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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK



# Back in business

## Roosevelt back at sea after 2 months battling COVID-19

By **CAITLIN DOORNBOS**  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan—The aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt has returned to sea after spending nearly two months sidelined at Guam to battle a coronavirus outbreak on board, the Navy announced Thursday.

The carrier left Naval Base Guam and entered the Philippine Sea on Thursday to conduct carrier qualification flights for Carrier Air Wing 11, a statement said.

"It feels great to be back at sea," Rear Adm. Stu Baker, commander of Carrier Strike Group 9, said in the statement. "Getting Theodore Roosevelt and Carrier Air Wing 11 one step closer to returning to their mission in the Indo-Pacific is a great achievement for the crew."

**SEE BACK ON PAGE 6**

**The aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt departs Apra Harbor at Naval Base Guam on Thursday following an extended visit amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The ship went out to sea for training after nearly two months sidelined at the pier with a coronavirus outbreak onboard.**

JORDAN E. GILBERT,  
U.S. MARINE CORPS/AP

## Another 2.4 million apply for US jobless aid; total rises to nearly 39 million since virus hit

By **CHRISTOPHER RUGABER**  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON—More than 2.4 million people applied for U.S. unemployment benefits last week in the latest wave of layoffs from the viral outbreak that triggered widespread business shutdowns two months ago and sent the economy into a deep recession.

Roughly 38.6 million people have now filed for jobless aid since the coronavirus forced millions of businesses to close their doors and

shrink their workforces, the Labor Department said Thursday.

Another 2.2 million people sought aid under a new federal program for self-employed, contractor and gig workers, who are now eligible for jobless aid for the first time, up from 850,000 in the previous week. These figures aren't adjusted for seasonal variations, so the government doesn't include them in the overall number of applications.

**SEE JOBLESS ON PAGE 9**

■ Online: Get the latest on the virus outbreak  
[stripes.com/coronavirus](http://stripes.com/coronavirus)

■ Coronavirus restrictions are eased for personnel in Germany, Benelux countries  
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# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel	Azores	Change in price
Germany	\$2.141	\$2.649	\$2.616	\$2.649	--	3.132
Change in price	+2.7 cents	+2.9 cents	+3.4 cents	-0.4 cents	--	No change
Netherlands	--	\$3.155	\$3.361	\$3.320	Belgium	\$2.834
Change in price	--	+8.8 cents	+8.9 cents	-1.3 cents	Change in price	No change
U.K.	--	\$2.489	\$2.726	\$2.559	Turkey	\$2.017
Change in price	--	+2.9 cents	+3.4 cents	-0.8 cents	Change in price	\$2.450*

## PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel	South Korea	Change in price
Japan	\$2.609	--	--	\$2.439	\$1.959	--
Change in price	--	+4.0 cents	--	-1.0 cents	+2.0 cents	+2.639
Okinawa	\$1.929	--	--	\$2.439	\$1.939**	\$2.349
Change in price	+2.9 cents	--	--	-1.0 cents	+2.0 cents	+3.0 cents

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade  
For the week of May 22-28

## EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rates	Switzerland (Franc)
Euro costs (May 22)	\$1.07	0.9679
Dollar buys (May 22)	\$0.8981	Thai (Baht)
British pound (May 22)	\$1.20	31.82
Japanese yen (May 22)	105.00	Turkey (Lira)
South Korean won (May 22)	1,200.00	6.8906

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

	Commercial rates
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3776
British pound	\$1.2237
Canada (Dollar)	1.3909
China (Yuan)	7.1072
Denmark (Krone)	6.7875
Egypt (Pound)	15.5933
Euro	\$1.0986/0.9103
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7544
Hungary (Forint)	316.81
Israel (Shekel)	3.5143
Japan (Yen)	107.72
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3088
Norway (Krone)	9.8668
Philippines (Peso)	50.62
Poland (Zloty)	4.11
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7563
Singapore (Dollar)	1.4143
South Korea (Won)	1231.31

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.05
3-month bill	0.12
30-year bond	1.40

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

### FRIDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### FRIDAY IN EUROPE



### SATURDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

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## MILITARY

# Percentage of women up slightly since '04

GAO study also finds that female troops are more likely to leave service early

BY COREY DICKSTEIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Women make up a higher percentage of U.S. armed forces, but female troops are 28% more likely than men to leave the military early, the Government Accountability Office found in a study released Tuesday.

The percentage of women serving in the military services rose slightly from 15.1% of the active-duty force in 2004 to 16.5% in 2018, GAO found. The Congress-mandated study looked at personnel data from the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps for the 15-year period that ended in 2018, the most recent year for which they had complete data.

The report's authors found a variety of reasons that women are significantly more likely to leave the military earlier than their male counterparts, largely based on family-related and cultural issues, which the authors encouraged the Pentagon to address.

Defense Department officials have for years indicated publicly that increasing female recruitment and retention rates are important to ensure diversity within the ranks, especially since the Pentagon opened all jobs and units, including front-line combat positions, to women in 2015. But the GAO found service leaders had not implemented plans with "goals, performance measures and timeframes" that would aid in assessing female recruiting and retention.

"DOD officials stated that retention goals have, in the past, been misconstrued as quotas and, as such, the department does not set goals or targets for gender," the GAO report states. "However, goals are not quotas and can help guide continued improvement. Without DOD guidance and service plans with goals, performance measures, and timeframes to monitor female recruitment and retention efforts, DOD may continue to miss opportunities to recruit and retain a valuable segment of its active-duty force."

As a result of its analysis, the GAO recommended the four military services implement such plans with "clearly defined goals" to monitor and improve female retention and recruiting. It also recommended the secretary of defense and his personnel chief provide the services clear guidance on the issue in the Pentagon's forthcoming diversity and inclusion strategic plan due in the fall.

Pentagon officials told the GAO that they agreed with those recommendations, ac-



KARRA BROWN/U.S. Navy

Recruits march in formation at Recruit Training Command. More than 35,000 recruits train annually at the Navy's only boot camp.

ording to the authors.

The report's authors noted the lower retention rates among female troops has led to an even smaller percentage of women serving within the highest ranks of the military. They also found women reported six primary factors for their decision to leave the service before retirement eligibility, which included problems they perceived within the military's organizational culture such as lack of female mentors.

"Study participants also noted that they often faced sexism and the existence of an 'old boys' network,' especially in career fields dominated by males," the GAO authors wrote. "As such, these female service members felt they had to work harder to prove themselves and also felt they were sometimes not treated equally because they were female."

Other factors that the GAO concluded largely led women to leave the military included uncertain work schedules, impacts of deployments on their family lives, family planning issues such as pregnancy, and issues with dependent care such as limited day care hours and long waitlists for child care services.

Women also listed sexual assault as a deciding factor for them to leave the military,

the GAO reported. The authors noted female veterans expressed discouragement based on the occurrences of sexual assault and the military's handling of sexual assault investigations.

"For example, two females stated that the perpetrator was not punished, and another woman cited the lack of support from other service members as contributing to their decisions to separate from the military," the authors wrote.

Military officials have said for years that they take allegations of sexual assault seriously and are taking steps to address the problem within its ranks. A Pentagon report on sexual assault and harassment in the military released in April stated the DOD had made some cultural improvements to its handling of sexual assault and harassment.

Nonetheless, the Pentagon reported the military saw 7,825 sexual assault reports among its ranks in 2019, a 3% increase from those reported during 2018.

Overall, the GAO's data showed the percentage of women among U.S. troops dropped consistently in the early years that the agency studied, from 15.1% in 2004 to 14.4% in 2009 before increasing slightly every year to reach 16.5 percent in 2018.

However, more women were actually serving in 2004, when a much larger military was conducting major combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. DOD reported 236,342 female service members in 2004 and 232,063 in 2018.

During the 15 years that the GAO studied, the agency found the Air Force consistently reported the highest percentage of female troops ranging from 14.4% of its force in 2009, its lowest percentage during the period analyzed, to a 2018 high of 16.5%. The Marine Corps consistently reported the lowest percentage of women among its ranks, ranging from a low of 6.1% in 2004 to a high in 2018 of 8.6%.

The Navy saw the largest jump in the percent of women within its ranks. It reported women made up 14.7% of its force in 2004, 2005 and 2006 before consistently increasing its percentage of female sailors to a high of 19.6% in 2018.

The Army, meanwhile, reported a reduction in the percentage of women in its service during the same time. In 2018, 15.1% of the active-duty Army were female soldiers, down from 15.3% in 2004. The Army reported its lowest percentages of female soldiers at 13.6% in 2012.

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## Fort Hood soldier found shot dead, vehicle found burning

BY ROSE L. THAYER  
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — A Fort Hood soldier was found shot dead Monday morning on a residential street in the small town of Harker Heights minutes before police received a call about his vehicle burning miles away just outside the central Texas Army base, according to local law enforcement

and service officials.

Pfc. Brandon Scott Rosecrans, 27, was identified Tuesday as the victim by the Harker Heights Police Department, which is now investigating his death as a murder, according to a news release from Police Chief Phillip Gadd.

Police received a call at 10:17 a.m. Monday about a body lying on the side of the road in the 2100 block of Fuller Lane, said Lav-

rence Stewart, a police spokesman. The area is about 12 miles southeast of Fort Hood.

At 10:30 a.m. Monday, the Harker Heights Fire Department responded to a call about a burning vehicle in the 2500 block of Jubilation Drive, Stewart said. It is a residential street about 4 miles from Fuller Lane.

Police said they were able to identify Rosecrans and determine

he died from a gunshot wound. The burning vehicle, an orange 2016 Jeep Renegade, belonged to Rosecrans, according to the news release from police that indicated Rosecrans was found inside his vehicle.

No arrests have been made as of Thursday. The town's fire marshal is conducting an arson investigation and Army Criminal Investigation Command is

investigating.

Rosecrans, who is from Kimberling City, Mo., entered the Army in May 2018 as a quarter-master and chemical equipment repairer and has been assigned to the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division since November 2018, according to a news release from Fort Hood.

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

## US envoy working to revive US-Taliban deal

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The first visit to Kabul by Washington's peace envoy since Afghanistan's squabbling political leadership reached a power-sharing agreement comes amid increased violence blamed mostly on an Islamic State affiliate that has been targeted in stepped-up U.S. bombing.

Zalmay Khalilzad, in a flurry of tweets Thursday, told of his meetings in Doha earlier in the week with Taliban representatives and on Wednesday with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and fellow leader Abdullah Abdullah. All were aimed at resurrecting a U.S.-Taliban peace deal signed in February.

Khalilzad returned to Washington late Wednesday.

Khalilzad called for a reduction in violence by all sides in Afghanistan's protracted conflict that has kept America militarily engaged for 19 years. He also

said too much time has been wasted getting to the second and critical phase of the peace deal, which calls for talks between the Taliban and Afghanistan's political leadership.

Abdullah will head those efforts as part of the deal he signed with Ghani to end their monthlong dispute over who won Afghanistan's presidential election last September. He conceded the win to Ghani but as part of a power-sharing agreement.

President Donald Trump said again last week that American soldiers have wrongly been tasked with policing the country and called on Afghanistan to step up.

The U.S. has about 12,000 soldiers deployed to Afghanistan, split between counterterrorism and the NATO-led Resolute Support's 16,500 troop mission, which trains and aids Afghanistan's National Security Forces. Washington currently pays about \$4 billion annually to keep Afghanistan's military in fighting form.

U.S. Department of Defense officials have told The Associated Press their biggest worry in Afghanistan is an increasingly active ISIS affiliate headquartered in the east. The group has ties to Middle Eastern affiliates as well as militant groups like the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan and the Chinese Uighur group, East Turkestan Islamic Movement.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject, say the ISIS affiliate in Afghanistan has been linked to foiled plots to attack America in recent years. The U.S. also blamed ISIS for a brutal attack on a maternity hospital earlier this month in Kabul that left 24 people dead, including two infants and several mothers.

The increased ISIS activity in Afghanistan has added urgency to U.S. efforts to resuscitate the peace deal, which commits the Taliban to fight terrorist groups in Afghanistan. The same Department of De-

fense officials said they want the Taliban in the battle to root ISIS from Afghanistan.

Without intra-Afghan negotiations, the cease-fire Washington wants between the Taliban and the government won't happen.

Taliban representatives say a cease-fire will be on the agenda in any intra-Afghan talks, which were to start by mid-March. The delay has been blamed on Afghanistan's squabbling leadership in Kabul and disruptions in prisoner releases, which were promised as part of the peace deal ahead of intra-Afghan negotiations.

In his tweets, Khalilzad called for the prisoner release to be completed. He also reiterated he is seeking Taliban assistance with U.S. citizens missing in Afghanistan, including U.S. contractor Mark Frerichs who disappeared in January. Several Taliban leaders contacted by The AP said they are not holding Frerichs and have told Khalilzad repeatedly.

## Advocates building case for ISIS crimes against Yazidis

BY SARAH EL DEEB

Associated Press

QASR AL-MIHRAB, Iraq — It was clear he was in charge when he entered the wedding hall-turned-slave pen in the Iraqi city of Mosul, where dozens of Yazidi women and girls huddled on the floor, newly abducted by Islamic State militants.

He beat them at the slightest sign of resistance. At one point, he dragged a girl away, picking her for himself, a Yazidi woman — who was 14 when the incident occurred in 2014 — recounted to The Associated Press.

This was Haji Abdullah, a religious judge and a key architect of the ISIS slave system. He later became deputy to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Many believe he is the late al-Baghdadi's successor, identified by the pseudonym Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi. The U.S. has a \$5 million bounty on his head.

Investigators with the Commission for International Justice and Accountability are amassing evidence, hoping to prosecute ISIS fighters for crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide — including Haji Abdullah.

Bill Wiley, executive director and founder of CIAJ, said fighters didn't just decide to enslave and rape Yazidi women; it was a carefully executed plan by the group's leadership.

"They put all of the apparatus of their so-called state behind carrying it out in practice," he said. "And in doing so, they were going to eradicate the Yazidi group by ensuring there were no more Yazidi children born."

The investigators, who shared some of their findings with AP, say that through ISIS documents and interviews with survivors and insiders, they have identified 49 ISIS figures who built and managed the slave trade, and nearly 170 slave owners.

The AP interviewed former slaves, rescuers and imprisoned



Layla Taloo visits the grave of a Yazidi woman who took her own life after she was captured by Islamic State militants in Mosul, buried on a hill overlooking the Lalish shrine in northern Iraq, in September.

militants to build a picture of how slavery became central to ISIS structure. The group's "cabinet" constructed the slave system, security agencies enforced it, and Islamic courts supervised it. Still, it evolved into a free-for-all with fighters enriching themselves — selling women amongst themselves and back to their families.

CIAJ aims to build cases so ISIS suspects can be prosecuted for crimes against humanity or genocide, not only charges of material support or membership in a terrorist group.

In the first prosecution on charges of genocide against the ISIS last month, a German court brought an Iraqi to trial for enslaving a Yazidi woman and her 5-year-old, who was chained and left to die of thirst. U.N. investigators say they have collect-

ed evidence from Iraq, including 2 million call records, that can strengthen cases against perpetrators of crimes against the Yazidis.

ISIS launched its attack on the heartland of the Yazidi community at the foot of Sinjar Mountain in August 2014. The fighters killed hundreds and abducted 6,417, more than half of them women and girls. Most of the captured adult men were likely killed.

Initially, the women and children were handed out as gifts to fighters who took part in the offensive. Many fighters showed a receipt from Haji Abdullah confirming their participation so they could claim their slave, former captives and CIAJ said.

The remaining women were distributed across ISIS-controlled areas. The group oper-

ated centralized slave markets in Mosul, Raqqa and other cities. At the market in the Syrian city of Palmyra, women walked a runway for ISIS members to bid on. Others distributed the women by lottery.

The Soldiers' Department, or Diwan al-Jund, recorded fighters who owned slaves. For a time, ISIS paid a stipend of about \$50 per slave and \$35 per child.

Managing the robust system turned out to be difficult, however. Chaos abounded.

Slaves were resold for personal profit. Some ISIS members made tens of thousands of dollars ransoming captives back to their families.

ISIS officials tried banning separating women from their children and the posting of women's pictures on social media. They

ruled slave sales must be registered by an Islamic court.

One directive set punishments for selling Yazidis to "commoners" — anyone not a fighter or senior ISIS official — and for ransoming them to their families.

A February 2016 edict required the approval of the ISIS cabinet — for any senior figure to own slaves, a sign even top officials were abusing the process.

Laila Taloo's 2½-year ordeal in captivity underscores how ISIS members continually ignored the rules.

"They explained everything as permissible. They called it Islamic law. They raped women, even young girls," said Taloo, who was owned by eight men.

After Taloo, her husband, young son and newborn daughter were abducted in 2014, she and her husband swore forced to convert to Islam, which should have spared them from being enslaved or killed.

But conversion meant nothing. Eventually the men who converted were massacred, and Taloo and the other women enslaved.

"What is this all for? They never had a second thought about killing or slaughtering or taking women," she said.

Despite rules mandating sales through courts, Taloo was thrown into a world of informal slave markets run out of homes.

One of her owners, an Iraqi surgeon, had her dress up and put on makeup so four Saudi men could inspect her. A member of the ISIS religious police bought her for nearly \$6,000.

Taloo finally escaped along with her children and sister-in-law by paying a smuggler. Some 3,500 slaves have been freed from ISIS' clutches in recent years, most ransomed by their families. But more than 2,900 Yazidis remain unaccounted for, including some 1,300 women and children, according to the Yazidi abusees office in Iraq's Kurdish autonomous region.

## MILITARY

# Impossible Burger coming to Marine menus on Okinawa

By JAMES BOLINGER  
Stars and Stripes

Marine dining facilities across Okinawa are adding the Impossible Burger, a plant-based alternative to ground beef, to their food lines.

Marines and sailors taste-tested the burger May 13 at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Guam, near Sgt. Maurice Toole, the subsistence chief for Marine Corps Installations Pacific, told Stars and Stripes on Thursday. He said the Impossible Burger will be just one of the plant-based items the Marine Corps plans to roll out in its dining facilities on Okinawa this fall.

"We like to get as much input as we can from Marines: What new things do they want to see, and what things they want to get rid of?" Toole said. "Lots of Marines are asking to eat healthier. And we are looking to have plant-based items represented in every area we serve — the mainline, specialty items and the snack or 'fast-food' line."

Toole said his team initially wanted to add a black-bean or other vegetarian burger to the snack line but changed its mind



after the vendor offered the Impossible Burger, which had a satisfying texture and appearance.

"It was a great burger," said Lance Cpl. Alexander Skelton, an air support operations officer with 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, in a Marine Corps press release May 13. "It's nice to see the [mess hall] committed to giving more choices to Marines with different diets and beliefs."

The taste test was sprung on patrons out of the blue to avoid preconceived notions about plant-based meat, Toole said. It was added to the mainline, where traditional entrees are offered, and servers asked the Marines to try it.

"We wanted to shock the audience," he said. "We knew if we caught everyone off guard, that they would get better real-time re-



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER MADERO/U.S. Marine Corps

**Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Obaid Halim, an aviation ordnance system technician for the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, tries an Impossible Burger at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, on May 13..**

actions. Even some of the people who were not interested initially tried it and liked it."

A menu review board last year identified Marines' desire for meatless protein options.

Impossible Burger, made of soy and potato protein, was approved by the Corps' lead dietician, who must review all new menu items before they are pushed out to troops, Toole said. The dietician will also review all the plant-based options that will be made available to Okinawa Marines in the future.

Toole's team will introduce the burger to the snack line first as

part of the Marine Corps Fuel-to-Fight initiative. The service wants Marines to see a trip to the mess hall as a way to refuel their bodies and get healthier.

The Impossible Burger and other plant-based meat alternatives are popular at stateside restaurants and have slowly made their way to troops overseas. The dining facilities on Okinawa are the first in Japan to offer the item to troops on base.

For now, it will only be available at Marine Corps facilities on Okinawa, but other Marine facilities on Hawaii and elsewhere in Japan can offer the item if they

choose, Toole said.

Most base residents overseas who don't eat at dining facilities will have to wait a while longer for meatless options on restaurant menus.

Burger King's popular Impossible Whopper, Qdoba's meatless burritos and Dunkin's meat-free breakfast sausage are sold on many Army, Air Force and Navy bases in the United States, AAFES officials have said. Wahlburgers on Ramstein Air Base in Germany offers the Beyond plant-based burger as well.

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## VA pushes back on reported Agent Orange use on Guam

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

The Department of Veterans Affairs is pushing back against a recent report that says veterans who served on Guam between 1962 and 1975 were likely exposed to the toxic herbicide Agent Orange.

The report — released May 11, by the National Veterans Legal Services Program and the Veterans Legal Services Clinic at Yale Law School — says those veterans meet the legal standard for exposure and may have valid claims to service-related disabilities.

The VA disputed the report's findings in an email to Stars and Stripes on Tuesday.

"There is no evidence agent orange was ever used on Guam," wrote VA press secretary Christina Noel.

She said the report's authors failed to consider a 2018 Government Accountability Office report and a recent Department of Defense review on the subject.

"GAO reviewed DoD documents, other government records, and interviewed Veterans alleging Agent Orange exposure and concluded that there was no evidence of Agent Orange or

other tactical herbicides, such as Agents White or Blue, on Guam," she said.

Investigators found extensive use of approved commercial herbicides on Guam but no evidence of Agent Orange or other tactical herbicides, Noel said.

The VA believes Agent Orange causes several cancers, including leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and others, according to its website. The department also recognizes the herbicide as a cause in some cases of diabetes and diseases of the nervous system, skin and heart.

The report by the veterans' legal program and Yale Law School clinic was based on a review of government, private, archival and oral history evidence of herbicide use on Guam during the Vietnam era.

Guam served as a major base for U.S. air power during the Vietnam War. At the height of bombing operations during Vietnam, three-quarters of all U.S. B-52 aircraft available for operations in Southeast Asia were based on the island.

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PACIFIC

# USS Blue Ridge breaks its days-at-sea record

By **Caitlin Doornbos**  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Typically known for frequent port visits, the 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge broke its 48-year-old record of consecutive days underway by remaining at sea to avoid the coronavirus, the Navy said in a statement Thursday.

The amphibious command ship had been at sea for 69 days as of Thursday, passing its previous record of 64 days, which was set during the Vietnam War. The Blue Ridge is the Navy's oldest operational warship and has been in service for nearly 50 years.

"These times are uniquely challenging for the entire world, but it takes an extremely dedicated crew to maintain this old of a ship at sea for this long," Blue Ridge commander Capt. Craig Sicola said in the statement.

The 223-year-old USS Constitution is the Navy's oldest ship, but it does not deploy.

Meanwhile, the Yokosuka-based aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan officially began its Indo-Pacific deployment this week. Its crew completed phased sequestrations before embarking the ship to mitigate the chance of bringing coronavirus-positive sailors aboard, the Navy said in a separate statement Thursday.

"The [restriction-of-movement] period allowed fleet leadership



The USS Blue Ridge steams near Zushi Beach, Japan, on April 23.

AKIUMI ISHIKAWA/Stars and Stripes

the ability to monitor the health of the force in a controlled facility and build a safe environment for sailors to accomplish assigned missions at sea," the statement said.

More than 1,000 tons of ordnance, 5,000 crewmembers and more than 60 aircraft were moved

aboard the carrier for the deployment, the Navy said.

Like the Blue Ridge, the Reagan is unlikely to make port visits so soon after the virus sidelined the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt for nearly two months this spring, according to an April 22 report in The New York Times.

An outbreak among a few Roosevelt sailors in March led to over 1,150 of their shipmates testing positive for the coronavirus.

The Roosevelt returned to sea Thursday with a reduced crew. As the 7th Fleet's flagship, the Blue Ridge typically makes more port visits than other ships in the

Fleet. It visited 11 ports in nine Indo-Pacific nations during its 114-day deployment last spring.

During that deployment, the Blue Ridge hosted more than 30 foreign leaders and brought foreign navy representatives on board for professional exchanges, the Navy said when the ship returned to Yokosuka last May.

This year, however, the crew had to tweak its plans as the coronavirus — first reported in Wuhan, China, on Dec. 31 — grew from a regional outbreak into a global pandemic as the ship was out to sea.

The Blue Ridge's deployment this year began normally enough. After leaving Yokosuka in January, the crew made stops in Japan, South Korea and Thailand in its first month underway before port visits were canceled in response to the virus's spread.

Sicola said that while the pandemic cast a shadow on the patrol, the crew "has been amazing."

"I realize every day how tough it has been, especially for one who has loved ones or who have families that have endured challenging events during this pandemic," he said in the statement. "Even through all that, their heads are high and they have taken great pride in Blue Ridge's historic underway during her 50th year of service."

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## Back: Roosevelt crew continues to take precautions upon returning to sea

FROM FRONT PAGE

To maintain social distancing on board, only crewmembers essential to the carrier flight qualifications set sail with the ship. The Navy in a statement Monday said that the remaining sailors would stay on Guam to support crewmembers still in quarantine.

"We are scaling our manning on board based on our mission requirement," Roosevelt commander Capt. Carlos Sardiello said in the Thursday statement. "Carrier qualification requires fewer personnel than other missions, and bringing fewer sailors on board will enable enhanced social distancing while underway."

After qualification flights end, the remainder of the crew will re-embark, according to the Monday statement.

The Roosevelt had been deployed to the Western Pacific when it diverted to Guam on March 26 after several of its sailors tested positive for the coronavirus. Since then, more than 1,150 Roosevelt sailors have tested positive, one of whom died, according to the Navy.

The carrier has been away from its San Diego homeport since it left for patrol on Jan. 17.

As many as 13 sailors from the Roosevelt have tested positive for the virus a second time, according to The Associated Press. Those sailors and a number of



The aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt departs Apra Harbor at Naval Base Guam on Thursday following an extended visit to Guam in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

JORDAN E. GILBERT, U.S. MARINE CORPS/AP

others who had contact with them were removed from the ship.

Most of the 4,800-person crew disembarked and were isolated last month as the carrier was sanitized. The Navy began moving sailors back aboard the Roosevelt on April 29 after all crew members were tested for the virus.

The carrier took its first steps toward redeploying Sunday when sailors began a simulation called a "fast cruise" while moored at Naval Base Guam. During a fast cruise, typical-

ly one of the final steps before a Navy vessel sets sail, crews "simulate normal underway conditions while testing the critical systems required to sustain the ship during its upcoming underway operations," the Navy said in the Monday statement.

During the fast cruise, the crew also practiced new measures aimed at curbing a viral spread. They included adjusted meal hours, minimizing in-person meetings, sanitizing, wearing masks and "medical surveillance

of 100% of the crew," according to the Thursday statement.

Sardiello told CBS News on May 5 that crewmembers still in quarantine would be left behind when the ship steamed back to sea.

Sardiello took over for Capt. Brett Crozier, the carrier's former commander, when then-acting Navy Secretary Thomas Modly removed Crozier from command in April.

A letter Crozier had written Navy higher-ups pleading for help

for his crew was leaked to the San Francisco Chronicle and picked up by worldwide media.

"The spread of the disease is ongoing and accelerating," Crozier wrote March 30. "We are not at war. Sailors do not need to die."

A report on the handling of the outbreak is due to Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday next week. Crozier's removal prompted an inquiry into the situation, which led Gilday to order the follow-on investigation.

Modly received backlash from sailors and lawmakers for removing Crozier. Video of thousands of Roosevelt sailors chanting Crozier's name as he walked off the carrier for the last time flooded social media, and members of Congress released messages of support for Crozier.

Modly resigned about a week after removing Crozier when a recording of his speech to the Roosevelt's crew criticizing the former skipper and calling him "stupid" was leaked to the public.

The investigation, due to Gilday by Wednesday, will "provide a more robust documentation of events and give a fuller consideration of the circumstances surrounding the matter," Gilday spokesperson Cmdr. Nate Christensen said last month.

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## PACIFIC

# Air Force planes fly over Tokyo during Samurai Surge drill

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — C-130J Super Hercules tactical airlifters and CV-22 Osprey tiltrotors were part of a rapid mass launch of aircraft Thursday from the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo.

The Samurai Surge drill, which last took place in 2018, involved nine of the 374th Airlift Wing's 14 Super Hercules and two of five Ospreys stationed at Yokota, as well four UH-1 Huey helicopters and three C-12 transports.

"It's a demonstration to the Japanese government and the Indo-Pacific Command that we are still ready to do a full contingency or humanitarian response despite COVID-19 and poor weather," the wing's vice commander, Col. Jason Mills, said shortly before the aircraft launched under gray skies with light rain falling.

Flying so many Super Hercules at one time required coordination between the 353rd Special Operations Group out of Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, and Yokota's 374th Operations Group, he said.

The surge was supposed to involve the first formation or "inter-fly" operation between

the two aircraft types since the Osprey arrived at Yokota in October 2018, Mills said. The Super Hercules debuted at the base in March 2017.

The plan was for the aircraft to fly in formation over Tokyo Bay, but clouds and rain meant that they stayed closer to home and plans for tactical air-drop training over the base were canceled, according to officials.

The surge focused on the wing's operations and maintenance groups with support from the combat mobility flight and the logistics readiness squadron refueling aircraft and transporting crews. Medical and wing staff were also involved, making sure 60 or so fliers and hundreds of maintainers were medically ready to do their jobs, Mills said.

"To see everything up in the air at the same time was a big deal," said Master Sgt. David Arnold, 31, a C-130 production superintendent with the 374th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

The maintainers were responsible for making sure that the aircraft were ready to fly and responding to last-minute mechanical issues. A crew spent about 30 minutes fixing a glitch in one



THEOR GORBOLD/Stars and Stripes

A CV-22 Osprey taxis during an elephant walk at Yokota Air Base, Japan, on Thursday.

plane's de-icing system before it could take off, he said.

The only time that Arnold had seen so many aircraft take off was during a typhoon evacuation, which was staggered rather than all at once, he said.

Rapidly launching so many aircraft required planning and coordination that started a week-and-a-half ago. Such an operation

probably wouldn't happen even during a war or disaster, Mills said.

"It would be rare to launch all the aircraft at once," he said.

A mass launch would, however, happen if Yokota was attacked by enemy missiles, he said. It's something that defense experts have warned of, citing Chinese and North Korean threats.

"In that situation, they would all fly off in rapid succession," Mills said of the wing's aircraft. "We would send them to locations in the Pacific and reestablish a capability to support the contingency mission and our allies in the Pacific."

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## DOD schools in S. Korea can plan farewell activities

By DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

Students at Defense Department schools in South Korea may salvage some memories of the school year hijacked by the coronavirus, after all.

The school district there is working on optional, end-of-year activities such as returning school property, yearbook sign-

ings, bidding farewell to teachers and class parties, spokesman Miranda Ferguson of Department of Defense Education Activity-Pacific said Thursday.

If plans materialize, events could begin as soon as Thursday, according to a May 21 letter from DODEA Korea District Superintendent Jeff Arrington to parents, sponsors and students.

Arrington's letter came a day after U.S. Forces Korea eased some restrictions on troops aimed at curbing the virus' spread. USFK also lowered its health condition level for all bases except those in and around Seoul.

Arrington in his letter asked for "patience and flexibility" among students and parents as schools complete their planning.

Attendance at any activity is not mandatory, he wrote.

"These optional activities will vary by school and meet the guidance of installation commanders and USFK measures for health and safety," Arrington wrote.

DODEA schools in South Korea closed Feb. 23 due to the pandemic and started online instruction three days later. Graduation cer-

emonies are planned as virtual events as well. The school year is scheduled to end June 9.

"It is our hope that these activities will provide some closure for students and parents who have requested opportunities to return to the school before the end of the year," Arrington wrote.

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## Security airmen help battle blaze outside Osan Air Base in S. Korea

By MATTHEW KEELER  
Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — A team of airmen and South Korean soldiers on a routine patrol outside Osan became impromptu firefighters when they arrived first at a burning blanket shop on May 15.

Three airmen from 51st Fighter Wing security forces and two soldiers of the Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army, or KATUSA, searched the burning, three-story shop for anyone still inside, said Staff Sgt. Sebastian Borges. Finding the place empty, he and his team attacked the fire

with extinguishers and kept on-lookers at a safe distance until city firefighters arrived.

The fire caused no injuries and left \$80,000 in damages, according to Pyeongtaek city officials.

Around 10 p.m., the routine patrol in the Songtan entertainment district to ensure U.S. Forces Korea personnel were complying with coronavirus regulations quickly turned into a search-and-rescue scenario, said Borges, 24, of Vallejo, Calif.

South Korean civilians waved and shouted to the team, which the KATUSAs of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade inter-

preted as a call for help.

"Luckily, our two KATUSAs noticed local nationals yelling about a fire going on," Borges told Stars and Stripes on Wednesday. "We went down an alley, and at this point it was just smoke."

A local woman approached the team, "screaming about how there were people inside the building, and she wasn't sure where they were at," Borges said. "At this time, we all looked at each other, we don't know how or essentially what is going to happen. It's a cheap fabric shop and everything in there is extremely flammable."

The team broke through a door in the building, called but heard no response and searched inside for about 20 seconds before dense smoke forced their retreat, he said.

"At that moment, we decided all we could do now is pick up fire extinguishers," Borges said. "I've never responded to something where I have seen a fire ignite this quick."

The store owner, who was presumed to be on the second floor, eventually appeared from around a corner yelling and in tears, Borges described.

He said that the incident served

as a prime example of the importance of having South Korea soldiers serving alongside U.S. troops.

"They are essentially my left hand, and I'm a right-handed man," Borges said. "Without KATUSA, essentially our communication with any Korean, unless they speak English, is zero. When there is a fire going on and there is potentially someone in there and we need to find out an answer in a matter of two seconds, these guys have that answer."

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## MILITARY

## Suspected vandalism to gravestone investigated

By CHAD GARLAND  
Stars and Stripes

Police in Maine are seeking assistance in identifying suspected vandalism to Delta Force Master Sgt. Gary Gordon's headstone, which appears to have been done sometime in the last two weeks.

Gordon was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery in 1993's First Battle of Mogadishu, during Somalia's civil war, giving his life to protect a downed helicopter pilot during the incident at the center of the book and movie "Black Hawk Down."

The Lincoln Police Department, "with an extremely heavy heart," posted photos of the damage to Gordon's headstone in a Facebook post requesting the public's help Wednesday.

It called Gordon a hometown hero for the small town about 50 miles north of Bangor.

The images showed gold paint sprayed over the stone's inscriptions, including the Delta Force insignia, a beret symbol and the Medal of Honor.

"There has been talk that this may have been done as an additional honor, where Medal of Honor recipients have gold laid to the engravings and that this is still a work in progress," the police department's post said. "If that is the case, the family was never notified that this was happening."

The town has hired a company to try to clean it up before ordering a replacement, Jeremy Weatherbee, Lincoln's director of cemeteries, parks and recreation told Bangor television station WABI.

"Not only was (Gordon) a local hero, he was a real American hero," Weatherbee said Wednesday.

A member of 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta, Gordon was a sniper team leader on the lead Black Hawk helicopter providing aerial support during the Oct. 3, 1993 raid of the Somali capital, which was designed to capture "high-value targets" affiliated with warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid.

When two other helicopters were shot down, Gordon and Sgt. 1st Class Randall Shughart repeatedly asked to be inserted to protect survivors at the second crash site, despite knowing that militants were closing in and that they likely didn't stand a chance,



LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT/Facebook

Police in Maine are seeking assistance regarding vandalism to Delta Force Master Sgt. Gary Gordon's gravestone.

the Pentagon said in a statement last July honoring Gordon.

The pair were inserted about 100 meters from the crash site and fought their way through gunfire and "a dense maze of shanties and shacks," it said. At the crash site, the co-pilot and two crew chiefs were already dead, but Gordon pulled Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Durant, the badly injured pilot, from the wreck.

He and Shughart then fought to protect the site's perimeter until Shughart was fatally wounded and Gordon was running low on rifle ammunition.

"Good luck," he said, handing a rifle with the last five rounds to the pilot. He returned to fighting with just his pistol. He was quickly shot and killed, and Durant was taken hostage for about two weeks.

Based on the photos, it didn't look to local headstone maker Rustie Dolley like someone had tried to ruin the stone. But even if done with good intentions, it wasn't appropriate.

"If a professional would have done it, it wouldn't have looked like that," said Dolley, who runs The Pines Monument Services in Lincoln.

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## Sailor injured in base shooting incident

By CATILIN M. KENNEY  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A sailor was injured Thursday in a shooting at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, Navy officials said.

Navy officials said the shooter was "neutralized," in an incident that shut down the base at about 6:15 a.m. after a report of an active shooter.

Naval Security Forces responded, and one security force member, a female sailor, was injured. She was taken to a local hospital, according to Steve Strickland, a spokesman with Navy Region Southeast. The sailor is in good condition and was expected to be released Thursday, according to the Navy.

An early post on the base's Facebook page about the incident stated the active shooter was in the vicinity of the North Gate.

The gates at the installations remained closed Thursday. Naval Criminal Investigative Service and local law enforcement were at the scene, according to the statement. However, the FBI is now the lead agency in the investigation, according to Strickland.

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi conducts pilot training, according to the base website.

The base had a similar lockdown in December when a man rammed his truck into a barricade, according to The Associated Press. He has pleaded guilty to destruction of U.S. government property and possession of a sto-

len firearm.

This is the third active-shooter incident at a naval base in five months. On Dec. 4, a junior enlisted sailor, Gabriel Antonio Romero, 22, shot three civilians at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, killing two of them before killing himself.

Just days later on Dec. 6, a Saudi Air Force officer, Mohamed Saeed Alshamrani, shot and killed three sailors and injured eight others at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla. On Monday, the FBI announced Alshamrani was in communication with al-Qaida prior to the attack based on data found on his cellphone.

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## US pulling out of surveillance pact

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration notified international partners on Thursday that it is pulling out of a treaty that permits 30-plus nations to conduct unarmed, observation flights over each other's territory — overflights set up decades ago to promote trust and avert conflict.

The administration says it wants out of the Open Skies Treaty because Russia is violating the pact, and imagery collected during the flights can be obtained quickly at less cost from U.S. or commercial satellites. Exiting the treaty, however, is expected to strain relations with Moscow and upset European allies and some members of Congress.

President Dwight Eisenhower first proposed that the United States and the former Soviet Union allow aerial reconnaissance flights over each other's territory in July 1955. At first, Moscow rejected the idea, but President George H.W. Bush revived it in May 1989, and the treaty entered into force in January 2002. Currently, 34 nations have signed it; Kyrgyzstan has signed but not ratified it yet.

More than 1,500 flights have been conducted under the treaty, aimed at fostering transparency about military activity and helping monitor arms control and other agreements. Each nation in the treaty agrees to make all its territory available for surveillance flights, yet Russia has restricted flights over areas.

Last month, top Democrats on the Foreign Affairs and Armed Services committees in both the House and the Senate wrote to

Trump accusing the president of "ramming" a withdrawal from the treaty as the entire world grapples with COVID-19. They said it would undermine U.S. alliances with European allies who rely on the treaty to keep Russia accountable for its military activities in the region.

"The administration's effort to make a major change to our national security policy in the midst of a global health crisis is not only shortsighted, but also unconscionable," wrote Rep. Adam Smith, D-Wash., Rep. Eliot Engel, D-N.Y., and Sens. Jack Reed, D-R.I., and Bob Menendez, D-N.J.

"This effort appears intended to limit appropriate congressional consultation on, and scrutiny of, the decision," they wrote.

They said they weren't moved by the defense secretary's argument that \$125 million to replace aging aircraft used for treaty verification, which was already appropriated by Congress, is too costly. "The total cost of replacing the aircraft is a tiny portion of the overall defense budget," they said.

Earlier this month, 16 former senior European military and defense officials signed a statement supporting the treaty, saying that a U.S. withdrawal from the treaty would be a blow to global security and further undermining the international arms control agreements.

The officials asked the U.S. to reconsider its exit. But if the U.S. leaves, they called for European states to stay in the treaty, fulfill obligations under the treaty and refrain from restricting the length of observation flights or banning flights over certain territories.

## National Guardsman from SC dies in Afghanistan

Stars and Stripes

A National Guardsman from South Carolina died in a non-combat incident in Afghanistan this week, the Pentagon said Thursday.

First Lt. Trevarius Rowan Bowman, 25, from Spartanburg, S.C., died at Bagram Airfield on Tuesday, the Defense Department said in a statement.

The Pentagon did not give a cause of death, but a spokeswoman for the South Carolina National Guard, Capt. Jessica Donnelly told Stars and Stripes by phone that it was not related to the coronavirus, which has been spreading rapidly in Afghanistan.

She confirmed that an investigation has been launched into the death, which is the fourth noncombat fatality of a U.S. service member in Afghanistan and

brings to eight the total number of American troops who have died in the country this year.

Bowman was with Company B, 19th Signal Battalion, 261st Signal Brigade out of Newberry, S.C. The unit is attached to the South Carolina National Guard's 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade.

Bowman's sister Kierra Bowman said on Facebook that the death had taken the family by surprise.

A fellow soldier with the Facebook name Stubaby Rogers posted that he and Bowman had talked about the future when they saw each other recently in Kuwait.

"You inspired me to continue to reach for new heights in the military," Rogers' post said. "Your life was cut short but your mark on the world was definitely felt by many."

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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## 21st TSC in Europe eases restrictions for its troops

Stars and Stripes

**KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany** — Thousands of personnel in Germany and the Benelux countries can now dine indoors at restaurants and have a barbecue with another family over the Memorial Day weekend after one of Europe's largest commands eased coronavirus restrictions Thursday.

Service members, civilians and family members affiliated with the Army's 21st Transportation Command may also travel anywhere in their host country and stay overnight in a hotel, said an order signed by the command's top officer, Maj. Gen. Chris Mohan.

But overnight stays more than 100 kilometers, or 62 miles, from a service member's home require a pass approved by an O-5 equivalent or higher, and cross-border travel is still prohibited, the order said.

"Borders ... are controlled by host nations and what we don't want is people who are out and

about to get trapped on the other side of the border," Mohan said in a video posted on the 21st TSC's Facebook page.

The order also allows two families to meet socially, except in Belgium and the Netherlands, which have not yet relaxed coronavirus restrictions on gatherings.

"Acknowledging the fact that we're coming up on Memorial Day weekend, we're going to allow family-to-family cookouts," Mohan said. "If you want to host another family — one family — over at your house for a cookout or vice versa that's also allowed and appropriate."

A midnight to 5 a.m. curfew has been lifted, but barracks or block parties are still prohibited, and a number of off-post facilities — including bars, night clubs, hookah lounges, pools, saunas, massage parlors and movie theaters — remain off-limits to service members, the order said.

Restrictions on troops in Romania, Greece and Kosovo, who also fall under the 21st TSC, were also relaxed, but to a lesser extent, the

command said.

They can now travel up to 100 kilometers from their homes, instead of 30 kilometers or around 19 miles — farther if they're on orders or have an emergency, a separate order said Wednesday. A mandatory curfew remains in place but will start at midnight instead of 10 p.m., and run until 5 a.m., it said.

Meanwhile, airmen based at Ramstein Air Base near Kaiserslautern were urged to restrict their Memorial Day travels to within the state of Rheinland-Pfalz.

"Travel can be a high risk activity right now, as some areas within Germany and throughout Europe have higher infection rates than Rheinland-Pfalz," a post on the base's Facebook page said.

Anyone wanting to travel outside the state would need approval from their chain of command and could be screened on their return to the base, the post said.

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J.P. Lawrence/Stars and Stripes

An Afghan soldier scratches his face after putting down his face mask on a roadway in eastern Afghanistan on May 10. Afghan health officials are concerned about mounting coronavirus infections as fighting continues between national forces and the Taliban.

## Afghan official: 'Big tragedy' should cases mount amid fighting

By J.P. LAWRENCE  
Stars and Stripes

isolating anyone who appears sick, said Fawad Aman, deputy spokesman for the Defense Ministry.

**KABUL, Afghanistan** — The Afghan government has issued a dire warning about a coronavirus outbreak that has coincided with increased fighting between security forces and Taliban insurgents.

Confirmed coronavirus cases have spiked in recent days, with almost half of a 1,000-person survey in Kabul testing positive recently, Ferozudin Peroz, the country's health minister, said Wednesday.

"If things keep going like this, we will have a big tragedy in Afghanistan in the months of June, July and August," said Peroz, who is recovering from his own bout with the virus.

The health minister's comments came a week after President Ashraf Ghani ordered the country's military to conduct offensive operations against the Taliban.

Over the last week, more than 3,000 of the country's roughly 8,000 cases have been confirmed, the World Health Organization said on its website.

If an outbreak emerges in the Afghan military, it could cripple its fight against the insurgents, said Jonathan Schroden, director of the special operations program at CNA, a nonpartisan research organization based in Virginia.

"Coronavirus has the potential to cause significant problems for the [Afghan army]," Schroden said. "The force is already chronically undermined by 10-15%, so it really can't afford any more loss of manpower."

The Afghan military said it has developed plans so that its operations do not lead to an outbreak. They include spraying bases with disinfectant, banning mass gatherings, cutting duty hours and

operations, they will get tested before going out if they have any signs of the virus," Aman said, adding that no cases have been found in the military so far.

The Afghan military devised COVID-19 prevention plans with help from the U.S. and NATO advisers, who also have distributed masks, gloves and medical supplies worth \$18 million, the Lead Inspector General for Operation Freedom's Sentinel said in a report to Congress this week.

An outbreak would strain Afghanistan's economy, overburden an already weak health care system and potentially force millions of people deeper into poverty, the report said.

Some Afghan troops were less concerned about COVID-19 and more about continuing attacks by the Taliban, who have rejected calls for a humanitarian ceasefire from Kabul and the international community.

Five soldiers in Ghazni province, currently fighting to take back a key road from the Taliban, have died during four weeks of fighting, officials there said.

"There is a virus more dangerous than coronavirus: the Taliban," said one of the soldiers, who asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak to reporters.

"I am not afraid of the corona, I am young and strong," said the soldier, before he was seriously injured in late April after his vehicle hit a roadside bomb. He remained hospitalized Thursday.

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## Jobless: Analyst says recent layoffs a concern since they come as reopening has begun in US

FROM FRONT PAGE

The continuing stream of heavy job cuts reflects an economy that is sinking into the worst recession since the Great Depression. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated this week that the economy is shrinking at a 38% annual rate in the April-June quarter. That would be by far the worst quarterly contraction on record.

Nearly half of Americans say that their incomes have declined or they live with another adult who has lost pay through a job loss or reduced hours, the Census Bureau said in survey data released Wednesday. More than one-fifth of Americans said they had little or no confidence in their ability to pay the next month's rent or mortgage on time, the survey found.

During April, U.S. employers shed 20 million jobs, eliminating a decade's worth of job growth in a month. The unemployment rate reached 14.7%, the highest since the Depression. Millions of other people who were out of work weren't counted as unemployed because they didn't look for a new job.

Since then, 10 million more laid-off workers have applied for jobless benefits. Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said in an interview Sunday that the unemployment rate could peak in May or June at 20% to 25%.

Major industries, major employers continue to announce job

**“There’s a high probability that those layoffs could persist for longer than those that were a function of (businesses) just being closed.”**

Stephen Stanley  
chief economist, Amherst Pierpont

cuts. Uber said this week that it will lay off 3,000 employees, on top of 3,700 it has already cut, because demand for its ride-hailing services has plummeted. Vice, a TV and digital news organization tailored for younger people, announced 155 layoffs globally last week.

Digital publishers Quartz and BuzzFeed, magazine giant Conde Nast and the company that owns the business-focused *The Economist* magazine also announced job cuts last week.

The total number of people receiving benefits rose 2.5 million to 25 million in the week that ended May 9, the latest period for which data is available.

Although the flood of layoffs has slowed, last week's claims filings are still roughly 10 times the typical number that prevailed before the virus struck, Stephen Stanley, chief economist at Amherst Pier-

pont, said the most recent layoffs could be particularly worrisome because they're happening even as states are gradually reopening their economies. This could mean that many companies foresee scant likelihood of a substantial economic recovery anytime soon and so still feel a need to cut jobs.

"There's a high probability that those layoffs could persist for longer than those that were a function of (businesses) just being closed," Stanley said.

At the same time, some companies have begun to rehire a limited number of their laid-off employees as states have eased restrictions on movement and commerce.

One rehired worker, Norman Boughtman, received an email last week from his boss at a secondhand clothing store in Richmond where he'd worked part time, asking him to return, one day before Virginia allowed most retailers to reopen.

Boughtman, who had applied for unemployment benefits to no avail, was happy to be paid again. So far, the job seems secure to him, because the store has been busy, and the owner hasn't expressed any concerns about business. But even while wearing a mask, Boughtman worries about the potential threat to his health.

"We're having to sort through people's things, and I feel like that puts us at a higher risk," he said.

# VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Europe's app tracking plan faces setbacks

Associated Press

LONDON — Doubts were growing on Thursday over whether ambitious plans by European governments to use contact-tracing apps to fight the spread of the coronavirus will be able to be implemented with any real effectiveness soon.

In contrast, there appeared to be some movement forward in the sprint to find a vaccine against COVID-19, bolstered by a \$1 billion investment from the U.S. vaccine agency.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson pledged Wednesday to have a “test, track and trace” program for COVID-19 in place by June 1 as part of a strategy to persuade the country that it’s safe to move on to the next stage of easing the lockdown and restarting the economy.

But the government also appeared to backtrack on an earlier pledge to make a smart phone app a pillar of that program.

Security minister James Brokenshire told the BBC on Thursday that he remains “confident” that the tracing system will be in place by June 1, but acknowledged that an app intended to help track the virus was not ready. He suggested “technical issues” were the reason for its failure to be introduced as planned by mid-May.

Experts say that being able to quickly identify people exposed to the virus can help stop the spread of the contagious respiratory illness, but efforts to put apps in place have come up across technical problems and fears of privacy intrusions.

The French government has also been forced to delay deployment of its planned contact-tracing app. Initially expected last week as the country started lifting confinement measures, it won’t be ready before next month due to technical issues and concerns over privacy.

Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte said Thursday that the country’s



MATT DUNHAM/AP

**Men wearing face masks walk past a coronavirus-related artwork displayed on screens in the window of the Flannels clothing store on Oxford Street in central London on Thursday.**

contact-tracing app would begin tests “in the coming days.” But he made no mention of whether Italy had hired tens of thousands of contact-tracers to actually conduct interviews and get in touch with people who had been in contact with COVID-19 patients, as other European countries have done.

Spain’s Economy Minister, Nadia Calvino, said Wednesday in parliament that Spain is making preparations to test a European Bluetooth-based app at the end of June in the Canary Islands.

But the adoption of the app has taken a back seat to the hiring of old-school human tracers in Spain. The government has said that the technology will be adopted only if it adds value to the tracing efforts that are being deployed by the country’s 17 regional administrations.

Meanwhile, drug maker AstraZeneca said Thursday it has secured the first agreements for 400 million doses of a COVID-19 vaccine that is now being tested at the University of Oxford, one of

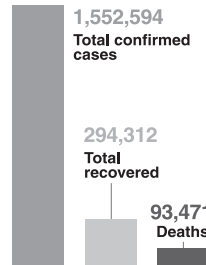
the most advanced projects in the search for a vaccine.

The Anglo-Swedish company reported it had received more than \$1 billion from the U.S. Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority for the development, production and delivery of the vaccine, starting this fall.

AstraZeneca CEO Pascal Soriot said the company “will do everything in our power to make this vaccine quickly and widely available.”

### US cases, recoveries, deaths

As of 9:30AM, May 21



SOURCES: Johns Hopkins CSSE, IHS. News: America/Stars and Stripes

Around the world, the effort to get back to business is raising worries over risks of new infections.

In Italy, one of Europe’s worst-hit countries, authorities warned that people are violating social distancing guidelines after a strict lockdown was lifted threatened the country’s recovery.

“Now is not the time for parties, nightlife and getting together in crowds,” Conte warned in parliament. “Be careful. Because exposing yourselves to contagion means exposing your loved ones to contagion.”

Milan Mayor Giuseppe Sala said he was asking local police to increase patrols of night spots, be more severe in handing out fines and close any bars or restaurants in flagrant violation of the rules.

Cases in Milan, the seat of the hard-hit region of Lombardy, are rising as Italy continues to relax its long lockdown. Since Sunday, there have been 137 new cases in the city of 1.4 million residents.

## 49er and Air Force guardsman aids digital Memorial Day tribute

By J.P. LAWRENCE  
Stars and Stripes

USAA drafted an NFL offensive lineman to help honor fallen heroes on Memorial Day.

Ben Garland, a player for the San Francisco 49ers and a captain in the Air National Guard, will help the financial services and insurance company promote their digital wall of honor.

Visitors to PoppyInMemory.com will be able to dedicate a virtual poppy to a hero or loved one who gave their life in battle, Garland said in a phone interview.

“There’s a pandemic going on, so it’s really important to have this digital outlet, to pay tribute to the men and women who have fallen,” Garland said.

The “Poppy Wall of Honor is the online version of memorials

installed for the last two years by USAA on the National Mall in Washington.

USAA, which has a large military clientele, moved the memorial online this year in response to coronavirus pandemic concerns and prohibitions against large gatherings.

The poppy has come to symbolize war sacrifices since World War I.

Garland was drawn to the project because of three friends from his days at the Air Force Academy who lost their lives in Afghanistan, he said.

Following graduation, Garland served two years on active duty after being drafted by the Denver Broncos. During his seven years in the NFL, he’s played in two Super Bowls, one with the Atlanta

Falcons and one with the 49ers.

Garland received the NFL’s Salute to Service award following the 2018 season after going on USO tours, working with ROTC students and veterans with PTSD.

Garland said he has become more creative in his outreach efforts in response to social distancing guidelines.

The digital Poppy Wall of Honor is one way to overcome those limitations, and Garland said he has also set up Zoom meetings between veterans and NFL players.

The lessons he learned from both the NFL and military have shaped him, he said, adding, “I’m just blessed to wear the best two uniforms in the world.”

lawrence.jp@starsandstripes.com  
Twitter: @jplawrence3



JAMES HODGMAN/U.S. Air Force

**Ben Garland, a San Francisco 49ers offensive lineman and captain in the Air National Guard, meets with airmen from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., in August during an event in Santa Clara, Calif.**

## VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

# Mississippi church suing on restraints destroyed by fire

Associated Press

HOLLY SPRINGS — A church in Mississippi was destroyed by a suspected arson fire about a month after its pastor filed a lawsuit challenging the city of Holly Springs on gathering restrictions amid the coronavirus outbreak.

First Pentecostal Church in Holly Springs, Miss., burned down Wednesday morning, news outlets reported. When investigators from the Marshall County Sheriff's Office got to the scene, they found graffiti in the church parking lot that read: "Bet you stay home now you hypocrites."

Jerry Waldrop, pastor of the church, had filed a lawsuit against the city of Holly Springs last month, alleging that police officers had disrupted a church Bible study and Easter service. Holly Springs City Attorney Shirley Byers said that nearly 40 parishioners inside the church building were not practicing social distancing April 10 when a violation citation was issued for the church.

Churchgoers practiced social distancing while indoors and only held indoor services when bad weather would not allow them to gather outside, the lawsuit said. Waldrop's complaint also asked for a temporary restraining order to keep city officials from preventing church services.

## Arizona

PHOENIX — Gov. Doug Ducey said Wednesday that people in Arizona are acting responsibly since he loosened restrictions on businesses, but he's not yet ready to open new sectors of the economy.

Ducey said that he has an "aspirational" goal for schools to reopen on schedule in August, and he's hopeful that summer camps and youth activities will be open soon.

Schools have been closed since March, when Ducey and schools chief Kathy Hoffman shut them due to staffing concerns stemming from the coronavirus outbreak. Hoffman has formed a task force of education leaders to write plans for the safe reopening of schools.

The Republican governor said he sees "zero evidence" that Arizona will have a surge in coronavirus infections as social distancing measures relax. But he suggested that he's willing to re-impose restrictions if necessary.

## Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's coronavirus restrictions will ease in parts of the state Friday, two days ahead of schedule, to allow

for more activity over the Memorial Day weekend, the governor said Wednesday.

A new state order will allow social gatherings of up to 100 people and retail stores and malls to operate at 75% capacity, Gov. Eric Holcomb said. Gatherings have been limited to 25 people and stores to 50% capacity under the state's first easing of restrictions that took effect May 4.

Gyms, fitness centers, community pools and campgrounds will also be allowed to open under rules limiting the number of people and for distancing and cleaning.

Holcomb pointed to a decline in the number of COVID-19 infected people hospitalized and the continued availability of intensive care unit beds to treat those most seriously ill.

## Kentucky

FRANKFORT — Looking to deflate resistance to wearing masks, Gov. Andy Beshear on Wednesday called it "basic public health guidance" to combat the coronavirus that shouldn't spark political divisions.

Kentucky's governor continued to stress mask wearing with more people venturing out as the state's economy gradually gets rebooted. Nonessential retail businesses reopened Wednesday, and restaurants can reopen dining rooms Friday.

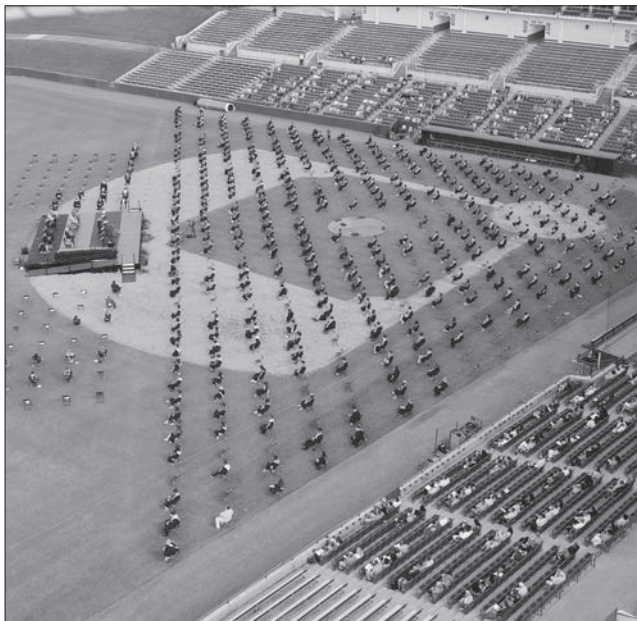
Other states are encouraging people to wear masks as their economies get restarted to help guard against new spikes in virus cases, Beshear said at his daily briefing.

At a gas station and convenience store in Manchester, a "no face masks allowed" sign was posted at the front of the store, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported, citing social media posts this week. After the sign drew complaints, the eastern Kentucky store responded that it was a joke. "We wear face mask, but it does not require our customers to, its their choice," the store said in a comment.

## Montana

HAMILTON — Health officials in a western Montana county are investigating a cluster of COVID-19 cases as the state prepares to lift more restrictions meant to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

The initial Ravalli County case involved a man in his 50s who was believed to have caught the virus while traveling outside the county. He was hospitalized Sunday, said Karyn Johnston, director of public health. She declined to say if the man had traveled out



JOE SONGER, THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS/AP

Spain Park High School graduates attend their graduation ceremony while maintaining social distancing guidelines at the Hoover Met in Hoover, Ala.

of state.

Nine more people were tested because of contact with the man, and seven of them have tested positive for COVID-19. All are male and are isolated at home. Two are in their 60s, two are in their 20s and three are between the ages of 10 and 19, the state health department reported.

Three nurses doing contact tracing have located more than 30 contacts with those who are infected, and the investigation continues. The identified contacts have been placed in quarantine, but they won't be tested unless they develop symptoms or have underlying health conditions, Johnston said Wednesday.

## New York

NEW YORK — New York will allow small religious gatherings starting Thursday as the state gradually loosens pandemic restrictions, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said.

Religious gatherings of up to 10 people will be allowed statewide as long as participants wear masks and practice social distancing. The state is also allowing drive-in and parking lot services.

The state will work with an Interfaith Advisory Council to discuss proposals to safely bring back religious services. The council consists of dozens of religious leaders, including Cardinal Timothy Dolan and the Rev. Dr. Calvin Butts.

The New York Civil Liberties Union said that both announcements raise constitutional concerns.

"We agree small events where people observe social distancing should be permitted, but that has to apply to all First Amendment events, regardless of message and regardless of whether religious or political," Christopher Dunn, the group's legal director, wrote in an email.

## Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania is working on guidelines to allow sporting events, exhibitions and leagues, both professional and amateur, to get back to "some semblance of normalcy" after practically everything shut down to help stem the spread of the coronavirus, Gov. Tom Wolf said Wednesday.

In a conference call with reporters, Wolf said that he has been in touch with major professional organizations including NASCAR, the NFL, NHL, Major League Baseball and others to figure out how they can resume.

He said he expected that his administration will, in the coming days, produce guidelines for the various venues, sports and activities to resume. But, he said, the ultimate success of the events and leagues will rest on whether people feel safe to attend and participate.

"In the end, the ultimate arbiter of our fate here when it comes to sporting events are going to be individuals who want to participate, individuals who want to be part of sports, whether its amateur or professional," Wolf said. "And we've got to make sure that we give them the confidence to

then go to these sporting events and feel safe, that they're not taking their lives or health into their hands."

## South Carolina

COLUMBIA — Clemson University plans to hold in-person classes in the fall but synchronize them with online instruction so that if a student is infected with COVID-19 — or a second wave of infections closes campus — learning won't be disrupted.

Clemson leaders didn't provide specifics on their plans in an online presentation to university trustees Wednesday. But everyone who spoke — from Clemson University President Jim Clements to campus safety, academic and financial leaders — all gave a rosy outlook.

"Clemson was ahead of the curve and will stay ahead of the curve. There are a lot of challenges ahead of us, but we will stay Clemson," said Executive Vice President for Finance and Operations Tony Wagner, who told trustees that Clemson was in good shape financially.

One thing that wasn't mentioned at all Wednesday was athletics. Clemson football coach Dabo Swinney has said that he is confident the Tigers will play this fall.

The school is still working on plans to change campus dining, recreation and the set up of classrooms. But ultimately, whether the campus stays safe from the virus is up to workers and students, Clemson University Police Chief Greg Mullen said.

NATION

# Officials assess damages from Michigan floods

Associated Press

MIDLAND, Mich. — Authorities were assessing damage Thursday as floodwaters from heavy rains that overtook two dams retreated in some mid-Michigan communities and continued to threaten others further downriver.

The flooding forced the evacuation of about 11,000 people in the Midland area, about 140 miles north of Detroit. The floodwaters mixed Wednesday with containment ponds at a Dow Chemical Co. plant and could displace sediment from a downstream Superfund site, though the company said there was no risk to people or the environment.

Officials warned that the scope of the damage could take days to fully see. The nearly century-old Edenville Dam, which failed to hold back floodwaters, was the target of lengthy investigations by federal regulators, who revoked the facility's license over safety violations two years before the flooding. Wixom Lake, which had been held back by the dam, was left nearly empty.

"You can see houses with water up to the roof line, you can see a lakebed that was drained out," Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Thursday morning during an appearance on "CBS This

Morning."

"There's no lake there anymore because it's all at the lower end of the river now. The water should start to recede now. But there's no question that this is a devastating event."

The National Weather Service said communities farther downstream were bracing for flooding in the coming days. A flood warning was in effect Thursday along the Tittabawassee River from Midland downstream into Saginaw, and flooding in that area was possible through the weekend.

Residents near the Tittabawassee River were urged this week to seek higher ground following what the National Weather Service described as "catastrophic dam failures" at the Edenville Dam, about 20 miles northwest of Midland, and the Sanford Dam. Officials have said the Sanford Dam was overflowing but that the extent of structural damage isn't yet known.

No injuries have been reported.

Dow said the containment ponds held only water, and it has detected no chemical releases from the plant in Midland where the company was founded, though the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said state officials would evaluate the plant when they're able. Once the flooding



KATY KILDEE, MIDLAND DAILY NEWS/AP

Ryan Stadelmaier, 16, gives a piggyback ride to his sister Rachel Stadelmaier, 27, as they cross Walden Woods Drive while helping residents tend to their flooded homes, Wednesday, in Midland, Mich.



KATIE BOOMER, THE BAY CITY TIMES/AP

Debris collects at the Sanford Dam in Michigan on Wednesday.

recedes, Dow will be required to assess the Superfund site — contaminated with dioxins the com-

pany dumped in the last century — to determine if any contamination was released, the EPA said.

Michigan has been a national hot spot for COVID-19, with more than 52,000 cases and 5,000 deaths, but Midland County has had fewer than 80 cases and under 10 deaths. Still, residents were advised to take precautions and schools set up as shelters spaced cots to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

The flooding washed away some roadways and left others impassable. Selina Tisdale, spokeswoman for the city of Midland, said roads must be inspected for damage that could make traveling along them hazardous.

"We're working to get information to folks on when they can return to their houses, but stress that a lot of infrastructure gets compromised," Tisdale said.

# Man's head run over, more than 100 arrested at event

By JESSICA SCHLADEBECK  
New York Daily News

A Texas beach party for Jeep enthusiasts over the weekend prompted a massive call to law enforcement, more than 100 arrests and has left several revelers hospitalized — including a 21-year-old who is fighting for his life after a truck ran over his head.

Tanner Francis was partying at the "Go Topless Jeep Weekend" at Crystal Beach on Sunday when he fell out of the back of a truck and into its path. He was airlifted to the University of Texas Medical Branch, where his mother, Julie Busby, said he was receiving treatment for multiple skull fractures.

"As my son was laying there in a pool of blood, the people were trying to video him," she told ABC 13. "And his friends were just not having it."

First responders warned Francis may not survive his injuries, but the young father has made strides toward recovery since the weekend incident — his mother on Monday revealed that he was attempting to communicate and, in the end, was

able to scribble down his thoughts.

"My head hurts," the shaky note reads. Francis was one of at least six people hospitalized during the Crystal Beach party on the Bolivar Peninsula — which is billed as an annual gathering of Jeep, ATV and big truck lovers.

The Galveston County Sheriff's Office confirmed to KTRK they made 126 arrests Wednesday through Sunday in the area, dozens of them for public intoxication. The charges range from a minor consuming alcohol and public intoxication to trespassing and drug possession.

Videos shared to social media of the event sees the beach consumed in chaos and countless fights breaking out. The rowdy behavior and huge crowds have spawned a petition to end the "Go Topless Galveston" event, which boasted nearly 19,000 signatures by Wednesday afternoon.

"Go Topless weekend in Crystal Beach has become more and more dangerous over the years. It has become a danger for the people attending and a danger for the residents of Crystal Beach," it reads.

"This year, in 2019, there were so many



MARIE D. DE JESUS, HOUSTON CHRONICLE/AP

A Galveston County Sheriff's Office deputy stops a group riding in a Jeep during the Go Topless Jeep Weekend event get at Crystal Beach on Bolivar Peninsula, Texas, on Sunday.

911 calls that it required additional help from Galveston County and Jefferson County police, EMS and Fire Department."

The petition additionally blasts "the blatant irresponsibility and gross negligence of the party goers" for pushing "This event over the edge."

Its creator, Daniel Wilson, shared an update on the website Wednesday "We will be working with County and State agencies to see what can be done by law to help alleviate issues of this nature," officials said.

# Former Trump lawyer released from NY prison

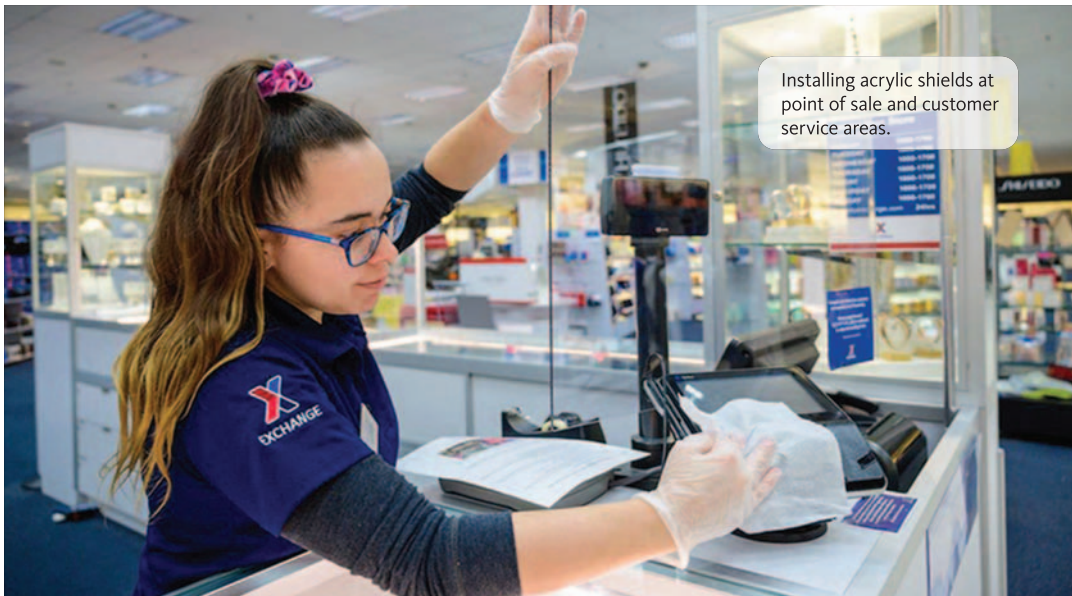
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's longtime personal lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen was released from federal prison Thursday to serve the remainder of his sentence at home, a person familiar with the matter told The Associated Press.

Cohen had been serving a federal prison sentence at FCI Otisville in New York after pleading guilty to numerous charges, including campaign finance fraud and lying to Congress.

The person was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Cohen was released on furlough as part of an attempt to slow the spread of the coronavirus in federal prisons. Cohen, 53, began serving his sentence last May and originally was scheduled to be released from prison in November 2021.



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NATION

# White House report blasts China's 'communist regime'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Beyond its hard-hitting rhetoric against China over its handling of the coronavirus, the White House has issued a broad-scale attack on Beijing's predatory economic policies, military buildup, disinformation campaigns and human rights violations.

The 20-page report does not signal a shift in U.S. policy, according to a senior administration official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss the report and spoke only on the condition of anonymity, but it expands on President Donald Trump's get-tough rhetoric that he hopes will resonate with voters angry about China's handling of the disease outbreak, which left tens of millions of Americans out of work.

"The media's focus on the current pandemic risks missing the bigger picture of the challenge that's presented by the Chinese Communist Party," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Wednesday before the White House released its report.

"China's been ruled by a brutal, authoritarian regime, a communist regime since 1949. For several decades, we thought the regime would become more like us — through trade, scientific exchanges, diplomatic outreach, letting them in the World Trade Organization as a developing nation. That didn't happen," he said. "We greatly underestimated the degree to which Beijing is ideologically and politically hostile to free nations. The whole world is waking up to that fact."

Later in the day, the State Department announced that it had approved the sale of advanced torpedoes to the Taiwanese military, a move sure to draw a rebuke from Beijing, which regards the island as a renegade province. The department said it had informed Congress of the \$180 million sale of heavy-weight torpedoes, spare parts, support and testing equipment, which "will help improve the security of (Taiwan) and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region."

While pushing back on China, Trump has sometimes uttered contradictory statements. He has talked about having a great personal relationship with Chinese President Xi Jinping yet has re-



EVAN VUCCA/AP

President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting Wednesday with Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, and Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly, in the Cabinet Room of the White House in Washington.

peatedly denounced China for not doing more to stop the virus from spreading across the world. He'll criticize China, then say he wants Beijing to sign Phase II of a trade deal and join the United States and Russia in a three-way nuclear arms control treaty.

Late Wednesday, Trump wrote on Twitter that China's "massive

disinformation campaign" is intended to help Joe Biden win the 2020 presidential election.

According to the report, the Trump administration sees "no value" in engaging with Beijing for symbolism and pageantry. "When quiet diplomacy proves futile, the United States will increase public pressure."

# Supreme Court blocks House from secret testimony in Mueller's report

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Wednesday temporarily prevented the House of Representatives from obtaining secret grand jury testimony from special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.

The court's unsigned order granted the Trump administration's request to keep previously undisclosed details from the investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election out of the hands of Democratic lawmakers, at least until early summer.

The court will decide then whether to extend its hold and schedule the case for arguments in the fall. If it does, it's likely the administration will be able to put off the release of any materials until after Election Day. Arguments themselves might not even take place before Americans decide whether to give President Donald Trump a second term.

For justices eager to avoid a definitive ruling, the delay could mean never having to decide the case, if either Trump loses or Republicans regain control of the House next year.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi ob-

jected to the high court's decision in a statement Wednesday evening. "The House's long-standing right to obtain grand jury information pursuant to the House's impeachment power has now been upheld by the lower courts twice," Pelosi said. "These rulings are supported by decades of precedent and should be permitted to proceed."

The Justice Department said in

its Supreme Court filings that the court's action was needed in part because the House hasn't given any indication it "urgently needs these materials for any ongoing impeachment investigation."

The House had opposed the delay on the grounds that its investigation of Trump was continuing, and that time is of the essence because of the approaching election.

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NATION

# In film, Roe plaintiff says her anti-abortion switch was just an act

By JESSICA GRESKO  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Norma McCorvey loved the limelight. Better known as “Jane Roe,” her story was at the center of the 1973 Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* that legalized abortion nationwide. At first she was an abortion rights advocate, but, in a twist, she became a born-again Christian in 1995 and switched sides.

Now, three years after her death of heart failure at age 69, she’s making headlines again. In a documentary being released Friday, McCorvey says she was paid to speak out against abortion.

“This is my deathbed confession,” she says, chuckling as she breathes with the aid of oxygen during filming at a nursing home where she lived in Katy, Texas.

“I took their money and they put me out in front of the cameras and told me what to say,” she says in “*AKA Jane Roe*,” which premieres Friday on FX.

Asked whether it was “all an

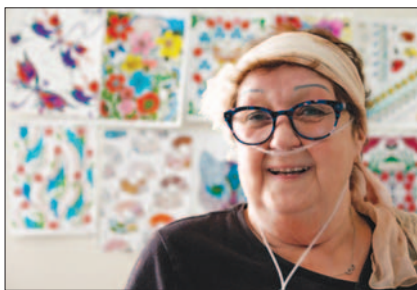
act,” she responds: “Yeah.”

“I did it well, too. I am a good actress. Of course, I’m not acting now,” she says in the documentary, which was filmed in 2016 and 2017.

As for her feelings on abortion, McCorvey says: “If a young woman wants to have an abortion, fine. You know, it’s no skin off my ass. You know that’s why they call it choice. It’s your choice.”

Filmmaker Nick Sweeney said the documentary condensed hundreds of hours of film he shot over the last year of McCorvey’s life and he hoped it gave her the chance to tell her own story.

McCorvey’s true feelings about abortion have always been nuanced, said Joshua Prager, who spent eight years working on a book about McCorvey due out next year. In a telephone interview, he said McCorvey made her living giving speeches and writing books on both sides of the abortion debate and was coached by both sides. She had conflicted



FX/AP

This image released by FX shows Norma McCorvey from the documentary “*AKA Jane Roe*.” Better known as “Jane Roe,” McCorvey’s story was at the center of the 1973 Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* that legalized abortion nationwide.

feelings about each, he said, but was consistent throughout her life in one thing: supporting abortion through the first trimester.

Prager, who has not seen the new documentary, said he believes that if leaders of the abortion rights movement had embraced McCorvey, “I don’t think there’s any chance that she would have switched sides.”

But, he said, she was desperate for acceptance and “liked being in front of the camera.”

“I like attention,” she acknowledged in the new documentary.

If the film confirms anything, it is that McCorvey was complicated. She grew up poor and was sexually abused by a relative. She was a lesbian. At 22, she was unemployed and living in Texas when she became pregnant with her third child.

McCorvey wanted an abortion, but it was illegal in Texas and most states. That led her to become the anonymous plaintiff in *Roe v. Wade*. She gave birth to her third child, whom she put up for adoption, before the Supreme Court ruled in her case.

# Police ID suspect in Arizona shooting

The Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Police in a Phoenix suburb on Thursday identified a 20-year-old man as the suspect in a shooting at a recently reopened shopping and entertainment district that injured three people and sent panicked people running for cover.

Armando Hernandez Jr. was detained after he was confronted by officers Wednesday night in Glendale, police said on Twitter. No information was disclosed about a possible motive or specific charges.

One of the victims was in critical condition and two others suffered non life-threatening injuries, police said earlier.

The shooting happened at about 7:25 p.m. in Glendale’s Westgate Entertainment District, where people had headed to stores and restaurants that recently reopened. The area includes a stadium for the NFL’s Arizona Cardinals and hockey arena for the NHL’s Arizona Coyotes.

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WORLD

# Powerful cyclone ravages coasts in Bangladesh, India

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Wide swathes of the coasts of India and Bangladesh were flooded and millions of people remained without power Thursday, after the most powerful cyclone to hit the region in more than a decade left dozens dead and a trail of destruction.

In the Indian city of Kolkata, home to more than 14 million people, large portions of the metropolis and its suburbs were underwater, including the city's main airport. Roads were littered with uprooted trees and lamp posts and electricity and communication lines were down.

Cyclone Amphan also badly damaged many centuries-old buildings when it tore through the city on Wednesday.

"It feels like a dystopian Jurassic Park of sorts," said Shuli Ghosh, who runs a cafe in Kolkata. "The roofs of many homes

have flown away and the streets are waterlogged."

When the storm made landfall on Wednesday it lashed coastal areas in both India and Bangladesh with heavy rain, a battering storm surge and sustained winds of 105 miles per hour and gusts up to 118 mph. It devastated coastal villages in both countries, knocking down mud houses, ripping out electricity poles and uprooting trees.

In Bangladesh, television stations reported 13 deaths, while 72 deaths were reported in India's West Bengal state. Officials said two people were killed in India's Odisha state.

Hundreds of villages in Bangladesh were flooded by tidal surges and more than a million people were without electricity.

Officials in both countries said the full extent of the damage remained to be seen as communication lines are down.



INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY/AP

Volunteers of the Indian Red Cross Society fix villagers' homes Thursday after Cyclone Amphan hit the Orissa state, India.

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic and social-distancing measures had made mass evacuations ahead of the storm difficult.

Likewise the pandemic will have an impact on relief efforts

and the recovery.

The damage caused by the storm is likely to have lasting repercussions for poor families already stretched to the limit by the pandemic.

# China kicks off political event pushed back by virus

Associated Press

BEIJING — China began its most important political event of the year Thursday after a two-month delay because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The opening of the annual session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference is a further sign of what the government said is its victory over the outbreak that began in the central city of Wuhan late last year.

That will be followed Friday by the opening of the National People's Congress, the ceremonial parliament, highlighted by a speech from Premier Li Keqiang outlining economic and social goals for the year.

This year's meeting of the two bodies is being shortened to one week from the usual two as part of virus control measures. Media access has also been largely reduced and only a limited number of reporters, diplomats and observers were permitted into the vast auditorium inside the Great Hall of the People in the heart of Beijing. The more than 2,000 delegates in attendance wore masks.

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# WEEKEND

■ Dizzying array of shows slated for TV this summer

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CORONAVIRUS CHALLENGE

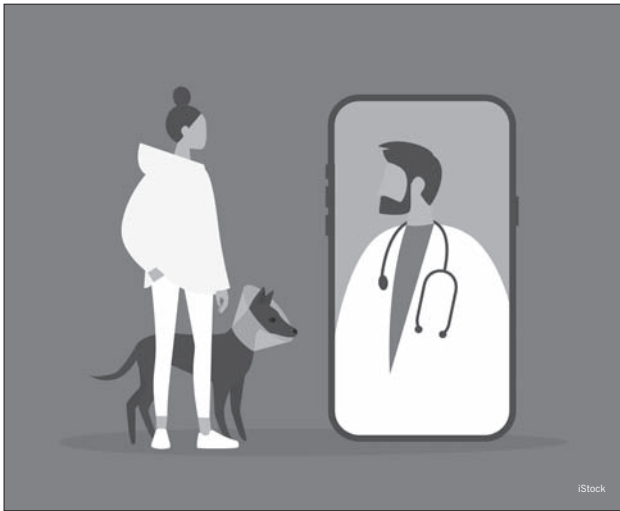
**TO RELEASE OR  
NOT TO RELEASE?**

**MUSICIANS MUST MAKE  
TOUGH CHOICES DURING  
COVID-19 CRISIS**

Music, Page 32

iStock/Stars and Stripes

## WEEKEND: GADGETS &amp; TECH



iStock

# Virtual vet care has arrived

## Veterinary telemedicine startup just what the doctor ordered

BY ERIN ARVEDLUND  
*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

**M**y Virtual Veterinarian, founded by Wharton School graduate Felicity Johnson, is a veterinary portal for pet owners, and allows animals to receive medical care any time they need it — all through telemedicine.

My Virtual Veterinarian won the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School's latest entrepreneurship competition this year, which was the winning idea, was done virtually amid the COVID-19 health crisis.

The app, which received a \$30,000 prize plus \$15,000 in legal, accounting and strategy services, connects pet parents with doctors for video and chat appointments, providing what has become an essential service during the pandemic.

Johnson founded the company in 2019 while studying for her MBA at Wharton. Years earlier, she'd experienced time-consuming medical visits when her cat, Tiffany, was diagnosed with cancer.

"I was living and working in New York City, and it was difficult bringing her to her appointments," said Johnson, a native of Australia whose family moved to Philadelphia when she was a child. She graduated from Villanova University. "I was very fortunate to be working at Rent the Runway," an online fashion company that allowed flex time working from home.

"That's the challenge a lot of pet owners face: The vet appointments are in the middle of the work day."

The virus has accelerated the tele-doctor trend already popular with humans, she said.

On March 24, regulators gave her idea a surprise boost.

"The FDA suspended regulations that required vets to establish a client-patient relationship before practicing telemedicine," she said. "That is just unprecedented. Before the pandemic, vets

really were not using telemedicine — they were extremely wary."

The market was ripe for innovation. The American Pet Products Association data show that two-thirds of 84.9 million U.S. households have at least one pet, offering steady demand for routine veterinary services.

Americans spent more than \$25 billion on vet services in 2018, according to data from Freedonia Group, and that number should increase. Industry growth between 2015 and 2020 averaged 2.9% annually, according to IBIS World.

Through the My Virtual Veterinarian iOS app, pet parents can access their primary veterinarian, or find a different one who is available, and schedule an appointment. This flexibility extends to the veterinarians, who can schedule appointments that fit their schedule.

Competitors include AirVet and TeleTails, but Johnson contends that the competitors' apps "lock you into using only one veterinarian. With us, you can choose your own vet," or any vet available as long as they sign up for the platform.

Her company makes money by taking a percentage of appointment fees, which vary among animal doctors. "We don't charge the vets to use the app, we charge the pet parents," she said, generally 30% of the appointment fee.

With 150 million dogs and cats in America, and an average cost of \$50 per appointment, MyVirtualVet app's goal is a little more than \$14 in gross profit per visit.

So far, My Virtual Veterinarian has completed 51 appointments and 16 chats with doctors. The company has four employees, including Johnson, who taught herself to code.

Plans for growth include hosting "Paws for Wellness" pop-up wellness clinics in major cities to introduce pet parents to the platform, as well as partnerships with groomers and insurers.

And, of course, custom poop bags in local dog parks to advertise the service.

## GADGET WATCH

## This headset's battery life outlasts the longest meeting

BY GREGG ELLMAN  
*Tribune News Service*

**W**ith so many professionals switching to work-at-home lifestyles, Jabra's timing couldn't be better with the recent release of the Evolve2 65. The office headset has every feature you'll need, including outstanding audio quality on both ends of the call.

Jabra has always been an industry leader when it comes to audio headsets' superior battery life, and the Bluetooth Evolve2 65 is no different with specs listed as up to 37 hours of use per charge. If that's not enough for your meeting, I'll say it for you; your meeting is way too long.

Getting a full USB charge for 37 hours of use takes 90 minutes, and with the fast charge feature, 15 minutes of charging will be good for 8 hours.

The Evolve2 65 receives audio, of course, and has three strategically placed powerful professional microphones in the headset (one in the right ear cup and two in the movable boom arm) for your verbal participation.

Another feature Jabra always incorporates is comfort. The soft memory foam cushioned ear cups mold to your head so they can be worn comfortably for hours. Inside the headset is a 40 mm speaker for each ear, with audio quality of the highest standards for playing music or rendering voices in a meeting clearly audible for perhaps the first time.

The way Jabra has angled the ear cups helps with passive noise cancellation to block out your surroundings. I wore the headphones in and around my house and then outside to expose myself to as many different noise environments as possible in a short time. The PNC worked great, just as Jabra calls it to "Soundproof your ears."

With the free Jabra Direct Soft-



CLCKR/TNS

ware companion app, it's easy to personalize the headset's music and calls and keep your headset registered for any updates.

I didn't have any work conference calls to test the product on, but I did manage a Zoom call with some friends who felt I should get tossed out of the weekly happy hour if I kept upping the technology game with better equipment like the Evolve2 65 to make me sound better.

When I used it to make a stand-around call, the first thing I was asked was, "did you get a new phone?" In this case, I haven't — it was the headset — but that was all I needed to prove the superior quality.

A really cool feature Jabra has added to the headset, a BusyLight,

can be viewed as a built-in security guard. The red light is built into both sides of the headset, automatically activated and visible from any direction. This warns anyone in your area that you're on a call if they want to nag you about lunch or something else not worth being interrupted over. The BusyLight can also be activated manually with a push of a button.

Bluetooth pairing is easy, and can be done with multiple devices, but only one at a time. The Jabra Evolve2 65 headset is certified for Microsoft teams.

A stereo model is \$249; mono is \$239. A charging stand can be added for either for \$50 more. You'll also have to specify USB-A or USB-C for connectivity.

Online: jabra.com

Another great device for current quarantine and isolation lifestyles (and even perfect for when we are all set free) is the **clckr grip and stand case**.

The patented phone stand and hand grip works on flat surfaces in portrait and landscape angles or in your hand with a firm, secure hold.

There's not a lot to it, yet it works perfectly and doesn't cost much — a perfect gadget in my mind. Think of a PopSocket, which I never was a fan of, only better.

You have a choice of several colors and patterns for matching any personality. Cases and grips are available as a package or individually.

The grips can be applied directly to a case or right to the phone with the included clear sticker.

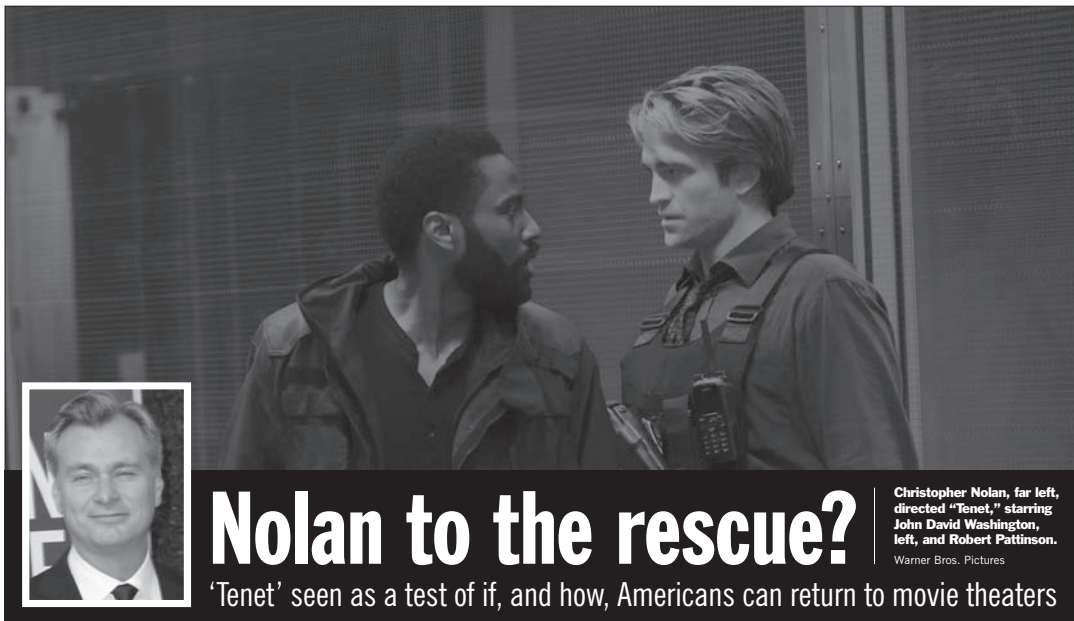
The cases are drop tested for 6.6 feet and are listed as wireless charging-compatible.

Online: clckr.com; bands start at \$14.99, case/hand combos \$29.95

The clckr grip and stand case

The virus has accelerated the tele-doctor trend already popular with humans.

## WEEKEND: MOVIES



# Nolan to the rescue?

Christopher Nolan, far left, directed "Tenet" starring John David Washington, left, and Robert Pattinson.

Warner Bros. Pictures

'Tenet' seen as a test of if, and how, Americans can return to movie theaters

By STEVEN ZEITCHIK  
The Washington Post

As quarantines and lockdowns have ravaged the entertainment industry, most studios have taken their films out of theaters, worried about health implications, government restrictions and consumer reluctance to sit in a dark room with strangers.

Then there's Warner Bros. The studio is pressing ahead with release plans for "Tenet," the mysterious new movie from "Inception" director and proven moneymaker Christopher Nolan. Executives are making plans to open the movie widely across the U.S. as scheduled on July 17 amid the ongoing spread of the coronavirus. They're going through all the paces of a big summer release despite many reasons a successful rollout may not be remotely possible.

At stake, say entertainment players and analysts, is nothing short of the nation's pre-eminent form of public entertainment.

"If 'Tenet' doesn't come out or doesn't succeed, every other company goes home," said a marketing executive from a rival studio who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the news media. "It's no movies until Christmas."

Experts describe two fundamentally different visions of what coming months will look like.

In one, audiences eager to leave the house after months of isolation pour in (social distantly) to see the Nolan film, which appears to focus on an agent attempting to prevent a global catastrophe (plot specifics remain tantalizingly murky). Every auditorium is filled with "Tenet" moviegoers; many theaters stay open late to accommodate them. Two other studio films, "Mulan" and "Wonder Woman 1984," then follow. The summer conspires the spring quarantines to a place of surreal memory.

The other scenario is bleaker: Continued COVID-19 fears either prompt Warner Bros. to delay "Tenet" or consumers to

stay away, resulting in a flop. Other studios who have been cautiously scheduling a post-"Tenet" release pull their movies. The summer then looks just like spring — "new" entertainment means old Netflix shows and "going out" is a euphemism for walking around the block.

Like the spinning top at the end of "Inception," even close observers don't know which way this could go.

**'If Tenet' doesn't come out or doesn't succeed, every other company goes home. It's no movies until Christmas.'**

Anonymous marketing executive from a rival studio

"Tenet," he and others note, is ideally built to jolt consumers back into moviegoing; it's an intriguing premise from one of the most financially successful filmmakers in history opening in theaters with zero serious competition. That gives experts hope — and also makes them think if "Tenet" can't work, nothing will.

The feature-film business has lost billions of dollars due to the pandemic. The April-June period in 2019 produced \$3.4 billion in box-office receipts. So far in 2020? It's yielded just \$102,000. The summer could see more losses, especially if major markets like New York and Los Angeles remain closed.

But as batches of spring and summer movies began getting postponed in March, Warner Bros. officially left "Tenet" on the calendar. At first it seemed like it was simply delaying the inevitable. Yet it soon became clear that WB and Nolan, a passionate advocate for the theatrical

experience in the age of streaming, were planning to use the movie as a kind of reopening lever.

That plan has now come into focus. Both Warner Bros. and Nolan declined to comment for this story. But those with knowledge of the plans describe how the studio is moving forward. The company has already conducted cast and filmmaker interviews for "long-lead" journalists, monthly magazine writers, by Zoom. It also is preparing to drop a second trailer online in coming weeks — one more trapping of a company preparing a major summer release.

The studio, Nolan and theater owners have also remained in close contact about the measures that can be taken to bring people safely into multiplexes. Everyone has been trying to pull toward the same goal, say those familiar with the conversations who were not authorized to speak about them publicly — support "Tenet" as the movie that reopens America.

For Warner Bros. the upside to that approach is huge: It could capitalize on months of pent-up demand and have the studio theaters all to itself.

Unfortunately, analysts note, there's also a reason the reward is high: Because no other studio wants to go first. "We're going to get a pretty good idea of (our prospects) because there's a competitive movie that opens up one week before our film does," Disney chief executive Bob Chapek told investors on a conference call recently, sounding relieved as he described the plan for the company's "Mulan," as of now scheduled for July 24.

The industry in recent weeks has been divided on what should be done. The conversation has often turned to "Tenet" and whether Nolan is once again a visionary who can save Hollywood or a man who has quixotically let his belief in theaters blind him to current realities.

Nolan himself has fueled the debate with an op-ed in The Washington Post, in which he wrote of the importance of movie theaters re-emerging from coronavirus. "When this crisis passes, the need for

collective human engagement, the need to live and love and laugh and cry together, will be more powerful than ever," he wrote. "We don't just owe it to the 150,000 workers of this great American industry to include them in those we help, we owe it to ourselves. We need what movies can offer us."

If "Tenet" were to sputter because of the pandemic, it would squander an important opportunity for Warner Bros., which spent as much as \$200 million on the film and has been counting on it as a centerpiece of its 2020 profit strategy.

Other studios have decided it's not worth the risk. Many theatrical releases this year continue to be pushed to 2021, and still others have gone to streaming. Disney recently said it was moving its recording of stage phenomenon "Hamilton" to Disney Plus, while Universal is preparing to release its big summer comedy, Judd Apatow's "The King of Staten Island," as a digital rental next month.

But Warner Bros. executives privately believe their situation is different. Nolan has an unprecedented track record in modern Hollywood. Known for directing the massively profitable "Dark Knight" Batman movies, it's his other films that have become eye-catching anomalies — original concepts that succeed at a franchise level.

Nolan's last three non-Batman movies — "Inception" (2010), "Interstellar" (2014) and "Dunkirk" (2017) — have collectively grossed more than \$2 billion in theaters worldwide, making him the most bankable director brand of the past decade.

While there has been no talk, multiple WarnerMedia insiders say, of releasing the film on streaming early, some wonder if that shouldn't be part of the strategy.

John Sloss, a film producer, is among a small group of industry players asking if a hybrid model could make sense. "If theaters tried playing the movie for a few weeks and people were not coming out, I'm not sure Warner Bros. couldn't turn it into" a digital rental, he said. "Especially if you brought theaters in to rent-sharing. It could be a pretty good backup plan."

## WEEKEND: MOVIES



# Heard and not seen

You may not recognize 'Scoob!' actor Frank Welker, but his voice will take you back to your childhood

BY TIM GREIVING  
Special to The Washington Post

**A**s a little boy, Frank Welker was blessed with the “strange, innate ability” to mimic the sound and speech of animals. Jockeying for attention at the family breakfast table, he would offer up dead-on impressions of the sparrows chirping on the front lawn.

“I was the youngest in the family,” Welker said. “I found that by acting peculiar I could get my piece of the attention.”

He got it all right, and spun it into career gold. A successful voice actor since the 1960s, Welker has cornered the market on all creatures great and small. Now, at 74, he has one of his first “starring” roles in a major motion picture — as the voice of Scooby-Doo in the animated “Scoob!”

**Frank Welker, above, is best known for voicing Fred Jones in the Scooby-Doo franchise since its inception in 1969, and Scooby-Doo himself since 2002. He reprises his role in the CGI-animated film “Scoob!,” alongside Blue Falcon (Mark Wahlberg, center) and Shaggy (Will Forte, right).**

Warner Bros. Pictures (top) and TGM0 (above)

An invisible but indispensable presence, Welker has more credits (roughly 850) than any movie star, and a cumulative box office that puts them all to shame. He’s played gremlins in “Gremlins”; Spike the dinosaur in “The Land Before Time”; Max the dog in “The Little Mermaid”; a sentient footstool in “Beauty and the Beast”; Santa’s Little Helper in “The Simpsons”; and — in “Aladdin” alone — Abu the monkey, Rajah the tiger and the growling Cave of Wonders.

He portrayed “the biggest thing in the movie and, in some ways, the smallest thing in the movie,” said “Aladdin” co-director John Musker, “and both equally compelling. That’s what Frank could do.”

If it roars, squawks, barks or screams, Welker’s your guy. He’s known as “the king” and “the godfather” among his fellow voice actors, said Tress MacNeille, the voice of characters such as Babs Bunny in “Tiny Toon Adventures” and Agnes Skinner on “The Simpsons.”

“He was the sophomore in college when we were the freshmen in high school,” said MacNeille, who has been working with Welker since 1981. “I always made sure that I sat right next to Frank in the studio. You could just learn vocal tricks and stylization tricks, and of course you would listen to his impressions and that would inform your own. He was a great teacher.”

When the casting director for “Futurama” was looking for someone to voice Nibbler, an adorably ravenous, three-eyed alien, MacNeille piped up: “Oh, that’s Frank’s job.”

“That’s kind of an expression that we use,”

she said, “when there’s something that’s thrown at us and we can’t do it — a sound effect or a certain impression or something really special — we say, ‘Oh, that’s Frank’s job!’”

Maybe that’s because “nobody else wanted to do it,” Welker said, laughing. “A lot of it was pretty painful, and I had like a military-grade voice, you know — a leather throat.”

Welker grew up in Denver, the son of an electromechanical engineer and a secretary who were both “salt-of-the-earth, hard-working” people, he said. “My dad was pretty much a genius, so I don’t know what happened to me. I think I was dropped on the floor early.”

He leveraged his uncanny gift for vocal imitation — including of celebrities, but mostly critters — to impress family and school friends, and eventually an audience.

Initially, Welker divided his pursuits between onstage comedy and on-camera roles — he shared the screen with Elvis Presley in “The Trouble with Girls” and starred with Richard Dreyfuss in an unsold pilot based on “Catch-22.” He gave up the notion of being a serious actor quickly, though, after his audition for a TV Western — a death scene — drew giggling laughter.

In comedy clubs, he was billed as an “im-

pressionist” and even a “verbal clown,” his act involving a menagerie of dogs, cats and geese, climaxing with an entire chorus of ducks singing “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

“I had like 20 minutes of questionable comedy — not in the dirty sense,” he said, “but just in whether it was funny or not.”

At the Los Angeles club Ledbetter’s, Welker performed on opposite nights from a young Steve Martin. He toured around the country with singer Glen Campbell as the opening act for the Righteous Brothers — and actually performed at the Cocoanut Grove, the famous L.A. nightclub inside the Ambassador Hotel, on the night Sen. Robert Kennedy was assassinated in the hotel’s kitchen.

He was already at home in bed when it happened but said he’ll never forget that day “because I actually had to go right through part of the kitchen to get to the Cocoanut Grove.” His set included an impression of the Kennedys.

It seems Welker was destined for a unique life of fame adjacency — unseen but ubiquitous. Part of his voice-over career has been dubbing lines for famous actors. His first big gig was providing Rex Harrison’s animal communication in the original “Doctor Dolittle.” He screamed the screams for a rapidly aging Spock (Leonard Nimoy) in “Star Trek III: The Search for Spock” and subbed in for George C. Scott singing “Home on the Range” in “The Rescuers Down Under.”

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## WEEKEND: MOVIES



## Zoinks!

Reboot of classic cartoon, 'Scoob!' is no tasty treat

By JAKE COYLE  
Associated Press

Even before darker anxieties took hold, the bad guys of "Scooby-Doo" were charmingly quaint. An evil circus owner, a grumpy civil servant, a plotting first mate — these were the villains of "Scooby-Doo," all of them revealed with an unmasking flourish and the cursing of "you meddling kids!"

But for anyone looking for the nostalgic and corny delights of the old '70s cartoon in the new animated reboot "Scoob!" — well, and I'm sorry to resort to this, ruh roh. "Scoob!" is the kind of movie less predicated on original formulas than the contemporary dictates of corporate franchise-making. Scooby-Doo has been amplified and digitized. Superheroes and current pop-culture references have been ushered in, most of them from other properties of the same studio (including even "Shallow" from "A Star Is Born"). In a "cinematic universe" has been born. It's enough to make a critic sigh "zoinks."

"Scoob!" had been headed for theaters this spring but instead has been released for rental on digital platforms and on-demand. Following Universal's "Trolls World Tour," it's the second major studio movie diverted into the home by the pandemic — this time via Warner Bros.

The smaller screen may be the more natural home of Scooby-Doo even though "Scoob!" aspires to be so much like other big-screen franchises. This latest film, following a pair of live-action movies in the aughts, has replaced the usual small-time mysteries of "Scooby-Doo" with the familiar world-jeopardizing dangers of comic-book movies. Even Scooby gets outfitted in spandex.

It's a less discussed and tiresome effect of Marvel movies that so many kids films have adopted their rhythms and plot lines. The superhero takeover extends into so many realms of pop culture that wacky surrender, joining in lockstep.

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In the hall of fame of famous animals, he's played Smokey Bear, Garfield, Kermit the Frog and Woody's horse, Bullyseye, in the "Toy Story" movies. Besides Abu, he also voiced the capuchin monkey who croaks from a "bad date" in "Raiders of the Lost Ark" — oh, and he's Curious George.

Welker is an animator's muse, Musker said, not just because

he's a "man of a thousand voices" or such a talented zoological mimic.

"There's a scene where Abu really mooks Aladdin because he's sweet on Jasmine," the director said. "He does a little sashay, where he's like 'Ooh yeah, pretty girl, huh?' Frank came up with a way of doing that where he totally got the attitude, even though there wasn't a word of dialogue."

And it all started in 1969, when Welker's barnyard of voices landed him a dog food commercial, which got him into an audition for a new Hanna-Barbera show about a food-crazed dog named Scooby-Doo. Welker was eventually cast — but as the teenage straight man Fred Jones.

Starting out with the voice actor Don Messick as Scooby and Casey Kasem as Shaggy, Welker has been a key member of Mys-



WARNER BROS. PICTURES/AP photos

In the animated feature "Scoob!," the dog Scooby-Doo and his human detective pals Shaggy, Fred, Velma and Daphne investigate a plot to unleash a ghost dog on the world.

Incorporating characters like Blue Falcon, Dick Dastardly, Captain Caveman and Dynamutt, "Scoob!" has also tried to grow an interconnected Hanna-Barbera universe, a gambit that only adds to the feeling of force-fed corporate synergy.

Director Tony Cervone, a longtime Hanna-Barbera and Warner Bros. Animation veteran, opens "Scoob!" with an origin story, flashing back to when Scooby (voiced again by Frank Welker) met Shaggy (Will Forte, taking over for Casey Kasem).

Hundreds of cases later, the movie catches up with the Mystery, Inc. gang, including Fred (Zac Efron), Daphne (Amanda Seyfried) and Velma (Gina Rodriguez). Setting things in motion is, of all people, Simon Cowell (voicing himself and appearing in weirdly accurate animated form), who professes that friendship has no value. "Scoob!" will test the bond between Shaggy and Scooby.

Things immediately go haywire. A spaceship arrives and abducts Shaggy and Scooby. Aboard is the son of Blue Falcon (Mark Wahlberg) and his robotic canine Dynamutt (Ken Jeong), who need Scooby to help stop a scheme launched by Dick Dastardly (Jason Isaacs) involving ancient, mythic dogs.

If Greek antiquity isn't where you'd expect a Scooby Doo movie to go, you'll probably also be thrown by straining-to-be-hip gags about the Hemsworth brothers and stealing Netflix passwords. Right down to that exclamation point in the title, "Scoob!" is trying much too hard to be just like every other movie. "Scooby Doo" was never the swappiest unpredictable of shows, but "Scoob!" has merely swapped the original's blueprint for that of a superhero movie.

"Scoob!" is available on VOD. It is rated PG for action, language and suggestive humor. Running time: 94 minutes.



VERTICAL ENTERTAINMENT/AP

Tom Hardy goes gangster for the biographical drama "Capone."

## In 'Capone,' Tom Hardy portrays titular gangster in his last days

By KATIE WALSH  
Tribune News Service

Here is the tale of Al Capone, a legend told on film time and again for nearly a century, and now, once more, in all its gruesomeness, in "Capone," starring Tom Hardy. But the more interesting tale is the story of writer/director Josh Trank, the wunderkind filmmaker who burst onto the scene in 2012 with his found footage teen sci-fi movie "Chronicle," which became a surprise hit.

Before the age of 30, Trank was handed the keys to the newest iteration of Marvel's "Fantastic Four," and was even promised a Star Wars spinoff. But then "Fantastic Four" went down in a blaze of reshoots, rumors and rotten reviews, Trank quit Star Wars before he could get fired and the young director found himself in director jail.

The only reason for this contextual windup before getting to the assessment of his new film is to try and understand Trank's mindset when he conceived of and wrote this movie. Isolated, rocked by the Hollywood roller coaster and a thorough wringing by the media, he took to a childhood obsession with the famed Chicago gangster, and damped

oldid gods got the film made, with a movie star to boot. And so here is "Capone," which is sort of a giant middle finger directed toward the establishment and the powers that be, wrapped up in a depiction of the last days of the gangster's life, spent in a haze of syphilitic dementia at an estate in Florida.

It's not enough to say that the English actor Tom Hardy "por-

trays" Capone; you don't hire Hardy if you don't want an actor who will commit to the physical realities of the role with an almost terrifying commitment. Hardy doesn't "play" Capone, he sweats, grunts and vomits Capone, while caked in old-age makeup, bloodshot eyes darting, mumbling menacingly in Italian. Hardy, never one to pass up the opportunity to experiment with a crazy New York accent, takes his work to new heights, or rather lows, with the gravelly Brooklynese he trots out for the role.

At the age of 47 (looking 87), Capone, or "Fonzo" as his family calls him, is gripped by his violent past as his body deteriorates in the Florida sun. As he regresses physically, equipped with diapers and a carrot cigar by an infanzilling doctor (Kyle MacLachlan), his family tends to his care, while gangsters (Matt Dillon) and FBI agents (Jack Lowden) come sniffing around about the rumors that Capone has a fortune buried somewhere. They're convinced that his ramblings will reveal a clue or two, but the only information Capone has for them is the aforementioned flatulence, part of a graphic scatological motif that Trank weaves throughout.

Watching this frequently grotesque and narratively meandering movie is a somewhat nightmarish experience, and thereby it successfully evokes Capone's tortured existence. It regus us within his surreal, blood-soaked flashback as he decays slowly and then all at once, in an operatic display of body horror.

"Capone" is available on VOD. It is rated R for strong/bloody violence, pervasive language and some sexuality. Running time: 103 minutes.

feel as though I could do a tribute to Don — and the fans. We were all part of this same family, the Scooby family." ("Scoob" pays homage itself by setting some of the film's action on "Messick Mountain.")

So is it a blessing, after decades of work and hundreds of parts, to have an inescapable voice and yet an inconspicuous face?

"My ego says no," he wrote, "but my reality says yes."

tery, Inc. for more than 50 years. After Messick died in 1997, Welker eventually took over the iconic role of the talking, charming, often petrified canine who puts R's in front of every word.

Even though the cast of "Scooby-Doo" all had fun doing impressions of one another, Welker was initially uncomfortable with stepping into his friend's shoes. But he took up the mantle in 2002, thinking "maybe that could

## WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES

# Old-school, but not obsolete

## Streets of Rage 4 is ode to '90s simplicity, communal spirit

BY CHRISTOPHER BYRD

Special to The Washington Post

**S**treets of Rage 4 is the video game equivalent of comfort food. The fourth entry in this series of beat 'em up games continues the brawling tradition of its predecessors, which reached the zenith of its popularity following the release of Streets of Rage 2 in 1992.

I have fond memories of playing the initial sequel as a young teen, then, years later, when it was rereleased for the Xbox 360. So, my personal history places me squarely in the target demographic for Streets of Rage 4. This nostalgic ode to a time when video games were less sophisticated banks its appeal on slick street art/arcade-style graphics and a catchy soundtrack.

In my experience, beat 'em up games — which amount to little more than walking around and throttling everyone that comes your way — are best enjoyed with other people. Repetitive actions and cartoonish violence lend themselves to wry commentary; off-color remarks help fill the vacuum left by the games' throwaway stories. With that in mind, I drafted my cousin, a gifted trash talker, to enliven my romp through Streets of Rage 4's dozen stages.

Though its plot details really are superficial, Streets of Rage 4 follows a handful of vigilantes as they try to dismantle a criminal syndicate led by the X twins



— the children of the previous game's arch villain, Mr. X. The nefarious brother and sister have hatched a plan to brainwash the citizens of Wood Oak City (whose subways and buildings are basically a stand-in for New York City) with mind-altering music, which they plan to broadcast at a concert.

Over the course of their first run through the game, players have access to the older characters from the series — Blaze Fielding, Axel Stone and Adam Hunter — as well as two new characters — Cherry Hunter and Floyd Iraa.

Each has a slightly different feel. Blaze and Cherry are faster than the others, while Adam and Floyd are stronger and have greater reach; Axel offers more of a middle ground between speed and power. For our first run through the story mode, my cousin and I relied mostly on Blaze, Adam and Floyd.

Given that the most recent Streets of Rage game came out in 1993, the latest game's visuals make quite the impression. Veteran players will recognize



Dotemu

**Though Streets of Rage 4's updated visuals, two new characters and new plot set it apart from its 1993 predecessor, the sequel retains the made-for-commentary repetitive actions and cartoonish violence, typical of games in the "beat 'em up" genre, that are best enjoyed with a friend.**

familiar enemies such as the fire-spouting, suspender-wearing Big Ben or those 1970s-style police, the Signals.

The gulf between their pixelated representations from back in the day and their contemporary versions is every bit what you'd expect. Streets of Rage 4 looks like an animated comic book, an attribute accentuated by the game's unvoiced cutscenes.

The first of many little visual flourishes that caught our attention was Dylan, a new enemy who fights bare-chested with his hands in his pockets like the world's most obnoxious bro. Then there were the police officers in the police station that liked to whale on the prisoners, and the girls with names like Margaret and Victoria, who sport fringe haircuts, that attack you in an art

gallery. In other words, plenty of silly bits ripe for commentary.

At a certain point, my cousin mentioned liking Streets of Rage 4 for its animation and because it offered us an opportunity to do something together. By those humble metrics, this throwback is a success.

Platforms: Nintendo Switch, PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One  
 Online: streets4rage.com

# SOR4 soundtrack balances modernity, nostalgia

BY GENE PARK

The Washington Post

**T**he Streets of Rage series, one of the quintessential '90s video games, needed an update. Its music never really did.

That's because the games, and its legendary composer Yujo Koshiro, are still cited as huge influences on beatmakers of today, including electronic dance pioneers like BT, the chiptune movement and Jay-Z producer Just Blaze, who named himself after the female lead of the series. Just listen to the first-level track of Streets of Rage 2. Video games in the 1990s focused mostly on melody (like Mario's jazz jingles) and metal (Mega Man's speed riffs). Koshiro (and later Motohiro Kawashima) wrote menacing, minor key beats to drive the pixelated urban violence. The 2020 update in Streets of Rage 4 is cleaner, and just as primed for dancing (and fighting) all night.

"My role for Bare Knuckle 4 [the Japanese title for Streets of Rage 4] is to convey the 'bare knuckleness' feeling to the players," Koshiro wrote to The Washington Post in an email interview. "SOR1 is particularly influenced by the dance music of the late '80s, so I thought it was important to re-create that. And since I used music equipment from that era, it

took a lot of time."

The Streets series was Sega's answer to Capcom's popular arcade brawler Final Fight. In the '90s, the popular series was exclusive to the Super Nintendo. It would eventually become the game that make any Nintendo fan envious: The Super Nintendo had it all — but not Streets of Rage, and certainly not its chiptune dance soundtrack.

Koshiro's music was everywhere in the 16-bit era. His greatest achievement was harnessing the limited power of the Sega Genesis Yamaha FM-synthesis sound chip. He fused melodic chiptune ambiance with a mixture of disco and house. Many of these tracks would sound reminiscent of beats echoing from Detroit, France, Manchester or Melbourne acid house.

It's this legacy that was a "constant pressure" for Olivier Deriviere, now the main composer for the latest game. Koshiro contributed five tracks, while Kawashima and five others filled out the rest. The hardest part, Deriviere said, was choosing which direction to go, especially since Koshiro paved the way for new sounds in the 16-bit era.

"We knew what the nostalgia fans would want, but we had to move forward as well and offer a broader choice of genres than just the '90s club music," Deriviere tells The Post. "So I went through all the fol-

lowing years and picked up the one that felt right for every stage of the game. I ended up borrowing from Dr. Dre, the Wu-Tang clan and Skrillex among many others, and since I happen to love electronic music, I added quite a few underground references too, like Aphex Twin."

Koshiro says he doesn't think he was doing anything that new, especially since dance music was already popular in the West. But even today, techno and house music still lives primarily in underground scenes in Japan, despite its more mainstream success in the U.S., Europe and Australia. Koshiro said the challenge today is that listeners are more knowledgeable about music today than before, thanks to streaming services, and that comes with even greater expectations. "Nowadays, you can listen to everything you want on YouTube and Spotify," Koshiro said. "Everyone can listen to what they like. That's why it's important to feel self-confident and keep doing your best to make timeless music."

Deriviere said he structured the soundtrack for the 12 stages like a DJ set. The music would start familiar — it begins with a cover of the iconic Streets of Rage 2 beat — then break into more modern sounds, including the dubstep track that highlights a late-stage boss fight. "I sort of followed the regular pacing

with some low beats at the start, hip-hop, R&B and gradually turning it into something more edgy with a faster tempo," he said. "Now that the game is out, I couldn't be happier to see how players are enjoying this form of progression."

It was tough to balance the modernity of dance music and the nostalgia Streets of Rage fans would crave, Deriviere said. "The journey through all the different music genres could have felt like a patchwork, so I had to find a cohesive sound to unite them all," he said. "I thought the best way for doing it was to twist it all into one final blend that would eventually become the sound of Streets of Rage 4. It seems like it worked out."

Deriviere, who has worked on several other games in different genres, said that he's a big believer in pushing interactivity in video game scores, with music shifting to respond the player's actions. Outside of boss themes, however, that ambition had to be scaled back to maintain that old-school brawler feel.

"Every arena gets its proper musical moment, and even some secret levels in 16-bit turn the music into a chiptune seamless," he said. "Of course, SOR4 is about dance and grooves, and reading Twitter and witnessing people like CoryxKenshin dance on my tracks was a real satisfaction ... and relief."

## WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

## Europe



PHOTOS BY JACKIE BROOME for Stars and Stripes

The Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol, England, spans Avon Gorge. The bridge was opened in 1864.

# Suspended in time and memory

## A rewarding day trip to Bristol starts at the bridge

By GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

The last significant trip my family and I took before the coronavirus was a Christmastime weekend jaunt to Bristol, England, with five of our closest friends.

When I consider how casually our large group gathered and traveled, how we freely stepped in and out of taxis, buses and trains, how we squeezed into crowded pubs and cafes, how we actually sought out the company of hundreds of other human beings, I get a little wistful.

I try to appreciate Bristol outside of that pre-pandemic context, because it really is a great place to consider visiting when such a trip becomes viable.

Bristol's signature landmark is the Clifton Suspension Bridge, a remarkable structure soaring across the Avon Gorge to the west of the city.

The bridge opened in 1864 after many decades of

delays and redesigns and has since grown into an icon of southern Britain. In 1979, the bridge was the site of what's considered the first modern bungee jump. In 2012, the Olympic torch changed hands there.

The bridge cuts a stunning figure upon approach. Its two towers are not quite identical in design and occupy opposite and distinct sides of the gorge; one perched majestically on craggy rock at the edge of Bristol's urban core and the other sprouting from a thick forest known as Leigh Woods.

Visitors can view the bridge from all angles. A hike up to the Clifton Observatory offers a stunning aerial view of the structure, while a steep footpath leading to the River Avon provides a vantage point from below. A straight-on view of the bridge is available from the appropriately named Lookout Lactern. There's a free visitor's center on the Leigh Woods side of the bridge to delve further into the construction and history of the bridge.

A step out onto the bridge itself is a memorable experience. Sways and vibrations are an intentional design feature but are either exhilarating or terrifying depending on one's predilections. The sleek bridge feels slight and substantial all at once as it offers unencumbered views of the river far below.

Beyond the bridge, Bristol offers a lot of the amenities you'd expect from a reasonably sized British city. Our group spent a lot of time at Cabot Circus, an attractive shopping center packed with restaurants like Nando's, Five Guys and a bunch of others we ignored in favor of Nando's and Five Guys.

Elsewhere in the city you'll find castles, parks, museums, a zoo, an aquarium and walls covered with vibrant street art, all in range of the soothing countryside.

In the absence of traveling in the months since, the visit to Bristol and the Clifton Suspension Bridge has remained fresh in my memory long after many other such trips have faded into the hazy past. But the destination deserves to be admired for its own merits, of which it has plenty.

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Bristol, England, has a lot to offer visitors beyond the landmark Clifton Suspension Bridge. The city has a fantastic shopping district along with parks, castles, cathedrals and museums.



The Clifton Suspension Bridge is the landmark of Bristol, a scenic city in the southwest of England.

## KNOW & GO

Thorough details about visiting Bristol, including up-to-date information on coronavirus-related delays and closures, are available online at [visitbristol.co.uk](http://visitbristol.co.uk).

The Clifton Suspension Bridge visitor center is closed because of coronavirus restrictions, but remains open to traffic. For the latest details, go to [cliftonbridge.org.uk](http://cliftonbridge.org.uk).

— Gregory Broome



Temple Meads station in Bristol, England, offers train, bus and taxi transportation around the city and the larger region. Cardiff, Wales, is about an hour's train ride to the west, while London is just two hours to the east.



The cityscape of Bristol, England, is enlivened by street art and murals on the sides of many buildings.

WEEKEND: TRAVEL

Europe

# New market for in-flight snacks, movie popcorn

By LAURA REILEY  
The Washington Post

The coronavirus pandemic has made us pine for travel — the booking, the downloading of the boarding pass, even the in-flight snacks. We even miss the snacks.

Imperfect Foods, an online surplus-stock grocery delivery company aimed at eliminating food waste, can help with that. Last week it was offering JetBlue Airline cheese snack trays for \$2.99 for three ounces of mixed cheeses, dried cherries and crackers.

Its imperfection: It is excess inventory. But let's be honest, it was never exactly memorable cheese or noteworthy crackers. It was there, like the trio of Sudoku games in the in-flight magazine, like the flight attendant's seat belt demo: a diversion and a bit of nurturance while flying at 30,000 feet.

Imperfect Foods Chief Executive Philip Behn says the cheese and snack trays were an early casualty of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Two months ago, before it became a nationwide pandemic, this catering and airline meal supplier said they saw a decline in economy and business-class seats," he says. "This was one of our first COVID-19 food waste recovery opportunities. We could only take a fraction of what they had."

Behn says they've sold 40,000 cheese and snack trays. He says there are hundreds of clients eager to find buyers for millions of pounds of food originally slated for restaurant, hotel or travel and

leisure businesses. But frequently these foods are not desirable or packaged for retail consumers.

"We call that 'breaking bulk,'" Behn says. "We have stepped up with co-packers to try to repackage some of those products — it's hard work and it's slow given the importance of food safety."

Yet there are bright spots. Imperfect Foods is a budget-conscious company, so high-end products like pineapples are usually too expensive to offer their customers. Where do people eat pineapples? Hotels. And with hotels stalled, Imperfect Foods has been able to buy and offer them for a fair price. They have redistributed popcorn kernels previously destined for movie theaters and broccoli florets usually reserved for restaurants. Since the beginning of March, Imperfect Foods has doubled the volume of food it was previously buying, the JetBlue snacks among many.

Julianna Bryan, communications specialist for JetBlue, says the airline has had to dramatically reduce its in-flight food and beverage service to minimize contact between customers and crew members.

"We have temporarily suspended the sales of buy-on-board products including our EatUp Snack Boxes, EatUp Cafe, fresh food items, beer, wine and liquor," she says.

JetBlue has donated leftover inventory of snacks to Feeding America and other food banks, as well as hospitals. Bryan says that JetBlue has worked with its business partners to sell unused inventory, such as the cheese trays, at a heavily



SALWAN GEORGES/The Washington Post

**Delta's Biscoff Cookies are an example of an in-flight snack that currently has few takers. Charities and surplus-food companies are buying foods meant for airlines, hotels and movie theaters and redistributing them to retail customers and charities.**

discounted price with the goal of moving it quickly and minimizing waste.

JetBlue is not the only airline to have to find new outlets for its in-flight overflow. Delta has had to unload its Biscoff cookies — and it serves 80 million to 85 million of these spiced shortbread favorites each year. At United, the Dutch stroopwafels have been piling up.

In addition to selling some of their excess, airlines have put donation programs in place.

Southwest has donated more than \$400,000 in snacks and other in-flight items to nonprofit organizations and near-

ly 13 tractor-trailers full of groceries to 15 food banks that are a part of the Feeding America network. Delta has donated 500,000 pounds of food around the world in the past six weeks. Front-line workers and hospitals get the Biscoff cookies along with coffee and other in-flight beverages, while other perishable food has gone to Feeding America's partner agencies like Georgia Food & Resource Center and Missouri's Carthage Crisis Center.

And United has donated 173,000 pounds of food to food banks and charities, pulling from airport lounges and catering kitchens.

## Illness-inspired culture, art abounds

The Bavarian town of Oberammergau was gearing up for a big event in 2020. Every 10 years, the pretty town encircled by Alpine peaks sees hundreds of thousands of spectators from around the world flock to its renowned Passion Play. The staging of this drama depicting Jesus Christ's entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, crucifixion and resurrection represents the fulfillment of a promise to God made by Oberammergau's villagers back in 1632. As plague ravaged the population, the leaders of the community came together and pledged to hold a tragedy depicting the Passion of Christ once every 10 years. According to Pastor Daisenberger, keeper of the town's chronicles, "From this day forward, not a single person perished, even though a great number of them still showed signs of the plague."

The play was to have been performed 102 times between May and October until COVID-19 put a stop to this year's run. Performances have now been pushed back to 2022.

Passion plays are but one of the legacies of prior pandemics. Europe's physical and cultural landscape is awash with reminders of epidemics that laid waste to populations in centuries past and the ever-lurking presence of infectious disease.

The Festa del Redentore, or Feast of the Redeemer, is held on the third Sunday of each year in Venice, Italy. What's one of the city's most beloved holidays began as a feast day to give thanks for the end of the plague that wiped out more than a quarter of the city's population between 1575 and 1576. On this day, Venetians and tourists alike gather in and around St. Mark's Basin, enjoying the day with picnics on or by the water and crowned by a spectacular show of fireworks.

The majestic St. Redemptor's Church, built on the island of Giudecca in the Venice lagoon and consecrated in 1592, was built as an expression of thanks to God for having lifted the plague. The Pantheon of Rome provided architect Andrea Palladio with his inspiration for the facade of the soaring structure. As part of the festivities connected with the Festa del Redentore, a temporary pontoon bridge provides pilgrims with access to the church from the Zattere promenade in the south of the city.

The Santa Maria della Salute is another example of a

Venetian church built to commemorate the end of an epidemic. In October of 1630, after nearly a third of Venice's citizens had succumbed to plague, the Venetian Senate made a bargain with God: "Stop the plague, and we shall build a church to honor the Virgin Mary." Authorities made good on their promise with this construction at the site where the Grand Canal merges with St. Mark's

Basin. This supreme example of Venetian Baroque can also be reached by pontoon bridge on a special feast day, the Festa della Salute, held each Nov. 21.

Also in Venice, the island of Lazzaretto Nuovo is the site of the first quarantine stations. By order of a decree of the Senate of Serenissima issued in 1468, a lazaret was established to protect the city's population from contagion. The island became a place where ships arriving from Mediterranean ports suspected to be plague-infested would be quarantined for 40 days. (The word quarantine stems from the Italian quaranta giorni, or 40 days.) The island, used by the Italian army up until 1975, has been revitalized and now makes up part of the city's network of museums. Guided visits to the island are offered at 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays from April to October. Online: [lazzarettonovo.com](http://lazzarettonovo.com)

Another way to celebrate deliverance from the plague was with the erection of a plague column. The most famous example of such is likely the "Pestsäule" of Vienna, erected to mark the end of the great plague in 1679. This sumptuous Baroque wonder features images of the Holy Trinity, angels, references to the Hapsburg dynasty and dramatic scenes of the suffering endured by residents.

The Unterlinden Museum in Colmar, France, is regarded as one of top museums of the Alsace region. One of the treasures of this museum's art collection spanning the Middle Ages to the twentieth century is the Isenheim Altarpiece. This masterpiece sculpted and painted by Nikolaus Hagenauer and Matthias Gruenewald respectively from 1512-1516 was created for the nearby Monastery of St. Anthony, where the sick and diseased



Karen Bradbury



istock

**The Santa Maria della Salute in Venice was built to commemorate the end of a 17th-century plague.**

were tended by monks. The brothers would looked after those suffering from the plague, as well as hideous skin conditions including gangrene. The altar's unflinchingly brutal image of a crucified Christ is scarred and pitted with plague-type sores, illustrating the idea that Jesus understood and shared the patients' afflictions. Online: [musee-unterlinden.com](http://musee-unterlinden.com)

The German History Museum in Berlin features an unusual object that's gained much attention of late: a Middle Ages plague doctor's costume. To shield themselves from contagious diseases, doctors would don protective hoods consisting of a velvet mask, glass lenses and a beak-like metallic protrusion. The wearer would breathe through two small holes in the "beak," containing fragrant herbs or vinegar-soaked sponges in the belief that this would filter the air and repel disease. The mask was worn with a cloak-like leather costume designed to shield the entire body. Today the mask makes up part of the museum's permanent collection. A similar mask is on display at the German Medical History Museum in Ingolstadt, Germany. Online: [tinyurl.com/y8n9fhcc](http://tinyurl.com/y8n9fhcc)



## WEEKEND: FOOD &amp; DINING

## Europe



PHOTOS BY NORMAN LLAMAS/Stars and Stripes

The Bronte pizza from DoDo - Verace Pizza Napoletana in Sacile, Italy, is topped with a pistachio sauce, fresh mozzarella cheese, mortadella ham, grated pistachio and extra virgin olive oil.

DODO - VERACE PIZZA  
NAPOLETANA

Address: Via Campo Marzio 6/S, 33077, Sacile, PN, Italy

Hours: The Italian government recently authorized restaurants and bars to reopen for dine-in business starting this week. Call DoDo to see if they're offering in-house dining again and to book a table, if you want to eat in. The restaurant has been offering home delivery and takeout from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., seven days a week, during the coronavirus lockdown.

Prices: About 10 to 25 euros (\$11 to \$27) for most meals. Menu is in Italian and English.

Phone: +39 (0)434 160 1294

Online: facebook.com/dodoveracepizzanapoletana

— Norman Llamas



A fried calzone filled with broccoli rabe, sausage and mozzarella cheese, from DoDo's in Sacile, Italy, served in the pizzeria in pre-coronavirus lockdown days.

## Great pizza good to find

DoDo in Aviano offers  
Neapolitan-style pizza  
for pickup or delivery

By NORMAN LLAMAS  
Stars and Stripes

**F**inding good pizza is easy when you live in Italy. Finding great pizza is slightly harder.

But I think I may have done it.

In the town of Sacile, about nine miles southwest of Aviano Air Base, is DoDo, where the pizzas are made Neapolitan-style, following a tradition that dates back centuries.

For those unversed in the delights of pizza, Neapolitan and Roman are among the most celebrated.

Neapolitan pizza is characterized by its thick, soft crust and plump, hydrated dough. It's cooked in a brick oven at a very high temperature, which allows the dough to remain moist and thick.

Roman pizzas, on the other hand, are a thinner, crunchier crust than Neapolitan pies. Because they're cooked at a lower temperature, they can use more toppings than Neapolitan pies, without running the risk of the ingredients burning to a crisp.

DoDo opened in May last year and, in pre-coronavirus times, seated about 90 diners. It was picked for in-restaurant dining in mid-May, but open for pickup or home delivery service.

Orders are called in, and, if you want home delivery, you choose the time. Knowledge of Italian helps because the owner speaks very little English, although he does try very hard to understand what you're trying to order and the language barrier has never posed a problem for me.

DoDo delivers within the town of Sacile, but like many Italian restaurants may deliver to nearby towns. Your pizza could arrive within half an hour of placing your order.



The wood-burning pizza oven at DoDo - Verace Pizza Napoletana in Sacile, Italy, where DoDo cooks its Neapolitan-style pizzas.

In addition to pizza, DoDo offers a small list of appetizers, including a fried vegetable mix, focaccia, French fries and fried pizza dough strips with arugula and cherry tomatoes.

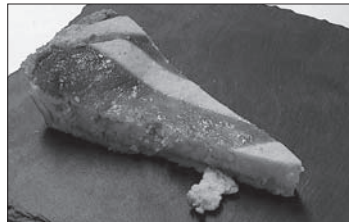
For the main course, there are also panuozzi or calzones if you don't want pizza or just want to try something else.

Panuozzi are Neapolitan sandwiches made with pizza-dough flatbread and ingredients like mozzarella cheese, sausage, tomatoes and spinach. Two slices are baked open-face until crunchy and then placed one on top of the other and eaten like a sandwich.

Calzones, meanwhile, are made by putting the ingredients of your choice on pizza dough, which is then folded over into a crescent shape. DoDo's calzones are either baked in a wood-burning oven or deep fried.



The limited dessert menu at DoDo - Verace Pizza Napoletana includes chocolate tartufo, above, and almond tart, below.



DoDo offers 27 different pizzas, but the highlight of the menu has to be the restaurant's namesake pie, the pizza DoDo. This masterpiece consists of stretched, fried pizza dough, smothered in tomato, buffalo mozzarella cheese, basil, parmesan cheese and extra virgin olive oil. It's an explosion of flavor.

The drink menu is typical of most restaurants in Italy, featuring such staples as red or white wine by the bottle or glass, draft and bottled beer, juice and coffee. There's also a limited dessert menu.

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## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

## A city of contradictions

Tel Aviv a spicy mix of chaos, sophistication, culture and laid-back laziness

By BRIAN SCHAEFER

Bloomberg

On the Jewish holiday of Purim — a spirited mix of Halloween and Mardi Gras — costumed revelers are encouraged to drink until the world is turned upside down. I was in Tel Aviv during Purim this year, in March, watching pirates, princesses and many a Joker stumble down the wide, tree-lined Rothschild Boulevard. The bars were lively, if not quite as bloated as they should be on a holiday. Apprehension was in the air, some of my friends were already in quarantine, and there was a shared sense that this might be the last hoorah for a while, so better go for broke.

The next day, the world indeed turned upside down. As Israel and the United States competed to see which could shut down quicker, I grabbed one of the last flights to New York, fleeing my favorite city. As Israel, which has witnessed more than 16,000 cases of novel coronavirus, begins to gradually reopen its doors, I daydream about my return.

Tel Aviv has always inspired me with its contradictions: Lazy beach vibes mix with cosmopolitan ambition — part Paris in its pervasive cafe culture, part New York in its robust cultural scene, part San Diego in its sexy chilliness — yet undeniably a product of the Middle East. There are chaotic open-air markets with piles of spices and dunes of dried fruit, calls to prayer echoing from Jaffa, and daily headlines to remind you that, despite such nonchalant swagger, Tel Aviv sits in the eye of an ever-swirling political storm. That potent cocktail of influences, moods and flavors kept me constantly intoxicated during my three years there, initially on a yearlong fellowship, then as a graduate student and journalist. The city challenged me with its impetuosity and seduced me with its playfulness. I moved to New York seven years ago, but I've gone back to Tel Aviv every year to fill up on its charms and ingredients.

My first order of business, as always, would be to take in a performance of the BatSheva Dance Company, the country's premier modern dance troupe. BatSheva's home base is the Suzanne Dellal Center, a sprawling performing-arts campus of white limestone plazas and palm trees in the swanky Neve Tzedek neighborhood, mere blocks from the Mediterranean Sea. To get there, I'd stroll down narrow, wiggly Shabazi Street, pausing along the way to peek into the various clothing and homeware boutiques — and score a scoop of gelato at Anita's.

I'd love a second chance to see



iStock

Tourists and locals shop the Carmel Market (the Shuk Hacarmel) in Tel Aviv last June. The Carmel Market is the largest street market, or shuk, in Tel Aviv. Tel Aviv's open-air markets are vibrant places that sell everything from fruit and vegetables to clothes and electronics.

BatSheva's latest work by choreographer Ohad Naharin, which I caught days before all shows were canceled. It was a typically audacious blend of athleticism and sensuality, shaken up with a virtuosic sequence performed in spiky stiletto boots and peppered with old Hebrew songs that imbued it with a poignant melancholy. One viewing wasn't enough, so after seeing this or any other BatSheva show, my theater companion and I would retreat to the nearby Dallal Restaurant, request the garden patio, and process the experience over eggplant manasbaha (a warm, creamy variation on hummus) and zesty cocktails.

After getting my contemporary dance fix, food would drive much of my Tel Aviv itinerary. New Yorkers can now sample (or hopefully, soon resume) the doughy pita and succulent slow-cooked beef at celebrity chef Eyal Shani's Miznon in Chelsea Market and North Miznon on the Upper West Side, but nothing beats the vibe of his Tel Aviv joints: Román's boisterous balcony, hidden behind graffiti-filled walls on Jaffa Road; Port Said's long, wobbly open-air

picnic tables that face the Great Synagogue on grungy Allenby Street; or the intimate bar at North Abrahams, where throbbing Arabic beats pair well with the complimentary shot of arak that your criminally attractive server has just slapped in front of you.

To me, these menus represent the taste of Tel Aviv: fresh and veggie-forward, yet still rich and meaty, doused in tahini, smothered in herbs, casually tossed on a paper-clad table for easy communal access, and consumed by hand. All of which, of course, may be verboten in a post-COVID-19 world, but that's my dream — a return to dining as a mess, shared, shoulder-to-shoulder ritual, which has become a defining characteristic of the Tel Aviv food scene. Other personal favorites that adhere to this principle include Joz ve Loz (where there's no menu, and you determine the price tag) and Dalida, which are both located in Florentin, the filthy, fabulous hipster neighborhood I used to call home.

During the day, I'd walk it all off and live my flâneur fantasy, starting at the bottom of Rothschild and heading up to the

sunken garden at Habimah, the national theater, for a chocolate rugelach at the cheeky Ye Like You, Too coffee hut nearby. Then I'd pass through the newly renovated Dizengoff Square (skipping the spiraling mall) and pause at the Bauhaus Center to check out the clever designs. If it's time for brunch, I'd get shakshuka at La Shuk, one of many shakshuka stops in my Tel Aviv daydream.

At Ben Gurion Boulevard, another pedestrian thoroughfare, I'd grab a tahini date smoothie at the Tamara Juice stand and head toward the marina, an active stretch of the Tel Aviv shoreline, for a dip in the cool salty water of the Gordon Pool, a refurbished relic from the 1950s. Then I'd follow the promenade south to the Jaffa Port and bustling Flea Market, with visits to the Zielinski & Rozen perfumery to restock soaps and to Puhah for a rowdy, hearty, vegetarian meal.

When I visit Tel Aviv, I usually stay with friends or in an Airbnb, but because this is a daydream, I'm definitely returning to the garden suite that opens onto a small citrus grove at the Norman, a 1920s modernist oasis where my partner and I splurged

for part of our honeymoon. My other favorite accommodations in Israel would take me beyond Tel Aviv: For a dramatic desert vista, I'd go south to Bereshet near Mitzpe Ramon, a collection of chic dwellings with private pools overlooking a vast crater. For a lush escape to the forested north, I'd go to Amirim, a cozy vegetarian village of zimmers (Israeli-style cabins) in the Galilee and indulge in baskets of freshly baked goods and seasonal fruits from the hot tub on my enclosed stone porch.

Heading back to Tel Aviv, I'd stop off at the ancient port of Acre and spend a few nights at Arabesque, the guesthouse and cultural center founded by Eran Fallenberg, one of my grad school professors. He and I were supposed to meet on my recent trip, until I had to rush home. It was one of many canceled dates I had been looking forward to, one of several reunions put on pause. That's the real daydream: not the tastes and experiences alone, but the permission to share them. Maybe I'll return for Purim. And maybe next year, we'll drink the world right-side up again.

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

To satisfy their wanderlust, Americans are turning to online window shopping

BY NATALIE B. COMPTON  
The Washington Post

With most travel on lockdown until further notice, the best people can do to cure their wanderlust is plan or window-shop for future trips. According to the data, they're doing a lot of it.

On Google, Pinterest and booking app Hopper, users are searching for destinations, trip ideas and, above all, clarity: Perhaps unsurprisingly, Americans' biggest travel-related query is when international travel will resume.

It's a good question without a good answer. The State Department is still issuing a "Level 4: Do Not Travel" global health advisory, urging U.S. citizens to avoid all international travel. That recommendation has been in place since mid-March, and with the world still battling the coronavirus pandemic, there are no signs officials will back off it soon.

In the meantime, our fantasies live on.

Here's what travelers are searching for.

#### According to Google:

The top U.S. travel searches on platforms from April 1 to May 11 read like a globetrotter's sad pandemic monologue: "can you travel during shutdown," "will we be able to travel this summer," "when will it be safe to travel again?," "where to travel during COVID," "when is it safe to travel again?"

Meanwhile, after "when will flights resume," the top Google searches for flights and trips were about the Maldives. (As of mid-May, the small island nation had reported 1,106 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Your amazing Maldivian vacation can wait.)

The third, fourth and fifth most popular searches were regarding flights to and from India. The next top destinations? Sweden, Antarctica, Poland and Switzerland.

#### According to Pinterest:

Always an aspirational social media tool, the platform allows users to find inspiration, collect ideas and share content, and it launched new features to help with travel planning, too.

But when the coronavirus pandemic hit, user activity shifted.

"In the early phases of the outbreak, Pinners put traveling on hold to focus on needs close to home," Swasti Sarna, Pinterest insights manager, said in an email. "But in April, future optimism began to take hold as searches for 'travel ideas' and 'travel destinations' started to climb back up."

Sarna reviewed Pinterest's travel-related activity, comparing searches from April 20 to May 3 against searches from April 6 to April 19. Her research shows Pinterest users can't wait to leave town with loved ones. "Travel family" searches were up 78%, while "friends traveling" was up 74%.

**Top: A holiday in the Maldives is out of the question at the moment, but dreaming about one is just a click away.**



"Pinners are dreaming about going to the beach this summer," Sarna said, with "beach trip packing list" searches more than doubling and "beach trip with friends" searches up 81%.

Pinterest users also are more interested in taking road trips. "Road trip with kids" and "healthy road trip snacks" searches have doubled since

April, and searches for "road trip games" are up 50%. The standout road-trip destination searches included South Dakota — home of Mt. Rushmore and Badlands National Park — as well as Colorado and Oregon.

#### According to Hopper:

Hopper economist Hayley Berg crunched the app's data to

find its most popular destination searches from April 1 to May 12.

Outside of the States, the top five searched slots belonged to San Juan, Puerto Rico; Cancun, Mexico; London, Paris; and San Jose, Costa Rica. The top-searched domestic destinations included Las Vegas, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Miami and Denver. Daydreaming is fun, but health

experts are discouraging all travel at this time.

"My advice would be: Please err on the side of caution," said Robert Quigley, who holds a doctorate in immunology and serves as an executive at International SOS, a medical and security services company.

For now, the occasional sad search will have to do.

# Germany

## DIRECTORY

### Restaurants

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HAPPY Hour  
ENCHI Hour

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67655 Kaiserslautern  
0631 3702 7570  
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LODGE and RESORT

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Pacific

# Daydreams are made of this

## Phuket beckons with salty breezes, sandy beaches and crystal-clear water

BY RANDY THANTHONG-KNIGHT

*Bloomberg*

As a swimmer, I've always felt at home in the ocean. But Phuket, a place I've visited more than a dozen times since childhood, is where I find stillness. The ocean laps calmly, and when you close your eyes to feel the salty breeze, you can hear the rustling of tropical forests right off the coast. Vendors sell just-cracked coconuts sloshing over with fresh juice. Point in any land-bound direction, and within a few miles you'll find the world's best beach resorts, gracious hospitality, and restaurants that vary from street food stalls to a Michelin-starred dining room. It's the best of all worlds, somehow squeezed onto a picturesque island that's just a puddle-hop flight from my home in Bangkok.

Even an "up and down" one-hour flight feels impossibly far away at this time. While some of Thailand's provinces haven't reported a single case of COVID-19, Phuket has become the country's biggest hot spot. The island, which once received about a million tourists each month, is now deserted. And the government is forecasting that tourism won't reignite until a vaccine emerges, which could take well more than a year.

But Phuket remains my mental refuge. Bangkok, like many other locked-down cities with its compact living spaces, isn't meant for a quarantined lifestyle. When I open my windows in my downtown apartment, I'm greeted by construction noises and rooftops of neighboring buildings rather than blue water and the sound of chirping birds. Life, in other words, is not a beach.

Until I can get back safely to Phuket, I'll relish one silver lining about its current quietude. In recent years, the island was suffering from overtourism; huge numbers of visitors and too many boat businesses had led to the buildup of marine debris, damaged coral and a disruption for wildlife and natural habitats. A pause on human visitors has brought out rare sea turtles to nest in record numbers on empty beaches, and the manatee-like creatures called dugongs have been spotted in

typically boat-riddled shallows. That means Phuket will be its most beautiful self whenever we can return.

When the time comes, of course I'll hit up some of my local favorites—but I'll also indulge in the singularly luxurious spots that have given Phuket its prime position at the top of many bucket lists. Here's how to nail the best of both worlds.

Even as a native Thai, I find the food served from southern kitchens akin to the old ghost pepper challenge — it flexes your spicy taste receptors until

**A pause on human visitors has brought out rare sea turtles to nest in record numbers on empty beaches, and the manatee-like creatures called dugongs have been spotted in typically boat-riddled shallows. That means Phuket will be its most beautiful self whenever we can return.**

they're numb and tingly. Besides being unapologetically hot, it's also rich and decadent: think pork kua kling, a spicy dish spiked with kafir lime leaves and curry paste, or the stir-fried bitter beans with shrimp paste called sataw pad kapi.

I tend to order both at Raya, my favorite restaurant on the island. It's set inside a century-old house in Phuket Old Town — an unassuming spot that you could easily pass by and never notice, with a geometric tiled floor and black-and-white photos on its walls. It's not air-conditioned, so on a hot day, I'll head to the nearby Tu Kab Khao instead. Located in a colonial building with coffered ceilings and Murano chandeliers, it focuses on prettied-up versions of family recipes such

as stir-fried pork leg with salted krill and stir-fried pumpkin with dried shrimp and shrimp paste.

Charter a boat for a day from Phuket, as it's possible to explore the many islands of the Andaman Sea. Head a few hours northwest to find the Similan Islands, an archipelago of 11 islets that are ringed by crystal-clear waters inhabited by neon coral, turtles and reef sharks. To the east are Thailand's famous Phi Phi Islands and the less-visited Koh Yao Noi and Koh Yao Yai, which offer secluded beaches and pristine coves.

On Phuket itself, there's much more to do than whiling the day away under the sun. Old Phuket Town, with its brightly colored Portuguese-inspired buildings, has long been dismissed as overly rundown. But the area has been experiencing a renaissance: Historic buildings have been restored and turned into cafes, restaurants and shops. Enormous, colorful murals now coat previously crumbling facades. Most nights of the week, the streets are lined with food vendors.

Phuket is home to some of the best resorts in the world. Opened in 1988, Amanpuri has 44 villas with private pools and 40 pavilions spread out on a former coconut plantation, each adorned with traditional Thai arts including decorative bowls and Buddhist ornaments. The resort offers access to a private beach with ultra-fine sand and clear water, where the lounge chairs are shaded by beautiful parasols.

If nature is what you need, try a treetop villa at Keemala instead. The hillside resort is surrounded by lush rainforest and looks pulled out of a fantasy film set; some of the rooms are fashioned after birds' nests, and from their plunge pools you can commune with chirping cicadas and crickets.

For the ultimate in seclusion, there's Como Point Yamu on Phuket's quiet east side. Its turquoise-hued, glass-walled villas face the bay, which means any photo you take pointing outwards will be blue-on-blue-on-blue. Included in its amenities are a boat that takes you to a private beach club on nearby Naka Yai Island — perfect for kayaking and paddleboarding — and a 100-meter-long infinity pool facing the vast sea.



Tourists take a selfie at Patong Beach in Patong, Phuket, Thailand, in 2018.

Taylor Weidman/Bloomberg



WEEKEND: TRAVEL

# Cruise desire

By HANNAH SAMPSON  
The Washington Post

**A**mber O'Hara was stuck at sea. But that didn't ruin her appetite for another cruise.

The Golden, Colo., retiree had been aboard the Azamara Pursuit for nearly two weeks when the industry decided to pause operations because of the coronavirus pandemic. She and her partner, Jim Ward, spent 29 days on board before disembarking in Miami, more than a week late and a continent away from where the trip was supposed to end because ports had closed to cruise passengers along the way.

Still, O'Hara enjoyed her time on board, and couldn't resist an offer from the cruise line to make up for her troubles: a credit worth 125% of the trip she was on that could be used for a future cruise. Conveniently, cruise ships have a dedicated place to make new reservations on board. She booked it on the spot.

"The guy was overwhelmed with people booking," says O'Hara, 58, who put the credit toward a November trip from Lisbon to Rio de Janeiro. The "hardcore vacationer" who loves to cruise is still watching to see what the state of the world will be in October, when she and Ward have two cruises booked out of Venice.

"I guess I'm the eternal optimist," she said.

Since the coronavirus started its rapid global spread, thousands of passengers have been infected and dozens have died in high-profile outbreaks on ships, even after the industry paused all new cruises in mid-March. That has led many to vow they would never set foot on a ship, even if they had taken a cruise before.

But some passionate fans are not scared away and are even eager to return to sailing as soon as they can — provided they feel as though cruise lines have put enough health and safety measures in place. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a no-sail order in place until July 24, but could extend the mandate as the agency and Coast Guard work with cruise lines on their coronavirus response plans. Carnival Cruise Line has tentatively said it hopes to start sailing with a handful of ships in August, but warned that those plans could change.

"There's a sense for many people that they've got cabin fever," said Lin Humphrey, an assistant professor of marketing at Florida International University who once worked in the cruise industry. "We yearn for things that make us feel like our life prior to March. There will be people that will be looking forward to that cruise."

On Cruise Critic, a review, news and community forum site filled with avid cruisers, the prevailing sentiment is a

cautious eagerness to get back to their favorite type of vacation. In response to one informal poll on the site, 64% of people who responded said they would cruise as much as they used to, and 10% said they would go more often.

"We are seeing a strong interest from those cruisers to return to the sea once they are able to do so and once they are comfortable that it's going to be a safe experience and the vacation they love," says Colleen McDaniel, the site's editor in chief.

For Paula Kaisner of Austin, Texas, who has been cruising for more than 15 years and started her own Dream Vacations travel agency franchise eight years ago, the desire for ships to sail again is both personal and professional.

"I am itching for it. My husband and I, we love cruising; that is our main

form of vacation travel," she said. "I absolutely miss it. I will absolutely support the industry when it's ready to come back. I am not afraid at all to get back on a cruise ship."

Kaisner, 52, was supposed to sail to the British Virgin Islands in late March, but that trip was canceled. Her next trip, a work-related shipboard conference on Oceania Cruises in early August, is so far still on the books.

"It's still a go, but that's questionable right now," she said. "If it's happening, I'm there." Also a question mark for Kaisner: the conferences on ships scheduled for October and November, and the sailings in December (Caribbean) and February (Hawaii).

Cruise lines love customers like Kaisner and O'Hara because, they say, once those passengers get hooked, they keep coming back. Humphrey, the marketing professor, said cruisers who spend enough time and money on particular lines take their status (and the associated perks) seriously.

"I don't think this is going to scare them off in the long term," he said, though the risk-averse might wait awhile to return.

Ben Hewitt and his husband, David McDonald, who run the Cruise With Ben & David YouTube channel, have already had a handful of cruises canceled this year. On Hewitt's last cruise before the shutdown, the ship was turned away from Abu Dhabi and briefly quarantined in Dubai before he decided to fly home out of fear of tightening travel restrictions. The canceled trips include personal vacations and promotional events that cruise lines had invited them to attend.

"We were supposed to be in the Caribbean right now," Hewitt, 35, said in a recent interview. He and McDonald, 32, took their first cruise in 2016 on the Disney Magic and dreaded the trip in advance but found they had a great time. The Cambridge, England, couple has since taken about 30 cruises and turned the habit into a job making videos about ship tours, tips, advice — and, more recently, the pandemic's impact on the industry.

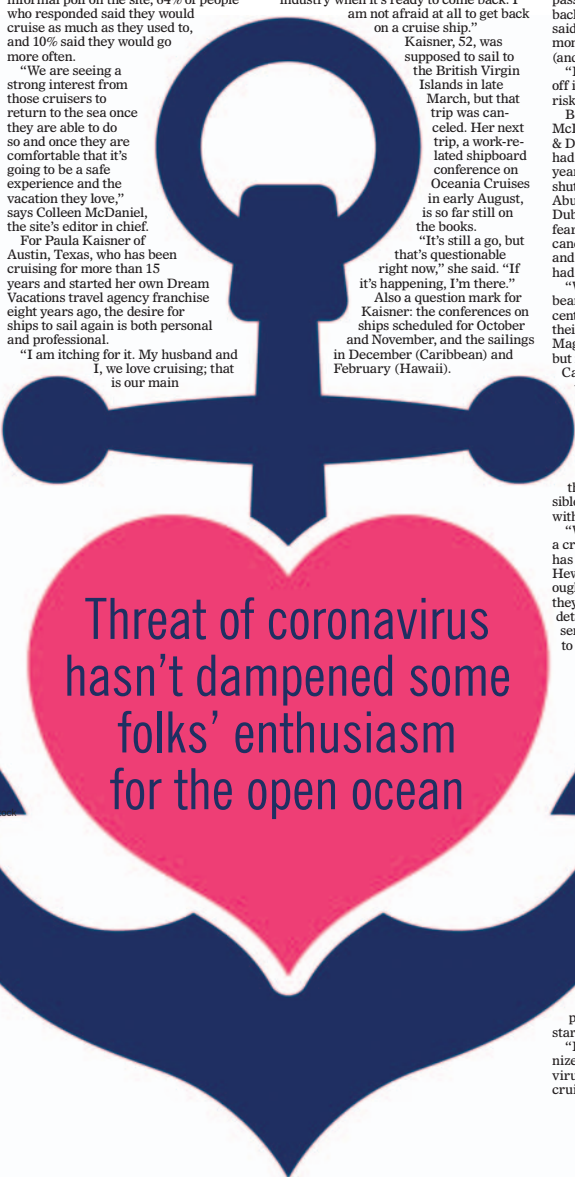
Hewitt said his fingers are crossed that a November Caribbean cruise they booked last year will still be possible, but he said he's trying to be realistic with his expectations.

"We definitely can't wait to get back on a cruise, but it has to be the right time. It has to be when things are ready," he said. Hewitt said he'd like to see more thorough plans from cruise lines about how they plan to handle outbreaks, with more details on cleaning procedures and food service. He said he expects cruise ships to be one of the last forms of transportation to return.

"They really can't do with any more bad stories," he said. "The worst thing possible would be for a cruise to start sailing and for COVID to break out on that ship. It would be an absolute nightmare."

Cruise fans interviewed for this story said they would be willing to undergo more testing before boarding ships and want to see cruise companies talk more openly about the health and safety changes they're planning to make before people can start sailing again.

"I think that even avid cruisers recognize that they've got to figure out this virus first and then talk about returning to cruising," McDaniel said.



## WEEKEND: BOOKS

## What if Hillary Clinton hadn't married Bill?

## Sittenfeld's 'Rodham' imagines a different woman

BY HILLET ITALIE  
Associated Press

Over the past few years, author Curtis Sittenfeld has gotten to know Hillary Clinton in a way uniquely suited for a novelist — by writing a work of fiction about her.

"I was definitely an admirer of Hillary before I started the book, but writing from her perspective made me feel closer to her," "Rodham" author Sittenfeld wrote to The Associated Press in an email. "I realize that closeness is NOT mutual — we've never met. But she feels very familiar to me now in terms of the trajectory of her life, her relationships, her syntax, so when I see clips of her or hear her voice, I think, 'Oh, that's my Hillary.'"

Sittenfeld's new book is her second imagined portrait of a famous woman: "American Wife" based on the life of Laura Bush, was published in 2008. But while "American Wife" tells of a high-profile marriage that remains intact despite the narrator's misgivings, Sittenfeld follows a different path in "Rodham." The "Hillary" Sittenfeld's book breaks off from Bill early and remains Hillary Rodham, a decision that proves fortunate for her.

It's a premise that has been raised before, including by the author and journalist Rebecca Traister. In a 2015 story for The New Republic, entitled "The Best Thing Hillary Could Do for Her Campaign? Ditch Bill," Traister wrote how Bill Hillary was endlessly "pulled back, into the shadow" of Bill Clinton and that, he, not she, was the political beneficiary of their relationship. "I'm pretty sure I've read

every article Rebecca Traister has written about Hillary, and I read Traister's book 'Good and Mad' while writing 'Rodham,' so it's safe to assume I work under Traister's influence, among others," Sittenfeld says.

Sittenfeld, now 44, caught on with critics and readers in 2005 with her first novel, "Prep," a best-selling coming-of-age narrative. Her other books include the novels "The Man of My Dreams" and "Eligible" and the story collection "You Think It, I'll Say It."

She also has written reviews, including one for Vanity Fair about Michelle Obama's "Becoming," which Sittenfeld praised as "so surprisingly candid, richly emotional, and granularly detailed that it allows readers to feel exactly what Michelle herself felt at various moments in her life."

The kind of memoir, in other words, that has the power of a novel.

Other highlights from the recent interview with Sittenfeld:

**On why she wrote "Rodham":**

Two things made me write this book. First, in early 2016, an editor at Esquire asked if I'd like to write a short story from Hillary's perspective as she accepted the Democratic nomination for president. I had declined to write essays about Hillary — I didn't feel I had any new analysis to contribute — but fiction gave me the chance to ask not "What do the American people think of Hillary?" but "What does Hillary

think of the American people?"

I also realized around the 2016 election, which I was devastated by, that schoolchildren who knew Hillary was running for president often literally didn't know that Bill Clinton existed. I wondered if the outcome of the election would have been different if adults were similarly able to see her as independent from him.

**On whether "Rodham" is how she wishes Clinton's life had turned out:**

"Rodham" is definitely without question a novel — the great majority of events in it are made up. I feel that it's important for me to say that if anyone wants to read a definitive account of Hillary's life, they should read either of her two memoirs or perhaps the nonfiction accounts "A Woman in Charge" by Carl Bernstein or "Chasing Hillary" by Amy Choick. "Rodham" is an act of imagination, creativity, and, yes, to some extent wishful thinking.

**On political memoirs, including Bill Clinton's "My Life" and Hillary Clinton's "Living History":**

I confess that I read only the first 23% of "My Life," up until the point when Bill and Hillary get married, but I enjoyed both those books. Political memoirs are criticized for being anodyne or else campaign tools masquerading as literature, but I'm often surprised by how revealing and colorful they are. I read memoirs of all the female senators running for president in 2020, and I especially enjoyed hearing about the candidates' families and upbringings. (For instance, Amy Klobuchar, who's my senator, went on spring break in high school with three friends. Their



JOSEPHINE SITTENFELD, RANDOM HOUSE/AP

In Curtis Sittenfeld's "Rodham," Hillary's life takes a different direction.

friend group was named Amy, Amy, Amy, and Heidi, and they rode the Greyhound from Minnesota to Florida, where they pretended to be college students and met a group of high school boys pretending the same, while wearing fake mustaches.)

**On whether she hopes Hillary Clinton reads "Rodham":**  
"If Hillary wants to read the book, she's very welcome to and I'd be happy to hear her feedback (even if she thinks parts of it are preposterous), and if she doesn't want to, I don't blame her."

## 'Big Summer' is a breezy romp through online influencer culture

BY ANGELA HAUPT  
Special to The Washington Post

The cover of Jennifer Weiner's new novel, "Big Summer," is already lovely: splashes of turquoise, purple and cornflower blue. But the more you know it would pop with an Instagram filter like Mayfair or Lo-Fi, the blue becoming more electric, the purple as juicy as a ripe berry.

That would be but a mirage. As Weiner gracefully reminds, we're all less shiny than our social media feeds. In "Big Summer," Daphne Berg, a not-so-influential plus-size influencer, reconnects with her estranged former best friend, Drué Lathrop Cavanaugh. If you scrolled past Drué on Instagram, you'd be dazzled: good looks, expensive clothes, svelte smile. But lies how much more standard operating procedure online — and it's easy to gloss over imperfections, especially the invisible kind that fester inside.

The novel was originally set to publish on May 19, but when the coronavirus pandemic hit, Simon & Schuster bumped up the release by two weeks. The sooner

readers had this dose of summer fun in their hands, the better — and it delivers. Weiner takes a breezy romp through online influencer culture, leveling an "I see you" gaze at the Instagram fake-it-till-you-make-it crowd.

It's deliciously fun: frothy entertainment with surprising depth. Years ago, Drué — a familiar high school mean girl — humiliated Daphne at a bar, tricking her into a setup with a man who could barely disguise his disgust. After summing up a rare shot of courage, Daphne stood up for herself and delivered an Oscar-worthy tell-off that would later go viral. Then she fled the scene, as Drué screeched, "You're a fat little nobody ... You're lucky I ever even talked to you!"

That night, Daphne "decided to stop being a girl on a diet and just start being a girl." First, though, she'd drop "a hundred and seventeen useless pounds" by wowing

to never see Drué Lathrop Cavanaugh again. Six years later, Daphne has evolved into a #fiercefatgirl: a 20-something Instagram influencer who's cultivated a following through body acceptance hashtags.

Weiner gets readers invested in the pair's relationship — which is magnetic but unhealthy — through revealing flashbacks. When Drué reenters the picture, begging forgiveness and claiming she's changed, it's with a big ask: She's getting married and needs a bridal party, which is what happens when you make a hobby out of hurting people. Will Daphne be her maid of honor?

Soon, the pair is in picturesque Cape Cod for the society wedding of the summer. Drué is marrying Stuart Lowe, who starred in "All the Single Ladies" — a hilarious spoof of "The Bachelor." The couple outfit themselves soliciting sponsors that wanted to pay to be featured on wedding-related social media posts (#hashtag #druedanstu). At the rehearsal dinner on the beach, for example, guests could recline on a king-size bed outfitted with selfie sticks — and hashtags for the mattress company and linen supplier.

From there, the plot careens into slightly over-the-top whodunit territory, with a splash of steamy romance.

Weiner's appraisal of Instagram culture, and our fixation with likes and followers, will resonate. Even as Daphne enjoys the perks of influencer status — clothing from hip brands, a community of women who make her feel seen — she's alert to its pitfalls. "In space, nobody could hear you scream; on the Internet, nobody could tell if you were lying," she muses, adding that her confidence and self-love weren't totally faked for Instagram — just "considerably amplified." "Even if things don't get better, you can always make them look good on the Internet," she counsels a young friend, which is as 2020 as advice gets.

Even with a side of romance and mystery, this is a story about friendship — and the damage we do when we're not authentic with ourselves and each other. "Big Summer" is big fun, and then some. It's empowering and surprising — a reminder to put down the phone and enjoy each moment for what it is, rather than what it could look like on Instagram.

## WEEKEND: MUSIC

RELEASE OR DELAY?  
MUSICIANS WITH NEW ALBUMS  
SEARCH FOR THE BEST DECISION  
DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

# BOTH SIDES NOW



By ALLISON STEWART  
*Special to  
The Washington Post*

Jason Isbell decided to go ahead and release his new album, "Reunions," even though he couldn't tour to support it because of the coronavirus shutdown. Other artists are holding off to see what the promotional landscape looks like in the next few months.

AMY HARRIS, INVISION/AP

f these were normal times, singer-songwriter Jason Isbell would celebrate the debut of his new album, "Reunions," the way he usually does, by visiting famed East Nashville record store Grimey's on release day.

But the coronavirus shutdown measures have left Isbell stuck at home, wrestling with the same quandary facing many of his peers: How do you release an album during a pandemic? For artists such as Lady Gaga, Sam Smith and the Dixie Chicks, who have postponed their album releases, and for artists such as Pearl Jam, Kenny Chesney and the Weeknd, who have pressed on, the coronavirus crisis presents opportunities, difficulties and the potential for career-ending humiliation in almost equal measure.

For Isbell, postponing "Reunions" was never really an option.

"It's important to keep people interested in what you're doing, because there's so many distractions and so many different forms of entertainment that it's really, really hard to keep people's attention," he says. "For me, I think putting out an album full of strong material is a really good way to remind people, 'Hey, I'm still here. I'm still making music. Even though we're all locked in the house.'"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33



## WEEKEND: MUSIC REVIEWS



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Many rap artists such as DaBaby are having an easier time navigating the pandemic because they are less dependent on physical album sales and live performances than rock and country artists.

## FROM PAGE 32

All music genres have struggled during the pandemic, although not equally: Many rap artists, generally less dependent on physical album sales and live performances than their rock and country counterparts, are thriving, buoyed by newer hitmakers such as DaBaby and YoungBoy Never Broke Again.

As many musicians are discovering, a captive audience isn't necessarily a receptive one. "People are distracted, and people are freaked out," says Roy Trakin, a contributing editor at trade publication Variety. "It's really hard to get people to concentrate. Streaming (numbers are) up, but the statistics show that streaming is not up for new releases. Streaming is up for classic stuff, comfort music. Is it the time to introduce new music? Are people ready for it? On the one hand, they're at home, they've got plenty of time to concentrate on things. But it's such a weird time."

Artists with scheduled corona-era releases were conflicting concerns. They worry about competing with the virus for the nation's attention; they worry that their music, if delayed, will no longer feel relevant to them; they generally dread album rollouts and want to get them over with.

"I was very overwhelmed by both options," says Paramore frontwoman Hayley Williams, who released her solo debut, "Petals for Armor," this month, and who, like Isbell, had to scratch plans to spend her release day at Grimey's. "If I postpone it, I'm just gonna feel blasted with it for God knows how much longer. If I put it out now, what if it's not sensitive enough? Will I look like an egotistical a-----? Eventually, after the strange grief of it all, I just decided that I would be really pleased to get some new music from one of my favorite artists. If Bjork wanted to drop something right now, I'd live."

Hikie Jollett, frontman of the L.A.-based rock band the Airborne Toxic Event, was forced to contemplate canceling both the release of his new memoir, "Hollywood Park," and a soundtrack album of the same name. Because the complicated architecture of a dual book-album release was already in place, and because the Airborne Toxic Event hadn't issued a new album in five years, they decided to proceed as planned. "It was more like, 'Let's just go, we got this,'" Jollett says. "Waiting a year — who knows where we're gonna be in a year, and that's part of the practical considerations of all this. When you started, you might have thought, 'OK, let's put it out in the fall.' But now you would have had to move it again. And then you think, 'Oh well, maybe in the spring,' and then you might have to move it again... You don't want to have to move it twice."

Many superstars who initially delayed their albums are cautiously returning to the fray, including Lady Gaga, whose latest release, "Chromatica," will drop at the end of the month. In their absence, artists bubbling under the A-list, such as indie band Car Seat Headrest, are stepping into the attention vacuum.

When things open back up, the thinking goes, competition for venues, publicity and airtime will be fierce. Car Seat Headrest's new album, "Making a Door Less Open," debuted to the biggest sales of their band's career when it was released this month. "People stream a lot these days, any-

ways," says Mike Scrafford, the band's manager. "So we just felt like if we got the music out and let people live with it, then it's probably better than waiting for some unknown time period and, you know, potentially dealing with a lot of competition in that time period for attention, because you've got to think that there are probably a lot of people doing that."

For singer-songwriter Alec Benjamin, whose debut, "These Two Windows," is set for release May 29, nothing can compensate for his inability to tour. "There's pluses and minuses" to releasing an album during a pandemic, he says. The closure of schools, where his music spread through word of mouth, wasn't great, he figures, but those kids are now home, waiting to be entertained. "It often depends on how optimistic you're feeling that day," Benjamin says. "Sometimes I'm really bummed, you know? I waited my whole life to finally be in a position where I can play shows."

If it's one thing music industry experts agree on, it is that nobody really knows anything. The industry's few remaining gatekeepers appear ill-equipped to sift through the avalanche of new acts. Radio play, for example, means less when fewer people are listening on their way to work. No real consensus has emerged on whether artists should release albums or postpone them or how they might best gauge the national mood. It's easier than ever for an artist to do the wrong thing, to seem self-promoting, or too earnest, or not earnest enough. No one wants to be seen as not taking the pandemic seriously, or jockeying for advantage during a plague, but no one wants to be the target of a Gal Gadot-singing "Imagine"-style cancellation, either: "People are already growing tired of 'We're all in this together,'" Trakin says.

Pop hasn't yet had its "Tiger King" moment, a unifying (virtual) water cooler smash, although the era has a handful of winners: R&B superstar the Weeknd's March album, "After Hours" is an unreserved hit. Fiona Apple's "Fetch the Bolt Cutters" is widely considered the first great work of the era, although it fell out of the Billboard Top 100 within a month of its release; even successful albums feel strangely ephemeral in the age of the coronavirus.

The pandemic has created an unlikely breakout moment for Bob Dylan, who landed his first No. 1 hit in April (granted, it was in the specialty category of "U.S. rock digital song sales") with "Murder Most Foul," a 17-minute song about the Kennedy assassination that is comfortingly familiar, but brave enough to meet the national moment without attempting to try to. He also recently announced that his 39th album, "Rough and Rowdy Ways," will be released on June 19.

Other, mortal rock stars are muddling along as best they can. For Isbell, who has a 4-year-old daughter at home and a wife, singer Amanda Shires, with a heart condition, there are bigger things to worry about than album sales. "I don't know if everybody feels this way, but I can write another album," he says. "I could write you another album this week that would probably be pretty good. I'm sorry to say that, but I know how to write a song and I could do it again. So, if I need to write another album and put one out next year, I'll just do that. It's not that big a deal."

## Damien Jurado

What's New, Tomboy?  
(Mama Bird Recording Co.)

Damien Jurado's "What's New, Tomboy?" is a deceptively simple collection of delicate vignettes, wrapped in subdued arrangements brimming with layers of wistful melodies.

Jurado's 15th album is nearly all self-made, from the songwriting and production to the cover art, but Josh Gordon's bass guitar is a key component, both foundation and foil.

Some of the album's songs, named after people like "Francine," "Sandra" and "Frankie," are tales of fragility, romance, commitment, maturity and conflict. Jurado's wistful voice, at once intimate and distant, lends them empathy and credibility.

Opener "Birds Tricked Into the Trees" is melancholy, but that Ron Sexsmith way, an electric guitar weaving itself around a weeping melody and a pondering aphorism — "It's all about/



Knowing when to say you're wrong / To get it right all the time / Means it's over"

The guitar on "Arthur Avaré" seems inspired by The Beatles' "Mother Nature's Son," but the story sounds more like the desolation of "Eleanor Rigby."

Jurado's economical approach really pays dividends on "What's New, Tomboy?" as he compacts an anthology worth of disparate situations into less than 30 minutes of penetrating songs.

— Pablo Gorondi  
Associated Press

## Pam Tillis

Looking for a Feeling  
(Stellar Cat Records)

Pam Tillis has mastered the art of singing without raising her voice. She swoops and slides, yes, but most of all she smolders, an alto with a blue hue.

More than 35 years into her recording career, Tillis has never sounded better than on "Looking for a Feeling." By turns she's sassy and seductive, pulling back to a near whisper so the listener will lean in. She applies twang and melisma but never over-sings. A stylist such as Patsy Cline would be proud, and so would Tillis' father, Mel.

Her wonderful performance is built on excellent material, including six songs Tillis co-wrote. She sings about turning over stones (the title cut), honoring the past ("Dolly 1969") and the virtues of faith, dogs and old movies ("My Kind of Medicine"). Tillis strikes a timely note in closing with a look at the big picture on "Burning Star," and asks,



"Is the sky really falling?"

Given that the album was drawn from sessions at three studios, each with a different producer, the set is remarkably cohesive. The outlier is "Karma," a keyboard-heavy over-the-top contemporary.

Elsewhere the arrangements are smartly uncluttered — rootsy and retro, but also timeless, leaving the focus on the songs and the singer's range.

— Steven Wine  
Associated Press

## Hayley Williams

Petals for Armor (Atlantic)

To one of the most gifted emogrades, Paramore frontwoman Hayley Williams spent a decade firmly restating that she was no solo act. They even sold shirts saying, "Paramore Esta Una Banda."

But the band themselves evolved so much — from pop-punk to Wall of Sound productions to Paradise Garage-inspired '80s, and with a lineup change on every record — that this belated rebranding and its curvetails as best they can. (It's coproduced with Paramore guitarist Taylor York.)

Yet it's Williams' biggest leap from previous territory.

Her singing has absorbed the hushed shrugs of Billie Eilish, sung over the high-mixed drums of clattering latter-day Radiohead. Thus Paramore's R&B-influenced song shapes invite '90s folk-jazz



comparisons. A funky Suzanne Vega?

Two winners, "Taken" and "Sugar on the Rim," have the mark of Erykah Badu and Lady Gaga, respectively, while the broken beat of early highlight "Cinammon" has roots in St. Vincent.

Give a nettime genre for obivious hooks her props. She's gone subtle without turning dull.

— Dan Weiss  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

# WEEKEND: TELEVISION

## HBO MAX

- "Crafoflpa" (May 27)
- "Looney Tunes Cartoons" (May 27)
- "Love Life" (May 27)
- "Legendary" (May 27)
- "The Not Too Late Show With Elmo" (May 27)
- "On the Record" (May 27)
- "Karma" (June 18)
- "Summer Camp Island" (June 18)
- "Adventure Time: Distant Lands - BMO" (June 25)
- "Doom Patrol" Season 2 (June 25)
- "Esme & Roy" Season 2 (June 25)
- "Search Party" Season 3 (June 25)
- "Close Enough" (July 9)
- "Expecting Amy" (July 9)
- "The House of Ho" (July 16)
- "Fig N' Seek" (July 23)
- "Frayed" (July 30)
- "The Dog House" (July 30)

## NETFLIX

- "Patriot Act With Hasan Minhaj" (May 17)
- "Hannah Gadsby: Douglas" (May 26)
- "Space Force" (May 29)
- "Fuller House" Season 5 (June 5)
- "13 Reasons Why" Season 4 (June 5)
- "Lenox Hill" (June 10)
- "Unsolved Mysteries" (July 1)
- "The Baby-Sitters Club" (July 3)
- "Queer Eye" Season 5 (TBA)
- "Dating Around" Season 2 (TBA)
- "Mr. Iglesias" Season 2 (TBA)
- "Grand Army" (TBA)
- "Teenage Bounty Hunters" (TBA)
- "The Politician" Season 2 (TBA)
- "Warrior Nun" (TBA)
- "Cursed" (TBA)

## PBS

- "Grantchester" Season 5 (June 14)
- "Beecham House" (June 14)
- "American Masters: Mae West: Dirty Blonde" (June 16)
- "Preston: Road Trip" (June 17)
- "Great Performances: Anri" (June 19)
- "Lucy Worsley's Royal Myths and Secrets" (June 21)
- "American Masters: Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am" (June 23)
- "Firing Line With Margaret Hoover Special" (June 26)
- "Great Performances: Gloria: A Life" (June 26)
- "POV: And She Could Be Next" (June 29)
- "A Capital Fourth" (July 4)
- "American Experience: The Vote" (July 6)
- "Antiques Roadshow: Women's Work" (July 6)
- "American Masters: Unladylike 2020" (July 10)
- "Endavour" Season 7 (Aug. 9)

## QUIBI

- "Blackballed" (May 18)
- "Centerpiece" (May 18)
- "Royalties" (June TBA)
- "Don't Look Deeper" (June TBA)
- "Nice One!" (June TBA)
- "60 in 6" (June TBA)
- "Mapleworth Murders" (June TBA)
- "Ten Weeks" (June TBA)
- "Bad Ideas With Adam Devine" (June TBA)
- "Andy Cohen Diaries" (June TBA)
- "Hello America" (July TBA)
- "Life Size Toys" (July TBA)
- "Your Daily Horoscope" (July TBA)
- "The Now" (July TBA)
- "The Fugitive" (July TBA)

## DISNEY+

- "Artemis Fowl" (June 12)
- "Weird But True" Season 2 (June 19)
- "Rogue Trip" (July 24)
- "Into the Unknown: Making 'Frozen 2'" (June TBA)
- "Howard" (July TBA)
- "Muppets Now" (TBA)
- "Secret Society of Second-Born Royals" (TBA)
- "Earth to Ned" (TBA)
- "Meet the Chimps" (TBA)
- "Phineas and Ferb the Movie: Candace Against the Universe" (TBA)



# TV's hot summer

## Here's (almost) every show available soon

By MATT BRENNAN  
Los Angeles Times

Two months after the COVID-19 pandemic halted most productions, the TV spot light hasn't slowed — at least not yet.

But one needn't look too far down the road to glimpse the shadow of the shutdown. Though two major streaming services — HBO Max (May 27) and Peacock (July 15) — are still set to launch this summer, coronavirus has already reshaped the former's rollout. In the absence of pilot season, Fox on May 11 became the first broadcast network to announce a fall schedule, one that draws on animation, already-aired series and faith in the speedy return of the NFL; on May 14, the CW announced that its new season won't

debut until January. Even sooner — late July or early August — the unprecedented volume of new TV we've become used to is poised to slow to a rate unseen in years, as networks and streamers ration content for the rest of the year, or run out altogether.

To get a sense of what remains in the pipeline, The LA Times reached out to a dizzying array of platforms for their summer slates — focusing on new series, new seasons, specials and TV movies. Though we've had to omit some unannounced titles, and others will surely be added or subtracted from the schedule as circumstances demand, this is, as far as we can ascertain, (almost) every show coming to TV in this pandemic summer.

Note: "TBA" denotes a summer 2020 program without a set premiere date.

## ABC

- "AFV@Home" (May 17)
- "Holy Moley II: The Sequel" (May 21)
- "Dance Moms: Abby's Virtual Dance Off" (TBA)
- "Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." (May 27)
- "Celebrity Family Feud" (May 31)
- "Press Your Luck" (May 31)
- "Match Game" (May 31)
- "The Bachelor: The Greatest Seasons - Ever!" (June 8)
- "Don't" (June 11)

## HBO

- "Yvonne Orji: Momma, I Made It!" (June 6)
- "I May Destroy You" (June 7)
- "Perry Mason" (June 21)
- "Transhood" (June 24)
- "I'll Be Gone in the Dark" (June 28)
- "Welcome to Chechnya" (June 30)
- "Room 104" Season 4 (July 24)
- "Bully, Coward, Victim. The Story of Roy Cohen" (June TBA)
- "Lovercraft Country" (August TBA)
- Lifetime
- "Married at First Sight: Couples Cam" (May 20)
- "Once Upon a Quarantine" (May 20)
- "I Was Lorenna Bobbitt" (May 25)
- "Married at First Sight: Australia" (May 27)

## "Lifetime Celebrates 30 Years of the Iconic Lifetime Original Movie" (May 30)

- "Dance Moms: Abby's Virtual Dance Off" (TBA)
- "Supernanny" (TBA)
- "Married at First Sight" Season 11 (TBA)
- "Marrying Millions" Season 2 (TBA)

## HULU

- "The Great" (May 15)
- "Rammy" Season 2 (May 29)
- "We Are Freestyle Love Supreme" (June 5)
- "Into the Dark: Good Boy" (June 12)
- "Crossing Swords" (June 12)
- "Love, Victor" (June 19)
- "Taste the Nation With Padma Lakshmi" (June 19)
- "Into the Dark: The Current Occupant" (July 17)

## PEACOCK

- "Brave New World" (July 15)
- "The Capturer" (July 15)
- "Intelligence" (July 15)
- "Lost Speedways" (July 15)
- "Psych 2: Lassie Come Home" (July 15)
- "Cleopatra in Space" (July 15)
- "Curious George" (July 15)
- "Where's Waldo" (July 15)

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

- "Barkskins" (May 25)
- "Gordon Ramsay: Uncharted" Season 2 (June 7)
- "Wicked Tuna: Outer Banks" Season 7 (June 28)
- "Lost on Everest" (June 30)
- "Expedition Everest" (June 30)
- "Sharkfest" (July 25)

## HISTORY

- "Grant" (May 25)
- "Forged in Fire: Beat the Judges" (June 3)
- "Counting Cars" (June 3)
- "Mountain Men" (June 4)
- "Alone" (June 11)
- "The UnXplained (With William Shatner)" (July 11)
- "Unidentified: Inside America's UFO Investigation" Season 2 (July 11)
- "The Cars That Made the World" (Sept. 7)

## APPLE TV+

- "Central Park" (May 29)
- "Dear ..." (June 5)
- "Dads" (June 19)
- "Little Voice" (TBA)
- "Ted Lasso" (TBA)
- "Boys Stater" (TBA)
- Acorn TV
- "Dead Still" (May 18)

- "Hidden" Season 2 (June 15)
- "The Sommerdahl Murders" Season 1 (June 29)
- "The Nest" (TBA)
- "The Other One" Season 1 (TBA)
- "Rebecka Martinsson" Season 2 (TBA)

## AMAZON PRIME VIDEO

- "Homecoming" (May 22)
- "Hanna" Season 2 (July 3)
- "Gina Brillon: The Floor Is Lava" (TBA)
- "Absentia" Season 3 (TBA)
- "The Boys" Season 2 (TBA)

## BBC AMERICA

- "Quiz" (May 31) - simulcast on AMC
- "NOS4A2" Season 2 (June 21) - simulcast on AMC
- "Wild India" (July 18)
- "Top Gear: Nepal Special" (Aug. 23)
- "Top Gear" BBC America (Aug. 30)

## NBC

- "The Titan Games" (May 25)
- "America's Got Talent" (May 26)
- "World of Dance" (May 26)

## THE CW

- "Masters of Illusion" Season 7 (May 15)
- "DC's Stargirl" (May 19)
- "The 100" Season 6 (May 20)
- "Burden of Truth" Season 3 (May 21)
- "Bulletproof" Season 2 (June 10)

## BRITBOX

- "Sticks & Stones" (June 9)
- "Isolation Stories" (June 23)
- "Red Dwarf: Promised Land" (July 23)
- "Wild Bill" (July 25)
- "Father Brown" Season 8 (August 4)

## SMITHSONIAN CHANNEL

- "An American Aristocrat's Guide to Great Estates" (May 17)
- "Private Lives of the Monarchs" (May 18)
- "Mystic Britain" Season 2 (June 14)
- "Hunt for the Lost Superfleet" (June 15)
- "The Hunt for Escobar's Hippos" (July 12)

## YOUTUBE PREMIUM

- "Create Together" (May 18)
- "The Secret Life of Lela Pons" (May 19)
- "Dear Class of 2020" (June 6)
- "Unfitted Juana and Luisito Project (LATAM)" (May TBA)
- "Lockdown" (June TBA)

## VH1

- "St. Louis Superman" (May 18) - simulcast on MTV and MTV2
- "To Catch a Butterfly" (May 25)
- "RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars" Season 5 (June 5)
- "Love & Listings" (July TBA)

## HGTV

- "Renovation Island" (June 7)
- "Good Bones" (June 9)
- "Build Me Up" (June 9)
- "Hoop! I Wrecked My House" (July 29)

## TRAVEL CHANNEL

- "Buried Worlds With Don Wildman" (June 8)
- "Ghost Adventures: Quarantine" (June 11)
- "Ghost Adventures: Screaming Room" (July 30)

## SHOWTIME

- "The Chi" Season 3 (June 21)
- "Black Monday" Season 2, Part II (June 28)
- "The Good Lord Bird" (August TBA)

## AMC

- "Quiz" (May 31) - simulcast on BBC America
- "Line of Duty" Season 3 (June 20)
- "NOS4A2" Season 2 (June 21) - simulcast on BBC America

## TRU TV

- "At Home With Amy Sedaris" (May 20)
- "Hot Ones: The Game Show" Season 1, Part II (TBA)
- "Tacoma FD" Season 2, Part II (TBA)

## WEEKEND: TELEVISION &amp; DVD

## FROM PAGE 34

## MTV

"St. Louis Superman" (May 18) - simulcast on MTV2 and VH1  
 "Siesta Key" Season 3 (June 9)  
 "Double Shot at Love With DJ Pauly D & Vinny" (June 11)

## NATGEO WILD

"Heartland Docs, DVM" Season 2 (May 30)  
 "Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER" (June 7)  
 "The Incredible Dr. Po!" (July 7)

## OVATION

"Chasing the Sun" Season 2 (June 7)  
 "Agatha Christie's Partners in Crime" (June 13)  
 "The Code" (August 1)

## USA

"Dirty John: The Betty Broderick Story" (June 2)  
 "Christy Knows Best" Season 8 (July)  
 "Cannonball" (TBA)

## BRAVO

"Below Deck Mediterranean" (June 1)  
 "Million Dollar Listing Los Angeles" (June 16)  
 "The Real Housewives of Potomac" (TBA)

## CRACKLE

"The Clearing" (June 4)  
 "Cleanin' Up the Town: Remembering Ghostbusters" (June 18)

## FREEFORM

"The Bold Type" (June 11)  
 "Love in the Time of Corona" (August)

## TNT

"Snowpiercer" (May 17)  
 "The Alienist: Angel of Darkness" (TBA)

## CBS

"Game On" (May 27)  
 "Tough as Nails" (July 8)

## FOX

"Ultimate Tag" (May 20)  
 "Labor of Love" (May 21)

## EPIX

"Laurel Canyon" (May 31)  
 "Helter Skelter" (June 14)

## NET

"American Soul" Season 2 (May 27)  
 "Carl Weber's Influence" (July 18)

## NET+

"All the Way Black" (June TBA)  
 "Carl Weber's the Family Business" Season 2 (July TBA)

## OXYGEN

"Killer Couples" (June 18)  
 "Snapped: Betty Broderick" (July)

## FX

"AKA Jane Roe" (May 22)

## CINEMAX

"Trackers" (June 5)

## COMEDY CENTRAL

"Esther Povitsky: Hot for My Name" (June 5)

## SUNDANCE TV

"The Split" Season 2 (May 21)

## IFC

"Sherman's Showcase: Black History Month Spectacular" (June 19)

## PARAMOUNT NETWORK

"Yellowstone" Season 3 (June 21)

## SPECTRUM ORIGINALS

"L.A.'s Finest" Season 2 (June 8)

## TBS

"Lost Resort" (TBA)

## SYFY

"Syfy Wire's the Great Debate" (June 18)

## CBS ALL ACCESS

"The Twilight Zone" Season 2 (June 25)

## CNN

"CNN Celebrates Our Heroes: An Art's Issue of the Year Special" (June 3)

## FACEBOOK WATCH

"Red Table Talk" (TBA)



HULU/TNT

Nick (Christophe Tek), Peter (Nicholas Hoult) and Catherine (Elle Fanning) star in "The Great," which airs Friday on Hulu.

# History 'of our own making'

## 'The Great' aims to reinvent story of Russian empress

BY LUAINE LEE  
 Tribune News Service

**S**ometimes history can be so boring that nobody wants to hear about it. But Hulu plans to change all that when it presents its new 10-part "biography" of Catherine the Great, available Friday.

This is not the sternly sagacious Empress of Russia that audiences have seen before with Helen Mirren, or Catherine Zeta-Jones, or Bette Davis, or even Marlene Dietrich.

No, this is former child actress Elle Fanning, now grown up. And "The Great" is a comedy.

What's more, it's not even historically accurate, says creator Tony McNamara.

"When I see people tying their shoes with ribbons, I wanna kill myself," he says. "So I was like, 'What would I watch? What would be exciting for me?' A period show about a great character. But how would we do that in a way that twisted the genre a little bit and made it a show I would watch? And my 21-year-old daughter would watch, and people who liked history could watch as well — but it was all about the characters."

Comedy is new to Fanning, 22, who literally cut her teeth in films like "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" and "Daddy Day Care."

"That did take a bit of getting used to for me of getting into the rhythm and of course, the delicious writing, and it's all there and

you just have to say it," she says. "For me, sometimes I want to stretch things out. I'm like, 'All right, I want to take a pause here and say this speech and really (slow down)'. And it's like, OK, let's just speed it up and say it really quick. And it always works so much better that way. And also I had to learn, I think, with comedy also not to feel embarrassed. I've learned so much in the process of this in bringing my walls down and going for it a bit more," Fanning says.

The Australian McNamara, who earned an Academy Award nomination for his screenplay "The Favourite," says, "I think when I started, the reason I wanted to do it was because basically I knew one thing about Catherine the Great, which was maybe she fornicated with a horse. And then I also found out everything about her."

What he discovered, he says, is that history's impression of her is skewed.

"She went to a country she didn't even know. She took it over. She started female education. She kept the Enlightenment alive. She invented the roller coaster. I was, like, well that's the story," he says. "And it also seemed a contemporary story because the received wisdom about her is a terrible lie and defines who everyone saw her as. But she was this quite incredible woman. So that seemed like a fascinating story to tell for us. But I also didn't want to get bogged down in all the detail.

"And what I've talked about is finding really specific things we wanted to deal with

that she did. And (I planned to) get to the true essence of those massive things that she did, but not get bogged down in all the really small detail so that it gets sort of boringly historical."

He thinks hers is actually a contemporary tale.

"It's like, who are these people when they wake up? On one level, she's Catherine the Great who marries Peter the Great and that's a big story," he says. "On another level that's quite contemporary, it's about a woman who marries the wrong person and then has to go, 'What do I do? Do I kill him?' And that seemed a contemporary question."

McNamara doesn't apologize for veering off the truth.

"As long as I feel like we're truly telling a version of her story that is historically accurate here and there, and there's certain sort of tent poles that we try and hit," he says. "It isn't a perfectly historically accurate document. That's not what we're trying to do. Other shows have done that, and that's not what we're trying to do."

While much of the series is McNamara's invention, some of it is actually right on, he says.

"There's also lots of details that are completely strange that turn out to be true. Like odd methods of contraception and odd methods of pregnancy testing that are so bizarre you think we made them up, but they're all kind of accurate," he says. "It's peppered with lots of detail that is true, and then how we tell the story is of our own making."

**It isn't a perfectly historically accurate document. That's not what we're trying to do. Other shows have done that, and that's not what we're trying to do.**

Tony McNamara  
 creator, "The Great"

# WEEKEND: HEALTH & FITNESS

## Weight of coronavirus

Avoid socially-distanced weight gain by starting new, healthy habits now

Mayo Clinic News Network

If you've gained weight during the COVID-19 pandemic, you aren't alone. The "Quarantine 15" — referring to the weight gain some people have experienced since stay-at-home guidelines went into effect — is likely due to a disruption in daily routines and habits.

"People's habits have changed quite a bit since we're spending more time at home," says Dr. Donald Hensrud, medical director of Mayo Clinic's Healthy Living Program. And those changes in habits can lead to health and medical issues down the road.

Dr. Hensrud shares his thoughts on the disruption of habits and how people can find new habits.

"Now, I want to make a point for some people: Getting enough food, getting enough calories and maintaining weight may be an issue," Dr. Hensrud says. "Some people may have to worry about maintaining their weight, not unintentionally losing weight. But for many of us, our habits have changed."

### Change in movement

"For example, people think about exercise right away, and they should," Dr. Hensrud says. "Fitness centers are closed. People may be doing less exercise and burning less calories through activity that way. What people don't think quite as much about, though, is low-level activity throughout the day. Even if we have a desk job, we have to walk at least to our car to get to work. We may walk throughout the day; we may walk to lunch. And so, for spending time at home, that low-level activity may be causing us to burn fewer overall calories."

### Consuming more calories

"We may be consuming more calories. On the good side, we're eating out less at restaurants. Some-

times that can be high-calorie. We still may be taking takeout at home, so there might be a little bit of a good thing there, a decrease in calories. However, many people are stocking up on frozen foods and processed foods that have a long shelf life. Many times, they're higher in calories and less healthy," Dr. Hensrud, says. "On the flip side, for example, fruits and vegetables: They don't last as long, and we may be consuming less of them. There are a number of reasons why we might be at risk for weight gain through our habits that have changed, both in burning activity and in consuming more calories."

### Why weight gain matters

"A few pounds short term may not make a difference. It could be fluid. It might be just a little weight gain while we establish new routines. Obviously, the more weight we gain and the longer it's maintained, the more it affects our health," Dr. Hensrud says. "For children, for example, it's been shown that children's weight tracks to some extent. If children establish those habits, or lack of healthy habits, when they're young and their weight gain, that might persist as they go into adolescence and adulthood."

"Similarly, with adults, as we maintain those habits, if we can establish a new routine, the longer this goes on, then we can arrest that weight gain and try and maintain a normal weight. It's more important for some people than others," Dr. Hensrud continues. "For example, people who have diabetes or high blood pressure. Just a modest amount of weight gain in some people, if they're sensitive to that, can increase their blood glucose and blood pressure, and they won't have a good control over these factors, over these conditions. So, it depends on the individual, it depends on their health conditions, and it depends on long-term habits or routines."

### Establish new habits

"With all habits, it takes time to establish them, so everybody is getting accustomed to this new normal. I'd encourage people to establish those new healthy habits now. You have to be a little proactive about this, and that will make it easier in the long term. Break out of your comfort zone," Dr. Hensrud says. "Instead of giving in to large amounts of comfort food, this can be an opportunity to take foods that we may not think of as healthy — you can make burritos, bean burritos or even pizza. If you make it in the correct way, it can be a healthy food. Invest some time. Planning is a real key here if you plan ahead rather than just grabbing something at the last moment. Try and raise your culinary skills and do a little bit more cooking. It's an opportunity for that, too. So, if we can embrace this, embrace our new normal, look for opportunities to establish new healthy routines."

"Eating healthy and eating well don't have to be drudgery. It can and should be an enjoyable way to live. And if we can do that, then we can better manage our weight and our overall health during this pandemic," Dr. Hensrud adds.

## OPINION

# Blessings of a bigger waistline

By JESSICA ROY  
Los Angeles Times

I went for a walk the other day. Something in the window caught my eye: my reflection. I can't say for sure, but I'm beginning to strongly suspect there is a little more of me than there was at the start of March.

I cannot say I am surprised. I've been working from home and practicing expert-level social distancing for two months now. Everything about my life and my routine has changed. That my body is changing too isn't a surprise — or a bad thing.

I have been doing yoga at home, but scrolling past YouTube's litany of "power core flow" and "total body vinyasa" routines in favor of slow, gentle, stress-relieving stretches. And I have been blissfully, gleefully throwing off the shackles of worrying about what I eat or how much I ate or whether I've made it to spin class recently.

I certainly haven't stepped on a scale recently, but I'm pretty sure I've gained a little weight. And I couldn't be more thrilled about it.

In fact, I'm grateful. If the worst thing that comes out of all of this for me is that I have to buy new pants, I will weep with gratitude.

I am fortunate about a lot of things. Gaining weight means you have enough food to eat. My husband and I still have our jobs. So far we've stayed healthy. So have my parents, my in-laws, my cousins, my uncles and aunts.

I decided to ask a couple of experts whether gaining a little extra protective coating will permanently ruin my health. The short answer: no. While obesity can be a contributing factor to worse outcomes for coronavirus patients, most people are not going to go from a healthy weight to obese just by eating more snacks for a couple of months, said Whitney Catalano, a registered dietician who lives in L.A.'s Palms neighborhood.

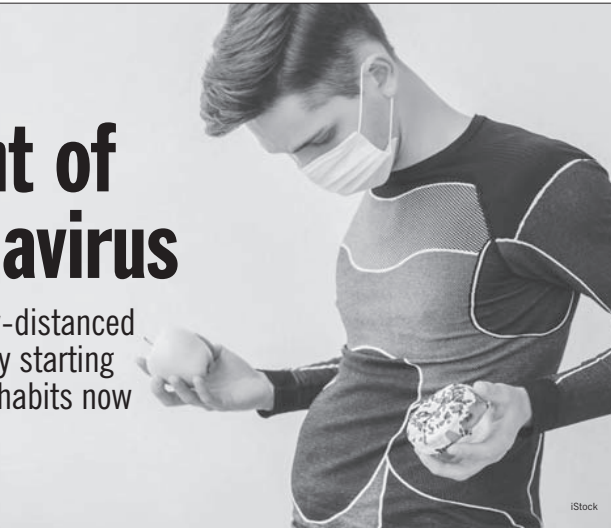
"Don't worry about a few pounds, and remove the worry about the weight itself and focus on things that might be more compassionate ways to think about your health," Samantha Cassetty, a registered dietician based in New York City, said. "Slightly tighter jeans is not a massive weight gain."

My overindulging will not end when social distancing does. I am setting money aside specifically to attempt to single-handedly revive our great city's bar and restaurant scene, on top of the jaw- and waistline-popping amount of takeout I've ordered in recent weeks.

When they fling open the doors to the gyms and fitness centers once again, we can flood them like every day is the first Monday after New Year's. I do plan on going back to the gym — I miss my spin class instructor — but I think I'll keep baking bread. I'm getting good at it.

Someday — hopefully someday soon, though not too soon — most of us will stumble bleary-eyed back into the streets, unwaxed, undyed, ungrammed. I'll be a little paler and a little pudgier. The next time I can go to the beach — maybe this summer, maybe the next time they take the census — I'll run straight into the waves, my bikini strings straining a bit more than usual.

And I will have precisely one thought in my head: I'm so grateful to be here. See you there.



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## WEEKEND: FAMILY

# 'The full freshman experience'

## Incoming college students wonder if campuses will reopen

By GARY ROBBINS

The San Diego Union-Tribune

**K**atie Quis loves San Diego State University and she hopes to be a freshman there this fall. But she might end up 1,300 miles away, strolling the hilly paths of the University of Kansas.

She's decided to go to whichever school announces first that it will welcome students on campus rather than making them stay home and take courses online to avoid the novel coronavirus.

"I want the full freshman experience — going to football games, rushing a sorority, being around people my age, learning to be independent," said Quis, a senior at Rancho Bernardo High School in San Diego. "I don't want to pay to take classes online from my house."

Like other students, she'll be lucky if either school throws open its doors.

The cherished tradition of packing a suitcase and heading off to college for freshman year has been scuttled by the coronavirus, which has shut campuses nationwide, forcing them to offer courses online.

Schools are suddenly reeling from unexpected costs, ranging from housing refunds to helping some students pay for flights home.

This is the biggest cataclysm in the history of American higher education, one that could wipe out the sight of parents doing back tears as they drop their kids off at college.

No one knows how long it will last. But college-bound freshmen are clear about this: They are not digging it.

You'll hear them say that watching a college football game in their parents' living room will never compare to doing it with a gaggle of new friends in a crowded stadium on the edge of a campus that's new to them.

Students also will tell you that cramming for an exam in the flirty world of UC San Diego's Geisel Library is a thing to remember. Doing their homework on Instagram and chattering of siblings, is something to try to forget.

Nearly 3 million students will enroll as freshmen this fall across the country. Most are members of Generation Z, the first generation that's always had access to the internet, social media and cellphones.

They're big on Instagram and streaming. But many students say they dislike online learning, calling it dull, lonely and too taxing on their attention spans.

They ask: Who wants to pay the same price for watching a psych class on Zoom when they can do it in a lecture hall filled with their peers?

The answer is few. But students will have little choice in the matter. The coronavirus hasn't been slain. A vaccine isn't near. And there might be a second wave of infections in the fall.

University leaders cringe at the possibility of incoming students back to campus in the fall only to have to



The University of San Diego's Serra Hall is usually buzzing with students but is now empty because of the coronavirus. Like other colleges, USD is determining if and how students will return to campus in the fall.

send them home if the virus flares up. It was controlled chaos when San Diego County's five major universities sent about 20,000 students packing last month.

But there's still a lot of interest in salvaging September, especially for freshmen. Educators say the first six weeks of the school year are filled with the sort of socialization that can determine if a student succeeds.

Each year, USD sends groups of students on a camping trip in Joshua Tree — an idea that will stay on the table if the school can figure out how to enforce social distancing in the desert.

It's also exploring whether it can minimize the risk of infection by reducing the number of students in dorms, making them stay 6 feet apart, and possibly staggering their use of restrooms.

USD President James Harris III wants to make things work, but he's circumspect.

"We're preparing to bring students back in the fall — but we might not be allowed to," said Harris, who has frozen wages on campus and personally taken a 15% pay cut. "It's difficult to plan for a variety of scenarios four months away when we don't know what will be allowed or capable of doing."

His frustration is shared by Albert Pisano, dean of the Jacobs School of Engineering at UC San Diego.

"How do you teach students teamwork if they can't get together?" Pisano asked.

PLNU President Bob Brower feels something similar. "This is a relationship-driven place. So much happens just encountering people on campus or in class. That's just more difficult right now."

The deadline for accepting admission at UCSD, SDSU, and USD was May 1. CSUSM and PLNU are giving students until June 1. Students could later switch to a different university if they find one that's offering in-person classes.

But many students wouldn't be able to afford the cost of suddenly shifting to another school which, in some

cases, could be far from home. Educators say students are more likely to stay close to home and many will take basic requirement classes at community colleges, which charge a fraction of the price of four-year schools.

Educators also say that some students won't return, crimping school revenues. It also could make it harder for students to graduate in a timely way.

SDSU, CSUSM and USD are thinking about reducing the number of students they let in to large classes to allow enough space for social distancing. It's called "densifying."

That could protect people's health. But a school might not be able to offer enough sections of a course to serve all of its students. That, in turn, could lengthen the time it takes to earn a degree, which makes it more costly.

"The situation has left some students asking if taking a gap year is the answer."

But many of the traditional gap-year activities — backpacking in Europe, volunteering in a foreign country — would be tough to do. Airlines have slashed international flights. Many foreign hotels aren't open. There are few places to pick up a job to cover expenses.

Yet universities have to spice up the online experience if they want to keep students plugged in.

"There are more distractions when you're at home," said TJ Griggs, a senior at SDSU. "You can eat, look at your phone. You get bored and forget school is there. You have to be really dedicated to do it right."

Mackenzie Stafford, an SDSU freshman, said, "It's easier to raise your hand in person and bounce ideas off other people. It's more nerve-wracking to do it online."

Andrew Carrillo of Chula Vista, Calif., agrees. "My professors have been really good at moving online," said Carrillo, a junior at San Francisco State. "But face-to-face discussion in a classroom is the foundation of a good college education."

## THE MEAT AND POTATOES OF LIFE

Lisa Smith Molinari



# Bolognese recipe a sure-fire respite

**J**udging from the bright sunlight that glowed through my closed eyelids, it was a beautiful morning. But I couldn't get up and face another day of this unending monotony. I pulled the pillow over my face and yearned for sleep to deliver me.

An hour later, I'd given up. I made the bed, decided it wasn't worth showering, dressed in spandex again, brushed my teeth, took a shower, got ready to completely give up on hygiene, and sat sipping coffee in the kitchen.

I was bottoming out. Throughout the shutdown, my attitude had been surprisingly positive. At first, I was downright happy. Our college kids were home. My husband, Francis, wasn't commuting to New York City anymore. We were eating meals together, playing games, calling friends, cooking out, going on long walks. Even Zoom meetings seemed fun.

Three months in, I would have chosen a stick in my eye over another Zoom meeting. The jokes about gray roots and quarantines weren't funny anymore. Francis' work-from-home schedule had given me new appreciation for those wonderful nights when I was by myself on the couch with the TV flicking white he was in a city.

The kids were acting like our house was a free bed and breakfast and I their scullery maid. The daily walks had become so repetitive, I had taken to peering shamelessly into neighbors' windows just to fight boredom. Our house, which had once seemed like our cozy refuge from the rest of the world, felt more like a prison each passing day.

Even the coffee didn't taste anymore. I sighed desperately. I pulled out my tattered to-do list, and scratched my pen through items on the list to feel like I'd accomplished something. Do laundry. Scratch. Buy groceries. Scratch. Plant tomatoes. Scratch.

I added enough new items to occupy another day in captivity. Vacuum upstairs. Mop kitchen. Spray bug killer in basement. Plan dinner.

I got up to look for ingredients for our evening meal. The sight of the open refrigerator ignited a tiny spark within me. An idea was lighting the dark recesses of my stagnant mind.

"My bolognese!" I thought, more excited than I'd been in weeks. Quickly, I grabbed ground pork and beef, carrots, celery, onion, milk and cans of tomatoes. My tattered recipe card was on a shelf in the room we call my "office" — the unheated space that was actually our pantry.

By the time the kids emerged from their bedrooms mid-morning, the aroma of sauteing onions and browning meat was wafting through the house. Anna called down the kitchen stairs, "Mom, what's that smell?"

"Bolognese," I replied, stirring in a cup of dry wine. "Yes!" she said.

"There it is," I thought. That whosof warm feeling I was looking for, to reignite my love for my family and my maternal motivation to nurture them through the crisis.

The uncovered pot bubbled and hissed all day, thickening, releasing steam and filling the air with much-needed anticipation for good things to come.

As but an hour passed, the room appeared from his third-floor home office. "Hey Hon, what's for din ...," a package in the open refrigerator caught his eye, "Italian sausages? Is that what we're having for dinner?"

"No Hon, look here," I gestured to the pot of home-cooked goodness on the stove, "I made my bolognese." I smiled coyly, expecting another excited reaction.

"But ...," he stammered for a few painful seconds, his eyes darting to his favorite food in the world — sausages — before blurting, "you could make those sausages, too."

All my rekindled hopes, warm thoughts and nurturing feelings were sucked away. I had thought the bolognese would save me. Save our family. Save humanity.

I was wrong.

On our walk the following day, I stopped peering in windows long enough to explain to Francis why the bolognese had been important to me. Surprisingly, he understood. However, I hadn't realized that Francis sought salvation, too, until he added, "So ... will you cook those sausages tonight?"

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: [themeatandpotatoesoflife.com](http://themeatandpotatoesoflife.com)  
Email: [meatandpotatoesoflife@gmail.com](mailto:meatandpotatoesoflife@gmail.com)

WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

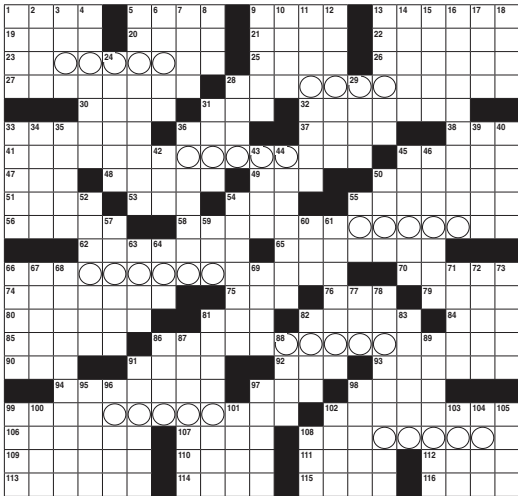
NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

BORDER CROSSINGS

BY ADAM FROMM / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Adam Fromm is a songwriter/musician from Brunswick, Me., who has been making puzzles "as far back as I can remember" His first published puzzle appeared in Games magazine in 2000. This one grew out of a geographical curiosity he noticed. Fun fact: Adam is a huge fan of Amazon Prime's "36-Down," which he was very happy to include in the grid. — W.S.

- CROSSWORD clues: 1 "For more \_\_\_\_," 53 \_\_\_\_ shoots (salad ingredient), 106 Wit badly, 107 Sit at a red light, say, 14 Many Omanis, 15 Group seen in gathering clouds?, 16 Discovery that might cause a rash, 17 Melian race of the future, 18 Gram, 24 Objects in one of Jesus' miracles, 28 Singer Lisa, 29 Top of the line, 31 Fruit with an obnoxious shape, 33 Media for scientists, 34 North of brightness, 35 Raw material for Cadbury, 36 Popular Amazon Prime drama from Britain, 39 Kind of column seen on the Jefferson Memorial, 40 "Funny Girl" composer Julie, 42 Copy, 43 Vaper's device, informally, 44 Nutritional snack from Calif., 45 Trig, for calc., e.g., 46 Relaxed, 50 Some wetlands, 52 Snack with a recommended microwave time of just three seconds, 54 Theater impresario Ziegfeld, 55 Abbr. in a genealogical tree, 57 Strait, separator of Australia and Papua New Guinea, 59 What one is in Paris?, 71 Deodorant brand, 72 Sierra \_\_\_\_, 73 "Whoops, sorry about that!", 77 Sensationalist newspaper, 78 Openings under desks, 81 Observance first celebrated in 1970, 82 Big to-do, 83 Like "Saturday Night Live", 86 Put up with, 87 Pull back, 88 Mother of 60-Down, 89 Item in a toxic internet "challenge", 91 Region around the Beltway, informally, 95 Just for laughs, 96 Put on a show, 97 Work with one's hands, 98 Pappycock, 99 Classic computer game set on an abandoned island, 100 Michelle of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon", 101 With 37-Across, Ingrid Bergman's role in "Cassablanca", 102 Tricky pronoun to use, 103 Wine opener?, 104 '60s dance craze that evolved from the Chicken, 105 Join, 108 Helper during taxing times?.

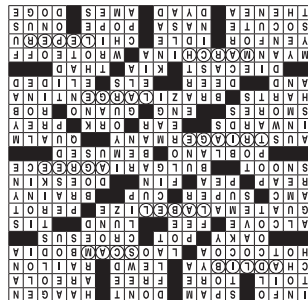


GUNSTON STREET



"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and online at gunstonstreet.com.

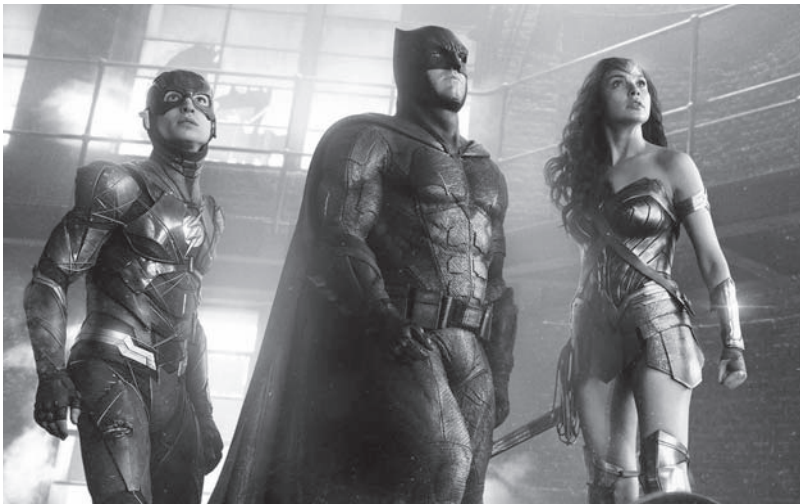
RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE



Advertisement for 'STARS AND STRIPES 15 YEARS IN AFGHANISTAN' featuring a photo of soldiers in a field.

Advertisement for 'STARS AND STRIPES 15 YEARS IN AFGHANISTAN' featuring a photo of a soldier and a book cover, with text: 'The story of the U.S. military's role in Afghanistan, as seen through the eyes of Stars and Stripes journalists covering America's longest war. Only \$14.99 with Free Shipping. ORDER NOW at www.stripesstore.com'

## FACES



Warner Bros.

The “Snyder Cut” of “Justice League” will be released on HBO Max sometime next year.

# Seeing the light of day

## ‘Snyder Cut’ of ‘Justice League’ to be released on HBO Max next year

By MICHAEL CAVNA  
The Washington Post

“This is real,” filmmaker Zack Snyder trumpeted Wednesday afternoon on Twitter, with “this” referring to his storied version of the critically maligned “Justice League” film that will now see the light of day.

The so-called “Snyder Cut” of the 2017 superhero team-up movie will be released sometime next year on HBO Max, Warner Bros. and the streaming service announced Wednesday.

“I want to thank HBO Max and Warner Brothers for this brave gesture of supporting artists and allowing their true visions to be realized,” said Snyder, who broke the news to fans Wednesday during an online “Man of Steel” commentary with its star, Henry Cavill. “Also a special thank you to all of those involved in the SnyderCut movement for making this a reality.”

The announcement can be viewed as a victory for Snyder fans who had rallied around the #ReleaseTheSnyderCut hashtag and clamored for his vision of the

film, which was believed to be considerably longer than the two-hour theatrical release.

Last fall, around the second anniversary of “Justice League’s” release, two of its stars, Gal Gadot (who plays Wonder Woman) and Ben Affleck (Batman), tweeted the hashtag in support.



Snyder

Thank you.”

And Pride of Gypsies, the Instagram account of Jason Momoa (the film’s Aquaman), said, “Finally it’s happened” and “Justice served” in a post Wednesday.

“The chant to #ReleaseTheSnyderCut has been a daily drumbeat in our offices and inboxes,” Robert Greenblatt, chairman of Warner Media Entertainment and its direct-to-consumer business, said in a statement.

The Hollywood Reporter said that Snyder would reunite “with the original post-production crew to score, cut and finish visual effects” to create “an entirely new thing,” with his “Justice League” make-over possibly cut into “chapters” for its streaming release.

In May 2017, with the film set for release that November, Snyder announced that he would turn “Justice League” over to Josh Whedon for completion. Snyder had lost his 20-year-old daughter to suicide about two months earlier.

Upon release, the film — which felt like a patchwork of styles — was widely considered a critical misfire and commercial underperformer. Debate raged on social media about whether Whedon and the studio had stayed true to Snyder’s creative vision, and some diehard fans began demanding to see a fabled raw and incomplete version of the film, as guided solely by Snyder.

The budding “Snyder Cut” movement spawned various social-media accounts and a GoFundMe campaign.

“At the end of the day,” Greenblatt said, “it really is all about” the fans.

## Daytime Emmys return to TV, but skipping the theater

The Daytime Emmy Awards are skipping a theater ceremony because of the coronavirus, but the honors will be presented on a TV broadcast.

CBS’ decision to air the awards on June 26 is a bright spot for the daytime honors, which had been consigned to an online presentation in recent years as viewer interest dwindled.

Nominations for the 47th annual Daytime Emmys were to be announced Thursday on CBS’ “The Talk,” with categories including best drama series, talk show and game show.

The New York-based National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, which organizes the daytime awards, had previously announced it wouldn’t hold the traditional theater ceremony out of pandemic safety concerns.

Awards will be presented on the CBS broadcast in leading categories, with winners and “other special guests” appearing from home in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the network and academy said in a joint announcement.

Winners in other categories were to be announced on Twitter during the two-hour telecast, with more awards to be presented in a July ceremony, the academy said.

## Loughlin, Giannulli to serve prison time for college scam

Actress Lori Loughlin and her fashion designer husband, Mossimo Giannulli, have agreed to plead guilty to charges in the college admissions bribery case and serve prison time, according to court papers filed Thursday.

The couple agreed to plead guilty to conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud in a plea agreement filed in Boston’s federal court. The charge carries up to 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

Under the plea agreement, Loughlin has agreed to serve two months in prison and Giannulli has agreed to serve five months. The plea deal must be approved by the judge.

## Body of WWE pro found after suspected drowning

The body of former World Wrestling Entertainment pro Shad Gaspard was found early Wednesday on Los Angeles’ Venice Beach, after he was caught in a rip current last weekend, police said.

Patrol officers were flagged down around 1:25 a.m. by a person reporting that a body had washed ashore, a Police Department statement said.

He was about 50 yards from shore when he was last spotted by a lifeguard, police said. A wave crashed over him and he was swept out to sea.

## Beyonce joins Obamas in honoring 2020 graduates

Beyonce has been added to the list of guest speakers for YouTube’s virtual commencement ceremony that will also feature the Obamas.

YouTube announced Tuesday that Beyonce will deliver an inspirational message to the 2020 class for its “Dear Class of 2020” event, which will take place June 6 at 3 p.m. EDT and will stream on YouTube.

“Dear Class of 2020” will include music performances from BTS, Lizzo, Doja Cat, Megan Thee Stallion, Chloë Halle, Maluma, CNCO and Camila Cabello.

Compiled from wire services

## Joe Rogan’s podcast headed to new home on Spotify

Los Angeles Times

“The Joe Rogan Experience” is headed to Spotify.

The podcast’s host and comedian announced Tuesday that the popular show will be available on Spotify starting Sept. 1. Then “somewhere around the end of the year,” the streaming service will become the podcast’s exclusive home.

“It will remain free, and it will be the exact same show,” Rogan said in an Instagram post. “It’s just a licensing deal, so Spotify won’t have any creative control over the show. We will still have clips up on YouTube but full versions of the show will only be on Spotify after the end of the year.”

According to Spotify’s press announcement, “The Joe Rogan Experience” has long been one of the most searched-for podcasts on the streaming service. The video episodes of the podcast, which Rogan’s team also produces, will be available to view within the Spotify app.

Rogan launched his podcast in 2009 and has boasted an intellectually diverse array of guests from Tesla Chief Executive Elon Musk to Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt). Despite Rogan’s controversial opinions and comments, notable figures from the entertainment industry, politics and other newsmakers have appeared on “The Joe Rogan Experience.”

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Stolen baby goat reunited with owners

**MD** BALTIMORE — A stolen baby goat was returned home to its community garden in Baltimore late Tuesday night, police said.

Baltimore police were notified just before 10 p.m. that the young Nigerian Dwarf goat named Ed had been “anonymously returned” to his owners, according to a statement from the department.

Ed was reported missing from the Filbert Street Garden on Monday night. His caretakers alleged in a Facebook post that two teenagers tore through a fence, cut off a lock and broke into a barn to steal the animal, which weighs just 20 pounds and depends on its mother’s milk to survive.

In an update, the garden celebrated Ed’s safe return and thanked police for their help. Authorities did not say whether they were continuing to investigate.

## Police: Body found after man jumps in river

**PA** LEHIGHTON — Authorities said the body of a man has been recovered from an eastern Pennsylvania river in the area searchers were looking for a man who went into the river while fleeing from police the night before.

The (Allentown) Morning Call reported that the Carbon County coroner pronounced a 32-year-old man dead Wednesday afternoon along the Lehigh River near a railroad trestle that straddles Franklin Township and Lehighton.

Police haven’t said whether they believe the man is the same person who went into the river shortly after 7:30 p.m. Tuesday after fleeing from Franklin Township police.

## Robbery suspect hit by car, yet still escapes

**OH** AKRON — A robbery suspect who jumped from a moving car was run over by the vehicle but still managed to flee from police, authorities said.

Akron police saw the man jump from the rear of the car around 9:15 p.m. Monday, authorities said. He was then struck when the car spun around, but he ran off. Authorities said the man has been identified, but they did not release his name.

Two other men who were in the vehicle were arrested on weapons charges. Authorities said three loaded handguns were found in the car. The driver told police that the man who jumped from the vehicle had been trying to rob him and the other passenger. The matter remains under investigation, authorities said.

## Boaters rescue 4 after kayaks capsize

**CT** STAMFORD — Two adults and two children were rescued from their capsized kayaks off the Connecticut coast in a spot where a man drowned



WILFREDO LEE/AP

## Rolling again

A Rollerblader skates on the Hollywood Beach Broadwalk on Tuesday in Hollywood, Fla. Broward County started a phased reopening Monday.

three weeks prior.

Civilian boaters rescued a group of people Monday night off Wallacks Point in Stamford after hearing a radio distress call, the Stamford Advocate reported Tuesday.

A resident on the point, between Cummings Beach and Cove Island Park, called 911 after seeing people in the water next to their capsized kayaks, Deputy Fire Chief Tom Gloersen said.

Joe Hoyt, 27, was on his way out of the channel when the distress call was picked up by one of his passengers, Joey Romaniello, 30, a volunteer firefighter. Hoyt found the four people, including a 9-year-old girl and 6-year-old boy, with life preservers on the east side of Wallacks Point.

## Bison put down after injuring park visitor

**ND** MEDORA — A bison had to be put down after injuring a woman visiting the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota, the National Park Service said.

Officials said the 55-year-old woman from Watford City was hiking around a bend on the Buckhorn Trail on Monday afternoon when she encountered a bull bison on the trail. The bull charged, striking the woman in the face and knocking her down.

The woman called 911 while on the ground, and a U.S. park ranger

## THE CENSUS

# \$1M

truck over what they thought was a bag of trash, then stopped and picked it up as well as another bag nearby, news sources reported Tuesday. When the Schantzes returned home, they discovered the bags contained money, Emily Schantz said. Caroline Sheriff’s Maj. Scott Moser would not say where the money was going. But he said he hopes the recipients offer the Schantzes a nice reward.

er responded and found the bull still standing near the woman. The bison was showing increasing signs of aggression, so the ranger shot the animal.

The woman was flown to Minot and treated for broken vertebrae and facial fractures.

## Suits: Security employee spied on customers

**TX** DALLAS — Two federal class-action lawsuits have been filed against ADT, one of the largest security companies in the country, alleging that an employee spied on customers and children over a seven-year period through their home security cameras.

The lawsuits, filed Monday, allege ADT showed negligence and breached contracts by failing to provide security, among other concerns. Both lawsuits say the employee was able to view customers’ intimate and private mo-

The approximate amount of money in two bags that a Virginia family out for a drive for a change of scenery during the coronavirus lockdown found lying in the road. David and Emily Schantz left their Caroline County home with their children Saturday and drove their pickup

home with their children Saturday and drove their pickup truck over what they thought was a bag of trash, then stopped and picked it up as well as another bag nearby, news sources reported Tuesday. When the Schantzes returned home, they discovered the bags contained money, Emily Schantz said. Caroline Sheriff’s Maj. Scott Moser would not say where the money was going. But he said he hopes the recipients offer the Schantzes a nice reward.

ments, including when they were nude or partially dressed.

The breach was discovered in March after an ADT customer in DeSoto, Texas, reported an unauthorized email address on her account. An internal investigation discovered the employee’s personal email address was added on 220 ADT customers’ accounts in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

ADT has fired the employee since discovering the breach. It was not immediately clear whether he faces criminal charges.

## Small plane lands on road after engine fails

**MO** LEE’S SUMMIT — A small plane was forced to land on an interstate highway in suburban Kansas City Tuesday afternoon when one of the aircraft’s two engines apparently failed, authorities said.

The pilot was the only one aboard and was not injured when

the twin-engine Bonanza landed on eastbound Interstate 470 in Lee’s Summit, police said. The plane hit a few signs but no other serious damage was reported.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol said on Twitter that the pilot was making his final approach to the Lee’s Summit airport when the engine failed.

## Trooper brings moose calves, mom together

**UT** HEBER CITY — A Utah state trooper has helped a pair of newborn moose calves reunite safely with their mother after spotting them on a mountain road.

The trooper noticed the hours-old calves without their mother on the road as he drove home from work, about 45 miles east of Salt Lake City on Monday, said Utah Highway Patrol Sgt. Nick Street. It’s not clear how they became separated. Worried they could be hit by a car, trooper Alexander Agin stopped and put up a traffic barrier. Once he was out of his car and walking, the baby moose began to follow him. So Agin decided to guide them away from the traffic danger.

Just as he led them off the road, the calves’ mother arrived — and began to charge him. Agin retreated to his car and recorded a quick video of the moose family reuniting and entering the trees.

From wire reports



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## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editors are credited to the associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

## Red flags in DeVos's plan on sexual harassment on campus

**The Washington Post**  
Education Secretary DeVos's plan on long-planned overhaul of regulations governing how schools and colleges handle allegations of sexual harassment and assault has been released in final form. As expected, they came under almost immediate court challenge from advocates for sexual abuse victims who claim the new Title IX rules do not provide license for schools to ignore sexual assault and harassment. The revisions, as we observed when the proposal was put out for public comment in 2018, include some changes that would bring needed clarity to disciplinary proceedings.

Four advocates group of people who have been sexually assaulted filed a federal lawsuit last week seeking to block the provisions from going into effect Aug. 14. The regulations, released May 6, replace the now-rescinded guidance of the Obama administration on how to enforce the 48-year-old federal law. The new rules, which discriminate in federally funded education programs. The Education Department was right to tell schools, in a 2011 "Dear Colleague" letter, that they needed to deal with long-neglected problems of sexual abuse or risk the loss of federal funding. But they tried to do a different set of problems.

Law professors at leading universities said overcorrection in countering the culture of denial resulted in an assumption of guilt that denied the accused any semblance of due process, including access to evidence from investigative reports and the right to a hearing.

The basic issue surrounding the new rules is whether bolstering the rights of those accused will have a chilling effect on the willingness of students to come forward with allegations of sexual misconduct. It is concerning that schools that are now trying to deal with sexual misconduct cases involving coronavirus will also be barring contact, have to put in place new (and likely costlier) procedures to deal with sexual abuse and harassment cases. Equally concerning, though, is that overheated rhetoric about the bad old days could become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

## The Flynn 'unmasking' involved brazen acts by Obama officials

**The Wall Street Journal**  
The media are mostly ignoring the news that Obama administration officials sought to head off disclosure of Michael Flynn's conversations with foreigners, but here and there they've asked a question. The unappealing answers suggest there's more to learn.

Take Joe Biden, who "unmasked" Flynn only a few days before leaving office as vice president. Last week Biden told ABC that he knew "nothing about those moves



ROB HARRIS/AP

A voter wearing a protective mask is seen at the Dunwoody Library on Monday in Dunwoody, Ga. Georgians were greeted with new anti-coronavirus procedures as they participated in the first day of in-person early voting for the state's June 9 primaries.

to investigate Michael Flynn." George Stephanopoulos reminded Biden that he attended a Jan. 5, 2017, Oval Office meeting when the FBI's Flynn investigation was discussed. Biden replied that he'd misheard the question and admitted he was "aware that there was" that they'd asked for, an investigation. But that's all I know about it."

This was more straightforward than what Biden told MSNBC when he was asked about his "involvement in the investigation of Michael Flynn." Biden replied: "I was never a part or had any knowledge of any criminal investigation into Flynn while I was in office."

Except at the time there was no criminal investigation into Flynn — as Biden knows. In 2016, the FBI opened a counterintelligence investigation into Flynn, and it was under that pretense the former director of national intelligence, defended his unmasking of Flynn as "perfectly legitimate." Clapper told CNN that he had a professional duty to investigate the "numerous engagements by representatives of the Trump camp with Russians." As he told Sirius XM's "The Joe Madison Show," "People would be deliric if they didn't have enough curiosity to inquire what was going on."

In other words, it's OK to eavesdrop on your political opponents if you're curious about their conversations with foreigners. We doubt that justification would have played well had the George W. Bush administration spied on Barack Obama's incoming team. Officials of incoming administrations routinely talk with officials of foreign governments.

Such exchanges don't justify the widespread scale of Obama administration unmasking of Flynn. And they certainly don't justify the leaking of the conversations that Flynn and Attorney General Jeff Sessions had with the Russian ambassador. Leaking those classified conversations is a felony.

Then there's John Brennan, the Obama CIA director, who claimed that the real story was that he trusted that the Trump-Russia collusion narrative he'd been pushing inside the administration hadn't become public. He briefed then-Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, who wrote a letter to FBI Director James Comey, laying out the "connection" between Trump and Russia and demanding an investigation. The letter leaked to the press.

The 2016 and 2017 spying on Trump officials and then leaning to protect a false narrative of collusion is one of the dirtiest tricks in the history of American politics. It is not "perfectly legitimate," and the public needs to know the full story behind it.

## Congress must require states to expand 2020 mail-in voting

**Los Angeles Times**  
Even as some states and localities are "reopening" businesses and public spaces, it is likely that the COVID-19 pandemic will still be with us in November when Americans will elect a president, the entire membership of the U.S. House and more than a third of the U.S. Senate.

It is past time for Congress to require states to expand opportunities for voting by mail and early voting — and to help pay for those changes — so that Americans on Nov. 3 aren't faced with a choice between protecting their health and exercising the most important right of citizens in a democracy.

That was the grim dilemma encountered by voters in Wisconsin's April 7 election, when — despite social distancing and other precautions — dozens of voters and poll workers may have been infected at polling places. It's vital that Congress act now to prevent voters across the country from encountering a similar situation in November, which could lower turnout as well as spread disease.

Congress included \$400 million for state election systems in a coronavirus stimulus package approved in March. But that sum falls far short of what is required to make it possible for states — especially those that lack experience with extensive voting by mail — to prepare for an election in which most votes might have to be cast by that method.

The House passed a new coronavirus relief bill Friday that would give state election systems \$3.6 billion to respond to the pandemic for a sum much closer to estimates by outside election experts of what will be required to conduct elections during this crisis. But Congress must act quickly; according to an analysis by the Brennan Center for Justice, states will have to start preparing this month if they're going to be ready for voting on the fall ballot.

It is also important that states take precautions to protect the health of voters who will cast their ballots in person, an option that must remain for disabled voters and those with unreliable mail delivery.

Shoring up election systems to respond to the pandemic should be a bipartisan cause. But while some Republican governors recognize the importance of expanding voting by mail, Republicans in Washington haven't risen to the occasion. Some GOP senators have expressed concern about a "federal takeover of the election process." President Donald Trump has called voting by mail a "terrible thing," complained that

it hurts Republicans, and suggested without offering proof that expanding the practice could lead to massive fraud. (Never mind that Trump voted by absentee ballot in Florida's primary.)

Alarmism about a "federal takeover" of elections ignores the Constitution's instruction that, while states are responsible for the "time, places and manner" of congressional elections, Congress may "at any time make or alter such regulations." Congress also has legislated regulations for presidential elections. It would be shameful if Republicans refused to exercise that authority to make it easier for Americans to vote during a public-health crisis. But then, the GOP in recent years has been the party trying to make it harder to cast a ballot.

If Republicans in the Senate erect too many obstacles to an expansion of voting by mail and other measures to safeguard voting in this extraordinary emergency, they will face the judgment of history — and of the voters they disenfranchise or endangered. They will play politics with this issue at their peril.

## Policing social distancing has appearance of racial inequality

**The New York Times**  
Of the 125 people arrested in New York over offenses that law enforcement officials described as related to the coronavirus pandemic, 113 were black or Hispanic. Of the 374 summonsed from March 16 to May 5, a vast majority — 300 — were given to black and Hispanic New Yorkers.

"Videos of some of the arrests are hard to watch. In one posted to Facebook last week, a group of some six police officers are seen tackling a black woman in a subway station as she and her child look on. 'She's got a baby with her' is heard in shouts. Police officials told the Daily News the woman had refused to comply when officers directed her to put the mask she was wearing over her nose and mouth.

Contrast that with photographs across social media showing crowds of sun-seekers packed into parks in wealthy, whiter areas of the city, lounging undisturbed as police officers hand out masks.

So it is obvious that the city needs a different approach to enforcing public health measures during the pandemic. Mayor Bill de Blasio seems to understand this, and he has promised to hire 2,300 people to serve as social distancing "ambassadors."

Hopefully, the mayor will think bigger. One promising idea, promoted by City Councilman Brad Lander and others, is to build quickly a kind of "public health corps" to enforce social-distancing measures. In this approach, specially trained civilians could fan out across the neighborhoods and parks, helping with pedestrian traffic control and politely encouraging New Yorkers entering parks to protect one another by wearing masks and keeping their distance. Police Department school safety agents, who are not armed, could help.

Another method to help social-distancing efforts may be the community-based groups that have been effective in reducing gun violence in some of the city's toughest neighborhoods.

The Police Department would play only a minimal role in this approach, stepping in to help with crowd control, for example, something it does extremely well.

Without a significant course correction, the department's role in the pandemic may look more like stop-and-frisk, the policing tactic that led to the harassment of hundreds of thousands of innocent people, most of them black and Hispanic.

New York is facing a public health crisis, not a spike in crime. Black and Hispanic New Yorkers are already suffering disproportionately from the coronavirus. They don't need more policing. They need more help.



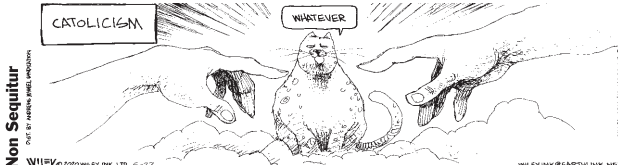
Frazz



Dilbert



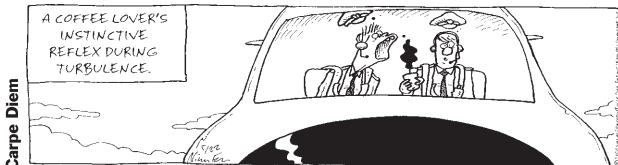
Pearls Before Swine



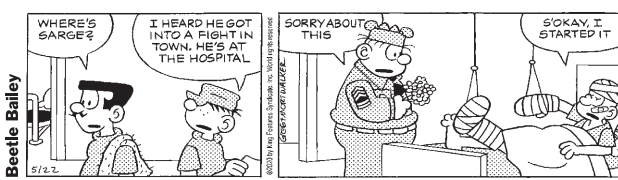
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem

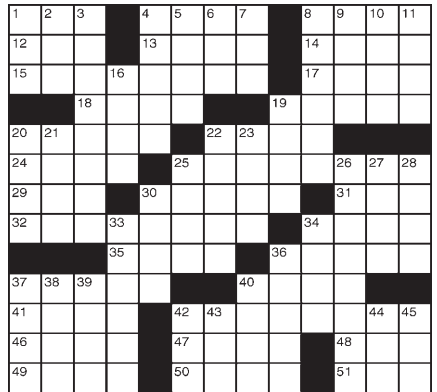


Beetle Bailey



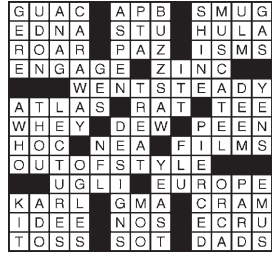
Bizarro

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



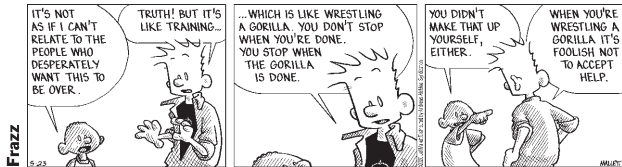
- ACROSS**
- 1 "Now, where — I?"
  - 4 Pro votes
  - 8 Chief Greek god
  - 12 College URL ender
  - 13 Fall bloomers
  - 14 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
  - 15 Pastel color
  - 17 Portal
  - 18 Red-tag event
  - 19 Director Welles
  - 20 lcky stuff
  - 22 Loafer, for one
  - 24 Helps
  - 25 Foolish chatter
  - 29 Soul, to chum
  - 30 Crude dudes
  - 31 Man-mouse link
  - 32 Bitterness
  - 34 Swedish man's name
  - 35 Cavor
  - 36 Pretreaties
  - 37 Ersatz chocolate
  - 40 Nest egg choices
  - 41 Awestruck
  - 42 Industrious folks
  - 46 "Star Trek" helmsman
  - 47 Guthrie of folk
  - 48 Ms. Gardner
  - 49 Story
- DOWN**
- 1 Entanglement
  - 2 Nabokov novel
  - 3 Abated
  - 4 Saunter
  - 5 Christmas sci-fi villain
  - 6 Outback bird
  - 7 Away from NNW
  - 8 Capital of Croatia
  - 9 Eventful periods
  - 10 "Do — others ..."
  - 11 Beheld
  - 16 Thanksgiving veggies
  - 19 Reactions to fireworks
  - 20 Swedish auto
  - 21 Peru's capital
  - 22 Sailing vessel
  - 23 Diffcult
  - 25 Prosperous period
  - 26 Chair for two
  - 27 Location
  - 28 Prince in "Frozen"
  - 30 Shapeless
  - 33 Irish accent
  - 34 Thick chunk
  - 36 Comic Richard
  - 37 Group of actors
  - 38 Oaxaca water
  - 39 Hamburger holder
  - 40 Actress Fisher
  - 42 Cote cry
  - 43 Internet address
  - 44 Wife of Adam
  - 45 Kenny G's instrument

Answer to Previous Puzzle



CRYPTOQUIP

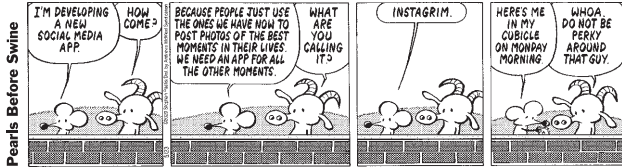
KFCW QVDCVWC'Q ZCLQGT CZM  
 KNM VE KNZXLWH LQ  
 DNXLWH EVZXQ QJNTC, LQ LJ  
 JFC QNGWJCT VE NJJCWLWV?  
 Yesterday's Cryptquip: FLICK FEATURING A WASHINGTON CITY WHERE EVERYONE PUTS ON TANK TOPS: "SLEEVELESS IN SEATTLE."  
 Today's Cryptquip Clue: Q equals S



Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



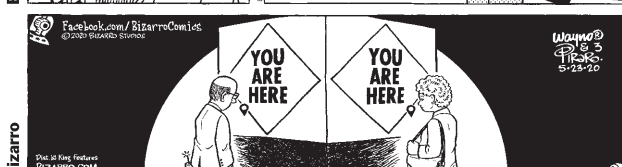
Candorville



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			

ACROSS

- 1 Grassy area
- 5 Division word
- 9 Pop's mate
- 12 "Superfood" berry
- 13 Astronaut
- Armstrong
- 14 Chopping tool
- 15 Harbor arrival
- 16 Bogus
- 17 Ballot marks
- 18 Actress Ward
- 19 Suitable
- 20 Pinta's companion
- 21 "Platoon" locale
- 23 Oklahoma tribe
- 25 Like a teddy bear
- 28 Persian Gulf land
- 32 Part of Hispaniola
- 33 Beta follower
- 34 Quarrels
- 36 Small chicken
- 37 MSNBC rival
- 38 Timetable abbr.
- 39 Creep
- 42 Motorist's org.
- 44 Bangkok cuisine
- 48 Rushmore face
- 49 "Troy" actor Brad
- 50 Corridor
- 51 Goat's plaint

- 52 Choir voices
- 53 Hebrew month
- 54 NBC sketch show
- 55 Aspiring atty.'s exam
- 56 Aliases

- 11 Small plateau
- 20 Occasionally
- 22 Sci-fi visitor
- 24 Pull on
- 25 Chinese tea
- 26 Former
- Mideast org.
- 27 Use a shovel
- 29 Invoice fig.
- 30 "' Believer"
- 31 Highland hat
- 35 Slowpokes
- 36 "Scram!"
- 39 Toast toppings
- 40 Abba of Israel
- 41 Authentic
- 43 "' boy!"
- 45 Angelic light-sharing app
- 46 Grad
- 47 World Cup cheer
- 49 Misfortunes
- 49 Chum

DOWN

- 1 Colleen
- 2 Rue the ruy
- 3 Banshee's cry
- 4 Very close, as a race
- 5 Extreme dishonor
- 6 Tide variety
- 7 Short-form video-sharing app
- 8 World Cup cheer
- 9 Extra-long
- 10 Plow pullers

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	A	S	A	I	Y	E	S	Z	E	U	S
E	D	U	M	U	M	S	A	R	N	E	
B	A	B	Y	B	L	U	E	G	A	T	E
S	A	L	E	R	O	R	S	O	N		
S	L	I	M	E	S	H	O	E			
A	I	D	S	B	L	A	H	B	L	A	H
A	M	E	B	O	O	R	S	O	R	A	
B	A	D	B	L	O	O	D	S	V	E	N
			R	O	M	P	L	E	A	S	
C	A	R	O	B	I	R	A	S			
A	G	O	G	B	U	S	Y	B	E	E	S
S	U	L	U	A	R	L	O	A	V	A	
T	A	L	E	A	L	A	R	T	E	X	

5-23

CRYPTOQUIP

P R N K I T P N Q J G Z J A  
 O P R M S Q H Q R Z U ' J H H M T R S Q J U Z  
 V B P U S B P I ' N P R V A M K R S  
 B R Q N Z S I K U L : S B P  
 S P N N Q O K P G J Z .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SOMEONE'S LEISURELY WAY OF WALKING IS MAKING FOLKS STARE, IS IT THE SAUNTER OF ATTENTION?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals B

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# SCOREBOARD/SOCCER/NBA

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## Deals

### Wednesday's transactions

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**CLEVELAND BROWNS** — Signed 2020 draft pick T. Hudson to a one-year and WR Donovan Peoples-Jones.  
**MINNESOTA VIKINGS** — Signed G Ryan Grov.  
**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** — Signed S Patrick Chung to a two-year contract extension through 2023. Signed 2020 second-round draft pick DB Kyle Dugger.  
**COLLEGE**  
**NCAA** — Named Dene Barracato to NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee.

## Pro basketball

### NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct GB	
Toronto	46	18	.719	—
Boston	43	21	.672	3
Philadelphia	39	26	.600	7 1/2
Baltimore	34	31	.523	16 1/2
New York	21	45	.318	26
Southeast Division				
Miami	41	24	.631	—
Orlando	30	35	.462	11
Washington	29	36	.443	12
Charlotte	23	42	.354	18
Atlanta	17	48	.259	22
Central Division				
Milwaukee	53	12	.815	—
Indiana	49	16	.753	4
Chicago	22	43	.338	31
Detroit	20	46	.303	33 1/2
Cleveland	19	46	.292	34

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct GB	
Houston	40	27	.597	1 1/2
Dallas	38	29	.567	2
New Orleans	28	36	.438	12
San Antonio	19	45	.299	12 1/2
Northwest Division				
Denver	43	22	.662	—
Utah	41	23	.641	1 1/2
Oklahoma City	40	24	.625	2 1/2
Portland	39	27	.593	3 1/2
Minnesota	19	45	.297	23 1/2
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	49	14	.778	—
L.A. Clippers	44	20	.688	5 1/2
Phoenix	36	27	.570	13 1/2
Golden State	26	39	.400	24
	15	50	.231	36

## Pro hockey

### NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	70	44	14	12	100	227	174
Tampa Bay	70	43	21	6	92	245	195
Florida	70	39	27	4	81	237	207
Pittsburgh	69	35	26	8	78	231	228
Montreal	71	36	31	4	73	239	217
Buffalo	69	30	34	5	68	195	217
Ottawa	71	25	34	12	58	191	242
Detroit	71	17	49	5	39	145	267
Metropolitan Division							
Washington	69	41	21	7	90	240	215
Philadelphia	69	41	21	7	89	232	196
Pittsburgh	69	40	23	6	86	234	196
Carolina	68	38	25	5	81	222	193
Columbus	70	33	32	5	73	229	220
N.Y. Islanders	68	35	22	10	80	192	193
N.Y. Rangers	70	37	28	5	79	234	222
New Jersey	69	28	34	7	68	199	243
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	70	42	20	8	98	237	191
Dallas	69	37	24	8	82	180	177
Colorado	70	36	27	7	79	210	203
Nashville	69	35	26	8	78	215	217
Chicago	68	28	34	6	68	199	243
Chicago	70	32	30	8	72	212	218
Pacific Division							
Vegas	71	39	28	4	86	227	211
Edmonton	71	37	25	9	83	225	217
Calgary	70	36	27	7	79	210	215
Vancouver	69	36	27	6	78	228	217
Arizona	70	35	28	7	74	195	187
Anaheim	71	29	33	9	67	187	225
Los Angeles	70	29	35	6	64	178	212
San Jose	70	29	36	5	63	182	226

## AP spotlight

**May 22**  
 1877 — Baden-Powell, ridden by C. Holloway, catches Leaden just before turning into the stretch and wins the Kentucky Derby by two lengths.

# Recession could hurt gate for World Cup

By ROB HARRIS  
 Associated Press

Organizers of the World Cup in Qatar are concerned that many fans won't be able to afford traveling to the tournament in 2022 if the coronavirus pandemic causes a global recession.

Many countries around the world are expected to suffer historically deep recessions as a result of the virus and the associated lockdown restrictions.

"It's all right now unclear — we are entering into a recession," World Cup organizing committee secretary general Hassan Al-Thawadi said Wednesday. "There's no way the concern about the global economy and the ability of fans to be able to afford traveling and affording coming and participating and celebrating the World Cup."



Al-Thawadi

Sporting events have also been postponed, including soccer's European Championship that was due to start next month but has been moved until 2021.

Qatar still hopes six of its eight stadiums will be completed by the end of this year despite the COVID-19 disruption. The World Cup is set to be played in November-December 2022 — rather than its usual June-July slot.

"By 2022 I'm optimistic that we would overcome this pandemic as a human race collectively," Al Thawadi said on a Leaders in Sport Live stream. "It will be one of the early opportunities for all of us to celebrate together, to engage together, to bring people together."

Qatar is promising the World Cup will be affordable for fans but the tiny gas-rich nation has been affected by economic activity shutting down in so many countries. State-owned Qatar Airways, a World Cup sponsor, has said it will cut jobs as the global aviation industry has been largely grounded.

For three years, Qatar has had to adjust tournament preparations to cope with the economic and diplomatic boycott of the country by Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates over claims it supports extremist groups in the region. Qatar denies the allegations.

"It was a blessing in disguise to a large extent because it forced us to be self-reliant and forced us to look inward," Al-Thawadi said of the boycott. "This forced us to become much more resilient ... which made us much better prepared to deal with COVID."



WNSLOW TOWNSON/AP

Utah Jazz guard Mike Conley, right, drives past the Boston Celtics' Robert Williams III during a game on March 6 in Boston. Conley is at home in Ohio, waiting to find out how hard he should be training.

# NBA's hesitation move

Utah's Conley waits on the league's decision, like rest of the players

By TIM REYNOLDS  
 Associated Press

Mike Conley is waiting for further instructions. So is the rest of the NBA.

The league is continuing to work through multiple return-to-play scenarios, with two people with knowledge of the situation saying Wednesday that Orlando — which has been talked about for several weeks — along with Las Vegas and Houston remain under consideration. The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the league has made no final decisions.

More than half of the league's teams have opened facilities for voluntary player workouts, with Minnesota expected to be the next to do so on Thursday. Utah is among the teams that has opened, but Conley is still at his home in Ohio and has yet to return to Salt Lake City for those sessions at the Jazz facility.

"I've been working as if we're coming back," Conley said Wednesday. "If anything, I'd like to know a direction, just to know whether to keep putting the foot on the pedal or, you know, back a little bit and rest easier if we're not playing until the following year and following season. So, I think it just is going to be a wait-and-see kind of game. I'll be ready, one way or another."

Also Wednesday, Jared Dudley of the Los Angeles Lakers said he is "90% confident" that the NBA is coming back this season and that he believes players owe it to the fans to try to finish the season.

But Dudley also said that the notion of the league returning in a "bubble" has been misguided,

**"I think it just is going to be a wait-and-see kind of game. I'll be ready, one way or another."**

Mike Conley  
 Utah Jazz guard

and that players will be allowed to leave the NBA campus, wherever it is — knowing they'll be running a risk by doing that.

"If you come back with corona, you can't play," Dudley said. "So we're going to be tested all the time, and so it would be smart of teams ... all the top guys that we have, we'll be wrapping them in bubble and not letting them go anywhere. Let's just be honest, they can't leave. And so, you would want that to be a team rule."

Wednesday marked the end of the 10th week since the NBA shut down on March 11, a move that came once it was known that Jazz center Rudy Gobert tested positive for the coronavirus. The pandemic halted a season that had 259 games left to play, but none of those games have been officially canceled yet.

Ordinarily, the NBA would be still into the conference-finals portion of the playoff schedule at this point. Players who were paid May 15 saw 25% of those checks withheld in anticipation of some games being canceled, and if no more regular-season games are played they could lose a total of about \$850 million in gross salary.

The league remains hopeful that some sort of decision on whether the season can resume can be made in the coming weeks. Commissioner Adam Silver de-

tailed a two-to-four-week window when he met with members of the National Basketball Players Association electronically on May 8, and that window would theoretically end June 5.

The next steps would likely include additional guidance from the league on when teams can expand their voluntary workouts; at this point, no more than four players are allowed in a facility at a given time, and some have enacted even stricter policies on their own. From there, a plan for training camps would likely follow, and when those camps — which will almost certainly be preceded by a quarantine period — begin, games could follow potentially as soon as three weeks later.

Should all that happen, camps could start in June and games may resume in July. There are still a litany of issues to work out, such as all the details surrounding testing, which the league has said would have to be part of any return-to-play scenario.

"We're going to be back as soon as we hear even more encouraging, positive news from our league," Conley said. "What I've heard as far as from the COVID standpoint, I think things have gotten better. So, I think that it causes a lot of our ... reservations of not wanting to leave our homes."

AP sports writer Greg Beacham in Los Angeles contributed.



## COLLEGE

# NCAA to lift ban on football, basketball workouts

BY STEVE MEGARGE  
Associated Press

The NCAA Division I Council voted Wednesday to lift a moratorium on voluntary workouts by football and basketball players effective June 1 as a growing number of college leaders expressed confidence that fall sports will be possible in some form despite concerns about the coronavirus pandemic.

This decision clears the way for individual workouts by athletes, mostly on their own, subject to safety and health protocols decided by their schools or local health officials.

NCAA officials noted that the workouts could go on as long as all local, state and federal regulations are followed. The status of voluntary workouts for other sports will be determined later.

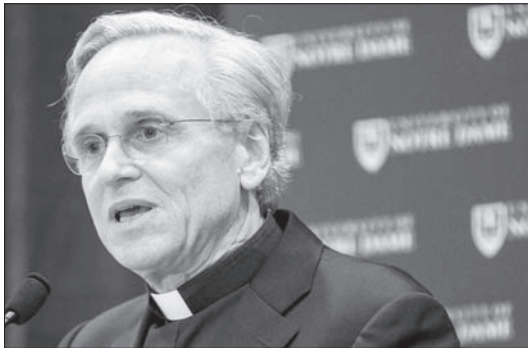
"We encourage each school to use its discretion to make the best decisions possible for football and basketball student-athletes within the appropriate resocialization framework," Penn athletic director and council chair M. Grace Calhoun said in a statement. "Allowing for voluntary athletics activity acknowledges that reopening our campuses will be an individual decision but should be based on advice from medical experts."

From Notre Dame to LSU and more, a number of schools have announced plans to reopen campuses for the fall semester and conferences have begun setting up plans for how to play football amid the pandemic. The latest came this week with the Florida State system announcing plans for its 12 schools and more than 420,000 students.

Many questions remain, including specific safety protocols and whether fans would be allowed if games proceed.

Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said in conference call Wednesday that he believes the Buckeyes could safely play home games with 20,000 to 30,000 fans in its 105,000-seat stadium.

"I think we can get there," Smith said.



ROBERT FRANKLIN, SOUTH BEND (IND.) TRIBUNE/AP

University of Notre Dame President Rev. John I. Jenkins speaks during a press conference in South Bend, Ind. The presidents of the University of Miami and Notre Dame said in separate interviews that they expect the football season to be played.

Smith said he hadn't figured out yet how those 20,000 to 30,000 spectators would be chosen. He said masks and other precautions would be required to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Smith added that Ohio State is ready to open the 15,000-square-foot Woody Hayes Athletic Center to athletes starting June 8 if the NCAA allows it. About 10 players at a time would be allowed to work out on staggered schedules with social-distancing and other hygiene precautions in place. Some coaches returned to the complex on a limited basis this week.

Other schools also are looking into ways they can hold workouts as safely as possible.

Middle Tennessee athletic director

Chris Massaro said his school plans to take the temperature of players daily and make sure they are wearing masks. Massaro has even discussed moving some equipment from the weight room to the Red Floyd Stadium concourse to make sure workouts allow social distancing.

"We're a little bit kind of like guinea pigs," Middle Tennessee coach Rick Stockstill said. "We're the ones that are coming back first, football's coming back first all across the country. So we've got to make sure we're doing our part so there's not a setback, and it's going to take all of us buying in and doing whatever we can to keep everybody else healthy and safe."

The presidents of Miami and Notre Dame said in separate interviews they ex-

pect the football season to be played.

Notre Dame President Rev. John Jenkins told MSNBC he expects to have clarity on how—or if—the football season can happen in the next few weeks.

"The team itself, I feel we can manage that one," Jenkins said. "Then the question is people in the stands. We have an 85,000-person stadium. Can we get 85,000 people in there? That will be a big challenge to do that. But could we get a smaller number—10,000, 15,000, 20,000? I don't know."

Miami President Julio Frenk told CNN he hopes the Hurricanes can play this fall and that safety would be the top priority.

"They will probably play in empty stadiums, like so many other sports," Frenk said.

Scott Woodward, the athletic director at defending national champion LSU, said his school was preparing to welcome back athletes after the Southeastern Conference's closure of athletic facilities to students is slated to end May 31.

LSU will offer summer classes online and doesn't have plans to reopen its campus to the general student population at least until the fall semester.

Most athletic departments need the revenue generated from football to fund their other sports. Hundreds of schools are reeling financially from the effects of the pandemic. Athletic departments, particularly at smaller schools and in Division II, have already cut a number of sports.

The NCAA this week lowered the minimum number of games Division II schools are required to play in all sports next year. The move includes a 33% reduction in the minimum number of games needed for sponsorship and championship qualification in most sports.



Frenk

## HBCUs hit hard by NCAA's academic penalties

BY JOHN ZENOR  
Associated Press

Historically black colleges and universities have again been hit disproportionately hard with NCAA-imposed penalties based on Academic Progress Rates.

Charles McClelland, commissioner of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, knows that his members face many challenges in that regard, including fewer financial resources and lower admission standards.

He also understands that meeting those NCAA standards is just part of HBCUs competing in Division I.

"We're not going to allow any obstacle or any excuse to stop us from achieving our goal," said McClelland, a former athletic director at SWAC member schools Texas Southern and Prairie View A.M. "It might just take us longer to get there because we do have limited resources and we do have our historical mission that (includes) taking those that might not necessarily be ready for college, get them ready for college, enable them and then get them on the other end for graduation.

### By the numbers

**18**      **958**      **21%**

Number of historically black colleges and universities the NCAA is penalizing based on Academic Progress Rates.

SOURCE: Associated Press

"We take extreme pride and joy in doing that, but sometimes that means that our numbers might be behind. But we're not going to apologize for our mission and we're not going to apologize for what we do, because we make a significant impact in this society."

The NCAA announced penalties on 23 teams Tuesday, in-

cluding 18 from HBCUs. SWAC member Alabama A&M joined Stephen F. Austin as the only athletic programs having three teams on that list.

The Bulldogs received postseason bans in men's basketball, men's track and field and women's soccer.

In-state rival Alabama State also faces a postseason ban in men's basketball, while Southern, Grambling State and Prairie View A&M were also hit with bans in other sports.

New Alabama State hoops coach Mo Williams, a longtime NBA player who was formally introduced Wednesday, went to college at the far wealthier University of Alabama.

He said Alabama State has the resources to meet the academic goals.

"Alabama State is a great, great, great university," Williams said. "The resources, what's available for us is really what we need. We can get it done with what we've got."

Teams posting a four-year APR score below 930, which predicts a 50% graduation rate, can be penalized. The average APR scores at HBCUs has risen from 913 in 2009-10 to 958 or higher each of the past four years, with eligibility and retention rates also making similar leaps, according to NCAA data.

The rates of HBCU teams scoring under 930 went from 44% a decade ago to 21% this year and even lower the previous three.

McClelland notes that SWAC

schools have far fewer academic support staffers than big-money schools such as Auburn and Alabama inside their own state. He has reorganized the league's compliance office to help boost APR and graduation numbers.

"The mission of our member institutions is to serve the historically underserved," he said. "We still have a predominantly first-generation student and a predominantly first-generation student athlete to attend our institutions. "The majority of our students cannot get into the Ivy League, the University of Alabama or Auburn. Our admission standards are not as high."

McClelland can point to his own experiences for hope of continued progress. When he took over the athletic program in 2008, Texas Southern had a 29% graduation rate for athletes. It more than doubled during his tenure.

"There's a lot of things that have to be done and a lot of our institutions are in the middle of making that change," McClelland said. "We know it can be done and that's why we embrace Division I standards. It can be done, but it's not an overnight process."

# BEST SPORTS MOVIES

## No. 2: 'Bull Durham'

# Director didn't lollygag about avoiding cliches

By BEN NUCKOLS

Associated Press

Ron Shelton, the writer-director of "Bull Durham," "White Men Can't Jump" and "Tin Cup," isn't a big fan of sports movies.

"Sports" movies generally, I don't like, and as a kid growing up as a young man, I liked them even less," Shelton told The Associated Press. "My mother loved 'Pride of the Yankees,' which even as a kid I couldn't stand. I thought it was sentimental and false and the athletics were horrible."

Shelton, a former minor league ballplayer in the Baltimore Orioles organization, set out to put a personal stamp on the sports movie. He avoided the familiar tales of the heroic underdog player, hard-charging coach or team of misfits that somehow becomes a winner.



Shelton

And he hit a grand slam in 1988 with "Bull Durham," his first effort as a writer-director, which finished tied for second with "Rocky" in a poll of AP sports writers' favorite sports movies.

"Bull Durham" follows the Class A Durham Bulls through a season — sort of — as savvy veteran catcher Crash Davis (Kevin Costner) reluctantly tutors wild young pitcher Nuke LaLoosh (Tim Robbins). Spoiler alert: When the movie ends, one key player is called up to the majors, another is released, and Shelton doesn't bother to show where the Bulls finish in the standings.

"I was out to avoid the big game because there are very few big games in sports and in life," Shelton said. "A baseball career ends with a slow groundball to third, not a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth."

The movie begins with an ode to baseball in voiceover, not from a player or coach, but from a passionate fan, Annie Savoy (Susan Sarandon), a liberated intellectual who favors season-long flings with younger ballplayers. Annie is the hero of the movie, the instigator of a love triangle and a strong voice for respecting yourself and the game. Shelton said he wasn't trying to sneak a feminist message into the movie.

## About the film

Year: 1988

Screenwriters: Ron Shelton

Director: Shelton

**Starring:** Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins  
**Plot:** The lives of a career minor leaguer (Costner), a young, wild pitcher (Robbins) and a local fan (Sarandon) intertwine.

**Iconic Line:** "The only church that truly feeds the soul, day in and day out, is the church of baseball."  
 — Annie Savoy (Sarandon)

**Oscars:** 1 nomination  
 — Associated Press

"I knew that women had a strong point of view about being part of this world and how difficult it was on them," Shelton said. "I didn't want it to be about the beleaguered wife of a player but at least bring in a woman's point of view to a very male world."

Sarandon has said Annie was the rare part she was willing to fight for because the character was so unconventional: "She's very sexual, she's very funny and she doesn't have to be punished for it at the end of the movie," she told the American Film Institute in 2009.

As for the on-the-field action, it's hilariously sentimental.

"Get a hit, Crash," a bat boy says to the veteran in his first on-screen at-bat.

"Shut up," Crash responds. Shelton's aim was to bring the audience inside the game. Although the scenes are played for comedy, they're filled with important details. "Bull Durham"



JIM R. BOUNDS, THE (DURHAM) HERALD-SUN/AP

A Bull Durham movie poster hangs outside the Durham Bulls team offices.



JIM R. BOUNDS/AP

Matt DeMave checks on the bull atop the left-field wall at Durham Bulls Athletic Park in Durham, N.C., in 2008, 20 years after the movie "Bull Durham" came out. It follows the Class A Durham Bulls as veteran catcher Crash Davis (Kevin Costner) reluctantly tutors wild pitcher Nuke LaLoosh (Tim Robbins).

dispels some myths about what happens in the dugout, or during the intimate chats between pitcher and catcher, catcher and batter or catcher and umpire.

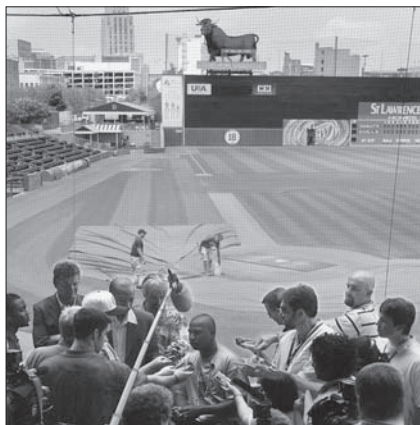
A profane argument between Crash and an umpire is more about the argument itself than the substance of the ump's call. A meeting on the mound between several players is about everything but baseball.

In order to teach Nuke a lesson, Crash twice tells a batter what pitch Nuke is about to throw. ("Here comes the deuce," Crash says from behind the plate, announcing a curveball, "and when you speak of me, speak well.") Both times the hitter crushes it.

This was one instance where Shelton gave reality a do-over.

"To this day I am haunted by a game I played in Double-A in the Texas League against the El Paso Suns," Shelton said. "The catcher said, 'He's going to throw a curveball first pitch.' I looked down at him and he says, 'No, curveball first pitch. Why would I lie to you?' I didn't know the catcher from Adam. The guy threw the most hanging curveball I've ever seen and I didn't swing at it and I knew I could have hit it 400 feet... The catcher says, 'That's the last pitch I ever give you. If you don't trust me, I can't give you any pitches.'"

And Nuke was actually a toned-down version of the real pitcher



WALT UNKS, THE (DURHAM) HERALD-SUN/AP

Durham Bulls outfielder Delmon Young, center, in 2006 speaks to the media at Durham Bulls Athletic Park.

who inspired him: Steve Dalkowski, who died last month of the new coronavirus. Dalkowski threw harder and was even wilder — on the field and off — than the character.

In retrospect, "Bull Durham" (released by Orion Pictures) was part of a golden age of sports movies. Every movie in AP Sports' top 10 hit theaters between 1977 and 1992. Shelton credits Hollywood studios at the time for being more free-wheeling and less concerned about the overseas market, where baseball in particular doesn't sell.

Even a director of Shelton's pedigree can't get a baseball movie made today. He has a script co-written with his "Tin Cup" collaborator John Norville about a pitcher trying to resurrect his career in Colombia that hasn't found a home.

And while he's more worried about his next project than his legacy, the 74-year-old Shelton understands why "Bull Durham" remains beloved.

"It's about a guy who loves something more than it loves him back. And that's bigger than baseball, it's bigger than sports, it's bigger than gender," Shelton said. "Is there a person on the face of the Earth who can't say they love something more than it loved them back? A person, a job, a passion, whatever. I think when I wrote the movie, I didn't even realize that's what it was about. And so I think that's why we're talking about it."

**Editor's note:** Recently, the Associated Press revealed its Top 25 of sports movies, as voted on by 70 writers and editors around the world. After compiling the list, the AP assigned writers to present stories examining the Top 10 from unique perspectives. This is the eighth in the series, a look at the impact of a film that tied for second, "Bull Durham."

## BEST SPORTS MOVIES

## No. 2: 'Rocky'

## Boxing movie still packs punch as Philly favorite

Oscar winner has legions of fans worldwide

By DAN GELSTON

Associated Press

## PHILADELPHIA

The Brazilian exchange student made one request of his host before his study abroad semester was cut short and he returned home to Sao Paulo:

Take me to Rocky.

On the way to the Philadelphia airport, Joao Martucci, who studied linguistics at West Chester University, took a pit stop and beelined to the Rocky Balboa statue at the base of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. He raised his arms in triumph like Philly's favorite fictional fighter and then recreated the boxer's famous run up 72 stone steps to the entrance of the museum. He celebrated his ascent by waving his arms and hopping around (minus the strains of "Gonna Fly Now") just as Sylvester Stallone's character had done at the end of his training run in "Rocky."

"I just really like the films about Rocky," he said. "I really wanted to know the statue and the stairs."

He's not alone in his Rocky fandom. From South Philly to Brazil and round the globe, an incalculable number of Rocky Balboa fans recreated the run made famous in "Rocky" and duplicated its sequels, spinoffs and Super Bowl spots.

The 1976 film won a best picture Oscar and transcended the sports genre to become a pop culture sensation and is etched in Philadelphia history every bit as much as the Liberty Bell and Ben Franklin.

You know the quotes by heart: "Yo, Adrian!" "You're gonna eat lightning' and you're gonna crap thunder!" "Cut me, Mick!" "Ain't gonna be no rematch." Just like Balboa in his first fight with Apollo Creed, "Rocky" failed to win the big one among the contenders for top sports movie. "Rocky" finished tied with "Bull Durham" for No. 2 in The Associated Press Top 25 favorite sports movies poll. There were several Rocky rounds that could have cracked the poll — "Rocky" bred four sequels, "Rocky Balboa" and "Rocky II" by Michael B. Jordan-led "Creed" films.

The movie did more for Philly than create easy landmarks for fans to visit or grumble their best "Yo, Adrian!" impressions; it inspired everything from a short-lived Broadway play to Philadelphia's Rocky Run, a 50K (31 miles) jaunt based on the in-

## About the film

Year: 1976

Screenwriter: Sylvester Stallone

Director: John G. Avildsen

Starring: Sylvester Stallone, Talia Shire, Burt Young, Burgess Meredith, Carl Weathers

Plot: A small-time boxer (Stallone) living in Philadelphia gets a shot at the heavyweight championship.

Iconic Line: "Yo, Adrian."

— Rocky Balboa (Stallone)

Oscars: 3 wins (Picture, Director, Editing), 10 total nominations

— Associated Press

spirational montage in the 1979 flick as Balboa trains for his heavyweight championship rematch with Creed.

But it's the first movie that packs a punch with the city, back when Balboa was just a down-on-his-luck boxer that served as a metaphor on what it means to fight for love and prove you have the eye of the tiger.

Tanyell Blake, a "Rocky" fanatic, had to go the (social) distance and escape feeling cooped up in her Pemberton, N.J., home to make her first trip to the statue. Stallone commissioned the statue

for a scene in 1982's "Rocky III" and donated it to the city afterward. Lines usually snake around the museum sidewalk full of fans who want a snapshot and a selfie with the 9-foot-11, 1,300-pound bronze beast. During the coronavirus pandemic, it's easy to step up and go eye-to-bronze knee with the statue, no wait necessary.

Blake loved all the "Rocky" movies but called the first one her "all-time favorite." She had one kerfuffle and felt inspired by the films to run the steps.

"I did it. I made it," she said. "I can check it off my bucket list now. I went the distance. Up and down."

At the 2006 "Rocky Balboa" premiere in Philadelphia, Stallone said he owed so much of the movie's success to the city.

"It belongs to Philadelphia," he said. "It's a very unique relationship. It's something no one could have ever planned on."

Mike Kunda turned his resemblance of Stallone into a career as owner of the Yo, Philly! Rocky Film Tour. Wearing a pork pie hat and black leather coat, the 52-year-old Kunda has given nearly 1,100 tours of "Rocky" movie locations since he began in 2011, telling the inside story of "Rocky" as he drives fans around the city from the street where Rocky



GEORGE WIDMAN/AP

Actor Sylvester Stallone poses in front of the bronze statue of himself portraying the boxer Rocky Balboa after it was unveiled near the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art on Sept. 8, 2006.

flirts with Adrian after their first date to the telephone pole where a loan shark yells at Balboa for failing to collect a debt.

"I think it just taps into wanting to be our personal best," Kunda said. "I just try and keep the goodness of Rocky alive."

Kunda hasn't given a tour since March 15 but can take heart in

**Editor's note:** Recently, the Associated Press revealed its Top 25 of sports movies, as voted on by 70 writers and editors around the world. After compiling the list, the AP assigned writers to present stories examining the Top 10 from unique perspectives. This is the ninth in the series, a look at the impact of the film that tied for second, "Rocky."

a popular Rocky-ism: It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward; how much you can take and how much you can give forward.

"Rocky appeals to that person who has been overlooked," he said. "People judge you. So many of us have been overlooked that I think it's important to be able to fall on our own terms. Give me a shot to fail. Rocky has great determination and that's something that can be lacking in people."

The last image of the Balboa character came at the end of "Creed II" when he visits his son to try and patch up a strained relationship. Not even Stallone is ready to say the character is set to hang up his gloves and fade into black on the silver screen.

"I never say no to Rocky," Stallone said. "I have a couple of ideas. But I'm not so sure because they don't really involve the ring as much as they should. I'm not so confident that it'll be exciting enough for the audience. But who knows?"



MATT ROURKE/AP

Jessica Shiroll, right, directs Joao Martucci as he poses for a photograph with the Rocky Balboa statue on April 3 at the Philadelphia Art Museum. Martucci is an exchange student and 'Rocky' fan from Brazil.

## NFL

## Analysis

## No Hail Mary on drive to reopening

League has goal line to reach but isn't in a rush to get there

By BARRY WILNER  
Associated Press

The NFL is taking baby steps toward full reopenings for its teams. It has no other choice. No long throws downfield. Mostly halfback dives into the line.

There are so many issues that must be addressed with the opening of team facilities across the nation. Just because a handful of clubs returned executives and other staff — no coaches or players — to their complexes on Tuesday does not foreshadow a quick return to business as usual, or close to it.

For one thing — a very major thing — there's competitive balance to consider.

"Competitive issues are always important and they always are considered in a way to try to preserve equitable treatment of all 32 clubs," said Jeff Pash, the NFL's chief legal counsel. "And certainly, our goal will be to have all 32 clubs operating on a consistent basis."

Here are some of the challenges the teams face at a time when organized team activities (OTAs), followed by June on-field minicamps, would have been taking place.

## Government restrictions

At least a dozen franchises had no chance to begin the reopening process this week because state or local municipalities barred it. All four California teams — the Raiders still cannot because their current training facility in Alamogordo — and both New Jersey clubs fall in that category.

"We are not opening up," Ravens President Dick Cass said Tuesday. "In Maryland, we are deemed to be a non-essential business. Under local and state regulations, we remain closed and we will remain closed until the governor permits us to open up. Right now, it would be great to have our players back. But I don't see that happening anytime soon."

## Testing

As Dr. Allen Sills, the NFL's chief medical officer, noted during a conference call following the team owners' virtual meeting Tuesday: "We're not putting dates on the calendar at this point" concerning testing coaches and players into team complexes.

## Defense: Shield could be ready in time for players to try in preseason

## FROM BACK PAGE

Work on the face mask is far enough along that "there will probably be a recommendation" to use it when the league begins its preseason schedule in August, according to Mayer.

Cleveland Browns center JC Tretter, who also serves as president of the NFLPA, welcomed any attempt to improve player safety.

"There are no bad ideas at this point," he said. "You kind of have to think outside the box. Just because it is an idea does not mean things are definitely going to happen, but you need to explore it and you need to understand it."

Falcons cornerback Isaiah Oliver withheld judgment until he's able to check out a prototype.

"I haven't seen anything like that," Oliver said Wednesday. "I would have to look into it to see what it looks like."

Oliver is already contracted by the NFL to provide visors that some players use on their



MATT YORK/AP

Cardinals coach Kliff Kingsbury looks back at Kyler Murray during last year's training camp. Several NFL teams, including Arizona, reopened their training facilities this week, while many are prohibited by government restrictions during the coronavirus pandemic.

"We feel there are certain important steps that need to occur with regard to testing, with regard to test availability, with regard to test reliability, and our continued evolution of understanding about how to manage exposure," he added. "All of those things continue to evolve, and when we and the players association together feel like we're at a point of satisfaction with that science, then we'll be ready to move forward."

"We're moving as fast as the science and the data takes us."

Cass was willing to put a time frame on it — somewhat.

"We believe by the time of training camp (late July), we'll be able to test players and coaches multiple times a week, and be able to get the results fairly quickly," he said. "I think there's a really good shot that we'll be OK."

## Social distancing

This could be the most difficult task of all. Consider the need to spread out dressing stalls, for example. No socially players are practically shoulder to shoulder in locker rooms. Indeed, in training camp, makeshift lockers are installed to accommodate the extra load.

face masks. The company also has developed durable eyeglasses for the military that are designed not to fog up — technology that may prove useful in its latest project.

The new coverings would likely have to cover the entire face mask.

"They've got some prototypes," Mayer told Scheffer. "Some of them, when you first look at them, you think, 'Gosh, no because you're not used to seeing it. You're just not used to seeing it. But they're looking at every issue you can imagine, including when it fogs up. What do we do with that? But these guys are used to dealing with this stuff!'"

McKay said he expects the new face masks

After stringent workouts or practices, many players head for the tubs. When one is done, another soon climbs in.

There's no way that will work any longer. Teams must consider installing more tubs and separating them. So add plumbers and contractors to the list of folks in facilities.

Same thing for the ever-popular weight room, which often has two dozen or more players at work. Schedules for who can be in there and when must be compiled. Equipment managers and even trainers will be charged with frequent disinfecting chores.

Meeting rooms are designed for large groups, making social distancing a huge challenge when coaches and players can actually hold those get-togethers.

"The hope around the league is that Phase 1 of reopening demonstrates our ability to operate in a safe manner, allowing more staff (including coaches) to gradually return to the office soon," Broncos President Joe Ellis wrote in a memo to organization members.

"Although there is currently no set timeline for when this next phase of expanded facility access could begin, we should remain prepared in the event that it occurs in the very near future."

After many baby steps are taken.

would quickly gain acceptance, assuming they meet two main standards.

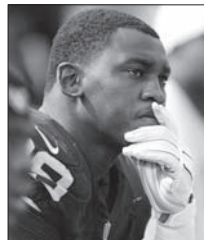
"They've got to be comfortable for the players — that's one. And they've got to be safe."

While McKay has never been a fan on the tinted visors that some players already use, he's learned to accept that look.

"I understood that some players needed it because of their eyes," McKay said. "In this instance, if this is what the doctors in the medical field think is needed, then we should look into it."

Tretter said the NFL is "probably going to look a little different this year" and modified face masks might be part of the changes.

"You have to focus on fitting football inside of this world of coronavirus and not get caught up in trying to fit coronavirus inside of this world," he said. "You can't expect just to throw football back in and think that the virus is going to kneel down to football. You have to look through different ways of making sure people stay healthy."



BEN MARGOT/AP

Aldon Smith sits on the Raiders' bench during a game in 2015, the last time he played in the NFL. The league reinstated Smith from an indefinite suspension for off-field issues.

## Cowboys' Smith reinstated

Associated Press

FRISCO, Texas — Aldon Smith will be able to take part in team activities with the Dallas Cowboys after the NFL on Wednesday conditionally reinstated the pass rusher from an indefinite suspension for off-field issues.

Smith, who hasn't played in an NFL game since 2015, will be able to participate in the Cowboys' virtual offseason program starting next week. He can also meet with teammates and coaches.

The Cowboys, who lost sacks leader Robert Quinn in free agency, signed Smith to a one-year contract last month despite his uncertain playing status. Smith was reinstated after meeting with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on a video teleconference last week.

Smith was drafted seventh overall by San Francisco in 2011 and had 14 sacks as a rookie. He was an All-Pro in 2012 when he had 19½ sacks and the 49ers reached the Super Bowl. He had 44 sacks in 50 games during his first four NFL seasons in San Francisco with defensive line coach Jim Tompala, now on the Cowboys staff for new head coach Mike McCarthy.

Smith had several legal issues as a player with San Francisco and Oakland. He was first suspended with the 49ers in 2014 before receiving a one-year ban in November 2015 with the Raiders. Smith applied for reinstatement to the NFL in 2016, but that decision was initially deferred.

Oakland retained Smith's contractual rights before releasing him in 2018 after San Francisco police issued a warrant for his arrest in a domestic violence case.

The Cowboys still have a suspended pass rusher under contract in Randy Gregory, who is seeking reinstatement. Gregory was indefinitely suspended in February 2019 for violating the NFL's substance-abuse policy, his fourth league suspension coming about seven months after he had been reinstated by Goodell.

NFL

# Tagovailoa joins a league void of lefties

## Rookie QB has solid role models in Hall of Famers Young, Stabler

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
Associated Press

When Tua Tagovailoa signed his rookie contract with the Miami Dolphins, the left-handed quarterback from Alabama didn't have to worry about smudging his signature.

He signed the documents with his right hand.

Yes, the NFL's latest lefty QB is a natural right-hander, one whose father, Galu, turned him into a (sometimes) southpaw in his youth.

"My dad was the only lefty in our family and he wanted me to be a lefty as well, so he switched the way I threw," explained Tagovailoa, who still eats, writes and giffs right-handed but shoots baskets and throws footballs with his left.

"I don't think I would be here if I was a righty," said Tagovailoa. "Because I know I'm only good with my left hand throwing the ball."

That makes Tagovailoa an oddity in the NFL, where a left-hander hasn't started at quarterback since 2015, when Dallas' Kellen Moore threw for 435 yards in a Week 17 loss to Washington.

Since then, 116 quarterbacks have thrown a pass in the NFL, and all of them were right-handed.

The last lefty to throw a TD pass wasn't even a quarterback but a wide receiver: the Cowboys' Dez Bryant threw a 25-yard strike to Bryan Witten in 2016 against Detroit.

Fewer than three dozen south-

paws have played quarterback in the NFL's 100-year history, something that irks Steve Young, the most decorated left-handed QB and the first to reach the Hall of Fame, 11 years before Ken Stabler's posthumous induction in 2016.

"There's something wrong from a statistical standpoint," Young said, noting that with 10% of the general population being left-handed, every year there should be a half-dozen lefties among the league's 64 or so quarterbacks.

"And we've never been 10%," Young said. "I can never remember six of us at one time. It was Boomer Esiason, myself, Mark Brunell, Jim Zorn early on. I can think of four or five, never six at one time, ever. Later on, Michael Vick."

Now, lefties are lucky there's even one of them.

"I will never say a kid is left-handed so he can't play in the National Football League," added Falcons GM Thomas Dimitroff.

Steelers GM Kevin Colbert said, "That would be a naive statement. That would never concern us whatsoever."

Added 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan: "A good thrower is a good thrower. I would say it's probably a coincidence, probably less pool to choose from."

The bias certainly doesn't begin in the pros.

"I don't follow all college teams, but I never see a lefty quarterback," Young said. "So, the NFL might say, 'Hey! Don't look at me. There's no lefties coming out of college.' Then, the colleges say, 'Look, there's no lefties coming



VASHA HUNT/AP

Newly signed Miami Dolphins rookie quarterback Tua Tagovailoa is a rarity in the NFL: a left-handed quarterback. A left-handed quarterback hasn't started in the NFL since 2015.

out of high school." Even the experts are stumped over what's caused this paucity of southpaws.

"I really don't know the answer," shrugged Ravens GM Eric DeCosta.

"Quite honestly, I don't know," added Falcons GM Thomas Dimitroff.

"I usually have an answer or can dance around a lot of things," Vikings GM Rick Spielman acknowledged. "That one, I have no answer to."

"I don't have an answer," either, added Broncos GM John Elway, who did offer a guess: he wonders if all the good left-handed quarterbacks are becoming pitchers instead.

"Those lefties that can throw heat are pretty coveted," said Elway, himself a minor league farmhand (as a right-handed out-

fielder) in the Yankees system the summer before beginning his Hall of Fame NFL career.

Young doesn't blame baseball.

"I could never have been a major league pitcher, I couldn't have even been a college pitcher. But I could play quarterback," Young said. "A small percentage of quarterbacks can pitch in the major leagues ... So, the only thing I can go with is that coaches don't want to coach lefties."

Young speaks from experience.

He was an incoming freshman at Brigham Young in 1981 when the Cougars' offensive coordinator, Doug Scovill, pulled him aside and told him bluntly that he didn't coach left-handed quarterbacks, so he'd better move to safety.

Scovill soon left, however, to become the head coach at San Diego State.

"Lucky, or I was done," Young said. "I was cooked. I was playing defensive back with Tom Holmoe."

Not long after Scovill left, QBs coach Ted Tollner spotted Young throwing beautiful spirals at practice and asked him why he wasn't under center.

"I said, 'Because I'm a lefty,'" Young recounted. "He says, 'Well, that's stupid.'"

So, Young went back to throwing passes, not defending them, "and nobody else ever said a word about me being a lefty."

Sure, the ball spins and tails in the opposite direction out of a lefty's hand, but so what?

"It was kind of weird at first," said Broncos rookie receiver Jerry Jeudy, who played with Tagovailoa at Alabama. "After three catches or so, you get used to it real fast."

# Chiefs' Hill completes reclamation of his image

By DAVE SKRETTA  
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The steady stream of nurses filing out of St. Luke's Hospital for close to an hour was finally slowing down, which was altogether fortunate, because the young man with thighs like tree trunks was running out of food to give them.

It may have been the most impressive thing Tyreek Hill had done since running 2-3 Jet Chip Wasp.

The Pro Bowl wide receiver, who caught a 44-yard pass at the end of that route the first week of February to spur a Super Bowl comeback for the Kansas City Chiefs, had been talking to his mother about how much the

world had changed. Hill had not run another route since that night in Miami, or caught another pass from Patrick Mahomes, after the outbreak of the coronavirus changed the daily life of pro football players and nurses, and everyone in between.

"My mom, she's actually a nurse," Hill explained, "and she always comes home and talks about how some people don't care about them risking their lives every day. So I was like, 'Mom,

maybe there's something I can do here in Kansas City for the health care workers, you know?' It can be small. It can be big."

So, they came up with the idea of delivering food to St. Luke's last week. The little boxes of sandwiches were a welcome improvement from their usual fare, but it was the delivery guy behind the white mask that made the moment so special.

It was special for Hill, too.

Just over a year ago, the record setter was a leaguewide pariah. He had been suspended by the Chiefs and the NFL after audio surfaced on the night of the draft in which his then-fiancée accused him of hurting his 3-year-old son. The district attorney launched an

investigation, the Kansas Department for Children and Families became involved, and the odds appeared no better than 50/50 that Hill would ever step foot on an NFL field again.

The churlish nightmare eventually turned into a positive outcome.

First, the district attorney declined to press charges after he was unable to determine who caused injuries to the child. Then the league lifted its suspension and the team followed suit — not only welcoming Hill back for training camp but tying up the details of a \$54 million, three-year contract extension.

Hill proceeded to break his collarbone in Week 1 against

Jacksonville, but that was merely a four-game sidetrack on what turned out to be another sublime season. He caught 58 passes for 860 yards and seven scores. He helped lead dramatic comebacks each round of the playoffs. And ultimately, he caught a pass at the end of the now-famous 2-3 Jet Chip Wasp to help the long-suffering Chiefs win their first Super Bowl championship in five decades.

"I mean, I just feel like I'm blessed with being able to play the game of football," Hill said. "My job is just to win. I want to win. I've always been part of a winning culture. I've always been taught team is first. There is no 'I' in team."



HILL

## BEACH VOLLEYBALL

## Staying fit: Virtual training a big hit

## Olympic star Walsh Jennings reaches out to young athletes

By JIMMY GOLEN  
Associated Press

ALongtime evangelist for outdoor and active lifestyles, beach volleyball star Kerri Walsh Jennings knew the national stay-at-home orders would be especially hard on young athletes and others trying to stay fit.

With her own quest for a sixth Olympics on hold because of the coronavirus pandemic, Walsh Jennings held video chats with dozens of volleyball clubs and teams — more than 4,500 people in all. Part pep talks, part skills clinics, the calls convinced her people are struggling to remain active when it's much easier to just binge on TV.

"There was a consistent theme to every call: 'Kerri, we are so sad. We don't want to lose what we've earned. We want to stay sharp and inspired,'" Walsh Jennings said in announcing the creation of "Virtual Summer Camps" for aspiring volleyball players and others just trying to stay active.

"This is hard on everybody. But there's so many resources out there," she told The Associated Press. "There's no excuse to be a slave to your couch. We all have a little bit of space. We can go outside and be free. And we just want to encourage people to do that."

Through her volleyball and lifestyle platform p1440, Walsh Jennings put together an online program mixing skills, fitness and mindset training. The four-

## DID YOU KNOW?

Beach volleyball player Kerri Walsh Jennings has appeared in five Olympics and has won three gold medals. She also won a bronze medal in the 2016 Rio Games and was on track to participate in her sixth Olympics this summer in Tokyo until they were put on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic.

SOURCE: Associated Press

week pilot called "The Fundamentals" sold out in six days with 250 men, women, boys and girls of all ages, volleyball rookies up to semipro level.

"Imagine this: We have a 13-year-old girl who is going through this and she is just devastated that her season was taken away. And she is thriving and she's sharing her experience," Walsh Jennings said. "And then we have a 50-year-old man who's gained 20 pounds in COVID and just loves volleyball, never played before, but wants to get better. He's lost 15 pounds and he's engaged with this program, sharing in the safe community that we created."

Now, p1440 is gearing up for two "Virtual Summer Camps" that offer the chance to "Train with an Olympian" — one focused on fundamentals and a more intense version called "Unleashed." Campers will have access to Walsh Jennings; her husband, beach volleyball pro Casey Jennings; UCLA beach volleyball



Jessie Pez, p1440/AP

**Four-time Olympic gold medalist Kerri Walsh Jennings, right, teaches at a beach volleyball camp on June 22 in Huntington Beach, Calif. Walsh Jennings has created a virtual summer camp for young volleyball players and others seeking to stay active during the coronavirus pandemic.**

coach and 2004 Olympian Stein Metzger; and trainer Tommy Knox.

"The materials were put together fast, but the wisdom and the knowledge is literally 30 years of my life," Walsh Jennings said.

"The fundamental philosophy is 'doing things right.' And it's going to meet you where you are," she said. "For me, an athlete working to go to my sixth Olympics, win my fourth gold, this is making me better. A 9-year-old who is just getting started in the game, it's making her better. And everyone in between."

The camps are virtual. The workouts are real.

Campers will receive videos by email every weekday with their exercises for the day — they can also log onto Walsh Jennings' p1440 website. Strength training is twice a week, volleyball is four times a week, and mindfulness training is every day. The workouts are self-guided and should take about two hours.

"There's a lot of interaction, and we want people to be felt and heard," Walsh Jennings said. "Even though this is virtual, it's very engaging and it's still very connected. And so we don't want to minimize that part of it."

Twelve-year-old Phia Neilson said the Fundamentals camp helped her grow as a volleyball player, but it was the journaling that was a highlight. One entry included a drawing of a girl playing volleyball, a quote from actor Will Smith and "3 ways to Optimize": "Go to bed earlier, start a food log and raise my energy level."

"I like that I am learning to be more patient with myself, to stay positive and to never give up," she wrote.



Marcio Jose Sanchez, above and right/AP

**Walsh Jennings digs for a ball, above, while playing Brazil during the bronze medal match of the Rio de Janeiro Olympics on Aug. 18, 2016, and holds her bronze medal, right, after winning the match.**



# AUTO RACING

## Scoreboard

### Toyota 500

- Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series**  
**At Darlington Raceway**  
**Darlington, S.C.**  
**Lap length: 1.37 miles**  
**(Start position in parentheses)**
- (18) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 208 laps, 47 points.
  - (26) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 208, 35.
  - (20) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 208, 40.
  - (8) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 208, 33.
  - (13) Erik Jones, Toyota, 208, 36.
  - (3) Joey Logano, Ford, 208, 39.
  - (7) Aric Almirola, Ford, 208, 35.
  - (37) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 208.
  - (7) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 208, 29.
  - (15) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 208, 46.
  - (24) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 208.
  - (34) William Byron, Chevrolet, 208.
  - (14) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 208.
  - (4) Ryan Newman, Ford, 208, 23.
  - (18) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 208, 22.
  - (21) Bubba Wallace, Chevrolet, 208.
  - (23) Michael McDowell, Ford, 208.
  - (19) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 208.
  - (2) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 208, 18.
  - (10) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 208.
  - (1) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 208, 24.
  - (4) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 208, 35.
  - (32) Chris Buescher, Ford, 208, 14.
  - (31) Corey LaJoie, Ford, 207, 13.
  - (39) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Chevrolet, 207, 12.
  - (35) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, 207, 11.
  - (25) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 207, 10.
  - (23) J. J. Yeley, Chevrolet, 207, 0.
  - (30) Joey Gasé, Chevrolet, 207, 0.
  - (11) Matt Kenseth, Chevrolet, 206.
  - (22) Cole Custer, Ford, 206, 6.
  - (28) Gray Gaulding, Ford, 206, 5.
  - (33) Timmy Hill, Toyota, 204, 0.
  - (36) Garrett Smithley, Chevrolet, 204, 3.
  - (12) John H. Nemechek, Ford, 202.
  - (38) BJ McLeod, Chevrolet, 202, 0.
  - (27) Brennan Poole, Chevrolet, transmission, 201, 1.
  - (17) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, accident, 200, 14.
  - (1) Ryan Preece, Chevrolet, engine, 69, 2.

### Race Statistics

Average speed of race winner: 106.085 mph.  
 Time of race: 2 hours, 42 minutes, 23 seconds.

**Margin of victory:** Caution seconds.

**Caution flags:** 11 for 54 laps.

**Lead changes:** 17 among 14 drivers.

**Lap leaders:** R.Preece 0; T.Dillon 1-8; J.Logano 9-27; B.Wallace 28-30; C.Bowyer 31-85; M.Truxel 86-99; K.Harvick 100-109; D.Suarez 110; C.Bowyer 111-128; R.Newman 129-135; E.Jones 134-160; C.Elliott 161-175; B.Keselowski 176-181; B.Poole 182; C.Elliott 183-190; B.Keselowski 191; C.Elliott 192-196; D.Hamlin 197-208.

**Leaders summary (driver, times led, laps led):** C.Bowyer, 2 times for 71 laps; C.Elliott, 5 times for 28 laps; E.Jones, 1 time for 27 laps; J.Logano, 1 time for 19 laps; M.Truxel, 1 time for 16 laps; D.Hamlin, 1 time for 12 laps; K.Harvick, 1 time for 10 laps; T.Dillon, 1 time for 8 laps; B.Keselowski, 2 times for 7 laps; R.Newman, 1 time for 5 laps; B.Wallace, 1 time for 3 laps; D.Suarez, 1 time for 1 lap; B.Poole, 1 time for 1 lap; R.Preece, 1 time for 0 laps.

**Wins:** J.Logano, 2; D.Hamlin, 2; K.Harvick, 1; A.Bowman, 1.

**Top 16 in points:** 1. K.Harvick, 258; 2. J.Logano, 224; 3. A.Bowman, 219; 4. D.Hamlin, 201; 5. C.Elliott, 192; 6. B.Keselowski, 191; 7. A.Almirola, 186; 8. M.Truxel, 179; 9. M.DiBenedetto, 178; 10. C.Bowyer, 170; 11. R.Blaney, 168; 12. J.Johnson, 161; 13. K.Busch, 157; 14. K.Suarez, 151; 15. E.Jones, 146; 16. W.Byron, 129.

Denny Hamlin competes in Wednesday's rain-shortened NASCAR Cup Series race in Darlington, S.C.

PHOTOS BY BRYNN ANDERSON / AP



# Hamlin earns second victory

## NASCAR returns to Wednesday as rain reduces race by 20 laps

Associated Press

DARLINGTON, S.C. — Denny Hamlin won NASCAR's first Wednesday race since 1984 when rain stopped the event with 20 laps remaining at Darlington Raceway.

The Daytona 500 winner was out front but out of fresh tires and trying to hang on when he got unintended help from Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Kyle Busch. The reigning Cup champion caused Chase Elliott to crash eight laps earlier to bring out the caution.

A furious Elliott waited for Busch on the apron of the track and flipped Busch the middle finger as he passed. As NASCAR cleaned the track, it started to rain and the cars were called to pit road under red flag.

It was an already active evening at "The Track Too Tough To Tame" as drivers were racing against the field and the weather. As the drivers sat in their cars waiting for NASCAR to pull the plug, a handful of Elliott's crew members sat on the pit wall staring down Busch.

One of Busch's crew members sat between them on the wall and NASCAR eventually ordered everyone back over the wall. Eight minutes later, the race was called and Busch was greeted by Alan Gustafson, Elliott's crew chief and Busch's former crew chief when he drove for Hendrick Motorsports, for a conversation between two masked competitors.

Busch immediately copped to the error.

"There's no question I made a mistake and just misjudged the gap," Busch said. "They're upset, they're mad. I'm not just going to fix it and we're going to go have ice cream tomorrow. They're going to dwell on it and I'm sure there are repercussions of it I'm going to have down the road."

Meanwhile, a fox was scampering across the deserted track



Members of Denny Hamlin's pit crew celebrate his second victory of the season, which was shortened 20 laps by rain.

and Hamlin, wearing a mask that depicted his actual smile, was having a muted celebration in the rain.

He walked to victory lane under a large black umbrella. It was a 1-2 finish for Joe Gibbs Racing and Toyota. Hamlin has won three times at Darlington and has two wins this season.

"I got my happy face on. Made sure I brought it with me," Hamlin said of his mask. He said he also had masks made with a "sad face" but only brought the smiling masks to a track he counts among his favorites.

Hamlin thought he was in good shape when he made his last pit stop but a caution by Clint Bowyer, who won the first two stages of the race, jumbled the strategy

with 34 laps remaining.

Hamlin had no choice but to stay out on the track, and his crew chief Chris Gabehart told him over the radio, "you ain't going to like it, but we're going to have to eat our vegetables here."

Hamlin, the leader because he didn't pit on the restart with 29 to go, only had to hold off traffic for one lap before the Busch and Elliott collision. The rain then came and Hamlin earned the trophy.

"It's a driver's race track," he said. "You can do different things to make (the car) handle. We got it right."

The race marked the first time in NASCAR history that the Cup Series had two points-paying races at the same track in one week.



Chase Elliott was wrecked by defending NASCAR Cup champion Kyle Busch.

# SPORTS

■ NCAA OKs football, basketball workouts

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**VIRUS OUTBREAK**

# Prevent defense

## NFL working on helmet face guard that protects like surgical mask

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — With an eye toward getting back on the field during a pandemic, the NFL is working on a helmet face guard that might provide the same sort of protection as a surgical mask.

Atlanta Falcons president Rich McKay, who heads up the league's competition committee, said the issue was raised during a conference call about a month ago.

■ **Analysis: League taking baby steps toward reopening for business, Page 52**

"A lot of players have played with a clear shield to protect their eyes," McKay said Tuesday during a video conference call with Atlanta media. "This would be extended even further."

Thom Mayer, the medical director of the NFL Players Association, said league

engineers and sports equipment company Oakley are testing prototypes of a modified face mask that might contain surgical or N95 material.

"I had suggested that we should consider novel and emerging ways to handle the helmets and the face masks and the spread of the virus," Mayer said on a podcast with ESPN's Adam Schefter. "These guys got the bit between their teeth."

**SEE DEFENSE ON PAGE 52**

**Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray warms up before a game last season. Oakley, which provides visors for some NFL players and has developed durable eyeglasses for the military, is testing prototypes of a modified face mask that might help prevent the spread of COVID-19.**

Ross D. FRANKLIN/AP

**Hamlin scores 2nd victory of season** » Auto racing, Page 55

