on a case of police brutality; and "Black Girl Lost," which examines growing numbers of missing Black women and girls in a documentary style.

While a couple of these shows directly address concerns surfaced by the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis police custody and an ongoing campaign for racial equity, the lineup has been made in the making.

"I think that some of the programming was, interestingly enough, already on the slate before we started to see this recent upsurging," Bailey said. "And it will be just absolutely amazing for us to get some of these stories told now."

Chris Rock-led 'Fargo' starts next month

From wire reports

Following its COVID-19-related delay, "Fargo" is finally returning to the airwaves.

The Emmy Award-winning drama series will return for a fourth season with a two-episode premiere on Sept. 27.

In March, the limited anthology series was re-scheduled from its original April 19 premiere due to the coronavirus crisis.

This season, the popular FX drama is set in 1950 Kansas City and follows two criminal syndicates fighting for a piece of the American dream.

The most interesting twist for this iteration is the addition of a Black clan into the murky mayhem.

Cast against type, comedian Chris Rock takes a dramatic turn as a crime boss named Loy Cannon, whose uneasy truce with his Italian mafia counterpart is tested with deadly results.

The cast joining Rock for this 11-episode season includes Emmy Award winner Glynn Turman, Jer-emie Harris, Timothy Olyphant, Jason Schwartzman, Corey Hendrix, James Vincent Meredith, Salvatore Esposito and Ben Whishaw.

Based loosely on the Oscar-winning 1996 Coen Brothers film of the same name, "How I Met Your Mother," for top-notch acting talent. Billy Bob Thornton, Jean Smart, Kirsten Dunst, Ted Danson, Patrick Wilson, Bokkeun Woodbine and Ewan McGregor have starred in previous seasons.

"Fargo" can also be found at FX on Hulu, a day after its FX airdate.

Other news

Sharon Stone is writing a memoir. The 62-year-old actress' "The Beauty of Living Twice" comes out in March. Alfred A. Knopf announced Tuesday that Stone will reflect on everything from her painful childhood in Pennsylvania to such films as "Basic Instinct" and "Casino," for which she received an Academy Award nomination and a Golden Globe award. She'll also write about her two marriages, her near-fatal stroke in 2001 and her humanitarian work.

Trini Lopez, a singer and guitarist who gained fame for his versions of "Lemon Tree" and "If I Had a Hammer" in the 1960s, died Tuesday in Palm Springs, Calif. He was 83. Filmmaker P. David Ebersole, who just finished shooting a docu-mary on Lopez, confirmed that Lopez died from complications of COVID-19. Business partner and musician Joe Chavira said he and Lopez just fin-ished recording the song "If By Now," meant to raise money for food banks during COVID-19. Summer Redstone, who built a media empire from his family's drive-in movie chain, has died. He was 97. Redstone built ViacomCBS Inc. through aggressive acquisitions, but many headlines with his name focused on severed ties with wives, ac-tors and executives. Under his watch, Viacom be-came one of the nation's media titans, home to pay TV channels MTV and Comedy Central and movie studio Paramount Pictures.
Vaccine’s a shot in the arm for Putin’s ego

By Kathleen Parker
Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON

While back when, many Americans read not one but two newspapers at what point the story was that saying emerged in my first newsroom: The afternoon paper gets the story, the morning paper takes it for a spin.

Having worked for two (now dead) afternoon papers, I could argue for swapping the stories. I don’t see the point of trying to beat competitors and get the story first often meant essential revisions, if not corrections. Later, it takes time to properly report and rework the story.

My memory of this essential truth was jarred by the news that Russia has announced a vaccine for COVID-19. President Vladimir Putin has used the vaccine to bolster his flagging public image, which has suffered over the past few weeks as the country faces a wave of infections.

The vaccine’s name tells most of the story. Sputnik V, of course, refers to the then-Soviet Union’s first manned satellite, which was launched Oct. 4, 1957. Shortly thereafter, the United States put its first orbiter into orbit; the orbit. Sputnik-2 kept orbiting Earth for about three weeks before its batteries died. After circling silently for a few months, the satellite reentered the Earth’s atmosphere and rolled into history’s dustbin. It didn’t matter; the Soviet Union was on the course to the launchpad. It was a powerful, mighty force.

The afternoon paper gets the story, the morning paper takes it for a spin.

But more than that, the vaccine’s announcement is a political move. Putin, a former KGB agent, has used his years in power to build a strong political base in Russia. The vaccine announcement is likely to help him in the upcoming elections, which are expected to be held this year.

Climate trial volunteers are surely the bravest and most selfless of souls, or, as in Putin’s trials, “volunteers” and military personnel. The human studies began on June 17 with 75 volunteers, half of whom received a liquid form of the vaccine, the other half a soluble powder. Putin’s claims that the vaccine is safe has so far been verified. He is not convinced with the Western authorities, including the World Health Organization. (Does that mean we like the WHO now?)

Putin could have truly found the magic formula, of course, especially if Russian authorities had been able to put the first few doses in the hands of the mass. The United States, Britain and Canada claimed last month that Russian hackers were attempting to do just that. Maybe Russia has had a workable vaccine, which Putin says will be good for two years. If Russia got there first, it will have some distance to reclaim some of the prestige its leader, at least, so desperately needs.

Putin is like any other former KGB em-

pire-monger. His ambitions can be summed up in a single word: speed. Given what he introduced the gigantic black beast when he became President George W. Bush: “Big-foot.” Putin himself to accept the first injection of the spend vaccine development and, one may infer, create a concoction bigger, stronger and faster than all the rest. Like his American counterpart, Putin cares most about winning, and Putin V is his metaphor.

We won’t have long to wait and see what a mass vaccination looks like. Large-scale production of Sputnik V is slated to begin next month, with vaccinations possibly in early 2021. If Russia isn’t convinced with the Western authorities, including the World Health Organization. (Does that mean we like the WHO now?)

However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fair-
Trump must work to free Tice, bring him home

By Fred Ryan
The Washington Post

Eight years ago this week, a young man named Austin Tice was abducted in Syria. During his last summer as a Georgetown University law student, he had decided to travel to the Middle East as a freelance journalist to document that country’s ongoing conflict. Before leaving the United States, he earned an open-ended return home, in a car on his way to Damascus, Austin was taken captive at a roadside checkpoint. Within 47 seconds — a video segment featuring Austin being interrogated by his captors — he disappeared, leaving the world with an urgent quest to secure his freedom.

For years, Tice’s family has tirelessly worked to bring him home. They have traveled repeatedly to the Middle East, purchased every course that might help bring their son back. They have pleaded with the Trump and Obama administrations, as well as representatives of both major political parties, to bring Austin home.

The ad had two goals: to elect Cooley, a Republican, and to defeat a Democratic star before she could rise. If that is a byproduct of defeating her, we’re perfectly happy with that,” the committee’s spokesman told me at the time. Harris answered by turning to her friend the president. Obama headlined a fundraiser for Harris in Athena, near San Jose, and a rally in Los Angeles.

As Biden knows, Harris can verbally excruciate an opponent. At a debate at the UC-Davis law school, a reporter moderating the event asked Cooley whether, if elected, he would take his pension from his decades of service as a Los Angeles County prosecutor. It was to be a six-figure sum.

“I’ve definitely earned any pension rights I have,” Cooley said. Harris saw the answer for what it was, a blunder. She replied with a knowing laugh.

“For it, Steve. You’ve earned it; there’s no question.” Her campaign turned the exchange into a withering campaign ad that aired in Cooley’s base, the L.A. basin.

On election night 2010, as the tea party swept to victory elsewhere, Cooley declared victory and the San Francisco Chronicle jum ped the gun, running an online headline: “Cooley beats Harris to win attorney general race.”

But California takes weeks to tally its votes, and by the time the count was over, Harris had earned a 74,157-vote victory, out of more than 9.6 million cast.

Now, even bigger things await. And Republicans are running out of chances to stop her.

Fred Ryan is publisher and chief executive of The Washington Post. He served as assistant to President Ronald Reagan.
Tuesday’s transactions

**BASEBALL**
Major League Baseball

**BOSTON RED SOX** — Placed RHP Kutter Crawford on the 10-day IL.

**CHICAGO CUBS** — Selected S Grant Albers from the 10-day IL. Placed INF Leury Garcia on the 10-day IL.

**CLEVELAND INDIANS** — Placed RHP Zach Plesac on the 10-day IL. Recalled LHP Tyler Naquin from the alternate training site.

**DETROIT TIGERS** — Designated SS Willi Castro from Alternate Training Site. Placed 1B C.J. Cron on the 10-day IL.

**HOUSTON ASTROS** — Placed LHP Blake Parker on the 10-day IL. Optioned RHP Connor Brogdon from the alternate training site. Designated RHP Brooks Raley and optioned RHP Carlos Hernandez from Alternate Training Site.

**INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** — Placed RHP Carsten KOEDING on the 10-day IL.

**KANSAS CITY ROYALS** — Selected S jalyn Henderson from the 10-day IL. Placed INF Leury Garcia on the 10-day IL.

**MINNESOTA TWINS** — Recalled RHP Dev要做到为球队再添一员。

**MINNESOTA VIKINGS** — Placed S Jeff Gladney on the 10-day IL. Placed LHP Asa Lacy on the 10-day IL.

**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** — Invited nonroster invitee Arnol Castellanos from the practice squad to the 53-man roster.

**PHILADELPHIA EAGLES** — Placed LB Cam Patrick on the 10-day IL.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS** — Placed B Forest Lamp on the practice squad. Recalled LB Joe Schobert from the practice squad.

**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** — Recalled LHP Logan Allen from the alternate training site.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS** — Recalled S Ildemaro Vargas from the Arizona Diamondbacks’ alternate training site.

**POKES** — Recalled RHP Conner Shaw from the 10-day IL.

**SAN DIEGO PADRES** — Optioned INF Alex Dickerson and LHP Asa Lacy from the 10-day IL.

**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** — Placed S Josh Jones on the 10-day IL.

**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** — Recalled recovering from a shoulder injury. Platz was placed on injured reserve on Monday.

**SFO** — Recalled RHP Matt Wisler from the 10-day IL.

**TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS** — Recalled DL Anthony Chickillo from the 10-day IL.

**TENNESSEE TITAN** — Placed S Chris Jones on the 10-day IL.

**TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** — Placed LB Scott Meiner on the 10-day IL.

**TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** — Optioned INF Izaiah Johnson from the 10-day IL.

**TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** — Recalled DL Anthony Chickillo from the alternate training site.

**TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** — Recalled S Joejuan Williams from the alternate training site.

**TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** — Recalled DL Matt Breidenbach from the alternate training site.

**TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** — Placed DL Matt Breidenbach on the 10-day IL.

**TENNIS** — Placed LHP Sean Gilmartin to spring training camp.

**TOPPS** — Placed LHP Pedro Strop on the 10-day IL.

**VIRGINIA TECH** — Designated RHP Carlos Hernandez from Alternate Training Site.

**VIRGINIA TECH** — Recalled SS Willi Castro from Alternate Training Site. Optioned Jimmy Herget and INF Andrés Gimenez from Alternate Training Site.

**VIRGINIA TECH** — Recalled INF Leury Garcia on the 10-day IL.

**WASHINGTON REDSKINS** — Recalled SS Willi Castro from Alternate Training Site. Optioned C Ali Ashnaoui and INF Ander-"
Effect: Each league making tough decision

FROM BACK PAGE

optimism. The Big 12 was conspicuously quiet, at least publicly, before announcing Wednesday it still plans to play this fall. Outside the Power Five conferences, the American Athletic Conference, Conference USA and Sun Belt made no immedi-
ate moves.

“Everyone is going to make their inde-
dependent decisions and I certainly respect our colleagues,” Scott said. “We try to be very collaborative, communi-

tive with our peers across the country. But at the end of the day, our presidents and chan-

ellers looked at what was in best interest of Pac-12 student-athletes based on the advice and frankly what’s going on in our communities.”

The Big Ten said it was postponing all fall sports and hoping to make them up in the second semester. An hour later, the Pac-12, the Big Ten’s Rose Bowl partner, said all sports would be paused until Jan. 1, including basketball.

Players around the country were stunned. Many had recently taken to social media with the hashtag #WeWantToPlay. Ohio State star quarterback Justin Fields was among those trying to present a uni-

ified front and save their season.

After the announcement, Fields simply posted to Twitter: “smh,” short for “shaking my head.”

“Our lives are changing forever right before our eyes,” Arizona offensive lineman Donovan Laie tweeted.

Less than a week ago, the Big Ten — which includes perennial powers such as Ohio State, Michigan, Nebraska and Penn State — had released a revised conference-

ly football schedule it hoped would help it navigate a fall season filled with potential COVID-19 disruptions.

Even after the Big Ten made its call, there were diverging thoughts about how it should have proceeded.

Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said he would have liked to have pushed back the season from Sept. 5 to maybe early October.

“Wish we could have had a little bit more time to evaluate, but we certainly understand this is the time we had to pull the plug,” Smith told the Big Ten network.

A statement from Nebraska’s president, athletic director and coach was more stern:

“We are very disappointed in the decision by the Big Ten Conference to postpone the fall football season, as we have been and continue to be ready to play.”

Nebraska coach Scott Frost and Ohio State coach Ryan Day had both suggested Monday that if the Big Ten did not play their schools might look elsewhere for games.

In the Pac-12, where Southern Californi-

a, Oregon, Washington and Stanford have won championships in recent years, there seemed to more consensus.

Over the last month, conferences had been reworking schedules in hopes of being able to buy time and play a sea-

son. The Big Ten was the first to settle on a conference-only plan, in early July, and all the Power Five conferences eventually switched to either all or mostly conference play.

The idea behind it was to create flex-

ibility to deal with the possibility of having to cancel or reschedule games because of COVID-19 outbreaks, like the ones that have hit Major League Baseball.

Big 12 moving ahead

Questions abound with plan to shift season

Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields picks up yardage against Wisconsin during the first half of the Big Ten championship game on Dec. 7. The Big Ten won’t play football this fall because of concerns about COVID-19, becoming the first of the power conferences to yield to the pandemic.

Michael Conroy / AP

Playing in the spring?

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

Back in April, not long after the NCAA basketball tournament was canceled because of the corona-

virus pandemic, the idea of moving the 2020 college football to the spring of 2021 already was being tossed around.

A last resort is what it was called by conference commissioners and athletic directors.

When it looked as if the U.S. might be winning its fight against COVID-19, the idea of a spring season mostly fell by the wayside.

“We broached it very little in our AD meetings and really haven’t gotten serious about it at all,” Wisconsin athletic director Barry Alvarez said Tuesday. “I had one AD from another league call and just talk about it a little bit.”

The Big Ten and Pac-12 postponed fall football on Tuesday, hoping to salvage a spring season like the Mid-American Con-

ference and Mountain West plan to do.

What looks like is anybody’s guess, but official in those conferences need to figure out everything from how to prepare in the fall to how much to play in the spring, where in the calendar it could fit and who exactly is going to be suiting up for these teams?

Wisconsin coach Paul Chryst said before a spring football season is planned, there has to be a discussion about fall 2021.

“I think the two have to be tied together. In my mind, we’ve made the decision and we’ve canceled the 2020 season,” Chryst said. “Now how do we want to do 2021?”

Todd Berry is the executive director of the American Football Coaches Association and a member of the NCAA’s football oversight committee. He said conversations about a spring football season have been minimal, but there has been a theme.

“We would all like to go into next fall with some kind of normalcy,” he said. “Protecting next fall becomes pretty significant.”

So it’s safe to assume any spring season is going to be substantially shorter than the usual 12 regular-season games.

Exactly when a season could be played in the spring is likely to be determined by the virus on the front end and the NCAA men’s basketball tournament on the back. Would anybody in college sports want foot-

ball treading on basketball’s main event?

Keeping the players in shape might be easier than simply keeping them around.

More than two dozen FBS players, in-

cluding some big stars from the Big Ten such as Penn State linebacker Micah Par-

sons and receivers Rondale Moore of Purdue and Rashod Bateman of Minnesota, opted out of the 2020 season even before the conference postponed.

Will other highly regarded future NFL players such as Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields, Oregon offensive lineman Penei Sewell and Penn State tight end Pat Freiermuth bother participating in a spring season?

The NFL scouting combine is in late February and the draft is in late April. If the NFL does nothing to accommodate spring college football, some of the sure-

thing players are almost certain to leave. The players who needed another year to improve their stock might be more inclined to stay and play. But an injury in the spring could be an even bigger problem when it comes time to earn a spot on an NFL roster in the summer.
# MLB Scoreboard

## National League

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## Home Runs

- San Francisco: 2 (Allred, Hasegawa)
- Los Angeles: 1 (Lewis)

## Highlights

- The San Francisco Giants defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers in extra innings with a walk-off home run by Allred.
- Hasegawa pitched a three-hit shutout for the Giants.

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## Rangers vs. Mariners

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## Rays vs. Sox

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## Giants vs. Astros

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## Summary

- The Giants defeated the Astros in extra innings with a walk-off home run by Allred.
- Hoyt pitched a three-hit shutout for the Astros.

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**Notes:**

- On this day, the Giants and the Astros played a dramatic extra-innings game that ended with a walk-off home run by the Giants.
- Hoyt's performance was impressive with a three-hit shutout for the Astros in their loss.

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**David Zulubowski**

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**Image:**

![Diamondbacks center fielder Starling Marte can’t catch a ball hit by the Rockies’ Raimel Tapia that fell in for a two-run double.](image-url)
The Associated Press

Bo Bichette, Travis Shaw and the wandering Toronto Blue Jays felt just fine in their new nest.

In the first major league game in Buffalo since 1915, Shaw hit an RBI single with the bases loaded in the 10th inning as the Blue Jays settled into refitted Sahlen Field with a 5-4 win over the Miami Marlins on Tuesday night.

“We’re still staying in a hotel, but it almost felt like the first game of the year. To go out and say, ‘All right, this is our spot,’ I think we did well,” said Bichette, who hit a three-run homer.

Barred from playing in Toronto by the Canadian government over concerns about the coronavirus, the Blue Jays spent nearly three weeks on the road before moving into the ballpark of their Triple-A affiliate for an on-field transgression for an on-field transgression.

Ramon Laureano was given a six-game suspension by Major League Baseball for an on-field transgression for an on-field transgression for an on-field transgression.

Laureano was hit by a pitch from Humberto Castellanos with one out in the seventh inning of Oakland’s 7-2 victory Sunday. He began exchanging words with a gesturing Cintron then left first base, threw down his batting helmet and began sprinting toward the 41-year-old Cintron.

Astros catcher Dustin Garneau and A’s manager Terry Francona exchanged words with a couple of blocks from Lake Erie and seat-back to back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to give the Angels back-to-back home games with at least four homers in the sixth inning to 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Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard, left, shoots as Dallas Mavericks forward Dorian Finney-Smith blocks a shot during the Blazers’ 134-131 win Tuesday in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Damian Lillard tied his career high with 61 points, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Dallas Mavericks 134-131 on Tuesday night in the second game of the Western Conference quarterfinals.

The Blazers will clinch a spot in the play-in series for the last playoff berth if they win at least one of their final two games.

"I think the biggest thing is, we got a chance," Lillard said. "It's just gotta be a team effort. Hopefully we can come back and play and get the job done."
Lightning outlast Jackets in 5OT

Point ends 4th-longest game in history, gives Tampa 1-0 series lead

Associated Press

TORONTO — By the time he launched the last shot, Brayden Point was just trying to do anything he could to end the fourth-longest game in NHL history.

“I just see a rolling puck and I just throw it on net,” Point said after scoring 10:27 into the fifth overtime to give the Tampa Bay Lightning a 3-2 victory over the Columbus Blue Jackets in their playoff opener Tuesday.

“I’m not really aiming,” he added. “Just sling one there and lucky enough it finds a corner.”

Point scored from just above the left circle, beating Joonas Korpisalo after the goaltender made an NHL-record 85 saves. The 24-year-old former Ohio State star had already scored in regulation and the first and second overtime periods, tying the record for most shots in an overtime game.

Point scored way back in the first period of Game 1 of the best-of-seven series. Veina Trophy finalist Andrei Vasilevskiy bought time for Point and Co. with 61 saves for Tampa Bay. The teams combined for 151 shots — the most in an NHL game since the league began officially tracking the statistic in 1955-56.

“It’s tiring for sure but then it gets fun at some point,” Point said. “I don’t know how many guys played a game like that, that long. It was an exciting one.”

The teams are meeting in the first round of the playoffs for the second straight year, with the Lightning looking to rebound from being swept 16 months ago by the underdog Blue Jackets, who became the first No. 8 seed to oust the winner of the Presidents’ Trophy in a season sweep 16 months ago.

The 36-year-old defenseman, who has spent four seasons taking a strong shot and the puck skirting over the top of defensemen Andrej Sekera’s stick blade on its way to the net.

“I saw a little angle and I just went for the shot and luckily it went in,” Anderson said.

After outscoring the Winnipeg Jets 16-6 in their first six games of the season, the Flames jumped ahead in this series in their playoff opener Tuesday.

Edmonton, Alberta — Rasmus Andersson snapped a tie after Dillon Dube scored twice in the first period for the confident Calgary Flames, who beat the Dallas Stars 3-2 in Game 1 of their best-of-seven Western Conference playoff series Tuesday.

“It feels good. You can feel the chemistry in the room and the trust between the guys,” Flames defender TJ Brodie said. “It definitely feels different than previous years.”

Andersson scored on a rush with four minutes left in the second period, with the defenseman taking a strong shot and the puck skirting over the top of defenseman Andrej Sekera’s stick blade on its way to the net.

“I saw a little angle and I just went for the shot and luckily it went in,” Anderson said.

But Dallas got only one shot on goal in that final stretch, the attempt by Pavelski, whose goal with 31 seconds left pushed the Stars into overtime Sunday when they won their last game in the round robin among the conference’s top four seeds.

“The last 50 seconds, I thought we battled really hard and we got away with it,” Anderson said.

Columbus defenseman Seth Jones, who logged an NHL-record 65 minutes, six seconds of ice time, said the officials didn’t say why a penalty was not called.

“I’d like them to come up here and give an explanation,” Jones said.

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Torottrella, meanwhile, looked ahead.

“Tampa Bay center Brayden Point celebrates his game-winning goal against Columbus during the first-seeded Lightning’s 3-2 overtime victory.”

The 36-year-old defenseman, who has spent all 14 of his NHL seasons with the Flames, got a delay-of-game penalty after knocking the puck out of play when trying to clear it with 49 seconds left.

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Domino effect?
Big Ten, Pac-12 pull plug on fall season

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

A crumbling college football season took a massive hit Tuesday when the Big Ten and Pac-12, two historic and powerful conferences, succumbed to the pandemic and canceled their fall football seasons.

Five months almost to the day after the first spikes in coronavirus cases in the U.S. led to the cancellation of the NCAA basketball tournaments, the still raging pandemic is tearing down another American sports institution: fall Saturdays filled with college football.

“This was an extremely difficult and painful decision that we know will have important impacts on our student-athletes, coaches, administrators and our fans,” Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott said. “We know nothing will ease that.”

Despite pleas from players, coaches and President Donald Trump in recent days to play on, 40% of major college football teams have now decided to punt on a fall season, a decision that will cost schools tens of millions of dollars and upends traditions dating back a century.

Both conferences cited the risk of trying to keep players from contracting and spreading the coronavirus when the programs are not operating in a bubble like the NBA and NHL are doing. They also cited the broader state of the pandemic in the United States, which has had more than 5 million cases of COVID-19.

“Every life is critical,” first-year Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren told the AP. “We wanted to make sure we continually, not only in our words but in our actions, do put the health and safety and wellness of our student-athletes first.”

Two smaller conferences, the Mid-American and Mountain West, had already announced the uncertain move to spring football. The decisions by the deep-pocketed Big Ten and Pac-12, with hundred million-dollar television contracts and historic programs, shook the foundation of college sports.

What’s next?

The Southeastern Conference and Atlantic Coast Conference released statements expressing cautious

Although the Atlantic Coast Conference, Southeastern Conference and Big 12 remain committed for now to fall football, the season is in serious jeopardy with 40% of Power Five teams on the sideline until at least spring.

See effect on Page 19

Wish we could have had a little bit more time to evaluate, but we certainly understand this was the time we had to pull the plug.

Gene Smith
Ohio State AD

Lillard scores 61 points in Blazers’ win
NBA, Page 22

Blue Jays win ‘home’ opener in Buffalo
MLB, Page 21