

COMMENTARY

'Saul' finale a fitting end to spinoff from 'Breaking Bad'

Page 18



NATION

Trump foe Cheney loses in Wyoming GOP primary

Page 9



NFL

League looks like its old self entering 3rd season of COVID era

Page 24

Navy touts 'life-altering \$115,000' in bonuses to lure vets back >> Page 4

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 81 Edition 89 ©SS 2022 THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022

平成12年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas



JOHNSON LAI/AP

Military personnel stand next to Harpoon A84, antiship missiles and AIM120 and AIM9 air-to-air missiles prepared for weapon loading drills in front of a F16V fighter jet Wednesday at the Hualien Airbase in Taiwan.

Dueling drills in the Pacific

Taiwan, China hold opposing military exercises amid tensions

By JOHNSON LAI
Associated Press

HUALIEN, Taiwan — Taiwan is staging military exercises to show its ability to resist Chinese pressure to accept Beijing's political control over the self-governing island, following new rounds of threatening drills from China.

The exercises Wednesday off the southeastern county of Hualien follow days of Chinese missile firings and incursions into Taiwan's sea and airspace by ships

and planes from the People's Liberation Army, the military wing of China's ruling Communist Party.

"We strongly condemn Communist China's continuous military provocations around Taiwan's sea and air that undermine regional peace," Taiwan Defense Ministry spokesperson Sun Li-fang told reporters at Hualien Air Force Base.

"Communist China's military operations just provide us with the opportunity for combat-readiness

training," Sun said.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Joanne Ou said China was using recent visits by U.S. Congress members including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi as a pretext for escalating its attempts to intimidate Taiwan into accepting what it has called its terms for "peaceful reunification."

"China launched military provocations on these grounds. This is

SEE DRILLS ON PAGE 3

Syria denies it is holding US journalist Austin Tice

By SARAH DADOUCH
The Washington Post

BEIRUT — Syria denied on Wednesday that it is holding missing U.S. journalist Austin Tice, who was abducted in Syria a decade ago at the height of the civil war that has torn the country apart.

In a statement, the Foreign Ministry addressed President Joe Biden's claim last week that Tice is being held by the Syrian government, calling it "invalid accusations against the Syrian government of kidnapping or arresting U.S. citizens, among them Austin Tice, a service member in the U.S. Army." It added that Tice and others had entered illegally.

"Syria emphasizes that any official dialogue or communication with the U.S. government side will only be public and based on the rule of respecting the sovereignty and independence and unity of the Syrian Arab Republic's land," the statement said.

It also placed the fault squarely on the U.S. government, saying it had broken the Vienna convention on diplomatic relations when it "not only turned a blind eye but encouraged tens of U.S. citizens to travel to Syria and enter its lands illegally and without permission from its government, through unofficial border crossings or by sneaking into areas that are controlled by terrorist armed groups."



Tice



GERMAN AIR FORCE/Twitter

Germany decks out Eurofighter jet for Indo-Pacific journey

Page 3

SEE TICE ON PAGE 6

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Heathrow extends passenger limit into fall

By ELLEN FRANCIS
The Washington Post

LONDON — One of Europe’s busiest airports has extended its cap on passengers into late October, as a summer of travel disruptions and staff shortages drags on.

London’s Heathrow Airport said it would allow no more than 100,000 people to fly out each day, extending for longer than initially planned a restriction that it said eased the chaos plaguing summer travel in Europe.

The travel hub imposed the dai-

ly limit in July during peak travel season, as photos circulated of lost luggage piling up on terminal floors and lines snaking around security barriers for hours. Heathrow cited shortages in staff struggling with surging traffic after countries emerged from coronavirus lockdowns that hit the aviation industry.

The London airport said Monday that its temporary cap led to fewer last-minute cancellations and “shorter wait times for bags.”

Just as summer started and the

United States lifted a coronavirus testing requirement, pent-up demand for travel collided with pandemic layoffs that had battered workers. The result was thousands of flight cancellations.

German pilots, French airport workers and Italian air traffic controllers have all walked out in recent weeks, squeezed by labor shortages and soaring inflation. Union activists in Paris called for better wages and emergency hiring to restore pre-pandemic staffing levels.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		South Korea (Won)	1,316.66
Euro costs (Aug. 18)	\$0.96	Switzerland (Franc)	.9534
Dollar buys (Aug. 18)	0.959	Thailand (Baht)	35.46
British pound (Aug. 18)	\$1.18	Turkey (New Lira)	17.9644
Japanese yen (Aug. 18)	130.00	(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.)	
South Korean won (Aug. 18)	1,277.00	INTEREST RATES	
Commercial rates		Prime rate	5.50
Bahrain (Dinar)	.3770	Interest Rates Discount rate	3.00
Britain (Pound)	1.2067	Federal funds market rate	2.32
Canada (Dollar)	1.2922	3-month bill	2.66
China (Yuan)	6.7792	30-year bond	3.09
Denmark (Krone)	7.3153		
Egypt (Pound)	19.1404		
Euro	1.0167		
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8429		
Hungary (Forint)	396.90		
Israel (Shekel)	3.2518		
Japan (Yen)	135.29		
Kuwait (Dinar)	.3070		
Norway (Krone)	9.7256		
Philippines (Peso)	55.83		
Poland (Zloty)	4.62		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7545		
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3830		

WEATHER OUTLOOK

THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



THURSDAY IN EUROPE



FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	11
Classified	13
Comics	16
Crossword	16
Faces	18
Opinion	14
Sports	19-24



However you read us,
wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

EUROPE

ADVERTISING
CustomerService@stripes.com | +49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING
CustomerService@stripes.com | +49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 314.583.9111

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING
PacificAdvertising@stripes.com | +81 (42) 552.2511
DSN: 315.227.7310

Round-the-world news for America’s military.

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill.

Also available on mobile apps for Android and iOS.



Mobile • Online • Print

PACIFIC



CHRISTIAN TIMMIG/German air force

A German air force Eurofighter nicknamed Air Ambassador refuels on an Airbus A330 of the Multinational Multirole Tanker Transport Unit.

Germany decks out Eurofighter for banner Indo-Pacific journey

BY ALEXANDER RIEDEL
Stars and Stripes
KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The German air force added some flash to its rapid flight of Eurofighters to Singapore, en route to an exercise in Australia and other missions in the Indo-Pacific region.

One of the planes sent to take part in Rapid Pacific, nicknamed the Air Ambassador, was widely emblazoned in foil wrap with a design featuring the flags of Germany, Singapore, Australia, South Korea and Japan.
During the marathon flight from Neuburg, crews traveled roughly 8,000 miles and refueled 11 times, the German air force said Monday in a statement. The six Eurofighters arrived in Singapore in just 24 hours, marking the first time the German planes have been sent to the region.

After the Singapore stop, air crews will face a full training and exercise schedule with various Pacific partners.
First, they are scheduled to participate in exercise Pitch Black in Australia, from Aug. 19 to Sept. 9, where the fighter jets will practice combat training flights alongside allies from France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and regional partners, according to a NATO statement.
After that, crews will practice protecting ships at sea during naval warfare exercise Kakadu hosted by the Australian navy.
Before returning to police European airspace, the fighters are also scheduled to train with their counterparts from Singapore's air force and visit Japan and South Korea.
The planes and crew are as-

signed to Tactical Air Force Squadron 74 in Neuburg. The unit helps protect German airspace and supported the NATO air policing mission in Romania amid Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in late February.
"We are showing that we also think about security beyond Europe," German Defense Minister Christine Lambrecht said in a statement July 22.
In September, the European Union introduced a strategy document that called for stronger security ties in the Indo-Pacific. The flights come as Western tensions with China have risen, amid visits to Taiwan by high-profile U.S. lawmakers and shows of force by the Chinese military in the Taiwan Strait.

riedel.alexander@stripes.com
Twitter: @lexRiedel

Drills: China imposes visa bans, other sanctions on Taiwan political figures amid military exercises

FROM PAGE 1
absurd and a barbaric act, which also undermines regional stability and interferes with shipping and commercial activities in the Indo-Pacific region," Ou said.
China sees the island as a breakaway province to be annexed by force if necessary, and considers visits to Taiwan by foreign officials as acknowledging its sovereignty.
Alongside its military threats, China imposed visa bans and other sanctions Tuesday on Taiwanese political figures. China exercises no effective legal authority over Taiwan and it's unclear what effect the sanctions would have.

China has refused all contact with Taiwan's government ever since shortly after the 2016 election of President Tsai Ing-wen of the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party. Tsai was overwhelmingly reelected in 2020.
The DPP also controls the legislature, while the vast majority of Taiwanese favor maintaining the status quo of de facto independence along with strong economic and social connections between the sides.
China has accused Washington of encouraging the island's independence through the sale of weapons and engagement be-

tween U.S. politicians and the island's government. The United States has said it does not support independence and has no formal diplomatic ties with the island, but it is legally bound to ensure Taiwan can defend itself against threats from China, including a blockade.
Aside from putting its military on alert, Taiwan has largely played down the threat from the Chinese exercises and life has continued as normal among a population of 23 million that has lived under the shadow of bellicose rhetoric and saber rattling from China for more than seven decades.

N. Korea test-fires 2 cruise missiles

BY DAVID CHOI
Stars and Stripes
CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — North Korea fired two cruise missiles toward the Yellow Sea on Wednesday, hours before South Korea's president again publicly offered economic incentives if the communist regime curtails its nuclear weapons program.
The missiles were launched around dawn from South Pyongyang province toward the west coast, the South Korean Ministry of Defense said in a statement to reporters. South Korean and U.S. intelligence agencies were analyzing the launches, the ministry said.

The U.N. Security Council prohibits North Korea from launching ballistic missiles. Cruise missiles, however, are not banned.
Around 10 a.m., South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol delivered a speech marking his 100th day in office. He spoke an hour after a meeting of the country's senior security officials.
In his remarks, Yoon repeated an offer of economic assistance he made the previous day. The offer is conditioned on North Korea displaying a "firm will" toward denuclearization, he said.
"If North Korea changes naturally as the results of a variety of our economic and diplomatic support toward North Korea, we welcome the changes," the president said.
Yoon made a similar offer to North Korea on Tuesday during his Liberation Day speech. The national holiday marks the end of Japanese rule in 1945.
Yoon offered an "audacious initiative" to boost North Korea's economy and livelihood if it stops its nuclear weapons program. He floated several incentives, including agricultural assistance and modernization of the regime's medical infrastructure.

After that speech, State Department spokesman Ned Price said the United States "strongly" supports South Korea's "aim to open a path for serious and sustained diplomacy with Pyongyang."

"Our shared goal, shared with [South Korea], as well as our other allies and partners, is the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and we'll continue to coordinate closely with the Yoon administration to this end," Price said.
Yoon's speech on Wednesday made no mention of repercussions for further provocations by North Korea. He focused instead on strengthening the South's military and its alliance with the U.S.
His administration does not support "changes by force" against North Korea, an apparent reference to challenging leader Kim Jong Un's rule, Yoon said.
"The most important thing is sustainable peace settlement between South and North Korea," he said.
The cruise missile launches mark North Korea's 18th round of testing — more than 30 missiles in total — so far this year. The communist regime last fired an unprecedented eight short-range missiles on June 5.
U.S. and South Korean officials have suspected for several months that Pyongyang is preparing for its seventh nuclear test. Kim's sister, Kim Yo Jong, in April threatened that North Korea's "nuclear combat force will have to inevitably carry out its duty" in a conflict. The North's most recent underground nuclear test was carried out in 2017.
U.S. and South Korean troops are preparing for their largest military exercise in five years. Ulchi Freedom Shield, the first large-scale command-post exercise between the two countries since 2017, is scheduled from Monday to Sept. 1. A four-day preliminary drill in preparation for the drills started Tuesday and ends Friday.
North Korea's propaganda outlets have criticized the joint military exercises and regularly threaten to retaliate against the U.S. and South Korea.

Stars and Stripes reporter Yoo Kyong Chang contributed to this report.
choi.david@stripes.com
Twitter: @choibboy



DIANA ROSE FAULVE/U.S. Army

Then-president elect Yoon Suk Yeol poses with deli workers at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, in April.

MILITARY

Navy's top officer touts relationship with Spain

By ALISON BATH
Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — The U.S. chief of naval operations emphasized Spain's vital role in NATO and praised its "rock-solid" partnership with the service Wednesday against a backdrop of talks about basing more U.S. destroyers here.

Speaking dockside to reporters, Adm. Michael Gilday stressed that the focus for his visit to Naval Station Rota remained on the ships already in port, such as the destroyer USS Bulkeley, which arrived Wednesday.

The four destroyers at Rota form a significant part of NATO's ballistic missile defense. They're ported on Spain's southern Atlantic coast not far from the Strait of Gibraltar, which some of Russia's Baltic Sea-based warships have transited en route to Ukraine's Black Sea coast.

The U.S. destroyers also patrol the Mediterranean Sea, where Russian submarine activity has increased in recent years.

Gilday offered no details about a plan to bring the number of Navy destroyers forward-deployed to Spain from four to six, except to say that high-level talks are ongoing.

Bulkeley joins USS Arleigh Burke, USS Roosevelt and USS Paul Ignatius as homeported ships at Rota. Two other destroyers at Rota, USS Ross and USS Porter, are



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday, center, speaks with Spanish navy fleet Adm. Eugenio Diaz del Rio, left, and U.S. Navy Capt. William Harkin, commanding officer of the destroyer USS Bulkeley, on Wednesday.

ALISON BATH/Stars and Stripes

scheduled to return to the U.S. but an exact time frame has not been announced.

The Navy has maintained four de-

stroyers at Rota, a Spanish port along the Atlantic Ocean not far from Gibraltar, since about 2014.

In June, the White House expressed a desire to send two more, saying the additions would increase the U.S. and NATO maritime presence in the Euro-Atlantic area, USNI News reported in June.

Gilday said the U.S. could not serve its own interests and those of allies without strong working relationships with other nations.

"The U.S. Navy's ability to have our destroyers forward-deployed in Spain is an exceptional opportunity for us to help keep those sea lanes open, to work with our allies and partners in doing so," he said.

Bulkeley left Norfolk, Va., on Aug. 4, a homeport shift to Rota that is part of the service's plan to gradually rotate the destroyers based there.

The ship recently completed a two-year maintenance cycle. The time in the yard included significant upgrades in its technology and capability, Gilday said.

Capt. William Harkin, commanding officer of the Bulkeley, said the ship's crew of about 320 sailors is excited to be homeported in Spain.

Harkin said the ship and its crew aim to be "a stabilizing force here in the region" for the next five years.

bath.alison@stripes.com
Twitter: @alisonbath_

Navy promises \$115K in bonuses to lure veterans back to active duty

By FRANK ANDREWS
Stars and Stripes

The Navy announced a hefty bonus program aimed at enticing its veterans — and veterans of other services — to reenlist.

The Navy is offering a \$50,000 signing bonus and up to \$65,000 in student loan repayments for a "life-altering \$115,000," Rear Adm. Lex Walker, the head of Navy Recruiting Command, said in a news release Aug. 6.

The Navy, like other branches of the U.S. military, is facing a tough year for recruiting. A record low percentage of young Americans are eligible to serve and even fewer are willing to consider it, NBC News reported June 27. Further complicating recruiters' efforts are a low unemployment rate and lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Air Force in July announced its own bonus program to lure recruits into 22 active-duty career fields. Bonuses for prospective airmen range from \$3,000 to \$58,000 if they sign up by Sept. 30, the end of the federal government's fiscal year. The Air Force needs thousands to sign up to meet its 2022 recruiting goal of 26,000 recruits.

Likewise, veterans lured by the Navy bonuses need to act by Sept. 30. Some conditions apply. Veterans must re-enter the service in



U.S. Navy/USS Abraham Lincoln

Sailors man the rails aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln in San Diego on Aug. 11.

pay grade E-4 or below, meet specific bonus eligibility and not have received a bonus in their first enlistment, according to the Navy release.

"If you are a Sailor, Marine, Airman, Soldier, Guardian, or Coast Guardsman who recently separated, this is an opportunity without precedent," Walker wrote. "And if you have student loan debt, you could be eligible for the Loan Repayment Program if you ship in any month of any fiscal year while the program remains active."

The bonus program has \$10,000 available for high school seniors who enter the delayed entry pro-

gram by Oct. 31 and graduate from high school before shipping out in July 2023.

Navy veterans attracted by the bonus need not attend boot camp but will complete in-processing at Recruit Training Command Great Lakes in Illinois. Veterans of other services would enter a three-week naval orientation course and complete the same training a typical recruit would experience, including ship-handling, live-fire, swim qualifications and firefighting, according to the Navy release.

andrews.lynn@stripes.com
Twitter: @FrankAndrws

US is exploring 'all options' in Alkonis case

By ALEX WILSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — U.S. and Japanese authorities are negotiating for a "successful resolution" to the case of Lt. Ridge Alkonis, a Navy officer serving three years in Japanese prison for a fatal car crash last year, a State Department spokesman said Tuesday.

The State Department, the Department of the Defense and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo are hoping to find a resolution that is consistent with both countries' laws and existing treaties, according to State Department spokesman Ned Price.

He did not elaborate on what a resolution might look like.

Alkonis, 34, of Claremont, Calif., reported to the Tokyo Detention House on July 25 to begin the sentence handed him by the Shizuoka District Court in Shizuoka prefecture.

The court found him guilty of negligent driving causing death, after his car plowed into pedestrians and parked cars outside a soba restaurant in Fujinomiya on May 29, 2021.

Alkonis his wife and three children were returning from a hike on Mount Fuji.

A woman, 85, died that day; her son-in-law, 54, died June 11, 2021. A second woman, 53, the daughter

and wife of the other victims, was injured.

Alkonis — a weapons officer aboard a Yokosuka-based destroyer — testified Aug. 24 that a case of mountain, or altitude, sickness caused him to lose consciousness behind the wheel.

The district court judge dismissed that defense, as the Tokyo High Court did when it denied his appeal July 13. Alkonis' supporters, including U.S. Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, and Rep. Mike Levin, D-Calif., have alleged he received an unfair trial and aspects of the status of forces agreement with Japan were violated.

Alkonis' family also paid \$1.65 million in personal compensation to the victims' family, a customary practice in Japan that his family expected would yield a measure of leniency, his mother, Suzi Alkonis, told the Deseret News of Salt Lake City in July.

The politicians have called on President Joe Biden to intervene. Meanwhile, Price said Tuesday that U.S. Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel has since spoken with the Alkonis family, along with members of Congress, the U.S. military and the Japanese government.

wilson.alex@stripes.com
Twitter: @AlexMNWilson

MILITARY

Plea deals rejected in sub secrets sale case

BY PAUL DUGGAN
The Washington Post

A federal judge Tuesday rejected plea bargains for a Navy engineer and his wife who allegedly tried to sell military secrets, saying the prison terms called for by the deals were too lenient for a couple accused of offering U.S. nuclear submarine data to a foreign government.

Jonathan Toebe, 43, a civilian engineer for the Navy, and Diana Toebe, 46, a private-school teacher, lived in Annapolis, Md., before they were arrested in October in a case involving a year-long FBI sting and cloak-and-dagger elements that seemed straight out of a spy novel, including the attempted transfer of confidential submarine data hidden in a peanut butter sandwich, authorities said.

In plea bargains with federal prosecutors — signed early this year and initially accepted by a federal magistrate — the couple admitted to violating the Atomic Energy Act. The deals called for Jonathan Toebe to be sentenced to 12½ to 17½ years in prison, while his wife would get a three-year term. But the couple withdrew their guilty pleas Tuesday

after U.S. District Judge Gina M. Groh, in Martinsburg, W.Va., threw out the agreements rather than impose the required sentences.

“It’s not in the best interest of this community or, in fact, this country to accept these plea agreements,” she said from the bench. “I don’t find any justifiable reason for accepting either one of these plea agreements.”

For nearly an hour before Groh’s surprise ruling, two defense lawyers and an assistant U.S. attorney had argued, to no avail, that the prison terms called for in the deals were appropriate.

The 12½-to-17½-year range for Jonathan Toebe is “not a slap on the wrist,” his lawyer, Nicholas J. Compton, told the judge. “It’s significant punishment.” Diana Toebe’s attorney, Barry P. Beck, said a shorter term was right for his client because “she’s not why we’re here today. We’re here because her husband had an ill-conceived idea to make money, and she agreed to go along with it.”

Although she has raised doubts about plea deals in the past, Groh said, “In the end, I generally honor plea agreements negotiated by the parties, even when they have



Diana and Jonathan Toebe

binding [sentencing] ranges” that she does not entirely agree with. In this case, however, “I find the sentencing options available to me to be strikingly deficient,” the judge said.

U.S. Attorney William Ihlenfeld of the Northern District of West Virginia, where the case is being handled, said his office “will move forward” and “be ready” for a trial. “I respect the decision by the Court to reject the plea agreements,” he said in a statement.

Defense attorneys, who appeared in Groh’s courtroom for sentencing hearings Tuesday and seemed taken aback by her decision, did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

Jonathan and Diana Toebe had each pleaded guilty to one

count of conspiring to share “restricted data” in violation of the Atomic Energy Act, which carries a possible life sentence. After they withdrew their pleas, the judge set a joint trial date for mid-January. It is possible that before then, the two sides will negotiate new plea deals with sentences more palatable to Groh.

Jonathan Toebe, a nuclear engineer with top-secret security clearance, worked in the Navy’s multibillion-dollar effort to build submarines that can stay submerged and undetected for the longest time possible. His wife, a teacher at the private Key School in Annapolis, was known as a meticulous humanities instructor who had liberal political views and was loved by students. Both come from families with considerable military ties.

Authorities said the Toebes, who have two children, schemed together to offer to sell government secrets about nuclear propulsion systems on U.S. submarines to an unidentified foreign country. According to court papers, investigators learned of the plot after the country forwarded the couple’s sales pitch to U.S. counterintelligence officials.

FBI agents posing as representatives of the foreign country quickly launched a sting operation. Agents said they recorded Toebe and his wife leaving data cards for their supposed handlers at “dead drop” sites within driving distance of their home. The information was hidden inside a peanut butter sandwich, an adhesive-bandage wrapper and a package of Dentyne gum, authorities said.

In fact, Jonathan Toebe’s foreign handler was an undercover FBI agent. Emails cited in court papers show that Toebe came to trust the undercover agent in part because of the money he was paid and because the FBI arranged to “signal” Toebe from the foreign country’s embassy in Washington over Memorial Day weekend last year. The papers do not describe how the FBI was able to arrange such a signal.

In correspondence with his handler, Jonathan Toebe claimed to have spent years formulating his “spy for hire” plan. In total, officials said, Toebe provided thousands of pages of documents, and his espionage ambitions had been building for years.

SEP 10 SAT

A Taste of Philippine Culture

★EDUCATION
★EXPLORATION
★ENJOYMENT

DOORS OPEN 1830
65.00 / person

VIP Experience: 105.00 / person
Please call for more details

Limited Seating, Restricted to 20yrs old and above

THEMED BUFFET DINNER FEATURING NATIVE FILIPINO DISHES FROM DIFFERENT REGIONS

Live Music Entertainment by L.U.M.A.D. JAPAN, FILIPINO ETHNIC GROUP
And Cultural Dance Performance BY FOLK DANCE GROUP INRAYOG

THE NEW SANNO PRESENTS CHRISTMAS EVE HAWAIIAN LUAAU
MELE KALIKIMAKA!

WIN
Round Trip Airline Tickets for Two to the U.S.

Sponsored by **DELTA AIR LINES**
Share, Post, #Hashtag
The Best Short Video of Your New Sanno Hawaiian Luau Experience on SNS for a Chance to Win
#thenewsanno #deltaairlines #hawaiianluauexperience

DEC 24 SAT DOORS OPEN 1830
Adult: 65.00 Child (6-12): 30.00
VIP Experience: 105.00 / person

Live Hawaiian Music Entertainment by Kalani Po'omaihealani
Featuring Kalani's Award Winning "Hawaii Aloha Academy",
Local Hula Competition Dancers in Tokyo & Hawaii
Hawaiian Themed Dinner Buffet
Authentic Aloha Ambiance
Wear Your Aloha Shirt

The Department of the Navy does not endorse any company, sponsor, or their products or services.

DELTA

In recognition of the 20yr Anniversary of

THE NEW SANNO'S BEATLES NIGHT
OCT 22 SAT

FEATURING LIVE! THE WORLD FAMOUS!THE PARROTS!
With the Halloween spirit
Wear your best 60's or 70's clothing

Doors Open 1830
Admission, Themed Dinner, Fabulous Entertainment and Spooky Atmosphere
70.00 / person
VIP Experience: 105.00 / person

Very Limited, One Party of Eight per Table, Express Access throughout the Event, Optimum VIP Seating, New Sanno Private Label SAKE and WINE Bottles on Table, Exclusive Reserved Parking - guaranteed, one parking space per group, VIP Memorabilia - Group Photo with Frame

Restricted to 20yrs old and above



THE NEW SANNO

LIMITED SEATING RESERVE NOW!!
229-8003, 03-6868-2311 EXT. 8003
NS-Events@fe.navy.mil

www.thenewsanno.com

MILITARY

Command: Airstrike kills 13 al-Shabab militants in Somalia

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes
STUTTGART, Germany — Thirteen al-Qaida-linked militants were killed in an airstrike in Somalia, U.S. Africa Command said Wednesday, signaling American attacks that had tailed off in the country are back on the rise.

The strike was launched against Islamic militants who were attacking Somali military forces near Teedaan, about 190 miles north of Mogadishu, AFRICOM said in a statement.

“The command’s initial assessment is that the strikes killed 13 al-Shabab terrorists and that no civilians were injured or killed,” AFRICOM said.

The strike, launched Sunday, was the second such attack against the al-Shabab group in a week in Somalia. On Aug. 9, AFRICOM launched a series of strikes that left four al-Shabab fighters dead, the command said.

Airstrikes in Somalia have increased since a decision by President Joe Biden in May to send U.S. forces back into the country to assist in the training and advising of Somalia’s military.

In the last days of former President Donald Trump’s administration, 700 U.S. troops were pulled out of the country. Soon after Biden took office, airstrikes in Soma-

lia also came to a near halt as the White House carried out a review of the military’s strategy in the region.

The decision to pull U.S. forces back, combined with the curtailment of airstrikes, resulted in al-Shabab showing signs of a resurgence as pressure lifted, military officials said earlier this year.

Since June, AFRICOM has carried out strikes in Somalia on four different occasions. By comparison, four strikes were conducted in the country in 2021 after Biden took office, a sharp reduction from the 63 launched the year before.

With a force estimated at between 5,000 and 7,000 fighters, al-Shabab’s annual revenue, much of it coming from taxation in areas it controls, stands at about \$120 million, defense officials said this year.

Despite international efforts to weaken it, the group has proven resilient over two decades in its bid to replace Somalia’s fragile federal government.

“Violent extremist organizations like (al-Shabab) present long-term threats to Somali, regional and U.S. interests,” AFRICOM said in a statement Wednesday.

vandiver.john@stripes.com
Twitter: @john_vandiver

Tice: Former Marine abducted in 2012

FROM PAGE 1

Tice was abducted in Damascus on Aug. 14, 2012, just days after his 31st birthday. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and later became a journalist covering Syria, including for The Washington Post.

“We know with certainty that he has been held by the Syrian regime,” Biden said in a statement on Aug. 10. “We have repeatedly asked the government of Syria to work with us so that we can bring Austin home.”

In early May, Biden met with Tice’s parents and promised to work on securing his release.

“The Tice family deserves answers, and more importantly, they deserve to be swiftly reunited with Austin,” Biden said. “We stand with Austin’s many loved ones, and we will not rest until we bring Austin home. Ten years is far, far too long. So is every additional day.”

Tice was last seen in a video posted on YouTube soon after his

disappearance showing him blindfolded and being led through rugged terrain by armed men in white robes. Tice served as a Marine in Iraq and Afghanistan and then graduated from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service. He attended the law school there until 2012 when he decided to cover Syria as a freelance journalist. Journalists covering the conflict outside the Syrian government’s control had to enter the country illegally through Turkey or other neighboring countries.

Tice won a Polk Award for his reporting.

In August 2020, Kash Patel, the U.S. counterterrorism chief, and Roger Carstens, the presidential envoy for hostage affairs, traveled to Damascus in the first contacts between the two governments in 10 years. They brought up Tice but Syrian media said officials refused to discuss the case until the U.S. agreed to discuss its withdrawal from the country.



Photos by SHANICE WILLIAMS-JONES/U.S. Air Force

Capt. Shelby Aleksick, a nurse with the 30th Medical Brigade, donates blood in January at Rhine Ordnance Barracks in Kaiserslautern, Germany. Service members, veterans and civilians once barred from donating blood because they lived in Europe decades ago during transmission of mad cow disease may now again give blood.

Personnel barred from blood donation due to ‘Mad Cow’ now eligible to give

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

Service members, veterans and others who were once barred from blood donation because they had lived in Europe decades ago at the height of transmission of “mad cow disease” are now eligible at military donor centers.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently removed restrictions, following a less inclusive change in 2020, that for decades had prevented some 4.4 million veterans, service members and Defense Department civilians from donating blood, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs.



The Armed Services Blood Program-Europe visited RAF Lakenheath, England, in 2018 to host a mobile blood drive.

“Donors who were previously deferred for mad cow disease risk can now give blood directly to the military at (Armed Services Blood Program) blood drives on military installations throughout Europe,” program officials said in a statement Wednesday.

“They can help save the lives of U.S. and NATO military on and off the battlefield as well as patients in U.S. military hospitals around the world like Landstuhl Regional Medical Center” in Germany, the statement said.

The American Red Cross said it also will change and simplify its recommendations to defer donations from people who spent time in certain European countries or on military bases and were previously considered to have been exposed to a potential risk of transmission of the disease.

Mad cow disease, also known as variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, is attributed to human infection with the agent of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, likely from consumption of contaminat-

ed beef products, according to the FDA.

The rare but invariably fatal disease was first recognized in the U.K. in 1985 and subsequently spread worldwide.

It also can be transmitted through blood transfusions from an infected donor, and there is no blood test for it. The FDA issued its first guidance restricting blood donors in 1999.

In 2020, the FDA lifted restrictions affecting people who had spent time or received a blood transfusion in European countries except the U.K., Ireland and France.

But it continued to recommend indefinite prohibition of blood donations by those who had spent time in the U.K. from 1980 to 1996 or in either France or Ireland from 1980 to 2001, as well as those who received a blood transfusion in any of those three countries from 1980 to the present.

In a May announcement, the FDA recommended that those geographically based restrictions be

canceled, too. Risk assessments by the agency after years of research determined that allowing such potential donors would pose little or no risk to the blood supply.

As of April 2021, there have been 232 cases of the disease worldwide, 178 of which were in the U.K., 28 in France, four in Ireland, four in the U.S. and 18 in eight other countries, according to the FDA.

According to the FDA, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused “unprecedented challenges” to the U.S. blood supply because of social distancing requirements and the cancellation of blood drives.

The ASBP’s lone European blood donation center is in Landstuhl, Germany. The team at the center conducts weekly blood drives at local military installations, with annual blood drives at other locations throughout Europe.

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com
Twitter: @montgomerynancy

EUROPE

Blasts in Crimea underscore Russian vulnerability

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — A spate of explosions and fires has turned Russian-occupied Crimea from a secure rear base into a new battleground in the war, demonstrating both the Russians’ vulnerability and the Ukrainians’ capacity to strike deep behind enemy lines.

Nine Russian warplanes were reported destroyed at an air base in Crimea last week, and an ammunition depot on the peninsula blew up on Tuesday.

Ukrainian authorities have stopped short of publicly claiming responsibility, preferring to keep the world guessing, but President Volodymyr Zelenskyy alluded to

Ukrainian attacks behind enemy lines after the latest blasts, which Russia blamed on “sabotage.”

Russia seized the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine in 2014 and has used it as a staging ground for attacks on the country in the war.

The explosions represent the latest setback for Moscow, which began its invasion with hopes of taking Kyiv in a lightning offensive. As the war nears the six-month mark, the two sides are engaged in a grinding war of attrition, fighting village to village, largely in the country’s east.

The attacks in Crimea could open a new front that would represent a significant escalation in the

war and further stretch Russia’s resources.

“Russian commanders will highly likely be increasingly concerned with the apparent deterioration in security across Crimea, which functions as rear base area for the occupation,” Britain’s Defense Ministry wrote on Twitter.

Tuesday’s explosions ripped through an ammunition site near the town of Dzhankoi, forcing the evacuation of about 3,000 people. Munitions continued to explode Wednesday and authorities fought the fires with a helicopter, said Crimea’s regional leader, Sergei Aksyonov. He said a search for the perpetrators was underway.



AP

Smoke rises over the site of explosion at an ammunition storage of Russian army near the village of Mayskoye, Crimea, on Tuesday.



VOTE NOW

for a chance to win
a 3-night Grecian cruise with



<https://votenow.stripes.com>

Enter to win by signing up for the 50% off digital subscription using the code **STARSATSEA**

Scan for contest rules, links and other ways to enter!





Cruise into the rest of summer with Stars and Stripes!

Celebrate our 80th with a Greek Cruise from Celestial Cruises!



NATION

Biden signs big climate, health care legislation

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden signed Democrats' landmark climate change and health care bill into law on Tuesday, delivering what he has called the "final piece" of his pared-down domestic agenda, as he aims to boost his party's standing with voters less than three months before the midterm elections.

The legislation includes the most substantial federal investment in history to fight climate change — some \$375 billion over the decade — and would cap prescription drug costs at \$2,000 out-of-pocket annually for Medicare recipients. It would also help an estimated 13 million Americans pay for health care insurance by extending subsidies provided during the coronavirus pandemic.

The measure is paid for by new taxes on large companies and stepped-up IRS enforcement of wealthy individuals and entities, with additional funds going to reduce the federal deficit.

In a triumphant signing event at the White House, Biden pointed to the law as proof that democracy — no matter how long or messy the process — can still deliver for voters in America as he road-tested a line he will likely repeat later this fall ahead of the midterms: "The American people won, and the spe-

cial interests lost."

"In this historic moment, Democrats sided with the American people, and every single Republican in Congress sided with the special interests in this vote," Biden said, repeatedly seizing on the contrast between his party and the GOP. "Every single one."

The House on Friday approved the measure on a party-line 220-207 vote. It passed the Senate days earlier with Vice President Kamala Harris breaking a 50-50 tie in that chamber.

"In normal times, getting these bills done would be a huge achievement," Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said during the White House ceremony. "But to do it now, with only 50 Democratic votes in the Senate, over an intransigent Republican minority, is nothing short of amazing."

Biden signed the bill into law during a small ceremony in the State Dining Room of the White House, sandwiched between his return from a six-day beachside vacation in South Carolina and his departure for his home in Wilmington, Del. He plans to hold a larger "celebration" for the legislation on Sept. 6 once lawmakers return to Washington.

The signing caps a spurt of legislative productivity for Biden and Congress, who in three months have approved legislation on veter-



DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/The Washington Post

President Joe Biden hands Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., the pen used to sign into law the Inflation Reduction Act.

ans' benefits, the semiconductor industry and gun checks for young buyers. The president and lawmakers have also responded to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and overwhelmingly supported NATO membership for Sweden and Finland.

With Biden's approval rating lagging, Democrats are hoping that the string of successes will jump-start their chances of maintaining control in Washington in the November midterms. The 79-year-old presi-

dent aims to restore his own standing with voters as he contemplates a reelection bid.

The White House announced Monday that it was going to deploy Biden and members of his Cabinet on a "Building a Better America Tour" to promote the recent victories. One of Biden's trips will be to Ohio, where he'll view the groundbreaking of a semiconductor plant that will benefit from the recent law to bolster production of such computer chips. He will also stop in

Pennsylvania to promote his administration's plan for safer communities, a visit that had been planned the same day he tested positive for COVID-19 last month.

Republicans have said the legislation's new business taxes will increase prices, worsening the nation's bout with its highest inflation since 1981. Though Democrats have labeled the measure the Inflation Reduction Act, nonpartisan analysts have said it will have a barely perceptible impact on prices.

US retail sales were flat in July as inflation takes a toll

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The pace of sales at U.S. retailers was unchanged last month as persistently high inflation and rising interest rates forced many households to spend more cautiously.

Retail purchases were flat in July after having risen 0.8% in June, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday.

America's consumers, whose spending accounts for nearly 70% of economic activity, have remained

mostly resilient even with inflation near a four-decade high, economic uncertainties rising, and mortgage and other borrowing rates surging. Still, their overall spending has weakened, and it has shifted increasingly toward necessities like groceries and away from discretionary items like home goods, casual clothes and electronics.

The government's monthly report on retail sales covers about a third of all consumer purchases and doesn't include spending on most

services ranging from plane fares and apartment rents to movie tickets and doctor visits.

Though overall inflation remains painfully high, consumer prices were unchanged from June to July — the smallest such figure in more than two years.

Still, inflation is posing a serious threat to families. Gasoline prices have fallen from their heights, but food, rent, used cars and other necessities have become far more expensive, beyond whatever wage in-

creases most workers have received.

Despite a still-robust job market, the U.S. economy shrank in the first half of 2022, raising fears of a potential recession. Growth has been weakening largely as a consequence of the Federal Reserve's aggressive interest rate hikes, which are intended to cool the economy and tame high inflation.

The impact of the Fed's hikes has been felt especially in the housing market. Sales of previously occu-

pied homes have slowed for five straight months as higher mortgage rates and high sales prices have kept many would-be buyers on the sidelines.

But the most important pillar of the economy — the job market — has proved durable. America's employers added a hefty 528,000 jobs in July, and the unemployment rate reached 3.5%, matching a near-half-century low reached just before the pandemic erupted in the spring of 2020.

Judges in kids-for-cash scheme ordered to pay more than \$200M

By MICHAEL RUBINKAM

Associated Press

Two former Pennsylvania judges who orchestrated a scheme to send children to for-profit jails in exchange for kickbacks were ordered to pay more than \$200 million to hundreds of people they victimized in one of the worst judicial scandals in U.S. history.

U.S. District Judge Christopher Conner awarded \$106 million in compensatory damages and \$100 million in punitive damages to nearly 300 people in a long-running civil suit against the judges, writing that the plaintiffs are "the tragic human casualties of a scan-

dal of epic proportions."

In what came to be known as the kids-for-cash scandal, Mark Ciavarella and another judge, Michael Conahan, shut down a county-run juvenile detention center and accepted \$2.8 million in illegal payments from the builder and co-owner of two for-profit lockups. Ciavarella, who presided over juvenile court, pushed a zero-tolerance policy that guaranteed large numbers of kids would be sent to PA Child Care and its sister facility, Western PA Child Care.

Ciavarella ordered children as young as 8 to detention, many of

them first-time offenders deemed delinquent for petty theft, jaywalking, truancy, smoking on school grounds and other minor infractions. The judge often ordered youths he had found delinquent to be immediately shackled, handcuffed and taken away without giving them a chance to put up a defense or even say goodbye to their families.

"Ciavarella and Conahan abandoned their oath and breached the public trust," Conner wrote Tuesday in his explanation of the judgment. "Their cruel and despicable actions victimized a vulnerable population of young peo-

ple, many of whom were suffering from emotional issues and mental health concerns."

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court threw out some 4,000 juvenile convictions involving more than 2,300 kids after the scheme was uncovered.

It's unlikely the now-adult victims will see even a fraction of that eye-popping amount, but a lawyer for the plaintiffs said it's a recognition of the enormity of the disgraced judges' crimes.

"It's a huge victory," Marsha Levick, co-founder and chief counsel of the Philadelphia-based Juvenile Law Center and a law-

yer for the plaintiffs, said Wednesday. "To have an order from a federal court that recognizes the gravity of what the judges did to these children in the midst of some of the most critical years of their childhood and development matters enormously, whether or not the money gets paid."

Ciavarella is serving a 28-year prison sentence. Conahan, who was sentenced to more than 17 years in prison, was released to home confinement in 2020 — with six years left on his sentence — because of the coronavirus pandemic.

NATION

Trump foe Cheney loses Wyoming GOP primary

By STEVE PEOPLES
AND MEAD GRUVER
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney, Donald Trump’s fiercest Republican adversary in Congress, soundly lost a GOP primary, falling to a rival backed by the former president in a rout that reinforced his grip on the party’s base.

The third-term congresswoman and her allies entered Tuesday downbeat about her prospects, aware that Trump’s backing gave Harriet Hageman considerable lift in the state where he won by the largest margin during the 2020 campaign. Cheney was already looking ahead to a political future beyond Capitol Hill that could include a 2024 presidential run, potentially putting her on another collision course with Trump.

On Wednesday, calling Trump “a very grave threat and risk to our republic,” she told NBC that she thinks that defeating him will require “a broad and united front of Republicans, Democrats and independents — and that’s what I intend to be part of.”

She declined to say if she would run for president but conceded it’s “something that I’m thinking about.”

Cheney described her primary loss on Tuesday night as the beginning of a new chapter in her political career as she addressed a small collection of supporters, including her father, former Vice President Dick Cheney, on the edge of a vast field flanked by



Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., makes her concession speech Tuesday in Jackson Hole.

mountains and bales of hay.

“Our work is far from over,” she said, evoking Abraham Lincoln, who also lost congressional elections before ascending to the presidency and preserving the union.

The primary results — and the roughly 30-point margin — were a powerful reminder of the GOP’s rapid shift to the right. A party once dominated by national security-oriented, business-friendly conservatives like her father now belongs to Trump, animated by his populist appeal and, above all, his denial of defeat in the 2020 election.

Such lies, which have been roundly rejected by federal and

state election officials along with Trump’s own attorney general and judges he appointed, transformed Cheney from an occasional critic of the former president to the clearest voice inside the GOP warning that he represents a threat to democratic norms.

She’s the top Republican on the House panel investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol by a mob of Trump supporters, an attack she referenced in nodding to her political future.

“I have said since Jan. 6 that I will do whatever it takes to ensure Donald Trump is never again anywhere near the Oval Office — and I mean it,” she said Tuesday.



Liz Cheney with her father, former vice president Dick Cheney, at the library polling station in Jackson Hole, Wyo.

Four hundred miles to the east of Cheney’s concession speech, festive Hageman supporters gathered at a sprawling outdoor rodeo and Western culture festival in Cheyenne, many wearing cowboy boots, hats and blue jeans.

“Obviously we’re all very grateful to President Trump, who recognizes that Wyoming has only one congressional representative and we have to make it count,” said Hageman, a ranching industry attorney who had finished third in a previous bid for governor.

Echoing Trump’s conspiracy theories, she falsely claimed the 2020 election was “rigged” as she

courted his loyalists in the runup to the election.

Trump and his team celebrated Cheney’s loss, which may represent his biggest political victory in a primary season full of them. The former president called the results “a complete rebuke” of the Jan. 6 committee.

“Liz Cheney should be ashamed of herself, the way she acted, and her spiteful, sanctimonious words and actions towards others,” he wrote on his social media platform. “Now she can finally disappear into the depths of political oblivion where, I am sure, she will be much happier than she is right now. Thank you WYOMING!”

Murkowski advances in Alaska Senate race, Palin moves on in House

Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska — Alaska Republican U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski advanced from her primary along with Kelly Tshibaka, her GOP rival endorsed by former President Donald Trump, while another Trump-backed candidate, Republican Sarah Palin, was among the candidates bound for the November general election in the race for Alaska’s only House seat.

Murkowski had expressed confidence that she would advance and earlier in the day told reporters that “what matters is winning in November.”

Tshibaka called the results “the first step in breaking the Murkowski monarchy’s grip on Alaska.” Tshibaka also said she was thankful “for the strong and unwavering support President Trump has shown Alaska.”

A Murkowski has held the Senate seat since 1981.

Before Lisa Murkowski, who



U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, advanced from her primary Tuesday.

has been in the Senate since late 2002, it was her father, Frank Murkowski.

Under a voter-approved elections process being used for the first time in Alaska elections this year, party primaries have been scrapped and ranked choice voting is being used in general elec-

tions.

The top four vote-getters in a primary race, regardless of party affiliation, are to advance to the general election.

The other two places in the Senate race were too early to call.

Murkowski voted to convict Trump in his second impeachment trial after the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection. Trump was acquitted. But he has had strong words for Murkowski, calling her “the worst” during a rally last month in Anchorage.

In the House primary, Democrat Mary Peltola, Palin and Republican Nick Begich advanced to the November election. It was too early to call the fourth spot. The winner of the November race will be elected to a two-year term.

Peltola, Begich and Palin were also competing in a special election to serve the remainder of the late-Rep. Don Young’s term, which ends early next year. Young died in March.

Ex-congressman arrested on charges of fraud, laundering

The Washington Post

A former congressman from California has been indicted on 28 charges, including 15 counts of wire fraud and one count of campaign contribution fraud, the Justice Department announced Tuesday. The FBI arrested TJ Cox on Tuesday morning, according to records from the Fresno County Sheriff’s Office. Cox, a Democrat, represented California’s 21st District from 2019 to 2021.

The charges in the unsealed 28-count indictment also include 11 counts of money laundering and one count of financial institution fraud.

The indictment, filed Aug. 4, says Cox schemed to fund and reimburse people close to him for donations to his campaign, according to the Justice Department statement. Federal laws do not allow “conduit” or “straw” donations, in which someone makes a political contribution through another person to their campaign.

Between 2013 and 2018, the Justice Department said, Cox diverted \$1.7 million from companies he was affiliated with and their clients into unauthorized bank accounts he created. If convicted of wire fraud and money laundering, Cox could face 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Mark Coleman, who is representing Cox, told The Washington Post that his client pleaded not guilty on Tuesday in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. Authorities released him from custody, and his next hearing is set for Oct. 12.

Coleman added that Cox plans to “mount a rigorous defense.”

The 28-count indictment alleges that Cox received mortgage loan money after submitting fabricated bank statements to a lender. Though he allegedly told the lender that the property would be his primary residence, Cox bought it and rented it to someone else, the Justice Department said.

NATION

DHS IG rebuffs House on Secret Service testimony

BY FARNOUSH AMIRI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Homeland Security Department's inspector general has refused congressional requests for documents and staff testimony about the erasure of Secret Service communication related to the Jan. 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, angering top Democrats who have accused him of unlawfully obstructing their investigation.

In an Aug. 8 letter disclosed Tuesday, Inspector General Joseph Cuffari told the leaders of the House Oversight and Homeland Security committees that his office will not comply with their requests for internal documents and sit-down interviews due to the ongoing criminal investigation into deleted Secret Service text messages.

In response, House Oversight Chair Carolyn Maloney and Homeland Security Chair Bennie Thompson sent a letter Tuesday demanding Cuffari turn over documents and make his staff available to lawmakers or risk facing a potential congressional subpoena.

"Your obstruction of the Committees' investigations is unacceptable, and your justifications for this noncompliance appear to reflect a fundamental misunderstanding of Congress's authority and your duties as an Inspector General," Maloney and Thompson wrote in the letter.

"If you continue to refuse to comply with our requests, we will have

no choice but to consider alternate measures to ensure your compliance," they wrote.

It's just the latest back-and-forth over the text messages since mid-July, when Cuffari sent a letter to Congress disclosing that Secret Service text messages sent and received around Jan. 6, 2021, were deleted despite requests from Congress and federal investigators that they be preserved.

Since then, the two House committees said they have obtained evidence that shows the inspector general's office first learned of the missing Secret Service text messages as part of its investigation into the attack on the U.S. Capitol, in May 2021. They have said emails between top Homeland Security IG officials show the agency — which oversees the Secret Service — decided to abandon efforts to recover those text messages in July 2021, nearly a year before they first informed Congress they were erased.

Lawmakers want answers to why watchdog officials chose "not to pursue critical information from the Secret Service at this point in this investigation," and only decided to renew their request to DHS for certain text messages more than four months later in December 2021.

The erasure of the messages has raised the prospect of lost evidence that could shed further light on then-President Donald Trump's actions during the insurrection,



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Members of the U.S. Secret Service Counter Assault Team walk through the Rotunda as they and other federal police forces responded as violent protesters stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

particularly after testimony about his confrontation with security as he tried to join supporters at the Capitol. There are now two congressional probes into the Secret Service and the DHS handling of those communications.

The missing texts are also at the center of the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack, of which Thompson is the chairman.

The Secret Service has since turned over a large number of rec-

ords and documents to the committee investigating the Capitol insurrection, but only one text message between agents on the day before the attack and as a mob of rioters breached the Capitol building on Jan. 6.

The Secret Service has insisted that proper procedures were followed. Agency spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said last month that "the insinuation that the Secret Service maliciously deleted text

messages following a request is false."

Maloney and Thompson told Cuffari that his "failure to comply with our outstanding requests lacks any legal justification and is unacceptable."

They gave his office until Aug. 23 to provide "all responsive documents" and make personnel available for interviews before lawmakers issue a congressional subpoena.

Ex-cop who testified against friend avoids prison for Jan. 6

Associated Press

A former Virginia police officer who testified against a friend and former supervisor he joined at the Capitol in the Jan. 6 insurrection avoided prison time on Tuesday for his role in it.

Former Rocky Mount Police Officer Jacob Fracker pleaded guilty to conspiring with his fellow officer to obstruct Congress from certifying Joe Biden's 2020 election victory over then-President Donald Trump and was sentenced

to one year of probation, with 59 days in home confinement.

Prosecutors did not seek prison time for Fracker, pointing to his substantial cooperation and trial testimony against former Rocky Mount Police Sgt. Thomas Robertson. Fracker's cooperation came at "great personal cost," prosecutors said, noting that Robertson was not only Fracker's colleague but also a father figure he sometimes referred to as "dad."

Robertson, an Army veteran who was convicted by a jury of attacking the Capitol to obstruct Congress from certifying the Electoral College vote on Jan. 6, 2021, was sentenced last week to more than seven years behind bars. That matches the longest prison sentence so far among hundreds of Capitol riot cases.

Fracker, a Marine Corps veteran, told jurors that Robertson had invited him to Washington, D.C., to see Trump speak. The two off-

duty officers traveled to Washington in the morning with a third man and donned gas masks as they approached the Capitol and joined the mob of rioters.

During his sentencing hearing in federal court in Washington, Fracker apologized for his actions.

"Yes, I was there with someone else. Yes, I was there because I trusted him based on lies, but he didn't tell me how to act that day. I acted on my own, and for that I

apologize," Fracker told the judge.

Prosecutors said they wouldn't have known that Robertson destroyed two cellphones containing incriminating videos and photos taken on Jan. 6 without Fracker's cooperation. His testimony also helped prosecutors "establish Robertson's corrupt intent" to obstruct the congressional proceeding without having to rely on Robertson's social media postings, prosecutors wrote.

Capitol rioter tries to bond with Reagan-appointed judge, gets lectured

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — "Can you guess who my favorite president is?" asked the man about to be sentenced for his role in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6.

Senior Judge Thomas F. Hogan did not respond. So John Cameron, a real estate agent from the Seattle area, answered his own question. "Ronald Reagan," he said during the hearing Monday, suggesting the judge might agree. Hogan was appointed to the fed-

eral bench in Washington by Reagan 40 years ago.

Cameron, 55, went on to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, which Reagan made part of Flag Day ceremonies that same year.

The judge was not impressed. He had questions of his own. How, he asked, could Cameron claim to have seen no violence or clear sign he could not enter the Capitol during the riot? Did he not hear murderous chants and blaring alarms, smell tear gas, see

people climbing up scaffolding and through windows? Did he think, as he said on Facebook, that it was all "fun"? And if so, was he withdrawing his plea to a misdemeanor charge?

"No," Cameron replied, after a moment's hesitation. "I picketed within the Capitol, and that was illegal. ... I would never do it again."

But his depiction of himself in court and on social media as a peaceful observer targeted for political reasons prompted an angry

lecture from the judge.

"I keep hearing from Jan. 6 defendants, 'We're being prosecuted,' like it's a surprise, or 'We're being persecuted,' like it's unfair. I do not understand that psychology," Hogan told him. "What irritates me most is that all of you are claiming you're patriots; you're not patriots when you attack the Capitol of the United States."

He compared the Jan. 6 rioters to "a lynching mob" in which the support of encouragement of

more passive members like Cameron was crucial: "A mob doesn't act alone."

Hogan suggested that sentences meted out thus far that "have not impressed." Like most of his colleagues, he has given lighter punishments than prosecutors requested in the majority of the Jan. 6 cases he has handled. All have been misdemeanors, and Hogan has ruled that active jail time cannot be combined with probation in those cases.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Jet part falls from sky, nearly hits State House

ME AUGUSTA — A metal object believed to have fallen from a trans-Atlantic jet came crashing down outside the Maine State House, landing with a loud bang just feet from a Capitol Police worker, officials said Monday.

The Federal Aviation Administration was alerted Friday and returned to the State House on Monday as it investigated the object, Capitol Police Chief Matthew Clancy said.

The metal hit with a loud bang on a slab of granite lining a cobblestone walkaway about 6 to 8 feet from a security screener — and came close to hitting the building itself, he said.

No one was hurt.

The FAA believes the metal sleeve weighing 6 to 7 pounds came from a wing flap of a large passenger jet, he said.

Police: Car crash at pub appears to be accidental

VA ARLINGTON — Police investigating a crash that injured more than a dozen people at a popular northern Virginia pub over the weekend said Monday that they don't believe the crash was intentional.

A ride-share driver crashed into Ireland's Four Courts in Arlington on Friday evening. Nine people were taken to the hospital, and six others were treated and released.

Arlington police said three patients remained hospitalized Monday. One was in critical condition and two were in stable condition.

Police said their preliminary investigation indicates that the crash was accidental and alcohol was not a factor. They said the ride-share driver is cooperating with investigators.

Long-hidden synagogue mural is rehabbed, moved

VT BURLINGTON — A mural that was painted in a Vermont synagogue more than 100 years ago by a Lithuanian immigrant — and hidden behind a wall for years — has been termed a rare piece of art and has been painstakingly moved and restored.

The large colorful triptych painted by sign painter Ben Zion Black in 1910 shows the Ten Commandments with a lion on both sides, the sun beaming down, and columns and rich curtains at the borders. Now known as the "Lost Mural," it's a rare representation of a kind of art that graced wooden synagogues in Europe that were largely destroyed during the Holocaust, experts say.

Black decorated the inside of what was then the Chai Adam Synagogue in 1910 in a Jewish neighborhood in Burlington known as Little Jerusalem. He painted the triptych — the Lost Mural — in the apse of the building.

But the synagogue closed in



RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

Hydration break

Sylvia Lynn gives her dog Bear a drink of water in Sacramento, Calif., on Monday, as temperatures in California's capital hit 100 degrees.

1939 when it merged with another one, Ohavi Zedek, and the original building went on to have other uses, according to the Lost Mural website.

When the building was being turned into apartments in 1986, Ohavi Zedek archivist Aaron Goldberg and a fellow synagogue member got the owner to install a wall in front of the mural, according to the website.

More than 20 years later, the wall board was cut away, and photographs were taken and sent to museums around the country and world asking what should be done with the artwork, Goldberg said.

The plaster was stabilized and a conservator worked to reattach the paint. Then a temporary structure was built so that the building's roof could be removed, the mural's lathes reinforced, and the artwork could be encased in a metal frame for the move in 2015 to the current Ohavi Zedek Synagogue.

In its new home, conservators restored damaged sections of paint and cleaned the entire mural.

The renewed mural was unveiled this summer, and tours are ongoing.

Man shoots, kills bear after it entered his home

CO DENVER — A Colorado man had a rude awakening early Saturday morning when a roughly 400-pound bear flipped the lever doorknob to his

home and rummaged through some dog food, Colorado Parks and Wildlife officials said Monday.

The homeowner, Ken Mauldin, grabbed a gun and shot the bear multiple times until it collapsed and died just after 2 a.m., said Rachel Gonzalez, spokesperson for Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Officers removed the animal from the house, located in the ski-resort town of Steamboat Springs.

Colorado has roughly 12,000 bears and break-ins aren't uncommon in Rocky Mountain towns. People shooting and killing bears in self-defense, however, is rare, said Gonzalez.

This particular male bear was not tagged and the department does not know if it was involved in other break-ins, she said.

4 killed as high-speed chase ends in crash

TX SANDERSON — Four people were killed when a high-speed chase ended in a fiery head-on collision on a remote West Texas highway, officials said Monday.

The episode began at dusk Friday on U.S. 90 just east of Sanderson, about 230 miles west of San Antonio, according to a Monday statement by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

A DPS trooper was making a stop on a crew-cabbed pickup when the truck sped away.

A chase ensued through Sander-

son and north on U.S. 285, then ended when the truck veered into the oncoming lane of the two-lane highway and slammed into an oncoming pickup. Both vehicles erupted in flames, as did a vehicle damaged by debris from the collision.

The unidentified driver and a rear-seat male passenger from Mexico in the fleeing truck were killed, along with both Del Rio, Texas, men in the oncoming truck, the DPS said. A front-seat passenger in the fleeing truck, a woman from Honduras, was airlifted to an Odessa hospital, where she was listed in serious condition. The occupant of the third vehicle was not injured, the DPS said.

The DPS statement did not indicate the reason for the traffic stop.

Car lands in sinkhole from water main break

MA BOSTON — A break in a 20-inch water main in Boston early Monday sent water rushing down a city street, formed a sinkhole that swallowed a vehicle, and flooded area basements, city officials said.

The burst pipe in the city's South End was reported at about 3:30 a.m., according to the Boston Water and Sewer Commission. The water main is about 150 years old, but was updated in the 1970s, the commission said.

The flood also buckled the roadway, which was closed to traffic.

Sarah Donner heard the pre-

dawn commotion outside and looked out to see her vehicle in the sinkhole.

"I saw the hole, and I was like, 'Wait, wait, wait. My car is over there,'" she told WCVB-TV. "It was just kind of a gradual pre-coffee awareness that my car was in a sinkhole."

The water was shut off and construction crews responded to the area to fix the roadway.

Worker killed while on road duty; driver charged

NC SIMS — A North Carolina Department of Transportation worker was killed when a vehicle struck her as she directed traffic around a fallen tree, the State Highway Patrol said. A motorist was later arrested and charged with fleeing the scene.

Anna Bradshaw, 60, was struck Friday morning by a passenger car while she was holding a sign along U.S. Highway 264 Alternate in Wilson County, according to patrol trooper Jordan Lamm.

The driver got out of the car and spoke with another DOT worker at the scene and said he hadn't seen Bradshaw, but left when the worker went to call for help, Lamm said.

The patrol said in an email that Jamari Marquis Powell, 31, of Bailey, was taken into custody late Friday and charged with felony hit and run.

NATION

Immigration advocates suing LexisNexis over personal data

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Data broker LexisNexis Risk Solutions allegedly violated Illinois law by collecting and combining extensive personal information and selling it to third parties including federal immigration authorities, according to a lawsuit filed Tuesday by immigration advocates.

The result is “a grave threat to civil liberties,” the activists and two immigration advocacy groups argued. The lawsuit asks a Cook County judge to prevent the data broker from selling personal information without consent.

The complaint also notes that LexisNexis’ Accurant product, which is sold to law enforcement, incorporates information that isn’t publicly available, including correctional bookings, vehicle collision records and license plate reader databases.

A representative for Georgia-based LexisNexis Risk Solutions did not immediately reply to a request for comment shortly after the lawsuit was filed.

Immigration advocates have called attention to a \$22 million contract between Immigration and Customs Enforcement and LexisNexis for that product, revealed in the results of a Freedom of Information Act request. They argue it poses a particular risk to activists and im-



A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer looks on during an operation in Escondido, Calif., in July 2019.

migrants.

Sejal Zota, legal director at Just Futures Law and an attorney on the lawsuit, said the data broker makes it possible for ICE to “instantly access sensitive personal data — all without warrants, subpoenas, any privacy safeguards or any show of reasonableness.”

“Our plaintiffs view this alleged violation of their privacy as dehumanizing and unacceptable,” she said.

In the case of one woman, the information available through Accurant includes her past and current addresses, phone number, date of birth and an incorrect Social Security number, according to the lawsuit. The detailed reports produced on two other women participating in the case included full Social Security numbers.

“There is a critical difference between the gathering of bits of personal information through publicly available resources (the internet, court files, archives, etc.) and the collection of information through an encyclopedic dossier that compiles all of the records, including ones that are not publicly available, into one easily accessible and computerized profile,” the complaint said.

Hearing aids set to be available in US this fall without a prescription

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Millions of Americans will be able to buy hearing aids without a prescription later this fall, under a long-awaited rule finalized Tuesday.

The regulation creates a new class of hearing aids that don’t require a medical exam, a prescription and other specialty evaluations, the Food and Drug Administration said. That’s expected to increase competition and eventually lower costs. The devices will be sold online or over-the-counter at pharmacies and other retail stores.

The devices are intended for adults with mild to moderate hearing problems. The FDA estimates that nearly 30 million adults could potentially benefit from a hearing aid, though only about one-fifth of people with hearing problems currently use one.

“Today’s action by the FDA represents a significant milestone in making hearing aids more cost-effective and accessible,” Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra, told reporters Tuesday.

The FDA first proposed the rule last year and it will take effect in mid-October. The move follows years of pressure from medical experts and consumer advocates to make the devices cheaper and easier to get.



Kim M. Smith, president of the Utah Association of the Deaf, brushes her hair away from her hearing aid in January 2020 in Sandy, Utah.

Cost is a big obstacle now. Americans can pay more than \$5,000 for a hearing aid, between the device and fitting services. Insurance coverage is limited and Medicare doesn’t pay for hearing aids, only diagnostic tests.

“The requirement to see a specialist was not only a burden and an annoyance for many consumers but it actually created a competitive barrier to entry,” said Brian Deese, a White House economics adviser.

Deese cited government estimates that Americans could eventually save as much as \$2,800 per pair. But FDA officials cautioned against predicting the size of savings or how quickly they might arrive.

Health officials warning that monkeypox can spread to household pets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Health officials are warning people who are infected with monkeypox to stay away from household pets, since the animals could be at risk of catching the virus.

The Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention for months has had the advice in place as monkeypox spreads in the U.S. But it gained new attention after a report from France, published last week in the medical journal Lancet, about an Italian greyhound that caught the virus.

The dog belongs to a couple who said they sleep alongside the animal. The two men were infected with monkeypox after having sex with other partners and wound up with lesions and other symptoms. The greyhound later developed lesions

and was diagnosed with the virus.

Monkeypox infections have been detected in rodents and other wild animals, which can spread the virus to humans. But the authors called it the first report of monkeypox infection in a domesticated animal like a

dog or cat.

Pets that come in close contact with a symptomatic person should be kept at home and away from other animals and people for 21 days after the most recent contact, the CDC advises.

NEW TO THE PACIFIC?

Contact CustomerHelp@stripes.com to get your free copy of Welcome to the Pacific magazine!



Digital edition also available. Download online.







Find out all about the best place to eat, shop, and explore in your area on Best of the Pacific 2022 website!

WORLD

Mediterranean heats up amid dire warnings

Associated Press
MADRID — While vacationers might enjoy the Mediterranean Sea's summer warmth, climate scientists are warning of dire consequences for its marine life as it burns up in a series of severe heat waves.
From Barcelona to Tel Aviv, scientists have said they are witnessing exceptional temperature hikes ranging from 5.4 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit above the norm for this time of year. Water temperatures have regularly exceeded 86 F on some days.
Extreme heat in Europe and other countries around the Medi-

terranean has grabbed headlines this summer, but the rising sea temperature is largely out of sight and out of mind.
Marine heat waves are caused by ocean currents building up areas of warm water. Weather systems and heat in the atmosphere can also pile on degrees to the water's temperature. And just like their on-land counterparts, marine heat waves are longer, more frequent and more intense because of human-induced climate change.
The situation is "very worrying," says Joaquim Garrabou, a researcher at the Institute of Ma-

rine Sciences in Barcelona. "We are pushing the system too far. We have to take action on the climate issues as soon as possible."
Garrabou is part of a team that recently published the report on heat waves in the Mediterranean Sea between 2015 and 2019. The report says these phenomena have led to "massive mortality" of marine species.
About 50 species, including corals, sponges and seaweed, were affected along thousands of miles of Mediterranean coasts, according to the study, which was published in the Global Change Biology journal.

The situation in the eastern Mediterranean basin is particularly dire.
The waters off Israel, Cyprus, Lebanon and Syria are "the hottest hot spot in the Mediterranean, for sure," said Gil Rilov, a marine biologist at Israel's Oceanographic and Limnological Research institute, and one of the paper's co-authors. Average sea temperatures in the summer are now consistently over 88 F.
These warming seas are driving many native species to the brink, "because every summer their optimum temperature is being exceeded," he said.

Ex-Australia PM: Secret powers were vital in crisis

Associated Press
SYDNEY — Scott Morrison said giving himself extra powers when he was Australia's prime minister was needed during the COVID crisis, as criticism rose that the moves were deceptive and undemocratic.
Current Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is seeking an opinion from the solicitor-general on the legality of some of Morrison's moves.
Many of Morrison's colleagues were blindsided by his call to secretly appoint himself to five ministerial roles. Some have said he must resign from Parliament, where he is now an opposition lawmaker.
But Morrison said that while he apologized for causing offense to his colleagues, he stood by his actions.
"I believed it was necessary to have authority, to have what were effectively emergency powers, to exercise in extreme situations that would be unforeseen, that would enable me to act in the national interests," Morrison said.

New Scottish law makes period products free for all

Associated Press
LONDON — A law has taken effect in Scotland to ensure period products are available free of charge to anyone who needs them.
The Scottish government said it became the first in the world to legally protect the right to access

free period products when its Period Products Act came into force Monday.
Under the new law, schools, colleges and universities as well as local government bodies must make a range of period products such as tampons and sanitary pads available for free in their

bathrooms. The Scottish government already invested millions of pounds since 2017 to fund free period products in educational institutions, but the law makes it a legal requirement.
A mobile phone app also helps people find the nearest place — such as the local library or com-

munity center — where they can pick up period products.
"Providing access to free period products is fundamental to equality and dignity, and removes the financial barriers to accessing them," Scottish Social Justice Secretary Shona Robison said.

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



Transportation 944

VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service

- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

GERMANY	UNITED KINGDOM	U.S.A
Phone: +49-(0)6134-2592730	+44-(0)1638-515714	+1-972-602-1670 Ext. 1701
Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only)		+1-800-264-8167 (US only)
E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de	enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk	info@tgal.us
WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de	www.carshipuk.co.uk	www.tgal.us

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations



Transportation 944

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA



OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri

0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)

For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de

Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de

Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!



Concert, events, TV, movies, music, video games, celebrity antics...

Get entertained with...

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

Are you in the picture?



Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.

No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES[®]



Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
 Lt. Col. Marci Hoffman, Europe commander
 John Rodriguez, Europe chief of staff
 Lt. Col. Michael Kerschbaum, Pacific commander
 Michael Ryan, Pacific chief of staff

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
 leonard.terry@stripes.com
 Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
 reid.robert@stripes.com
 Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
 moores.sean@stripes.com
 Ann Pinson, Digital Managing Editor
 pinson.ann@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
 Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
 slavin.erik@stripes.com
 +49(0)631.3615.9350; DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific
 Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief
 kidd.aaron@stripes.com
 +81.42.552.2511 ext. 88380; DSN (315)227.7380

Washington
 Joseph Cacchioli, Washington Bureau Chief
 cacchioli.joseph@stripes.com
 (+1)(202)886-0033

Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
 bowers.brian@stripes.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast
 Kevin R. Miller, Circulation Manager
 miller.kevin@stripes.com
 xsscirculation@stripes.com
 +49(0)631.3615.9136; DSN (314)583-9136

Europe
 Karen Lewis, Community Engagement Manager
 lewis.karen@stripes.com
 memberservices@stripes.com
 +49(0)631.3615.9090; DSN (314)583.9090

Pacific
 Mari Mori, customerhelp@stripes.com
 +81-3 6385.3171; DSN (315)227.7333

CONTACT US

Washington
 tel: (+1)202.886.0003
 633 3rd St. NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20001-3050

Reader letters
 letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts
 stripes.com/contactus

OMBUDSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.886.0003.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published week-days (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96301-5002. This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located. The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

OPINION

All I want for Christmas is a reality check in Europe

BY MARIA TADEO
 Bloomberg Opinion

The mayor of Vigo in Galicia, Spain, has already started preparing for the city’s annual Christmas extra-vaganza. This is in spite of the government’s attempt to reduce electricity consumption in cooperation with the European Union. Taking the lights down, the mayor argues, would hand Vladimir Putin a victory if the holiday spirit — and spending that comes with it — gets crushed by the war.

You’d think in the context of a looming energy crisis, setting up lights would rank at the bottom of the list of priorities. I love Christmas as much as anyone, I hope that this year it comes wrapped in a reality check — for everyone.

In Spain, energy-saving measures came in-to force last week: air conditioning will be set at 27 degrees Celsius (80.5 Fahrenheit), shop windows will have to go black from 10 p.m. and state buildings will have to dim their lights. This has sparked acrimonious debate among the central government, regional administrations and tourist destinations like Madrid, where the nightlife only gets going after 9 p.m. It’s a microcosm of just how unprepared — emotionally and practically — Europeans in general are about what is potentially the darkest winter the Continent will experience in decades.

The right-wing head of the Madrid region, Isabel Diaz Ayuso, is a leading voice against the new rules. She famously kept the city open for business during much of the pandemic. Now, she argues conservation will destroy jobs, scare tourists and hinder public safety. She makes a couple of good points: The Span-

ish government rushed the measures out without consensus and without a convincing narrative to justify responding to a winter crisis in the middle of the summer. Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez’s symbolic move of going tieless during official business — to make up for shutting off air conditioning — came across as trivial. He was largely ignored.

Still, it would be silly and shortsighted for Diaz Ayuso and Madrid to go without restrictions. And the bickering goes beyond Spain’s borders. In France, President Emmanuel Macron is due to unveil a plan for “sobriété énergétique” that is virtually a clone of the Spanish measures. He is likely to encounter the same resistance. His nemesis, Marine Le Pen, argues European sanctions on Russian energy have backfired and the French will be left footing the bill this winter. With electricity wholesale costs hitting fresh highs for Paris, Le Pen is looking to sway working-class voters by presenting herself as the candidate of purchasing power.

Germany is likely to feel the brunt of the Russian winter, but Chancellor Olaf Scholz has played down fears of winter unrest voiced by the media even as the Federal Network Agency — the country’s power regulator — has called on consumers to reduce consumption and set aside money for cold weather bills. Corporations like Deutsche Bank are going further than the voluntary measures set forth by the government.

In Italy, caretaker Prime Minister Mario Draghi caused controversy by saying Italians would have to choose between blasting the air conditioning or helping Ukraine. However, no candidate is talking about it during the campaign leading up to the Sept. 25 vote. That will

make the reckoning even harder (or colder) when the winter comes — and the likely reaction from an unprepared electorate even more volatile.

For months, European officials have swept any discussion under the carpet. First, they wanted to save the summer tourist season, which is a cash cow providing much of the second quarter growth for many countries. Second, governments did not want to trigger panic among consumers. It wasn’t until July that the public discourse out of Brussels and national governments began to reflect behind-closed-door concerns. It’s a little late for the reality check — which politics still keeps suppressing.

The result: Ordinary European citizens have not fully internalized the abnormality of the coming winter. The fact that dimmed lights and limited air conditioning spark such a heated debate doesn’t bode well. Come December, the fuss will all seem paltry if Russia further weaponizes energy. It is daunting simply to imagine what the effect will be on lower income families forced to choose between paying for food or heating.

By now, it is clear Putin wants to force a volte-face (about-face) on the EU and its sanctions. That will happen most efficiently with discord, distrust and misinformation among Europeans. This is not a time for petty party politics. What is required now is a sober assessment that cuts through party lines and brings about solutions. It’s getting pretty late for those reality checks.

Maria Tadeo is the European correspondent for Bloomberg Television based in Brussels where she covers politics, economics and NATO. This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.

Record shows Biden’s no FDR. He’s not even Obama.

BY RAMESH PONNURU
 Bloomberg Opinion

Democrats have every right to be pleased that they passed another big spending bill, but a lot of them are getting carried away. Long-time Democratic consultant Robert Shrum celebrated the momentum behind the passage of the so-called Inflation Reduction Act by tweeting, “Biden is the most legislatively successful President since LBJ.”

Some credulous journalists are saying the same thing. And Republicans have no incentive to correct the record: So be it if voters who lean their way see President Joe Biden as a progressive juggernaut. The truth is less inspiring: Biden is the most legislatively successful president since Barack Obama.

Progressive hopes crested when Biden got elected, and especially when special elections in Georgia gave Democrats a Senate majority to match the one in the House. Biden had a “breathtaking agenda” of “radical change,” George Packer wrote in The Atlantic: America was entering a “plastic moment” when the liberal dreams of a generation could be fulfilled. Once he became president, Biden held a meeting with historians that led to speculation that he could be another FDR. New York Times columnist Ezra Klein explained that Democrats had wised up about how impossible it was to negotiate with Republicans.

Among the items on the progressive to-do list were an expansion of the Supreme Court, statehood for places expected to vote for Democrats, a higher minimum wage, higher income-tax rates on high earners, a federal overhaul of election law, an amnesty for illegal im-

migrants, a ban on assault weapons, federal Medicaid funding for abortion, and measures to increase union membership. None of it has happened.

When The New York Times endorsed Biden in 2020, the first two policies it mentioned in praising his “bold agenda” were his plans to create a government-run health insurance option for middle-class Americans of working age and to lower the age of eligibility for Medicare to 60. Both, The Times cheered, would move us toward “universal health care.”

Neither even made it to a vote. Instead, Biden has enacted subsidies to patch some holes in the last big move toward universal health care, “Obamacare.” This repair job on an Obama accomplishment is one of the major victories in the new spending bill that has Democrats so thrilled.

Biden has certainly been a bigger spender than previous presidents (although Donald Trump, especially post-pandemic, was no slouch in that area). But Obama, in addition to spending a lot by the standards of the time, created a new entitlement and massively expanded eligibility for an old one. Through Obamacare and the Dodd-Frank financial overhaul, he won major new regulatory authority for the federal government. Biden, thankfully, has achieved nothing comparable.

There is one respect in which Biden’s legislative record is genuinely impressive: It has occurred with extremely narrow majorities in Congress. But the nature of these accomplishments cuts against the assumptions behind the next-FDR talk. The infrastructure bill, tweaks to gun regulations, subsidies for semiconductors: All came via bipartisan deals,

which were supposed to be impossible, and without heavy involvement by Biden himself.

But it also came after six years in which Democrats, particularly the most progressive ones, let their expectations run far ahead of reality. They considered Bernie Sanders’s strength in the 2016 Democratic primary as a sign of socialism’s surging popularity instead of Hillary Clinton’s weakness. They took the loudest and most mediagenic Democratic election winners of 2018, such as Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, as a portent. They took polls that seemed to suggest “Medicare for All” was a popular idea at face value, even though they gave that impression by glossing over key details. When Biden won, they credited his progressive platform more than his main message (I’m not Donald Trump).

Then came the actual Biden presidency. One initiative after another fell short: Raising the minimum wage didn’t even get a majority of the Senate. Measures expected to raise the Democrats’ popularity and pave the way for future triumphs, such as the “American Rescue Plan” they passed in February 2021, didn’t. (That bill may instead have stoked inflation, and certainly made it easier to blame Democrats for it.)

Democrats are now saying they have done fantastically well, even better than they did when they had unified control of the federal government in the Obama years. It’s not persuasive. But it may be the best means available for them to rationalize coming down to Earth.

Bloomberg Opinion columnist Ramesh Ponnuru is the editor of National Review and a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.

STARS  STRIPES®

Get unlimited Digital Access to the #1 source of U.S. military news

stripes.com | mobile apps

ONE-MONTH FREE TRIAL



Digital Access includes:

- Unbiased, First Amendment-protected reporting from installations around the world.
- Coverage of all military branches
- Veterans topics
- Photos from our archives
- Special features on current issues
- Retrospectives such as Vietnam 50
- And much more

Subscribe now

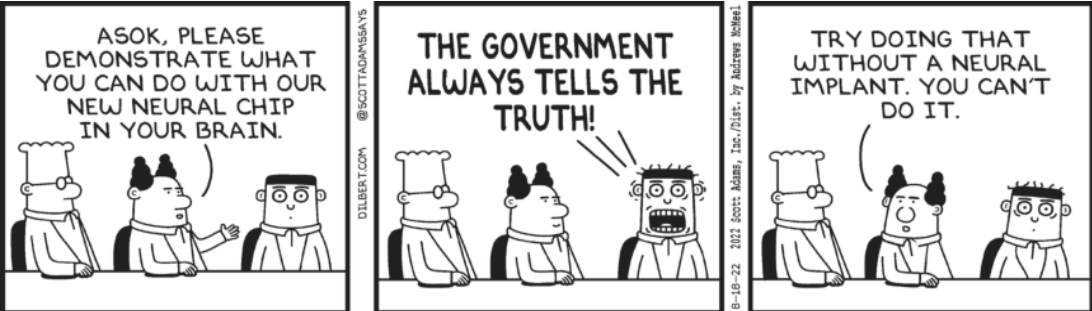


stripes.com/subscribe

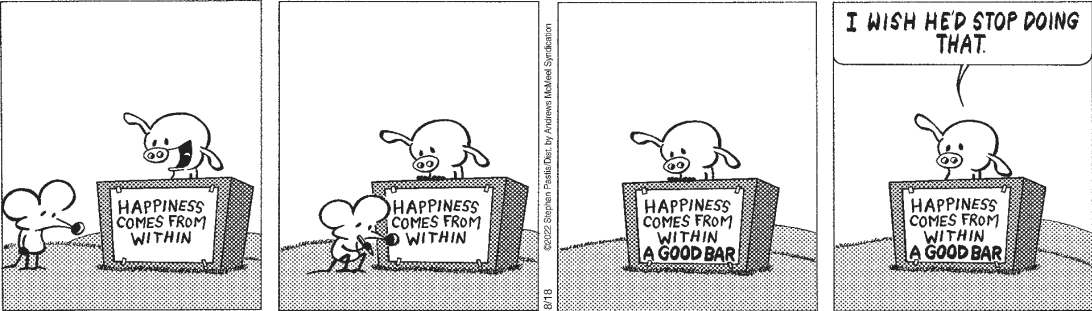
Frazz



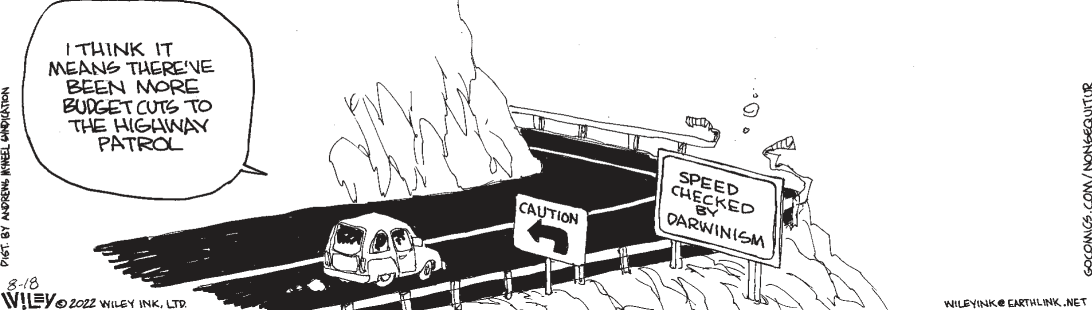
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



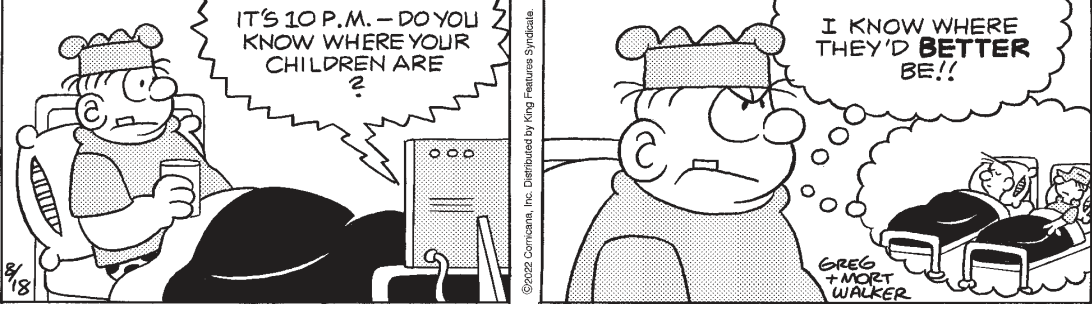
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15			16						17			
		18				19		20				
21	22				23		24					
25				26		27		28		29	30	31
32			33		34		35		36			
37				38		39		40		41		
			42		43		44		45			
46	47	48				49		50				
51					52		53				54	55
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- ACROSS
- 59 Brady and Hanks
60 Scatters seeds
61 Filch
- 23 Half dozen
27 "Whatever"
29 Lothario
30 PBS sci-
ence show
31 Nonfat
33 Fender instru-
ments
35 Heat source
38 "Rugrats" dad
40 Engines
43 Two-tone cookies
45 Scratch
46 Tizzy
47 Takeout request
48 Physics bit
49 Within (Pref.)
53 Hardly any
54 Punk-rock
subgenre
55 Massage
- DOWN
- 1 London's Old —
2 Pub serving
3 Part of the brain
4 Comment
5 Inventor Whitney
6 Grade-school
basics
7 Brick worker
8 SUV's kin
9 Location
10 Crumbly earth
11 Common con-
junctions
16 Mimic
20 Male swan
21 Outlet letters
22 Actress Kate
author
39 Drone
41 Roman 1006
42 Judge in
1995 news
44 Polite denial
46 Height
50 Sunbather's goal
51 Part of N.B.
52 Mob bully
56 Composer
Stravinsky
57 Baltic feeder
58 Big bird

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

8-18 CRYPTOQUIP

LM CNGGLW APZRND WCNMML
HANGW QA ZG NZCNDR BEZLG,
WEN DNZPPR HQYEC CH BZPP
LC "YDZM-NCNDLZ."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMED POPULAR MUSIC SINGER WHO WAS AN EXPERT AT EXTRACTING LEAD ORE FROM MINES: GALENA HORNE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals Y

Get the news
that matters to you,
from the source you trust.



Daily Headlines | Veterans News | Military History | and more

Sign up now for Stars and Stripes FREE eNewsletters

STARS AND STRIPES® stripes.com/newsletters

FACES

COMMENTARY

‘Saul’ finale did justice to ‘Breaking Bad’ spinoff

BY INKOO KANG
The Washington Post

Note: This article contains spoilers for the series finale of “Better Call Saul.”

“Breaking Bad” ended in 2013 with a “Hamlet”-esque body count, taking down Bryan Cranston’s hubristic meth-cook-turned-drug-kingpin, Walter White, along with many of his associates and foes. Its spinoff, “Better Call Saul,” concluded on a strikingly different note: with Walter’s one-time attorney and accomplice, Saul Goodman (Bob Odenkirk), looking wistfully, possibly for the last time, at his estranged ex-wife, Kim Wexler (Rhea Seehorn) — his last tie to any sense of shame or morality he still allowed himself to feel.

Between them were two chain-link fences, one keeping Saul in prison, where he’ll most likely die after receiving an 86-year sentence for his various crimes, including his role in the murders of DEA agents Hank Schrader (Dean Norris) and Steve Gomez (Steven Michael Quezada). There’s no hail of gunfire for Saul, nee Jimmy McGill — his court-based fate is fitting for a lawyer, even if he’s got the soul of a con man.

Prequels tend to get a bad rap, often for good reason. We all know how it’s going to end, viewers complain. “Better Call Saul” seemed like a cynical cash grab when it was first announced; it was before franchise culture had worn us down so completely that we could still muster some outrage then. But over the AMC drama’s six seasons, creators Vince Gilligan and Peter Gould have exemplified the creative freedoms that might be more readily available to a prequel than a sequel, spinning an endlessly tense, funny and exis-

tential yarn that hardly needed “Breaking Bad” to justify its existence, while using the events of the parent series to rivetingly draw its protagonist to a Greek tragedy that he was helpless to avoid. (Note that it’s never the past, but the desolate present, when Jimmy/Saul is to get his comeuppance, that’s shot in black and white.) And then, as its piece de resistance, the finale folded in the events of “Breaking Bad” beautifully while re-centering the relationship that mattered most in this corner of the franchise’s universe.

“Better Call Saul” began in part as a fraternal melodrama between Jimmy and his older brother, Chuck (Michael McKean), with Jimmy constantly trying to swindle his

way into the halls of power and respectability symbolized by Chuck’s white-shoe firm. But the person who loved Jimmy for who he was — and occasionally shared his willingness to thumb his nose at the rules, as long as he didn’t go too far — was Kim, who, like him, had clawed her way toward a law degree after a stint in the mailroom of Chuck’s firm. It was always inevitable that Jimmy would lose Kim, his one tether to the man he was, a contrast with the brash image he projected to the rest of the world via loud billboards and cheesy TV commercials.

The finale’s courtroom scene, in which he manipulates Kim and the prosecutors into hearing his confession and ultimately embraces whatever the legal consequences may be, was wholly satisfying because it was the rare instance in which Jimmy applied his theatricality and convoluted scheming into doing the right thing.

Though told with nail-biting thrills and cinematic flair — with superfluously gorgeous images that alternated between silence and babble, stillness and onslaught —



AMC, Sony Pictures Television

Bob Odenkirk is shown as Saul Goodman in the series finale of “Better Call Saul.” The “Breaking Bad” prequel came to a quiet — and fitting — end Monday after six seasons.

“Better Call Saul” has always been a deeply conservative show centered around a familiar caution: Crime doesn’t pay (even when it’s very fun).

The show’s old-fashioned instincts sometimes underscored its weaker elements; how many repetitive scenes of fixer Mike’s (Jonathan Banks) ultra-manly stoicism or paternal dedication did we need? Gilligan and Gould made a restrained series about showmanship and grandiosity that unfailingly valorized the self-discipline and methodicalness typified by Mike and his preternaturally unruffled employer, Gus Fring (Giancarlo Esposito). Such was the case that they routinely mocked even their own most obvious indulgences, those visual flourishes highlighting the unexpected beauty or eeriness of everyday objects, by gently ribbing the kind of person who would appreciate them most, Josh Fadem’s pre-tentious film student and Jimmy’s go-to cameraman.

But in the case of the finale, the drama’s moralizing tendencies worked to its advantage. The cartel storyline had seemed to wrap up midway through the final season with the death of Lalo Salamanca (Tony Dalton) and the season fast-forwarding to the monochromatic present day, when an

on-the-lam Jimmy — now “Gene Takavic” of Omaha, Neb. — can’t help masterminding yet another scam, this time with the help of an accessory, Jeff (Pat Healy), who might’ve kept his nose clean if he hadn’t had the bad luck of recognizing “Saul” from his Albuquerque days.

But the reappearance of Hank’s widow, Marie (Betsy Brandt), widens the story’s focus and reminds us of the operatic scale of destruction in Saul’s wake. In its latter half, Season 6 had focused on the minuscule — petty crimes by “Gene” and Jeff, who ripped off a department store and some drunks — in a reflection of the myopic denial that Saul had probably decided to see his past actions through.

For most of the duration of “Better Call Saul,” the series illustrated why Jimmy thought of himself as an underdog — someone always on the outs, obsessed with those who wouldn’t let him in their club. In at least one of his tellings, Saul was victimized by Walter White, too. But the finale derives its impact from confronting the full weight of his carelessness, his long-awaited willingness to stare fully at everyone whose life he derailed. Like Walter White, Saul could nurse a world of hurt, but he destroyed many more worlds in the process.

Wolfgang Petersen, Oscar-nominated filmmaker of ‘Das Boot,’ dies

BY JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

Wolfgang Petersen, the German filmmaker whose World War II submarine epic “Das Boot” propelled him into a blockbuster Hollywood career that included the films “In the Line of Fire,” “Air Force One” and “The Perfect Storm,” has died.

He was 81.

Petersen died Aug. 12 at his home in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Brentwood after a battle with pancreatic cancer, said representative Michelle Bega.

Petersen, born in the north German port city of Emden, made two features before his 1982 breakthrough, “Das Boot,” then the



Petersen

most expensive movie in German film history. The 149-minute film (the original cut ran 210 minutes) chronicled the intense claustrophobia of life aboard a doomed German U-boat during the Battle of the Atlantic, with Jürgen Prochnow as the submarine’s commander.

Heralded as an antiwar masterpiece, “Das Boot” was nominated for six Oscars, including for Petersen’s direction and his adaptation of Lothar-Günther Buchheim’s best-selling 1973 novel.

“Das Boot” launched Petersen as a filmmaker in Hollywood, where he became one of the top makers of cataclysmic action adventures in films spanning war (2004’s “Troy,” with Brad Pitt), pandemic (the 1995 ebolavirus-inspired “Outbreak”) and other ocean-set disasters (2000’s “The Perfect Storm” and 2006’s “Poseidon,” a remake of “The Poseidon Adventure,” about the capsizing of an ocean liner).

But Petersen’s first foray in American moviemaking was child fantasy: the enchanting 1984 film “The NeverEnding Story.” Adapted from Michael Ende’s novel, “The NeverEnding Story” was about a magical book that transports its young reader

into the world of Fantasia, where a dark force known as the Nothing rampages.

Arguably Petersen’s finest Hollywood film came almost a decade later in 1993’s “In the Line of Fire,” starring Clint Eastwood as a Secret Service agent protecting the president of the United States from John Malkovich’s assassin. In it, Petersen marshalled his substantial skill in building suspense for a more open-air but just as taut thriller that careened across rooftops and past Washington D.C. monuments.

Petersen returned to the presidency in 1997’s “Air Force One.” Harrison Ford starred as a president forced into a fight with terrorists who hijack Air Force One.

SCOREBOARD/TENNIS

PRO SOCCER

MLS							
EASTERN CONFERENCE							
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Philadelphia	13	3	9	48	45	19	
CF Montréal	13	8	4	43	43	41	
NYCFC	12	6	6	42	45	27	
New York	10	8	7	37	38	31	
Columbus	8	6	10	34	32	27	
Orlando City	9	10	6	33	28	36	
Inter Miami CF	9	10	6	33	32	41	
New England	8	7	9	33	36	34	
Cincinnati	8	8	9	33	42	45	
Chicago	8	11	6	30	28	34	
Charlotte FC	9	14	2	29	30	39	
Toronto FC	8	12	5	29	37	43	
Atlanta	7	9	8	29	33	36	
D.C. United	6	15	4	22	28	49	

WESTERN CONFERENCE							
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
LAFC	18	4	3	57	54	24	
Austin FC	14	5	6	48	54	34	
FC Dallas	10	7	9	39	38	28	
Minnesota	11	9	5	38	40	35	
Real Salt Lake	10	8	7	37	33	34	
LA Galaxy	10	11	3	33	37	34	
Nashville	8	9	9	33	34	36	
Portland	7	7	12	33	42	40	
Seattle	10	13	2	32	32	31	
Colorado	8	9	7	31	35	37	
Vancouver	8	11	6	30	29	44	
Houston	7	14	4	25	31	42	
San Jose	5	11	9	24	40	53	
Sporting KC	6	15	5	23	26	48	

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

Tuesday's game	
Los Angeles FC 1, D.C. United 0	
Wednesday's games	
New York at Atlanta	
New England at Toronto FC	
Charlotte FC at New York City FC	
Philadelphia at FC Dallas	
Colorado at Vancouver	
Friday's game	
Seattle at LA Galaxy	
Saturday's games	
Cincinnati at New York	
Philadelphia at D.C. United	
New England at CF Montréal	
Toronto FC at Miami	
Austin FC at Minnesota	
Houston at Colorado	
Vancouver at Real Salt Lake	
Los Angeles FC at San Jose	
Sunday's games	
Atlanta at Columbus	
New York City FC at Chicago	
Orlando City at Charlotte FC	
Portland at Sporting Kansas City	
FC Dallas at Nashville	

NWSL							
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Portland	7	1	7	28	36	15	
Kansas City	7	4	4	25	20	20	
San Diego	7	5	4	25	21	14	
Houston	7	4	4	25	26	17	
OL Reign	6	4	6	24	20	15	
Chicago	6	4	5	23	22	18	
Angel City	6	5	3	21	15	16	
Orlando	4	5	6	18	17	30	
Louisville	2	6	8	14	16	22	
Gotham FC	4	9	0	12	10	28	
Washington	1	6	9	12	16	21	
North Carolina	2	6	4	10	23	26	

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

Wednesday's game	
Gotham FC at Houston	
Friday's game	
Angel City at Kansas City	
Saturday's games	
Orlando at Gotham FC	
Chicago at North Carolina	
Houston at San Diego	

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA playoffs	
(x-if necessary)	
First Round	
(Best-of-three)	
No. 1 Las Vegas vs. No. 8 Phoenix	
Wednesday: Phoenix at Las Vegas	
Saturday: Phoenix at Las Vegas	
x-Tuesday, Aug. 23: Las Vegas at Phoenix	
No. 2 Chicago vs. No. 7 New York	
Wednesday: New York at Chicago	
Saturday: New York at Chicago	
x-Tuesday, Aug. 23: Chicago at New York	
No. 3 Connecticut vs. No. 6 Dallas	
Thursday: Dallas at	
Sunday: Dallas at Connecticut	
x-Wednesday, Aug. 24: Connecticut at Dallas	
No. 4 Seattle vs. No. 5 Washington	
Thursday: Washington at Seattle	
Sunday: Washington at Seattle	
x-Wednesday, Aug. 24: Seattle at Washington	

TENNIS

Odlum Brown VanOpen	
Tuesday	
At Hollyburn Country Club	
Vancouver	
Purse: \$115,000	
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor	
Women's Singles	
Round of 32	
Wang Xinyu (4), China, def. Kristina Mladenovic, France, 6-4, 6-2.	
CoCo Vandeweghe, United States, def. Kurumi Nara, Japan, 6-2, 6-3.	
Arianne Hartono, Netherlands, def. Eugenie Bouchard, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.	
Madison Brengle (1), United States, def. Lizette Cabrera, Australia, 6-0, 6-0.	
Priscilla Hon, Australia, def. Marina Stakusic, Canada, 6-3, 6-3.	
Emma Navarro, United States, def. Rebecca Marino (6), Canada, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7).	
Women's Doubles	
Round of 16	
Oksana Kalashnikova, Georgia, and Nao Hibino (3), Japan, def. Anna-Karolina Schmiedlova, Slovakia, and Maja Chwalinska, Poland, 6-2, 6-2.	
Asia Muhammad, United States, and Miyu Kato (1), Japan, def. Despina Papamichail, Greece, and Marina Bassols Ribera, Spain, 6-2, 7-5.	

Western & Southern Open	
Tuesday	
At Lindner Family Tennis Center	
Cincinnati	
Purse: \$6,280,880	
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor	
Men's Singles	
Round of 64	
Tommy Paul, United States, def. Jensen Brooksby, United States, 6-3, 6-2.	
Borna Coric, Croatia, def. Lorenzo Musetti, Italy, 7-6 (2), 6-3.	
Alex de Minaur, Australia, def. Henri Laaksonen, Switzerland, 6-2, 6-2.	
Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. Albert Ramos-Vinolas, Spain, 6-2, 6-3.	
Jannik Sinner (10), Italy, def. Thanasi Kokkinakis, Australia, 6-7 (9), 6-4, 7-6 (6).	
Taylor Fritz (11), United States, def. Sebastian Baez, Argentina, 6-1, 6-1.	
Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, Spain, 7-5, 6-4.	
Miomir Kecmanovic, Serbia, def. Pablo Carreno Busta, Spain, 1-6, 7-5, 7-6 (4).	
Ben Shelton, United States, def. Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, 7-6 (5), 3-6, 7-5.	
Filip Krajinovic, Serbia, def. Daniel Evans, Britain, 6-3, 6-4.	

Round of 32	
Carlos Alcaraz (3), Spain, def. Mackenzie McDonald, United States, 6-3, 6-2.	
Daniil Medvedev (1), Russia, def. Botik Van de Zandschulp, Netherlands, 6-4, 7-5.	
Marin Cilic (14), Croatia, def. Emil Ruusuvuori, Finland, 6-4, 6-7 (0), 7-5.	
Diego Schwartzman (13), Argentina, def. Aslan Karatsev, Russia, 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-2.	
Women's Singles	
Round of 64	
Elise Mertens, Belgium, def. Anhelina Kalinina, Ukraine, 6-1, 6-1.	
Zhang Shuai, China, def. Naomi Osaka, Japan, 6-4, 7-5.	
Sorana Cirstea, Romania, def. Belinda Bencic (12), Switzerland, 6-2, 6-7 (3), 6-4.	
Karolina Pliskova (14), Czech Republic, def. Venus Williams, United States, 7-5, 6-1.	
Anna Kalinskaya, Russia, def. Martina Trevisan, Italy, 7-6 (2), 7-5.	
Shelby Rogers, United States, def. Sofia Kenin, United States, 6-2, 6-1.	
Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, def. Camila Giorgi, Italy, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4.	
Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, def. Coco Gauff (11), United States, 7-5, 1-0, ret.	
Emma Raducanu (10), Britain, def. Serena Williams, United States, 6-4, 6-0.	
Simona Halep (15), Romania, def. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.	
Jelena Ostapenko (16), Latvia, def. Beatriz Haddad Maia, Brazil, 6-4, 6-4.	
Madison Keys, United States, def. Yulia Putintseva, Kazakhstan, 7-5, 6-3.	

Round of 32	
Anett Kontaveit (2), Estonia, def. Tereza Martincova, Czech Republic, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4.	
Caroline Garcia, France, def. Maria Sakrari (4), Greece, 7-6 (2), 6-7 (6), 6-1.	

Men's Doubles	
Round of 32	
Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies, Germany, def. John Isner, United States, and Hubert Hurkacz, Poland, 6-4, 7-6 (0).	
Harri Heliovaara, Finland, and Lloyd Glasspool, Britain, def. Frances Tiafoe and Tommy Paul, United States, 4-6, 6-3, 10-8.	
Nikola Mektic and Mate Pavic (5), Croatia, def. Stan Wawrinka, Switzerland, and Lukasz Kubot, Poland, 6-3, 6-4.	
Steve Johnson and William Blumberg, United States, def. Matthew Ebden and Max Purcell, Australia, 7-5, 3-6, 10-6.	

Women's Doubles	
Round of 32	
Ingrid Neel and Jessie Aney, United States, def. Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, and Alexa Guarachi, Chile, 6-1, 4-6, 11-9.	
Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, and Ons Jabeur, Tunisia, def. Shuko Aoyama, Japan, and Hao-Ching Chan, Taiwan, 6-3, 6-3.	
Nicole Melichar-Martinez, United States, and Ellen Perez, Australia, def. Taylor Townsend and Caty McNally, United States, 6-0, 3-6, 10-1.	
Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Giuliana Olmos (5), Mexico, def. Alize Cornet, France, and Jil Teichmann, Switzerland, 5-7, 6-4, 10-7.	
Sloane Stephens, United States, and Anett Kontaveit, Estonia, def. Storm Sanders, Australia, and Caroline Dolehide, United States, 6-2, 3-6, 10-8.	
Round of 16	
Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, and Elise Mertens (1), Belgium, def. Laura Siegemund, Germany, and Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (4).	

DEALS

Tuesday's transactions	
BASEBALL	
Major League Baseball American League	
BOSTON RED SOX — Reinstated INF/OF Kike Hernandez from the 60-day IL. Reinstated OF Rob Refsnyder from the 10-day IL. Designated INF Yolmer Sanchez for assignment. Sent LHP Matt Strahm to Worcester (IL) on a rehab assignment.	
CLEVELAND GUARDIANS — Optioned RHP Xzavion Curry to Columbus (IL).	
DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned RHP Bryan Garcia to Toledo (IL).	
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to terms with 1B Mike Ford on a minor league contract.	
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Sent RHP Brent Honeywell Jr. to Stockton (CAL) on a rehab assignment. Selected the contract of C Shea Langeliers from Las Vegas (PCL). Recalled INF David Mackinnon from Las Vegas. Placed OF Ramon Laureano on the 10-day IL, retroactive to August 15. Released OF Stephen Piscotty.	
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Reinstated RF Harold Ramirez from the 10-day IL. Optioned LF Luke Raley to Durham (IL).	
TEXAS RANGERS — Selected the contract of RHP Kohei Arihara from Round Rock (PCL). Recalled INF/OF Mark Mathias from Round Rock. Optioned RHP Yerry Rodriguez to Round Rock. Designated OF Elier Hernandez for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Tyler Duffey on a minor league contract.	
National League	
ATLANTA BRAVES — Placed C Chadwick Tromp on the 10-day IL, retroactive to August 14. Selected the contract of 2B Ryan Goins from Gwinnett (IL). Sent RHP Mike Soroka to Rome (SAL) on a rehab assignment. Designated 2B Travis Demeritte and LHP Danny Young for assignment. Acquired 1B Tyler White from Milwaukee for cash. Claimed 3B Rylan Bannon off waivers from the Los Angeles Dodgers. Recalled RHP Freddy Tarnok from Gwinnett. Agreed to terms with OF Michael Harris II on an eight-year contract for 2023-30.	
CINCINNATI REDS — Placed 2B Donovan Solano on the paternity list. Recalled CF TJ Friedl from Louisville (IL).	
COLORADO ROCKIES — Sent RHP Jordan Sheffield outright to Albuquerque (PCL).	
MIAMI MARLINS — Reinstated RHP Cole Sulser from the 60-day IL. Designated RHP Parker Bugg for assignment. Sent RHP A.J. Ladwig outright to Pensacola (SL).	
MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Sent C Omar Narvaez and RHP Trevor Rosenthal to Nashville (IL) on rehab assignments.	
NEW YORK METS — Recalled RHP Stephen Nogosek from Syracuse (IL). Selected the contract of RHP R.J. Alvarez from Syracuse. Placed RHP Carlos Carrasco on the 15-day IL. Optioned RHP Adonis Medina to Syracuse. Designated OF Nick Plummer for assignment. Agreed to terms with OF Travis Jankowski on a minor league contract. Sent RHP Tommy Hunter to Brooklyn (SAL) on a rehab assignment.	
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Suspended INF Rodolfo Castro for one game and fined an undisclosed amount for violating the electronic device policy during game at Arizona on August 9. Recalled INF Kevin Padlo from Indianapolis (IL). Placed INF Ke'Bryan Hayes on the 10-day IL, retroactive to August 13.	
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Sent RHP Jack Flaherty to Springfield (TL) on a rehab assignment.	
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Reinstated 1B Matt Beaty from the 60-day IL and optioned him to El Paso. Transferred RHP Craig Stammen from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL. Sent LHP Drew Pomeranz to El Paso (PCL) on a rehab assignment.	
BASKETBALL	
National Basketball Association	
NBA — Granted the application of G Jaalen Harris to be reinstated as an NBA player.	
FOOTBALL	
National Football League	
ATLANTA FALCONS — Placed CB Cornell Armstrong on injured reserve. Waived TE Tucker Fisk, LB Rashad Smith, DB Tre Webb and P Seth Vernon.	
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Released QB Brett Hundley. Placed LB Trent Harris on injured reserve.	
BUFFALO BILLS — Released CB Tim Harris and LB Marquel Lee.	
CAROLINA PANTHERS — Released DT Jacob Tuoti-Marine from injured reserve with a settlement.	
CHICAGO BEARS — Signed OL Corey Dublin and S Jon Alexander. Waived TE Rysen John and LB Noah Dawkins. —Placed C Doug Kramer on injured reserve. Waived DBs Michael Joseph, Jayson Stanley and LB Javin White with an injury designation.	
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Released DT Sheldon Day. Waived OT Elijah Nkansah with an injury designation. Placed Cs Nick Harris and Dawson Deaton on injured reserve. Claimed WR Easop Winston off waivers from New Orleans. Waived LB Silas Kelly from injured reserve with a set-	

AP SPORTLIGHT

Aug. 18	
1923 — Helen Mills, 17, ends Molla Bjurstedt Mallory's domination of the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association championships and starts her own with a 6-2, 6-1 victory.	
1958 — Floyd Patterson knocks out Roy Harris in the 13th round at Wrigley Field in Los Angeles to retain his world heavyweight title.	
1964 — The International Olympic Committee bans South Africa from competing in the Summer Olympics because of its apartheid policies.	
1994 — South Africa is introduced for the	

tlement.	
DALLAS COWBOYS — Reinstated LB Anthony Barr from the physically unable to perform (PUP) list. Placed RB Ryan Nall on injured reserve.	
DENVER BRONCOS — Released RB Max Borghi, TE Rodney Williams, S Jamar Johnson, WRs Travis Fulgham and Kaden Davis. Waived RB Tyreik McAllister from injured reserve with a settlement.	
DETROIT LIONS — Waived S Brady Breeze with an injury designation. Waived WR Josh Johnson with an injury settlement.	
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Released TE Dominique Dafney, RB B.J. Baylor, OL George Moore and LB Ellis Brooks, K George Mason and LB Randy Ramsey. Claimed TE Nate Becker off waivers from Carolina.	
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Released WRs Isaiah Ford, Michael Young, OL Brandon Kemp and CB Alexander Myres.	
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Placed K Elliott Fry on injured reserve after clearing waivers. Waived RB Nathan Cottrell from injured reserve with a settlement.	
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Waived WR Devlin Gray and DL Austin Edwards. Placed WR Gary Jennings on injured reserve after clearing waivers.	
LAS VEGAS RAIDERS — Released CB Nate Brooks, DT Vernon Butler, WR Demarcus Robinson, DE Gerri Green and OT Tyrone Wheatley Jr.	
LOS ANGELES CHARGERS — Placed DT Forrest Merrill and C Isaac Weaver on injured reserve after clearing waivers.	
LOS ANGELES RAMS — Waived P Cameron Dicker, T Adrian Ealy, QB Luis Perez, TE Jamal Pettigrew and DB Caesar Dancy-Williams. Claimed DL T.J. Carter off waivers from New Orleans. Waived WR Warren Jackson with an injury designation.	
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Placed TE Adam Shaheen on season-ending injured reserve. Waived OL Cole Banwart, WR DeVonte Dedmon and DL Jordan Williams. Waived CB Tino Ellis with an injury designation.	
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Waived FB Jake Bargas, CB Tye Smith and OLB Andre Mintze. Waived DL Tyarise Stevenson and WR Thomas Hennigan with an injury designation.	
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Placed CB Malcolm Butler on the season-ending injured reserve. Placed CB Joejuan Williams on injured reserve. Waived P Jake Julien.	
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Placed DBs Jordan Brown and Isaiah Pryor on injured reserve after clearing waivers.	
NEW YORK GIANTS — Waived TE Jeremiah Hall and DB Gavin Heslop. Waived WR Austin Proehl with an injury designation.	
NEW YORK JETS — Placed OT Mekhi Becton on injured reserve. Released DB Luq Barcoo, OL Derrick Kelly, DE Timmy Ward and WR Rashard Davis.	
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Released CB Jimmy Moreland, WR Lance Lenoir and S Jared Mayden. Waived WR Keric Wheatfall from injured reserve with a settlement.	
PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Placed DB Karl Joseph and WR Anthony Miller on injured reserve. Signed OL William Dunkle. Released DT Doug Costin. OLS Jake Dixon, Chris Owens, C Nate Gilliam and P Cameron Nizialek. Waived WR Javon McKinley from injured reserve with a settlement. Claimed G Ryan McCollum off waivers from Detroit. Placed LB Tuzar Skipper on injured reserve after clearing waivers.	
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Released DL Robert Nkemdikwe.	
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Reinstated OT Liam Ryan from the physically unable to perform (PUP) list.	
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Released DB Ross Cockrell, G Curtis Blackwell, WR Kameron Brown, T Jonathan Hubbard, OLB JoJo Ozuogwu and TE Ben Beise. Signed DE Carl Nassib.	
TENNESSEE TITANS — Released WR Josh Malone, RB Jordan Wilkins, DB Deante Burton, DL Haskell Garrett and OL Carson Green. Claimed DB Lonnie Johnson Jr. off waivers from Kansas City.	
WASHINGTON COMMANDERS — Released S Troy Apke, CB De'Vante Bausby and G Deion Calhoun. Placed FB Alex Armah and TE Sammis Reyes on injured reserve. Waived WR Jequez Ezzard from injured reserve with a settlement.	
SOCCER	
Major League Soccer	
MLS — Fined Colorado F Diego Rubio an undisclosed amount for simulation/embellishment during an August 13 match against Columbus. Fined Vancouver F Christian Dajome an undisclosed amount for failing to leave the field in a timely manner during an August 13 match against the LA Galaxy. Fined Nashville F C.J. Sapong an undisclosed amount for a hands to the face/head/neck violation during an August 14 match against Minnesota.	
D.C. UNITED — Agreed to mutually terminate the contract of F Michael Estrada.	
INTER MIAMI CF — Agreed to mutually terminate the contract of D Jairo Quinteros.	

Serena loses to Raducanu

By MITCH STACY
Associated Press

MASON, Ohio — The second stop on Serena Williams' farewell tour was a short one.

The 40-year-old Williams fell to 0-2 in matches since announcing "the countdown has begun" on her career, losing 6-4, 6-0 to U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu in the Western & Southern Open on Tuesday night.

Williams said last week in a Vogue magazine essay and an Instagram post that her career was winding down, although she did not explicitly say the U.S. Open, which begins Aug. 29 in New York, would be her last tournament.

The Cincinnati event was the second U.S. Open tuneup for Williams, and the next time she takes the court will be at Flushing Meadows. She lost to Belinda Bencic in straight sets last week in Toronto. A day before the announcement, Williams beat Nuria Parrizas-Diaz for her first match win since the 2021 French Open.

Williams is a 23-time Grand Slam champion, most recently in 2017 at the Australian Open, when she was pregnant with daughter Olympia. She said wanting to expand her family was a big reason she plans to step away.

Raducanu, ranked No. 19 in the world, was sharp as she dispatched Williams — and quiet

MLB

ROUNDUP

Arozarena, Rays beat Yankees

Player hits 3-run homer in win over struggling New York

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Randy Arozarena hit a three-run homer off Nestor Cortes in the first inning and the Tampa Bay staff made it stand up, leading the Rays over the skidding New York Yankees 3-1 Tuesday night.

Starter Jeffrey Springs (5-3) and four relievers combined on a four-hitter, and the crowd of 41,083 at Yankee Stadium booed their AL East leaders at times.

Tampa Bay got only four hits while winning its fourth straight and closing within nine games of the Yankees, who have lost 11 of 13 and were held to three runs or less for the seventh straight game.

New York avoided being blanked in three straight games when Andrew Benintendi tripled in the fifth and scored on a fielding error on a grounder by Miguel Andújar.

Cortes (9-4) allowed three runs and four hits in seven innings. He struck out three, walked none and retired 19 of his final 21 hitters.

Braves 5, Mets 0: Charlie Morton was dominant on the mound, Matt Olson and Robbie Grossman went deep, and host Atlanta blanked NL East-leading New York for its eighth straight win.

Morton (6-5) surrendered three hits and a walk in 6⅓ innings, posting his fourth double-figure strikeout game of the season with 12 Ks as Atlanta pulled within 3½ games of the division leaders.

Mets 10-game winner Taijuan Walker made an early exit because of back spasms. R.J. Alvarez (0-1), who was called up from Triple-A Syracuse before the game, took over for Walker and surrendered a 413-foot homer to Grossman, the second batter he faced.



CURTIS COMPTON/AP

The Atlanta Braves' Matt Olson swings the pink sword in the dugout after hitting a two-run homer in a 5-0 win against the New York Mets.



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

The Tampa Bay Rays' Randy Arozarena hits a three-run home run Tuesday during the first inning of a 3-1 win over the Yankees in New York. Tampa Bay got only four hits while winning its fourth straight.

Phillies 11, Reds 4: Rhys Hoskins homered twice and drove in five runs as Philadelphia posted the 10,000th win in franchise history, winning at Cincinnati.

The Phillies became the last of the original eight National League franchises to reach the mark. At 10,000-11,163, Philadelphia is the only team among them with a losing record.

Nick Castellanos homered and doubled twice and scored three times. Darick Hall and Garrett Stubbs also homered for the Phillies, who hold the second spot in the wild-card race. Kyle Gibson (8-5) struck out 11 in six innings.

Cardinals 5, Rockies 4: Paul Goldschmidt and Tommy Edman homered, and host St. Louis scored the winning run when Tyler O'Neill was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in the bottom of

the ninth inning, edging Colorado.

Andrew Knizner and Lars Nootbaar drew walks off Dinelson Lamet (1-2) in the ninth, and Dylan Carlson reached on a bunt single to load the bases before O'Neill was plunked.

Orioles 4, Blue Jays 2: Cedric Mullins and Adley Rutschman hit back-to-back home runs, Ramón Urías drove in the tiebreaking run in the sixth inning and Baltimore won at Toronto for its 10th victory in 14 August games.

Dean Kremer (5-4) matched his career high by pitching seven innings, winning for the second time in three starts. He allowed two runs and seven hits with one walk and six strikeouts. Félix Bautista struck out a pair in the ninth for his seventh save in eight chances.

Marlins 4, Padres 3: Nick Fortes hit two solo homers and scored the go-ahead run in the seventh inning, leading host Miami past San Diego.

Peyton Burdick hit a tiebreaking RBI double that scored Fortes, who had singled against Padres reliever Luis García (4-6) and advanced on a groundout before Burdick's line drive bounced inside the foul line in right.

Red Sox 5, Pirates 3: Nick Pivetta pitched one-hit ball over seven shutout innings for his first win since June 24, and Boston scored four runs in the first inning on its way to a victory at Pittsburgh.

The Pirates' only hit off Pivetta came on Ben Gamel's two-out single in the first inning on a soft liner to left-center.

Twins 9, Royals 0: Sonny Gray matched his season high with 10 strikeouts and Gio Urshela had four hits as host Minnesota beat Kansas City.

Tigers 4, Guardians 3: Rookie Kerry Carpenter homered for the second straight night and Detroit survived a wild ninth inning to win at Cleveland.

Brewers 5, Dodgers 4 (11): Victor Caratini hit a two-run single off Los Angeles closer Craig Kimbrel in the 11th inning, rallying host Milwaukee.

Cubs 7, Nationals 5 (11): Patrick Wisdom drove in the go-ahead run in the 11th inning, and Chicago won at Washington.

White Sox 4, Astros 3: Yoán Moncada hit a go-ahead single in the eighth inning for the second straight game, and host Chicago rallied to beat Houston.

Athletics 5, Rangers 1: Elvis Andrus homered against his former team for the first time, Shea Langeliers doubled on the first pitch he saw in the big leagues and visiting Oakland ended Texas' three-game winning streak and snapped its own nine-game skid.

Giants 2, Diamondbacks 1: Brandon Crawford hit a game-ending two-run homer off Ian Kennedy (4-6) after Thairo Estrada's two-out triple, and host San Francisco rallied past Arizona.

Mariners 8, Angels 2: Adam Frazier broke up José Suárez's bid for a perfect game in the sixth and added a two-run triple in the ninth, leading Seattle to a win at Los Angeles.

Scoreboard

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	72	45	.615	—
Tampa Bay	62	53	.539	9
Toronto	61	54	.530	10
Baltimore	61	55	.526	10½
Boston	58	59	.496	14
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	62	55	.530	—
Minnesota	60	55	.522	1
Chicago	61	56	.521	1
Kansas City	48	70	.407	14½
Detroit	45	74	.378	18
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	75	43	.636	—
Seattle	64	54	.542	11
Texas	52	64	.448	22
Los Angeles	51	66	.436	23½
Oakland	42	75	.359	32½
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	75	42	.641	—
Atlanta	72	46	.610	3½
Philadelphia	65	51	.560	9½
Miami	52	65	.444	23
Washington	39	79	.331	36½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	64	51	.557	—
Milwaukee	62	53	.539	2
Chicago	48	67	.417	16
Cincinnati	45	70	.391	19
Pittsburgh	45	71	.388	19½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	80	35	.696	—
San Diego	65	54	.546	17
San Francisco	59	57	.509	21½
Arizona	53	63	.457	27½
Colorado	51	67	.432	30½
Tuesday's games				
Boston 5, Pittsburgh 3				
Tampa Bay 3, N.Y. Yankees 1				
Baltimore 4, Toronto 2				
Detroit 4, Cleveland 3				
Minnesota 9, Kansas City 0				
Oakland 5, Texas 1				
Chicago White Sox 4, Houston 3				
Seattle 8, L.A. Angels 2				
Philadelphia 11, Cincinnati 4				
Atlanta 5, N.Y. Mets 0				
Miami 4, San Diego 3				
Chicago Cubs 7, Washington 5, 11 innings				
St. Louis 5, Colorado 4				
Milwaukee 5, L.A. Dodgers 4, 11 innings				
San Francisco 2, Arizona 1				
Wednesday's games				
Kansas City at Minnesota				
Baltimore at Toronto				
Seattle at L.A. Angels				
Boston at Pittsburgh				
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees				
Detroit at Cleveland				
Oakland at Texas				
Houston at Chicago White Sox				
Philadelphia at Cincinnati				
Chicago Cubs at Washington				
San Diego at Miami				
N.Y. Mets at Atlanta				
Colorado at St. Louis				
L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee				
Arizona at San Francisco				
Thursday's games				
Oakland (Logue 3-6) at Texas (Dunning 2-6)				
Houston (Garcia 9-8) at Chicago White Sox (Giolito 9-6)				
Chicago Cubs (Sampson 0-3) at Baltimore (Watkins 4-2)				
Boston (Eovaldi 5-3) at Pittsburgh (Wilson 2-7)				
Toronto (Berrios 8-5) at N.Y. Yankees (Montas 4-9)				
Kansas City (Keller 6-13) at Tampa Bay (McClanahan 11-5)				
Colorado (Senzatela 3-6) at St. Louis (Wainwright 8-8)				
L.A. Dodgers (Heaney 1-0) at Milwaukee (Burnes 8-5)				
Arizona (Gallen 8-2) at San Francisco (Webb 11-5)				
N.Y. Mets (deGrom 2-0) at Atlanta (Wright 14-5)				
Washington (Sánchez 0-5) at San Diego (Darvish 10-6)				
Friday's games				
Boston at Baltimore				
Toronto at N.Y. Yankees				
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland				
Kansas City at Tampa Bay				
L.A. Angels at Detroit				
Houston at Atlanta				
Texas at Minnesota				
Seattle at Oakland				
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs				
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh				
N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia				
San Francisco at Colorado				
St. Louis at Arizona				
Washington at San Diego				
Miami at L.A. Dodgers				

MLB/LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES



The Texas Rangers' Marcus Semien, left, and Corey Seager, right, talk with interim manager Tony Beasley on the mound after Beasley pulled starting pitcher Kohei Aihara in the sixth inning Tuesday in a 5-1 loss to the Oakland Athletics in Arlington, Texas.

Rangers reset: Team seeks drive to contend next year

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The Rangers are more than a decade removed from their only World Series appearances, and mired in the longest stretch of consecutive losing seasons in the franchise's half-century in Texas. They are again looking for a new manager. Less than nine months after a record offseason spending spree of more than a half-billion dollars, the Rangers fired Chris Woodward with the first-time manager late in his fourth season of what had become an extended rebuilding process. They will have a losing record for the sixth year in a row unless they win at least 29 of their last 46 games — and to finish above .500 would need one more win than that.

What Texas really hopes to do over these final seven weeks is to build momentum going into 2023, which general manager Chris Young said is still when they expect to be a playoff-caliber team again.

"We want to continue to create a competitive, energetic team that takes the field night in, night out prepared to win," Young said. "And I think that we want to see improvement in our fundamentals, just the basic fundamentals. It's something that we haven't executed those at the level we need to to become a championship team."

The Rangers will get more looks at youngsters such as speedy outfielders Leody Taveras and Bubba Thompson, and infielders Josh Smith and Ezequiel Duran, and left-handed starter Cole Ragans, who are all already in the big leagues.

The front office will start to evaluate potential managerial candidates. The next full-time manager will be the fourth for Texas since Jon Daniels, now president of baseball operations, became the team's general manager in October 2005.

The Rangers won American League championships in 2010 and 2011 under Ron Washington, the first manager hired by Daniels after Buck Showalter was fired at the end of the 2006 season. Washington resigned late in the 2014 season for personal reasons.

Jeff Banister won AL West titles the next two seasons, but was gone less than two years after that. Texas then



Texas Rangers general manager Chris Young, left, and Rangers President of Baseball Operations Jon Daniels at a news conference after announcing the firing of manager Chris Woodward on Monday.

hired Woodward, who was coming off back-to-back National League championship seasons as third base coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"I take a lot of responsibility for our performance over the last six years, and we haven't been good enough," Daniels said. "But ultimately, this is a team effort. ... When we were good, it wasn't about me. It's always been a team effort. We have a ways to go. We have a lot of good people here. As far as my personal accountability or situation, that's something we'll address down the line."

Daniels didn't elaborate on what he meant regarding his situation. He held the titles of team president and GM from 2013 until December 2020, when former big league pitcher and MLB executive Young was brought on as general manager.

Young said the managerial search would be "a full partnership" even beyond him and Daniels, to include ownership and the entire front office.

"Certainly, we will be on the same page in terms of who we choose to manage the team moving forward," Young said.

Little League World Series is back with 4 more teams

BY MAX RALPH
Associated Press

The Little League World Series is back to its old self, and more.

After no tournament in 2020 and no international clubs in 2021, both due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the youth baseball tournament has expanded to 20 teams from around the world that will play ball in South Williamsport, Pa., starting Wednesday.

This year's series marks the 75th anniversary of the first tournament, which has become a staple of life in central Pennsylvania, not to mention an economic boost for South Williamsport — where the Little League complex is actually housed — and Williamsport, just across the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. Together, the communities of about 35,000 people have been looking forward to the return of fans and families.

"It's been a tough few years here. Last year we had a limited World Series, of course, but there's nothing that can take the place of a full World Series," Williamsport Mayor Derek Slaughter said.

In 2021, only family and friends were allowed into the Little League complex's two stadiums for games. Missing were the traditional big crowds in lawn chairs on the hill behind Lamade Stadium, which will be the site of the championship on Aug. 28.

Slaughter estimated the 2022 World Series will bring 85,000 people into his city, while he added that having the tournament back in full swing could have a \$40 million to \$50 million impact on the community.

The mayor expects this year's attendance to exceed the success of pre-pandemic events. A number of factors play into that, including the return to a sense of normalcy and the excitement that comes with a benchmark like the 75th anniversary of the first tournament in 1947.

But a reorganization and expansion of the tournament field may also have an impact. The Little League World Series consists of 20 teams for the first time ever in 2022, after previously welcoming 16 teams.

Two new regions were introduced in the United States: the Metro Region including Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island, and the Mountain Region including Montana, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. A pair of new regions were also introduced internationally, with Panama and Puerto Rico earning bids to this year's tournament.

A Little League World Series spokesman said the decision to introduce four new regions was intended to reflect areas with the highest levels of Little League participation. More teams, however, means more parents and family members in attendance at a minimum. And in the case of the Metro Region, specifically, the Northeast now houses

Scoreboard

Little League World Series	
At Williamsport, Pa.	
UNITED STATES	
GREAT LAKES REGION, Hagerstown, Ind.; METRO REGION, Massapequa, N.Y.; MID-ATLANTIC REGION, Hollidaysburg, Pa.; MIDWEST REGION, Davenport, Iowa; MOUNTAIN REGION, Santa Clara, Utah; NEW ENGLAND REGION, Middleboro, Mass.; NORTHWEST REGION, Bonney Lake, Wash.; SOUTHEAST REGION, Nolensville, Tenn.; SOUTHWEST REGION, Pearland, Texas; WEST REGION, Honolulu, Hawaii	
INTERNATIONAL	
ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, Taipei City, Chinese Taipei; AUSTRALIA REGION, Brisbane, Australia; CANADA REGION, Vancouver, British Columbia; CARIBBEAN REGION, Willemstad, Curacao; EUROPE-AFRICA REGION, Bologna, Italy; JAPAN REGION, Takarazuka, Japan; LATIN AMERICA REGION, Managua, Nicaragua; MEXICO REGION, Matamoros, Mexico; PANAMA REGION, Aguadulce, Panama; PUERTO RICO REGION, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico	
Double Elimination	
Wednesday's games	
Game 1: Willemstad (Curacao) vs. Managua (Nicaragua)	
Game 2: Nolensville (Tenn.) vs. Middleboro (Mass.)	
Game 3: Vancouver (British Columbia) vs. Brisbane (Australia)	
Game 4: Bonney Lake (Wash.) vs. Honolulu (Hawaii)	
Thursday's games	
Game 5: Taipei City (Chinese Taipei) vs. Bologna (Italy)	
Game 6: Davenport (Iowa) vs. Hagerstown (Ind.)	
Game 7: Guaynabo (PR) vs. Matamoros (Mexico)	
Game 8: Pearland (Texas) vs. Hollidaysburg (Pa.)	
Friday's games	
Game 9: Game 1 winner vs. Aguadulce (Panama)	
Game 10: Game 2 winner vs. Santa Clara (Utah)	
Game 11: Takarazuka (Japan) vs. Game 3 winner	
Game 12: Massapequa (N.Y.) vs. Game 4 winner	
Saturday's games	
Game 13: Game 3 loser vs. Game 5 loser	
Game 14: Game 4 loser vs. Game 6 loser	
Game 15: Game 1 loser vs. Game 7 loser	
Game 16: Game 2 loser vs. Game 8 loser	

three World Series bids instead of two.

"I think (expansion) absolutely will increase the attendance," Slaughter said, "just because of the geographical location of that Metro area. Clearly, it's not that far away from Williamsport, so folks can easily drive here."

If a second goal for expansion was to get more states represented in the Little League World Series, the newly formed Mountain Region quickly cashed in on that.

It's hard to name a favorite in a double-elimination competition among players who aren't even in high school, but it's notable that Honolulu, the 2018 champion and third-place team last year, is back again, and once again coached by Gerald Oda.

Meanwhile, some of Slaughter's expected 85,000 attendees have begun trickling into Williamsport. They'll fill the seats in restaurants and other businesses around town throughout their stays.

"It's hard to really put in words," Slaughter said. "I feel fortunate that we're able to host it here in Williamsport and that our businesses and industry will get some relief over these next two weeks. That is well earned, given what we have all gone through these past few years."

GOLF/NBA

COMMENTARY

LIV golfers face long road back to PGA Tour

By DOUG FERGUSON

Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — Long before the PGA Tour's postseason opener ended with a winning bogey in a three-hole playoff, the biggest drama was in the clubhouse at the TPC Southwind.

A dozen or so players gathered around a screen to watch the outcome in the first of what figures to be many court fights between the PGA Tour and Saudi-funded LIV Golf.

"I walked by player dining and I saw about 10 really nervous people pacing all around the room and I thought, 'Well, there's something going on,'" Jon Rahm said.

He was curious enough to stay for the finish.

This one went to the tour. A federal judge denied the request of three LIV golfers to compete in the FedEx Cup playoffs. Talor Gooch, Hudson Swafford and Matt Jones were in Memphis, Tenn., in case they got the green light but soon were headed home.

When will they return?

That was one of the realities that came out of the ruling, even



SETH WENIG/AP

The "4 Aces" team poses for a picture after winning the team competition of the Bedminster Invitational LIV Golf tournament in Bedminster, N.J., on July 31. From left to right, Talor Gooch, Dustin Johnson, Patrick Reed, and Pat Perez. It may be a while before any of them are on the PGA Tour again.

if it was an emergency hearing. More detailed arguments for a temporary injunction could come later. U.S. District Judge Beth Labson Freeman said her first open spot for an evidentiary hearing was Sept. 27-29.

That's the week of the Presidents Cup.

The assumption is the three players — possibly more if they chose not to resign from the PGA Tour — want freedom to play both circuits. For now they are suspended — or banned, which is the word used in a text exchange from February between Sergio Garcia and Greg Norman.

"Hi Sharky! It's official, the

Tour has told our manager this week that whoever signs with the League, is ban from the Tour for life! I don't know how are we gonna get enough good players to join the League under this conditions. What do you think?" Garcia said in his text, now part of the court documents.

Norman replied: "They cannot ban you for one day let alone life. It is a shallow threat. Ask them to put it in writing to you or any player. I bet they don't. Happy for anyone to speak with our legal team to better understand they have no chance of enforcing."

Judge Freeman ruled otherwise.

For some players, it might be awkward to be in the same tournament as the 10 players who are suing the PGA Tour. This is starting to get personal. Until now, any hard feelings was over someone wearing spikes too long or getting called "Brooksie."

The notion of a lifetime ban is premature. Even so, the reality is LIV golfers might not be seen on the PGA Tour anytime soon whether they want to or not.

"It doesn't look like it," Rahm said. "I'm confident that the LIV side of things are still going to push strong to keep trying to change some things. But I also know that the lawyers on the

PGA Tour side are going to keep fighting for the way things are going right now. It's not the last thing we are going to hear from them."

Outside of court are two issues still to be determined.

The majors have not announced their criteria for eligibility next year. The U.S. Open typically waits until the fall to go over any tweaks it wants to make. The USGA hasn't make any significant changes to its exemptions since going to the top 50 (from top 20) in the world ranking in 2001 and doing away with money lists on the PGA Tour and European tour in 2012.

The Masters began using the top 50 in the world ranking in 1999. Masters champions currently have lifetime exemptions, and six of them since 2010 are now part of LIV Golf. There isn't a seating chart for the Masters Club dinner on Tuesday night for past champions. This might be a good time to start a new tradition.

The British Open leans heavily on the world ranking for exemptions and an alternate list. The PGA Championship uses the PGA Tour money list and a catch-all "special invitations" category that seems to always catch the top 100 in the world. It just doesn't say that in writing.

At this rate, maybe the majors don't have to make many adjustments if they want to limit the number of LIV golfers.

LIV Golf no longer has anyone in the top 20 because Dustin Johnson dropped to No. 21 this week. Its players don't get world ranking points, and its July 6 application to be included in the world ranking system probably won't be decided until next year at the earliest.



SETH WENIG/AP

Commissioner Jay Monahan and the PGA Tour may be able to keep the LIV golfers from playing its events in 2023.

NBA won't have games on Election Day this year

By TIM REYNOLDS

Associated Press

The NBA will be off on Election Day.

The league's schedule for the coming season will have all 30 teams playing on Nov. 7, the night before the midterm elections. The NBA is hoping teams use that night as an opportunity to encourage fans to get out and vote, plus amplify the need for civic engagement.

But on Nov. 8, which is Election Day, no NBA teams have games scheduled. Teams are being encouraged to share election information — such as registration deadlines — with their fan bases in the weeks leading up to Nov. 8.

"The scheduling decision came out of the NBA family's focus on promoting nonpartisan civic engagement and encouraging fans to make a plan to vote during midterm elec-

tions," the league said Tuesday.

All 435 U.S. House seats will be up for grabs on Nov. 8, along with more than 30 U.S. Senate seats and gubernatorial races.

"It's unusual. We don't usually change the schedule for an external event," James Cadogan, the executive director of the NBA's social justice coalition, told NBC, which first reported the league's Election Day schedule plan. "But voting and Election Day are obviously unique and incredibly important to our democracy."

The move is a rarity for the league, which typically plays no games on Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve and tries to avoid scheduling games on the day of the NCAA men's basketball championship game — often the first Monday of April. It also has a few days off built around the All-Star Game, which takes place in February.

The NBA and its players were openly involved in several election-related pushes in 2020, largely as part of the response after the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor reignited the quest to eliminate racial inequality and police brutality.

Many players, including LeBron James, were involved in voting registration drives and other get-out-the-vote initiatives. Some teams turned their arenas into registration or voting centers.

The NBA's full schedule for the season will be released Wednesday.

There are some sporting events in the U.S. scheduled for Nov. 8. The NHL has 11 games on Election Day this year, with eight of those in the U.S. And there are three FBS-level college football games being played on Nov. 8, all in the state of Ohio.

Major League Baseball's season should

be over by Election Day; the latest possible date for the World Series, barring postponements, is Saturday, Nov. 5. The NFL hardly ever plays on Tuesdays — there have been seven games on that day of the week since 1948, six of them for coronavirus-related rescheduling reasons in the last two years — and has no games scheduled this year on Nov. 8.

"The NBA is creating a culture of political participation, which extends not only to its athletes but to fans as well," said Andrea Hailey, the CEO of Vote.org, which has partnered with the NBPA on various initiatives in recent years. "Players, coaches, event staff and fans all deserve to have the time and space to make their voices heard at the ballot box. The league is setting an important precedent that I hope other businesses and leagues will follow."

NFL



DAVID DERMER/AP

Las Vegas Raiders running back Zamir White picks up yards during the first half of the Hall of Fame Game against the Jacksonville Jaguars on Aug. 4 in Canton, Ohio. White gained 52 yards on 11 carries.

Raiders' White has spent life overcoming obstacles

By W.G. RAMIREZ
Associated Press

HENDERSON, Nev. — Scotland High School coach Richard Bailey has watched a handful of players make it to the NFL out of Laurinburg, N.C., with none more special than Las Vegas Raiders rookie Zamir White.

Shortly after the Raiders took White with the 122nd pick in the NFL Draft, he said it was a moment he'd been waiting for his entire life.

Affectionately known as Zeus, the now-chiseled 225-pound power back weighed 1 pound when his mother was six months pregnant. Doctors wanted to terminate the pregnancy. His great-grandmother demanded otherwise, even if it meant he could exhale only once.

White was born with a cleft lip and cleft palate and was given two weeks to live. He spent the first three months of his life in a hospital, as he developed a leak in his kidney and needed surgery for a hernia.

Later in life, White tore his right ACL as a senior in high school and then his left ACL after arriving at the University of Georgia — both within a year.

White's story was chronicled by the SEC Network and ESPN.

"The amount of resiliency he's shown in his life, and I think overcoming what he did as a young



White

DID YOU KNOW?

Raiders rookie running back Zamir White was born with a cleft lip and cleft palate and was given two weeks to live. He spent the first three months of his life in a hospital, as he developed a leak in his kidney and needed surgery for a hernia.

SOURCE: Associated Press

boy, and then having a cleft lip issue, and being real shy and little introverted, and being picked on a little bit when he was younger — I think that really has just hardened him," Bailey told The Associated Press during a phone interview. "I also think he feels like God kind of saved him, and he wants to make the most of this opportunity."

White has been impressive during training camp. He opened the preseason with 52 yards on 11 carries and 23 yards from three receptions in a 27-11 win over the Jacksonville Jaguars in the Hall of Fame Game.

"He is very special, and I think it's unbelievable what he's gone through in his life, what his family's gone through in their life, and to see the adversity that he has continually overcome — he just keeps doing it," quarterback Derek Carr said. "And then to see him get out there in the first preseason game and run with that violence and run with that passion the way that he did, it was unbelievable."

The scouting reports from Carr, first-year coach Josh McDaniels and running backs coach Kennedy Polamalu describe a player full

of power, speed and a strong work ethic.

They're attributes Bailey saw before anyone else. Like at White's first practice as a freshman with the Fighting Scots, where he'd sprint 40 yards after the whistle, not the usual extra 10.

"It was every rep," Bailey said. "It used to make me mad a little bit because I'd have to wait for him to get back. But he was going to do every rep like it was a game, and with that kind of effort."

"I always said to myself if anybody's gonna make it — Zamir had great talent, God-given ability."

Speaking to the media in person Monday for the first time, White displayed wholesome giddiness.

As he fought through his speech impediment with politeness, he excitedly addressed reporters with "sir" and "ma'am" while donning a bright smile as he discussed his journey.

He credited his freshman season under Bailey for developing his running style, adding it was then that he earned his nickname Zeus by "running real fast and being powerful."

Veterans Josh Jacobs, Britain Brown and Ameer Abdullah have taken him under their wing, sharing knowledge "every day with stuff," he said, even though they're all in competition for a final spot on the opening day roster.

"We don't really care too much about the competition," White said. "We just go out there and have fun."

Seems: Players happy to hear from fans again

FROM PAGE 24

son to practice with me as well, so it's special to me."

The Packers were among the teams that allowed fans to watch training camp practices in 2021 at a distance, though no interaction with players was allowed.

Cheers are very welcome after the relative silence the past two years when the only sounds were pads thudding, coaches yelling and occasionally music over speakers to simulate fan noise. Families of players, coaches and team staffers couldn't attend either, preventing them from stealing a few minutes at work with their kids or spouses.

Henry's daughter Valentina, now 2, is the perfect age to enjoy racing her father to an end zone after an early practice at camp. The two-time NFL rushing champ said it's the kind of moment his daughter can look at when older.

"Having these moments are always precious, especially with your kids, but just being in football and training camp it takes up a lot of time," Henry said. "But any time you get a moment like that, you always cherish those moments and something that we can look back at and laugh at and enjoy."

Vaccinations eased the protocols from 2020 when teammates had to keep 6 feet apart and coaches wore masks on the field whether in practice or games no matter if teams were inside or outdoors. Titans center Ben Jones said that meant friends sitting apart for breakfast and lunch, making it tough to build team chemistry and camaraderie.

"It made it a lot of challenges for me who's a guy who's trying to get five guys on the same page to do it spread out," Jones recalled. "It's not what you want. As a guy on the team, as a leader, you want as many guys as close as possible so you can have an impact on them."

The social distancing signs are

gone. So, too, are the mandatory tests, saving time each morning spent waiting for a positive or negative result.

No NFL regular-season games were canceled the past two seasons because of the pandemic, though many were moved around during 2020 with the entire preseason scrapped.

About 95% of the players and nearly 100% of team personnel were vaccinated, the league reported.

The Titans had the first outbreak of the 2020 season, and Vrabel tested positive during the 2021 preseason at the start of another outbreak for the team.

Other professional leagues also are adjusting protocols;

■ Major League Baseball dropped regular COVID-19 testing for all but symptomatic individuals prior to the start of the 2022 season.

■ The NHL and NHL Players Association released updated protocols Tuesday afternoon "strongly" encouraging vaccinations and booster shots and testing only when symptoms are present. Much like the NBA and MLB, unvaccinated individuals won't be able to cross the border between the U.S. and Canada. Unvaccinated players risk suspension and lost pay for missing "team activities," though the NHL only has a couple of players and assistant coaches in that category.

■ The NBA hasn't revealed its full policy for the upcoming season.

Commissioner Adam Silver said last month he's expecting continued movement toward normalcy, "I have learned over the last 2½ years not to make any predictions when it comes to COVID, but only to say we'll be prepared for anything that comes our way."

AP pro football Writer Josh Dubow, AP basketball writer Tim Reynolds, AP hockey writers Stephen Whyno and John Wawrow and AP sports writers Steve Megargee and Jake Seiner contributed to this report.



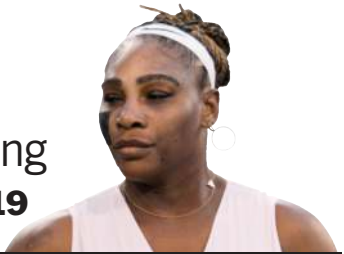
KEITH SRAKOCIC/AP

Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker T.D. Moultry is greeted by fans and youth football players as he takes the field for practice Monday during training camp at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa.

SPORTS

Another quick exit

Serena falls to 0-2 since announcing career 'countdown' » **Tennis, Page 19**



Green Bay Packers tight end Josiah Deguara, third from right, rides a young fan's bike as the fan takes off running with Deguara's helmet during training camp on July 27 in Green Bay, Wis.

SAMANTHA MADER, THE POST-CRESCENT/AP

Seems just like old times

NFL looks more normal entering third year of COVID era



By TERESA M. WALKER
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Derrick Henry has been seen jogging on the field with his daughter after practice. Green Bay Packers are once again borrowing kids' bicycles for rides to practice. Fans are rubbing elbows with their favorite players to get those coveted autographs.

Yes, the NFL is looking and acting like it's essentially back to normal going into its third season dealing with COVID-19.

There are no more trailers or tents for testing, and masks are rare. In fact, the protocols devised and tweaked by the

INSIDE
Raiders rookie RB White has spent his entire life overcoming obstacles
Page 23

league and the NFL Players Association in 2020 and 2021 were suspended last March.

The NFL seems to be following the lead of the CDC, which dropped social distancing and quarantine requirements last week with an estimated 95% of Americans 16 and older acquiring some level of immunity from vaccinations or infections.

The league still wants anyone with possible symptoms to speak up and wear a mask after contact with someone with COVID-19. A positive test still means isolating at home for at least five days.

"I think we are always concerned about everybody's safety, ours and the health of our families," Tennessee Titans coach Mike Vrabel said, adding that 2½ years into the pandemic: "Hopefully we are past that."

The biggest changes have been the easiest to notice at training camps across the NFL: Fans are back and close enough to high-five and shake hands with players, no longer kept at a distance and happy to resume pre-season traditions.

Players are happy to have fans fully back, grateful for the energy boost during the monotonous routine and long days of camp.

"It's huge," Packers running back Aaron Jones said. "The fans are everything. They're what makes football go, and I would say this is one of the best traditions in football, the bike rides. I've had my same little bike rider since I came in, got to bring my

SEE SEEMS ON PAGE 23

Tennessee Titans running back Derrick Henry has been seen jogging on the field with his 2-year-old daughter, Valentina, after practice.

GEORGE WALKER IV/AP

Rays hand struggling Yankees another loss » MLB, Page 20

