Colin Kaepernick is dominant champ’s unorthodox strategy breaking ‘Jeopardy!’

College Golf
Nebraska player in hijab out to blaze trail for Muslim girls

Colin Kaepernick is a free agent in the NFL, but he has become a dominant player in the game of ‘Jeopardy!’ through his unorthodox strategies.

By Jon Gambrell
Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — The Easter attacks in Sri Lanka are a bloody echo of decades past in the South Asian nation, when militants inspired by attacks in the Lebanese civil war helped develop the suicide bomb vest.

Government ministers have said seven Sri Lankans from a little-known local group carried out the six nearly simultaneous bombings at churches and hotels Sunday that killed more than 300 people and wounded about 500. While little else was known about the group or their motives, Sri Lanka’s Tamil Tiger fighters used suicide bombings in the country’s 26-year civil war before being wiped out by government forces.

Similar bombs then detonated across Israel, wielded by Palestinian militants, and later across the wider Middle East, Africa and Europe by Islamic extremists in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Such attacks strike fear around the world because of their indiscriminate slaughter of civilians, like those eating breakfast at a hotel or worshipping in a church on Easter. Sunday’s assault also raises questions about whether the perpetrators had help or experience from abroad.

Sri Lanka bombings are latest chapter, but scourge of suicide attacks strikes fear worldwide

By Chad Garland
Stars and Stripes

California lawmakers are considering a bill to remove the state’s National Guard Inspector General from under the command of its top general, after years of allegations that senior command officials retaliate against those who report possible wrongdoing.

The proposed legislation comes amid fresh scrutiny of the state’s military department after allegations of misconduct and claims of reprisal forced the removal of three top officers from their posts in the California Air National Guard this month.

Interviews with current and former Guard members and reviews of internal documents and court filings suggest a culture of reprisal as well as racism and sexism within the state’s military department, Stars and Stripes has found.

People who told Stars and Stripes that they were victims of the reprisals include a retired Special Forces commander, a military prosecutor, a retired colonel who interviewed to lead the California Guard and former equal employment specialists.

Supporters of the new bill, which was scheduled for discussion at a committee hearing Tuesday, would require the IG to investigate all complaints of malfeasance and illegality. They say it’s necessary to remove the IG from under Adjutant General Maj. Gen. David Baldwin’s oversight because guardsmen fear retaliation if they report wrongdoing.

“Each retaliation situation — they all fit a pattern,” said Dwight Stirling, head of the Center for Law and Military Policy and a reserve judge advocate who claims he was the subject of retaliation for reporting what he believed was misconduct in 2014.
By Caitlin M. Kenney
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Almost 7,000 Marines requested that their commanders visit their homes as part of a nearly completed outreach effort to address the U.S. military housing crisis.

The Marine Corps has contacted more than 99% of servicemembers and their families about their housing, the service announced Monday. The effort follows an instruction from Gen. Robert Neller, commandant of the Marine Corps, to commanders on Feb. 22 to contact servicemembers and their families about their housing, including military and off-base civilian rentals, according to a Marine Corps statement.

“I have instructed commanders to publish policies and take actions to ensure our Marines, sailors and their families have the living accommodations they deserve,” Neller said in the statement. “Ultimately, military family housing is a leadership issue.”

More than 91,300 servicemembers were contacted by their command as of Monday, according to the Marine Corps. Of those Marines, 6,964, or 7.6%, requested a home visit by their command and 7,730, or 8.5%, requested a phone call to “explain the process for resolving their concerns,” the statement reads.

The majority of Marines contacted — 76,139, or 84% — said they did not want additional assistance or a visit by their commander for “a variety of reasons,” according to the statement. However, no examples of reasons were provided.

“Since the program was voluntary, Marines were not required to give a reason for not wanting a member of the command team to visit their residence,” Marine Corps spokesman Capt. Joseph Butterfield wrote in an email.

In February, military families testified on Capitol Hill about unhealthy living conditions in military housing, including mold and rodent infestations, and problems they were having with their privatized military housing companies.

A 2018 Reuters investigative story highlighted horrible conditions faced by some military families and a Military Family Advisory Network survey on military housing in February found that more than half of respondents had a “negative or very negative experience” with the privatized housing.

Senior civilian and military leadership from each service branch were questioned before congressional committees about what was being done to resolve the housing issues raised by the families. Senior military noncommissioned officers and personnel chiefs testified Feb. 27 during a Senate subcommittee hearing that the poor housing conditions were due to a failure in leadership.

Military commanders at installations around the world conducted home visits and hosted town hall meetings to understand the housing conditions of their servicemembers and families.

In the wake of the housing controversy, the Army and Navy have set up initiatives to gather information from servicemembers and their families about problems they might be experiencing.

The Army has set up a registry for current and former housing residents to document concerns they might have with housing health and safety issues. The Housing Environment Health Response Registry is a 24/7 phone line on which callers will receive information related to housing environmental health hazards and can seek medical care for housing-related illnesses.

The Army’s leadership will be told what housing health concerns are being shared to the registry.

The Navy has set up a survey for sailors to give their opinion anonymously about their privatized military housing and the housing issues raised by the families. The independently conducted survey is going to 36,200 residents in family housing and 6,000 sailors in unaccompanied housing this month.

The Marine Corps said Monday that its outreach accomplished three goals: raising awareness of the living conditions of servicemembers, identifying maintenance or safety issues and making certain servicemembers and families understood and were aware of processes and programs available to address housing problems.

The home visits that were requested found some of the same concerns that had been identified earlier in the year, such as maintenance not being completed in a timely manner, lack of communication by the private housing company and the Marine Corps to residents, a lack of awareness about existing resolution processes, and dissatisfaction with the housing assignment and acceptance process, according to the Marine Corps statement.

Some of the ways that the Marine Corps is looking to address the issues include having the privatized housing companies maintain a 24-hour hotline for maintenance requests and adding quality assurance personnel to the military housing offices to address the housing assignment and acceptance process, according to the statement. The service is also in the process of scheduling a third-party survey to “further identify housing issues.”

“While the housing visitation program has not been prescribed as a recurring event, commanders are expected to remain involved in the well-being of their Marines, sailors and their families, and to remain available as an advocate on their behalf to address housing issues,” Butterfield wrote in an email.

Kenney.caitlin@stripes.com
Twitter: @caitlinmkenney
Mexican troops stop US soldiers at border

BY ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — Two American soldiers patrolling along the southern border in Texas were stopped and questioned by a group of Mexican troops who believed they had crossed into Mexico, a U.S. military spokesman said Monday.

The interaction occurred as the Americans were conducting mobile surveillance camera operations about 2 p.m. April 13 in Edinburg, Texas, said Col. Mark Lawler, a spokesman for U.S. Northern Command.

The U.S. soldiers were approached and questioned by Mexican troops, police said. An inquiry by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Defense Department revealed the Mexican troops believed the U.S. soldiers had crossed the border into Mexico.

"However, the U.S. soldiers were approximately in U.S. territory. Though they were south of the border fence, U.S. soldiers remained in U.S. territory, north of the actual border," Lazane said.

A brief discussion between the soldiers, the Mexican troops left and the U.S. soldiers contacted Border Patrol agents.

Throughout the incident, the U.S. soldiers followed all established procedures and protocols," Lazane said.

Newswise obtained a copy of the incident report filed by the soldiers, which of course includes the briefing conducted by Border Patrol officials.

The Mexican troops approached the U.S. soldiers with rifles pointed at them and removed a service pistol from the hip of one soldier and tossed it into an unmarked U.S. Border Patrol vehicle. The private and sergeant involved in the incident were part of 1st Battalion, 37th Field Artillery Regiment, out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington state, Newsweek reported.

This is the first incident of this kind since active-duty U.S. troops deployed to the border in late October, Lazane said.

The two soldiers are part of the roughly 1,200 servicemembers conducting mobile surveillance camera operations, a mission that began earlier this year after acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan authorized it in January.

The mission has resulted in nearly 400 arrests and more than 1,700 drug seizures, April Grant, a spokeswoman for Customs and Border Protection, said on April 8.

In total, there are about 2,800 active-duty servicemembers at the U.S.-Mexico border, Lazane said.

Defense Department officials confirmed the incident as they contemplate sending more troops to the border. Shanahan said Friday that he’s already begun reviewing options in anticipation of greater need at the border because Border Patrol is recording record numbers of migrant families from Central America seeking asylum.

Shanahan said he’s working with the Joint Staff to find a way to “do more monitoring and detection for them.”

The Mexican government authorized to continue through September, which is the end of the 2019 fiscal year.

thayer.rose@stripes.com
Twitter: @Rose_L唐

Army astronaut set for 9-month mission

BY SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

An Army Special Forces surgeon and former military officer is getting ready to blast off into space on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Col. Andrew Morgan, a veteran of two deployments to Afghanistan and one to Iraq, is set for a July 20 launch on a nine-month mission to the International Space Station.

It will be the New Castle, Pa., native’s first time in space. He’ll launch with his Russian and Italian crewmates aboard a Soyuz MS-13 spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, according to NASA.

In a phone interview Friday, Morgan said he feels fortunate to be part of such an auspicious launch.

“The mission starts on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing,” he said. “Coming through the hatch on that day carries a lot of symbolism.”

The West Point graduate plans to draw on his military experiences during the mission, he said.

Morgan got an early taste of military life as a student at Woodrow Wilson High School in RAP Woodbridge, when his Air Force officer father was stationed in the United Kingdom.

His resume includes work with the Army’s Golden Knights parachute team and a stint as battalion surgeon for 1st Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), the Desert Eagles, before he joined NASA in 2013.

“I chose to serve my country when I was 18 years old and this is a continuation of that service,” he said of his upcoming mission.

Time in Iraq and Afghanistan was good preparation for space, “in the military trainings, as I see them,” he said.

“Oh boy!”

“Some of the things I’ve learned on Earth could be translated into things in space,” he said. “It’s coming down to his space flight has involved 18 months of intense training. Preparing an astronaut’s family for a space mission is comparable to helping a military family deal with a deployment,” Morgan said.

“I’m looking forward to going up there and seeing what it’s like,” he said.

When he gets back to Earth, Morgan is planning a reset that will mirror the way military units refit after they redeploy, he said.

When troops return from deployment with thousands of units, the time off before commencing a new training cycle to get ready for future missions.

“The space station trip will involve numerous experiments such as studying the way fluid moves through the body and growing cells and organs in microgravity. Morgan will also be talking to earthbound servicemembers during his time in orbit.

“Very much interested in space in the military community since President Donald Trump announced plans to create a Space Force last summer.”

“I understand why the [Department of Defense] is having that conversation,” Morgan said, but added: “I’m detailed to NASA, a civilian organization dedicated to the peaceful exploration of space. I’m going to continue to serve in that capacity.”

Vice President Mike Pence’s recent vow to put an American back on the moon within five years is doable, he said.

“Returning to the moon’s surface in five years is an ambitious goal. I know it is one I can accomplish,” Morgan said.

The message he’ll give the troops he talks to from space is that he’s an astronaut because of the skills he acquired as a military officer and experiences such as “jumping out of planes, diving, working around aircraft, medical training,” he said.

However, the skills he expects to draw most heavily upon are to do with leadership, taking care of people and being a good team mate, he said.

“These skills are things I have leaned on the most,” he said.

Troops might be curious how space food compares to the Meals Read to Eat they consume on the battlefield, said Morgan, who subsisted on the field rations for 60 days at Ranger School and rates them highly.

“The Army recognizes that soldiers travel on their stomachs,” he said.

Space food is similar to MREs, but there’s more variety since the other nations sending astronauts to the space station bring their own food, he said.

The space mission is a “great honor,” but Morgan said that long after he returns he will cherish his time in combat with soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines.

“It was the greatest honor of my life,” he said.

robson.seth@stripes.com
Twitter: @SethRobson

Iranian parliament passes bill labeling entire US military as terrorist

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iranian lawmakers on Tuesday overwhelmingly approved a bill that labels all U.S. military forces as terrorists, state TV reported, a day after Washington ratcheted up pressure on Tehran by announcing that no country would any longer be exempt from U.S. sanctions if it continues to buy Iranian oil.

The bill is a step farther from Tehran by announcing material support.

The Trump administration remained opposed to the proposal as part of the administration’s “maximum pressure” campaign on Iran that aims to eliminate all of its revenue from oil exports that the U.S. says funds destabilizing activity throughout the Mideast and beyond.

On Monday, President Donald Trump decided to do away with waivers as part of the administration’s “maximum pressure” campaign on Iran that aims to eliminate all of its revenue from oil exports that the U.S. says funds destabilizing activity throughout the Mideast and beyond.
US launches joint air force drills with South Korea

By Kim Gamel
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The United States and South Korea have launched joint air force drills, officials said Tuesday, as the allies maintain efforts to keep military exercises low-key amid nuclear talks with the North.

South Korean military officials said the two-week exercise began Monday as an alternative to Max Thunder, which has been one of the Air Force’s largest annual exercises on the divided peninsula.

The U.S. military called off and scaled back several joint exercises since President Donald Trump first announced he was “ending the war games” following his first summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12.

That has raised concerns about readiness, with some 28,500 American troops based in South Korea as well as other forces in the region.

The top U.S. commander in South Korea, Gen. Robert Abrams, expressed worries himself during his confirmation hearing before he assumed command in November.

However, he expressed confidence in the U.S. military posture earlier this year, saying the military has adjusted to the administration’s decision with dozens of combined field training exercises.

The Air Force drills being conducted by South Korea, the United States and Australia involved dozens of warplanes, including fighter jets, according to South Korean military officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

“The (South Korean) military has stepped forward to adjust to the administration’s decision throughout the entire ‘peace trail’ process and will continue to do so,” the South Korean government’s spokesperson said.

The initiative is part of the South Korean government’s efforts to turn the DMZ, which has been known for being lined with barbed wire and dotted with land mines, into a peace zone.

North Korea agreed to that principle in inter-Korean summits held last year, but it has slowed down its participation in engagement with the South as parallel nuclear talks with the U.S. have stalled.

The other proposed peace trails would be in Gangwon’s Chorwon county and the city of Paju, northwest of Seoul.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in’s administration also plans to hold a celebration to mark the anniversary of the first inter-Korean summit on Saturday in the truce village of Panmunjom, which straddles the border.

U.N. officials have said their primary concern in allowing free movement for the public in the DMZ is the security of all involved.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
Twitter: @kimgamel

Keeping a C-130J clean can be a Herculean task

By Theron Godbold
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Japanese contractors and members of the Air Force’s 374th Maintenance Squadron are no strangers to wet work.

With 14 C130-J Super Hercules transport planes assigned to Yokota, along with UH-1 helicopters, CV-22 Ospreys and other aircraft, the wash rack can be a busy place.

Keeping those Super Hercules clean is a 1½-day-long job. Starting in the early morning hours, mid-shift airmen prepare the massive aircraft for its cleanup.

They lower the wing flaps, remove access panels and disconnect the batteries, among other precautions.

“We have to deactivate certain systems to prevent shock and crush hazards that will affect the aircraft safe to wash,” Staff Sgt. Alexander Young said.

The Goseong-area trail, which is in the South Korean Army’s 22nd Infantry Division’s area, will join 13 other existing U.N. Command-approved DMZ educational sites aimed at facilitating inter-Korean exchanges and learning opportunities, the press release said.

The initiative is part of the South Korean government’s efforts to turn the DMZ, which has been known for being lined with barbed wire and dotted with land mines, into a peace zone.

North Korea agreed to that principle in inter-Korean summits held last year, but it has slowed down its participation in engagement with the South as parallel nuclear talks with the U.S. have stalled.

The other proposed peace trails would be in Gangwon’s Chorwon county and the city of Paju, northwest of Seoul.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in’s administration also plans to hold a celebration to mark the anniversary of the first inter-Korean summit on Saturday in the truce village of Panmunjom, which straddles the border.

U.N. officials have said their primary concern in allowing free movement for the public in the DMZ is the security of all involved.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
Twitter: @kimgamel

Staff Sgt. Alexander Young holds a panel on a C-130J Super Hercules as Senior Airman Mark Kelly prepares the aircraft for a plane wash on March 21.

Sugi Yama, a contractor on Yokota Air Base, washes a C-130J Super Hercules.

The wash rack is a job for beginners — one where less experienced airmen get their feet wet.

“Actually, doing the wash is one of the worst jobs,” Young said.

It’s an unpleasant task because it means staying soaked to the bone for most of the day, he added.

At Yokota, however, local contractor Yamagashi Reform Corp. has been washing aircraft for the past four years.

With a crew of eight working on a Super Hercules — which is more than 112 feet long and 38 feet tall with a 132-foot wingspan — washing, soaking, scrubbing and rinsing takes about eight hours, said Yamagashi project manager Mariko Kawada.

Sugi Yama, a 10-year Yamagashi employee, said he likes his job.

“I enjoy seeing it change in front of me,” he said, comparing what he does to washing a car. “It’s the same; one is big, and one is small, but my car doesn’t get inspected after.”

Once the contractors are done, the airmen take over again. The process concludes with an inspection, lubrication and anti-corrosion treatment.

The final details complete, the C-130 returns to the flight line, ready to get dirty again in support of the wing’s tactical aircraft mission throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

godbold.theron@stripes.com
Twitter: @GodboldTheron
US Coast Guard implementing new strategy in Arctic

Plan calls for upgrading ships, aircraft to project ‘sovereignty’

BY DAN LAMOTHE
The Washington Post

The Coast Guard’s new strategy for the Arctic calls for upgrading ships, aircraft and unmanned systems there, an effort to make sure the United States is “projecting sovereignty” into an increasingly contested region, the service’s top officer said.

Adm. Karl Schultz, the commandant of the Coast Guard, said in an interview that the shift is a “little bit different,” although existing Arctic efforts will continue.

“Before, it was a peaceful, safe, secure Arctic collaboration,” he said. “None of that goes away. We want the Arctic to be a peaceful place where we work to cross international lines here with partner nations that respect sovereignty in a transparent fashion.

“But I think if you’re looking around at what’s going on in the Arctic, I would say it’s maybe trending in a slightly different direction. This will pivot with a little more focus on military action.

The 48-page document is being released amid concerns in Washington about actions by both China and Russia in the Arctic. It comes as the Defense Department, at the direction of Congress, prepares its own new strategy for the Arctic calls for upgrading ships, aircraft and unmanned systems there, an effort to make sure the United States is “projecting sovereignty” into an increasingly contested region, the service’s top officer said.

The Coast Guard currently has only two surface ships capable of sailing in icy parts of the Arctic, and the Navy has none. President Donald Trump and Congress approved $635 million to begin funding the first of what the Coast Guard sees as a new fleet of up to six polar security cutters, but the service also highlighted a variety of other measures it sees in the region, especially improving limited cybersecurity networks.

The strategy commits to holding the international order “against competitors” who do not respect “international order.”

“A key element of the strategies of our competitors is to engage in activities that weaken the international order that underpins a free and open maritime domain,” the Coast Guard strategy for the Arctic says.

QINGDAO, China — Chinese President Xi Jinping urged closer ties among the world’s navies on Tuesday, amid tensions over China’s rapid expansion of its nuclear forces and forceful assertions of territorial claims in the South China Sea.

Xi’s remarks came in an address to foreign naval officers attending a fleet review marking the 70th anniversary of the People’s Liberation Army Navy, an event Beijing is using to showcase its growing ability to exert force far from its shores.

Following his speech, Xi boarded the destroyer Xining, one of China’s most modern and capable warships, at the northern port of Qingdao to preside at the review, which also featured China’s sole commissioned aircraft carrier, numerous other surface ships and submarines and a display of naval aviation.

State broadcaster CCTV showed Xi standing on the deck in a heavy coat in thick fog as various ships and submarines sailed by, their officers and crew members wearing formal uniforms and giving salutes.

China’s Xi urges closer ties among world navies amid regional territorial tensions

Chinese nuclear submarine participates in a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of China’s navy near the nation’s eastern Shandong province on Tuesday. During the fleet review, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for closer ties among the world’s navies.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The 12 lowest Arctic ice extents from China to Europe through the warming of the Arctic have exposed coastal borders and maritime norms, coupled with transparency in activities and joint participation,“ Xi, who also heads China’s armed forces, said.

“I turn on record,” he said. “For the Arctic, we will strongly emphasize exchanges and cooperation with foreign navies, actively shoulder its international responsibilities, safeguard the security of international waterways and provide more public goods for maritime security,” Xi was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency.

“Maintaining the banner of win-win cooperation, the Chinese military is committed to creating a security environment featuring equality, mutual trust, fairness and justice, joint participation and shared benefits,” said Xi, who also heads China’s armed forces.

Such rhetoric contrasts starkly with China’s aggressive approach to its territorial claims in the South China Sea, where it has built military installations on man-made islands in the crucial waters, which are also claimed by several other nations.

China claims virtually the entire South China Sea, along with rights to its fisheries and seabed resources.

While Beijing says it upholds the rights to free navigation and overflight in the area, its forces have been accused of challenging or operating dangerously around military vessels and aircraft from other countries, including the United States, as well as harassing fishing vessels from the Philippines and other countries.

The Philippines earlier this month issued a rare public rebuke of large numbers of Chinese vessels near islands and islets occupied by the Philippines in the disputed waters, saying the Chinese presence was illegal.

The Philippine military has monitored more than 200 Chinese vessels from January to March in a disputed area named Sandy Cay, near a Philippine-occupied island called Pag-asa by Filipinos.

China’s Xi urges closer ties among world navies amid regional territorial tensions

Injured? Civilian Workers

INJURED? CIVILIAN WORKERS

KNOw AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS
D.B.A./N.A.F. ATTORNEYS

www.injuredoverseas.com
Phone: 954.920.7400 US Toll Free: 888.732.7425

INJURED?
CIVILIAN WORKERS
INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS

FREE CONSULTATION

LAW OFFICES OF BARNETT & LERNER, P.A.

Based on availability. ABC Travel Service dk.R. Greenwich 5, 3630 Munchen
By Scott Wyland
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — Two aircraft carrier groups operating jointly in the Mediterranean Sea for the first time since 2016 while Navy leaders adhere to the U.S. ambassador to Rome this week, steps that analysts say are meant to send a message of strength to Moscow.

The U.S. Abraham Lincoln and USS John C. Stennis strike groups arrived this week to work with the Italian San Giorgio and the Royal Navy’s Queen Elizabeth, which included allegations that California Guard officers used bullying, sexual assault claims.

In 2016, the California Guard settled a lawsuit in which the service was accused of retaliating against a California National Guard member for speaking out against racial harassment.

In an interview with Stars and Stripes, Sen. Tom Umberg, a Democrat state senator, said the proposal is to help give teeth to whistleblower protections, which are designed to give whistleblower protections, which are designed to give servicemembers the right to speak up without fear of reprisal.

“We seek a better relationship with Russia, but that can only happen when Russia stops its aggressive behavior and creates space for productive dialogue,” Huntsman said in a statement. “We will continue to impose costs on Russia when it takes actions aimed at our partners and allies and U.S. national security interests.”

The U.S. National Guard and NATO allies have stepped up activity throughout the Eastern Europe in a bid to reassure nations bordering Russia. The California Guard’s 2014 annexation of the Crimea Peninsula from Ukraine.

More recently, Russia has increased activity in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, culminating in a November incident in which Russian ships and arrested sailors transited through the waterways.

A few weeks before that, Navy officials said that a Russian fighter jet made multiple unsafe aerial passes near a Navy surveillance aircraft over international waters in the Black Sea.

Russia’s aggressive actions and its intervention in Syria, Libya and elsewhere destabilize these areas, Foggio said in a statement. “It’s crucial that we give our civilian leaders options and the ability to negotiate from a position of strategic strength,” Foggio said. “Our deployments and military presence is to deter and defend. It is to prevent — not provoke — a conflict.”

Sending the two carrier groups together is designed to post a message to Russia, backing away from Cold War power plays in the Mediterranean.

A former California Guard official said that California Guard employees “have serious trust issues with management, and the labor organization, which represents service members who also serve as civilian technicians in the Guard in 10 states and Guam.

Banchs’ review found evidence to support the service member’s claim that the Guard had failed to protect her from discriminatory retaliation after she complained.

“If they really wanted to, they could clean house,” Banchs said. “But they don’t... they circle the wagons.”

“Why you have in the CalGuard is a culture of fear. Should [someone] speak up, they will pay for it.”

Dwight Stirling
Center for Law and Military Policy

"We seek a better relationship with Russia, but that can only happen when Russia stops its aggressive behavior and creates space for productive dialogue," Huntsman said in a statement. "We will continue to impose costs on Russia when it takes actions aimed at our partners and allies and U.S. national security interests."
A 17-month-old boy, the son of an American contractor working on Ramstein Air Base, was rescued after he fell into a nearly 10-foot shaft in Erzenhausen, Germany, north of the base, on Monday.

US toddler rescued in Germany after falling down 10-foot shaft

By Brian Ferguson
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Rescue workers freed a 17-month-old American baby boy after he became stuck in a deep shaft for three hours in a village near Ramstein Air Base.

The boy lifted the cover of an empty corrugated plastic conduit while playing with his mother and brother outside their home in Erzenhausen on Monday.

He fell into the conduit, estimated between 10 and 15 feet deep and a foot wide, around 3 p.m., according to a Westpfalz Police Department statement and Ramstein base officials.

Workers freed the boy around 6 p.m., police said.

Study: Perks needed to keep key Army officers

By Erick Slavin
Stars and Stripes

The Army may need to pay officers a much larger midcareer incentive under the new blended retirement system if it wants to retain the same mix of experience it has now, a service-commissioned report said.

To be kept on active duty for at least 20 years, officers headed toward the 12-year mark in service may need as much as eight months of salary as continuation pay, according to the study.

To keep current levels of retention and experience, an active-duty major with 12 years of service would need to be offered about $140,000 in continuation pay, rather than the minimum of $17,633, the study concluded.

The projected increase is likely to be scrutinized by lawmakers, Pentagon acquisition chief Ellen Lord and acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan because they have been pushing the program office and Lockheed to reduce projected operations and support costs.

As a potential sign of concern, the Pentagon’s fiscal 2021 proposed budget calls for 17 fewer F-35s than planned — 81, according to the Selected Acquisition Report.

Air Force kills 328 regulations

By Brian Ferguson
Stars and Stripes

Airmen should soon have fewer unnecessary boxes to check and conflicting rules to mull over as the Air Force nears completion of an effort to streamline instructions across the service.

With four months left on a 24-month timetable, the Air Force has eliminated 328 published regulations and revised another 450, according to a Friday memo signed by Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson, Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein and Chief Master Sgt. Kaleth O. Wright.

There are still 719 remaining instructions and regulations pending changes; 180 of those are scheduled for elimination, officials said in the memo.

The streamlining will mean fewer tasks, reduced checklist items and removal of duplicate instructions, among other changes.

Wilson announced the 24-month reduction to allow “greater flexibility and mission focus” in fiscal year 2017.

The 1,300 official instructions targeted for review were often outdated and inconsistent, breed confusion and when airmen feel they cannot possibly follow every written rule, Wilson said during the speech.

By Tony Capaccio
Bloomberg

Lockheed Martin's F-35 jet, the world's costliest weapons program, just got even costlier.

The estimated total price for research and procurement has increased by $2.2 billion in current dollars adjusted for inflation, according to the Pentagon’s latest annual cost assessment of major projects.

The estimate for operating and supporting the fleet of fighters over more than six decades grew by almost $73 billion to $1.1 trillion.

The increase to $428.4 billion from $406.2 billion in acquisition costs, about a 5% increase, isn’t due to poor performance, delays or excessive costs for labor or materials, according to the Defense Department’s latest Selected Acquisition Report.

To current estimates, the projected F-35 sustainment outlays based upon given planned fleet growth will strain future service operations and support budgets,” the report said.

Pentagon cost projection of an increase to $1.196 trillion. By contrast, the F-35 program office’s latest estimate declined by about $8.5 billion to $1 trillion.

The projected increase is likely to be scrutinized by lawmakers, Pentagon acquisition chief Ellen Lord and acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan because they have been pushing the program office and Lockheed to reduce projected operations and support costs.
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — California Sen. Kamala Harris joined the call for President Donald Trump’s impeachment as five leading Democratic presidential contenders clashed in a series of prime-time town hall meetings that exposed deep divisions in a party desperate to end the Trump presidency.

Harris’ support for impeachment follows Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren’s push for Congress to begin the process to remove the reelection-minded president following the release of special counsel Robert Mueller’s redacted report — a multimillion-dollar exercise. In the Mueller report, they would be arrested and put in jail.

The impeachment debate, which is raging among Democrats nationwide, played out on national television Monday as five 2020 hopefuls represent the same event. While they took turns on stage, the forum, hosted by CNN, marked the first time in this young presidential primary season in which multiple candidates appeared on national television for the same event.

The five-hour marathon marked a preview of sorts for the party’s first formal presidential debate, set for late June.

On Wednesday, they clashed from afar while taking questions from college students about free college, free health care, gun control and impeachment. A central question faced candidates throughout the night: Who is best positioned to deny Trump a second term?

Bernie Sanders, a front-runner in the crowded Democratic field who has pushed much of his party to the left in recent years, was asked to defend his decision to embrace democratic socialism. “It’s a radical idea,” he said. “Maybe not everyone agrees. But I happen to believe we ought to have a government that represents working families and not just the 1 percent.”

Democrats, led by Trump, have spent much of the last year warning voters that Democrats would take the country toward socialism should they win in 2020.

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., shown speaking at a conference in New Orleans on Friday, is among the Democrats calling for President Donald Trump’s impeachment.

Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who has cast herself as a Midwestern pragmatist well-posed to appeal to the middle of the country, refused to embrace “Medicare for All,” free college or Trump’s impeachment.

“People can’t staple a free college diploma to every one of your chairs,” Klobuchar told the audience of college students. “I have to be straight with you and tell you the truth.”

Warren, a champion for her party’s more liberal wing, called for an “ultra-millionaires’ tax” on income over $50 million to help pay for free college, free child care for all children 5 and younger, free universal prekindergarten and student debt forgiveness.

“Do you understand what you have now given this great fortune?” she said of the nation’s wealthiest taxpayers. “Not only would you be taking something back so every- everyone gets a chance. But the Democrats tasked with helping Trump win reelection paid heed to the Democrats’ answers, seeking political ammunition to tear them down.

GOP Chairwoman McDaniel pounced on Sanders’ call to re- store the voting rights of felons, including people like the Boston Marathon bomber, who killed three people and injured hun- dreds in 2013 with a pair of pressure-cooker bombers and was sentenced to death.

“I think the right to vote is inheren- tant to our democracy,” Sanders said.

Trump threatens crackdown on high visa overstay countries

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is considering suspending or limiting entry to the U.S. for individuals from countries with high rates of short-term visa overstays — a proposal vaguely reminiscent of the anti-immigrant travel ban President Donald Trump pursued during his first year in office.

On Monday, immigrants were given a fee that would be reimbursed when they leave — in an effort to improve compliance.

“We have laws that need to be followed to keep Americans safe and to protect the integrity of the system where, right now, there are millions of people who are waiting in line to come to Ameri- ca to seek the American Dream,” Trump said in a statement.

More people are in the U.S. because they overstay visas than because they cross the border illegally, according to the nonparti- san Center for Migration Studies. Some of the countries with high overstay rates include Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Liberia, the Solo- mon Islands, Benin and Burkina Faso. Officials say 20 countries have rates over 10%.

The memo gives the secretar- ies of state and homeland security 120 days to come up with recom- mendations, including potentially limiting how long visas last.

The idea of restricting travel from high overstay countries is part of a long list of proposals being tossed around officials as they try to appease a president who has been seething over the influx of migrants at the border as he tries to make good on his 2016 campaign promises and en- ergize his base going into 2020.

The idea has ranged from the extreme — including Trump’s threat to completely shut down the southern border and resume the widely denounced practice of separating children from parents — to more subtle tweaks to the legal immigration system.

Plans are also in the works to have border patrol agents, instead of asylum officers, conduct initial interviews to determine whether migrants seeking asylum have a “credible fear” of returning to their homelands.

“Maybe not everyone agrees. But I happen to believe we ought to have a government that represents working families and not just the 1 percent.”

Republican leaders have spent much of the last year warning voters that Democrats would take the country toward socialism should they win in 2020.
The Washington Post

A teenager from New York is suing Apple for $1 billion, claiming that a facial recognition system at its stores falsely connected him to a series of thefts.

Dennis and Donna Steinman have built their first 26-by-10-foot wagon to accommodate those interested in high-end camping or “glamping,” the Lawrence Journal-World reported. The Douglas County couple’s canvas-covered wagon is able to fit a king- or queen-sized bed, a bunk bed and a glass-topped wagon wheel table. Their PlainsCraft Conestoga Wagons are also equipped with electrical outlets, and the couple is looking into how to heat and cool the interiors.

“The idea is to go camping and not give up the amenities,” said Dennis Steinman. He envisions the wagons being parked at wineries, ranches, state and national parks, hunting lodges and resorts. “They are like sleeping in a motel room,” Donna Steinman added.

Teen blames facial recognition for arrests, sues Apple for $1B

The Washington Post

A teenager from New York is suing Apple for $1 billion, claiming that a facial recognition system at its stores falsely connected him to a series of thefts.

Dennis Steinman stands inside and outside his first covered wagon in rural Douglas County, Kan.

As it turns out, great white sharks are scared of something too

The Washington Post

No ocean predator is more feared in the public imagination than the great white shark, but even they appear to steer clear of orcas, highly intelligent pack hunters that have been observed on rare occasions to attack great whites — and eat their livers.

“In one occasion, we had 17 sharks that we were tracking simultaneously at the island when a group of orcas showed up,” said Salvador Jorgensen, of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, who led the study that involved Stanford University and Point Blue Conservation Science.

“We were able to see from the data all the sharks leaving the side of the island the orcas had arrived on, and within a few hours, had vacated the island completely,” he said.

The findings are the result of 27 years of research, but Jorgensen suspected the two predators had been doing this dance for a while.

Scientists tagged 165 great white sharks between 2006 and 2013, luring them to boats with seal decoys made out of everyday carpet before affixing them with beacons that sent codes to sensors throughout their territory.

That way, scientists could track their movements.

Point Blue Conservation Science surveyed orca activity around Southeast Farallon Island, helping the team understand how the orcas and sharks interacted.

The idea is to go camping and not give up the amenities.

Dennis Steinman, creator of PlainsCraft Conestoga Wagons

NATION

‘Glamping’

Kan. couple designs covered wagons to provide luxury camping experience

Associated Press

A new study published in Nature and a recent one in Science.

Scientists tagged 165 great white sharks between 2006 and 2013, luring them to boats with seal decoys made out of everyday carpet before affixing them with beacons that sent codes to sensors throughout their territory.

That way, scientists could track their movements.

Point Blue Conservation Science surveyed orca activity around Southeast Farallon Island, helping the team understand how the orcas and sharks interacted.

No ocean predator is more feared in the public imagination than the great white shark, but even they appear to steer clear of orcas, highly intelligent pack hunters that have been observed on rare occasions to attack great whites — and eat their livers.

“In one occasion, we had 17 sharks that we were tracking simultaneously at the island when a group of orcas showed up,” said Salvador Jorgensen, of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, who led the study that involved Stanford University and Point Blue Conservation Science.

“We were able to see from the data all the sharks leaving the side of the island the orcas had arrived on, and within a few hours, had vacated the island completely,” he said.

The findings are the result of 27 years of research, but Jorgensen suspected the two predators had been doing this dance for a while.

Scientists tagged 165 great white sharks between 2006 and 2013, luring them to boats with seal decoys made out of everyday carpet before affixing them with beacons that sent codes to sensors throughout their territory.

That way, scientists could track their movements.

Point Blue Conservation Science surveyed orca activity around Southeast Farallon Island, helping the team understand how the orcas and sharks interacted.
Border group leader showed agent weapons

Criminal complaint indicates Hopkins told supporters they were ‘training to assassinate’ Dems

BY CEDAR ATTANASIO
Associated Press

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — The leader of an armed group that has been detaining asylum-seeking families from Central America near the Mexican border said two years ago that he was training supporters to assassinate Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and other federal officials.

His group, the United Constitutional Patriots, say they want to draw attention to immigration violations and assist federal law enforcement in patrolling the border.

Hopkins, 69, made an initial appearance in federal court on Monday, two days after the FBI arrested him on charges of possessing weapons by a felon. He was arrested in Sunland Park, N.M., a suburb of El Paso, Texas, where his group has been stopping migrants, alerting the Border Patrol and ordering them to wait until agents arrive.

He will plead not guilty at a hearing next week in Albuquerque, said Kelly O’Connell, his attorney. He is being held without bond.

Hopkins allegedly invited an FBI agent into his home in 2017 and showed him at least nine weapons, including an AK-47 assault rifle and ammunition. According to the complaint, he first told the agent that the weapons belonged to his live-in girlfriend, but then referred to one of the weapons as his.

Hopkins told members of the Patriots in 2017 that they “were training to assassinate George Soros, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, because of these individuals support of Antifa,” or anti-fascists, according to the complaint.

Members call Hopkins their “commander” online and in evidence presented to the federal court.

A Patriots spokesman, Jim Benvie, dismissed the allegations as “false news.” He posted a video saying that it may move its base from Sunland Park to another location because of excessive media attention.

“It’s a false narrative that we’re a bunch of armed lunatics and we’re holding kids at gunpoint,” Benvie said.

Hopkins is barred from possessing weapons because of three felony convictions. According to the FBI he was first convicted of illegal weapons possession in New Mexico in 2000, then again in Klamath County, Ore., in 2006, along with a charge of impersonating a peace officer.

According to a police report in the Oregon case, Hopkins showed two firearms to a group of juveniles and a judge that said “special agent.”

New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham said last week that she was working with state and local police to address the armed groups. “Menacing or threatening migrant families and asylum-seekers is absolutely unacceptable and must cease,” she wrote on Twitter.

The American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico wrote Lujan Grisham and state Attorney General Hector Balderas on Thursday, urging them to investigate the incidents, including what she said was the detention of nearly 300 people on April 16 near Sunland Park.

Armed civilian groups have been a fixture on the border for years, especially when large numbers of migrants come. But, unlike in previous times, many of the migrants are children.

In the Border Patrol’s El Paso sector, 86% of arrests in March were people who came as families or unaccompanied children.

Accuser calls Biden’s jokes about touching ‘disrespectful’

Washington State Dems criticize GOP lawmaker for chats about spying

WASHINGTON — A Nevada Democrat who accused Joe Biden of touching her without permission says the former vice president has been “so incredibly disrespectful” by joking about the matter.

Lucy Flores leveled her criticism Monday on Fox News as Biden nears an announcement of his 2020 presidential campaign.

Flores, a former Nevada state legislator, said she wants to force Biden to “be more mindful” of personal space.

“The basis of the behavior that I talked about was something much more serious than just a hug,” Flores said on Fox, referring to her account that during a 2014 event Biden touched her shoulders from behind, smelled her hair and kissed her head.

“I call on House Republicans to do the right thing and eject Matt Shea from their caucus,” Democratic Lt. Gov. Cyrus Habib wrote on Twitter this past weekend.

Inslee is seeking the Democratic presidential nomination, said Monday that Shea’s behavior had crossed a line.

“He participated in conversations that advocated for violence against those with dissenting opinions,” Inslee said. “He is actively conspiring with others to surveil and target political activists.”

Shea, who represents a deeply conservative district, has served in the state House since 2008, and has embraced far-right conspiracy theories, mingled with militia groups and visited right-wing activists who seized a wildlife refuge in Oregon in 2016.

The six-term legislator and military veteran came to national attention in 2018 after a document he authored laid out a “biblical basis for war” against people who practiced same-sex marriage and abortion.
**Case dismissed for 3 Arizona students who protested border agents**

**By Jacques Billeaud**

**Associated Press**

PHOENIX — Charges were dismissed against three students involved in a protest of U.S. Border Patrol agents at the University of Arizona that was captured on video.

The case was dismissed Friday at the request of prosecutors after they learned the university will conduct an administrative investigation into the March 19 protest in Tucson, said Amelea Cramer, chief deputy for the Pima County Attorney’s Office.

She noted the students could face punishments if they’re found to have violated the university’s code of conduct.

The video shows a student standing in a hallway as two Border Patrol agents spoke inside a classroom to a student law enforcement officer who had invited the agents to speak. The protester repeatedly referred to the Border Patrol as the “murder patrol.”

Depending on how they’re found to have violated the university’s code of conduct, the students could face punishments.

Supporters say the three students — Denisse Moreno Melchor, Mariel Alexandra Bustamante and Marianna Ariel Coles-Curtis — had free speech rights to protest the agents’ presence. They started an online campaign to drop the case and staged demonstrations in Tucson.

A protest planned for Monday outside Pima County Consolidated Justice Court, where the three were scheduled to be arraigned, was called off.

In separate interviews Monday, the three students attributed the dismissal to their supporters putting pressure on the university to drop the charges.

Bustamante said she believes the charges were a response from the Border Patrol union put on the university. “It seems like they wanted to make an example of us,” Bustamante said.
Court rejects Manning’s effort to leave jail

Associated Press

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — A federal appeals court on Monday rejected a bid by former Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning to be released from jail after refusing to testify to a grand jury investigating Wikileaks.

The three-paragraph, unanimous decision sets a new standard for unreasonable searches.

The three-page opinion was issued by judges Sally J. Thomas of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond and her colleagues. The court had allowed Manning to remain in jail for nearly two years while it considered her bid for release.

The decision is one of the most significant cases in the history of the 6th Circuit, which covers much of the Midwest and West.

Manning is serving a sentence of 20 years in prison after being convicted of leaking classified government documents to WikiLeaks.

The court said Manning had failed to show that the government had probable cause to believe she had committed contempt of court.

The decision is a win for people who park too long: Tire marking thrown out

Associated Press

DETROIT — Marking tires to enforce parking rules is like entering property without a warrant, a federal court said Monday as it declared the practice unconstitutional in Michigan and three other states.

The three-judge panel of the appeals court agreed with the city of Saginaw, where there are no meters to enforce time limits.

The city marks tires with chalk to keep track of how long a vehicle is parked.

Her lawyer argued that a parking patrol officer violated the Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches.

A three-judge panel of the appeals court agreed.

The purpose of marking tires was to “raise revenue,” not to protect the public safety, the court said.

The court said the city cannot rely on the argument that marking tires is a safety risk, which is a common practice in many other cities.

The court said marking tires violates the Fourth Amendment because it allows the police to enter private property without a warrant.

Manning served seven years in a military prison for leaking classified government documents to WikiLeaks.

The case took it seriously. It affects so many people in the community caretaker rationale,” the court said.

The decision was reached by a panel of Judges John M. O’Quinn, Philip R. Winkleman and Robert King.

Manning’s lawyers argued that she is being treated unfairly and that her incarceration was unnecessarily cruel because the jail is unable to provide adequate medical care in connection with gender-reassignment surgery Manning underwent.

Prosecutors responded that they believe Manning, who was granted immunity for her grand jury testimony, may have more to say about her interactions with Wikileaks than has been previously disclosed, and that Manning is now out of line for disrupting the grand jury process simply on her speculation that she is being singled out for harassment.

They also say that the jail has gone out of its way to accommodate her medical needs.

Prosecutors have called Manning’s leak to Wikileaks one of the largest compromises of classified information in U.S. history.

Manning’s lawyers also argued that she was erroneously found in civil contempt of court and her request for bail while the contempt decision is litigated.

The court said it would hear the case at the Alexandria Detention Center since March 8 after refusing to testify to the Wikileaks grand jury.

Since her incarceration, criminal charges against Wikileaks founder Julian Assange have been unsealed and U.S. officials have requested his extradition. Manning’s lawyers argued that her testimony is unnecessary in part because Assange has already been charged.

The court said it would hear the case at the Alexandria Detention Center since March 8 after refusing to testify to the Wikileaks grand jury.

Since her incarceration, criminal charges against Wikileaks founder Julian Assange have been unsealed and U.S. officials have requested his extradition. Manning’s lawyers argued that her testimony is unnecessary in part because Assange has already been charged.

Manning’s lawyers also argued that she was erroneously found in civil contempt of court and her request for bail while the contempt decision is litigated.

The court said it would hear the case at the Alexandria Detention Center since March 8 after refusing to testify to the Wikileaks grand jury.

Since her incarceration, criminal charges against Wikileaks founder Julian Assange have been unsealed and U.S. officials have requested his extradition. Manning’s lawyers argued that her testimony is unnecessary in part because Assange has already been charged.

Manning’s lawyers also argued that she was erroneously found in civil contempt of court and her request for bail while the contempt decision is litigated.

The court said it would hear the case at the Alexandria Detention Center since March 8 after refusing to testify to the Wikileaks grand jury.

Since her incarceration, criminal charges against Wikileaks founder Julian Assange have been unsealed and U.S. officials have requested his extradition. Manning’s lawyers argued that her testimony is unnecessary in part because Assange has already been charged.

Manning’s lawyers also argued that she was erroneously found in civil contempt of court and her request for bail while the contempt decision is litigated.

The court said it would hear the case at the Alexandria Detention Center since March 8 after refusing to testify to the Wikileaks grand jury.

Since her incarceration, criminal charges against Wikileaks founder Julian Assange have been unsealed and U.S. officials have requested his extradition. Manning’s lawyers argued that her testimony is unnecessary in part because Assange has already been charged.

Manning’s lawyers also argued that she was erroneously found in civil contempt of court and her request for bail while the contempt decision is litigated.

The court said it would hear the case at the Alexandria Detention Center since March 8 after refusing to testify to the Wikileaks grand jury.

Since her incarceration, criminal charges against Wikileaks founder Julian Assange have been unsealed and U.S. officials have requested his extradition. Manning’s lawyers argued that her testimony is unnecessary in part because Assange has already been charged.

Manning’s lawyers also argued that she was erroneously found in civil contempt of court and her request for bail while the contempt decision is litigated.
You’ve never felt more like a local.

Whether you are searching for the best Sunday brunch in Okinawa or a family friendly get away in Germany, one of your FREE publications will help you embrace your new home so you can live your new adventure to the fullest.

STARS AND STRIPES
stripes.com/special-publications
By Adam Beam
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California could become one of the first states to outlaw racial discrimination because of hairstyles such as braids and twists that are tied to racial identity, this bill actually helps makes discrimination law so that the term “race” includes “traits historically associated with race.”

Federal and state laws ban discrimination based on religious hairstyles and head coverings. But federal courts have not extended those protections more broadly because of race, ruling that because hair braiding was a choice, companies could require workers to follow certain standards as a condition of employment.

Sen. Holly Mitchell, a Los Angeles Democrat, said the bill was necessary to challenge “Eurocentric standards of beauty” that have dominated professional dress codes.

The bill, even though African Americans were no longer explicitly excluded from the workplace, black features and mannerisms remain unacceptable,” said Mitchell.

Mitchell said these grooming policies often disproportionately affected blacks, who would have to spend lots of money on expensive products to alter their hair.

That thinking was most recently challenged in 2010, when a black woman, Chastity Jones, successfully applied for a job at an Alabama insurance company. The company later rescinded the job offer because Jones wore her hair in dreadlocks and refused to remove them.

At the time, the company’s grooming policy required employees “to be dressed and groomed in a manner that projects a professional and business-like image.” The company’s human resources manager, who is white, told Jones dreadlocks “tend to get messy,” according to court documents.

A federal appeals court sided with the company, ruling dreadlocks were not an unchangeable characteristic of race. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal, which allowed the ruling to stand.

But state and local governments could be changing that. Earlier this year, the New York City Human Rights Commission clarified that the city’s anti-discrimination laws do cover hairstyles. California’s proposal, if it becomes law, could prompt other states to follow.

So on the bill against the bill on Monday, but Mitchell said some people worry her proposal would result in a multitude of frivolous claims or that it could prevent companies from requiring workers to wear hairnets or other protective coverings.

“By clarifying that hair texture and hairstyles are tied to racial identity, this bill actually helps makes employers aware of traits that have been historically excluded and helps them create grooming policies that foster inclusion and diversity,” Mitchell said.

The measure now heads to the state Assembly.

Swole, go-cup among new words in Merriam-Webster’s dictionary

By Mark Pratt
Associated Press

BOSTON — Get swole, prepare a bug-out bag, grab a go-cup and maybe you’ll have a better chance of surviving the Apocalypse.

Translation: Hit the gym and bulk up, put a bunch of stuff essential for survival in an easy-to-carry bag, grab a drink for the road, and perhaps you’ll live to tell the tale.

That thinking was most recently challenged in 2010, when a black woman, Chastity Jones, successfully applied for a job at an Alabama insurance company. The company later rescinded the job offer because Jones wore her hair in dreadlocks and refused to remove them.

At the time, the company’s grooming policy required employees “to be dressed and groomed in a manner that projects a professional and business-like image.” The company’s human resources manager, who is white, told Jones dreadlocks “tend to get messy,” according to court documents.

A federal appeals court sided with the company, ruling dreadlocks were not an unchangeable characteristic of race. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal, which allowed the ruling to stand.

But state and local governments could be changing that. Earlier this year, the New York City Human Rights Commission clarified that the city’s anti-discrimination laws do cover hairstyles. California’s proposal, if it becomes law, could prompt other states to follow.

So on the bill against the bill on Monday, but Mitchell said some people worry her proposal would result in a multitude of frivolous claims or that it could prevent companies from requiring workers to wear hairnets or other protective coverings.

“By clarifying that hair texture and hairstyles are tied to racial identity, this bill actually helps makes employers aware of traits that have been historically excluded and helps them create grooming policies that foster inclusion and diversity,” Mitchell said.

The measure now heads to the state Assembly.

Swole, go-cup among new words in Merriam-Webster’s dictionary

By Mark Pratt
Associated Press

BOSTON — Get swole, prepare a bug-out bag, grab a go-cup and maybe you’ll have a better chance of surviving the Apocalypse.

Translation: Hit the gym and bulk up, put a bunch of stuff essential for survival in an easy-to-carry bag, grab a drink for the road, and perhaps you’ll live to tell the tale.

That thinking was most recently challenged in 2010, when a black woman, Chastity Jones, successfully applied for a job at an Alabama insurance company. The company later rescinded the job offer because Jones wore her hair in dreadlocks and refused to remove them.

At the time, the company’s grooming policy required employees “to be dressed and groomed in a manner that projects a professional and business-like image.” The company’s human resources manager, who is white, told Jones dreadlocks “tend to get messy,” according to court documents.

A federal appeals court sided with the company, ruling dreadlocks were not an unchangeable characteristic of race. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal, which allowed the ruling to stand.

But state and local governments could be changing that. Earlier this year, the New York City Human Rights Commission clarified that the city’s anti-discrimination laws do cover hairstyles. California’s proposal, if it becomes law, could prompt other states to follow.

So on the bill against the bill on Monday, but Mitchell said some people worry her proposal would result in a multitude of frivolous claims or that it could prevent companies from requiring workers to wear hairnets or other protective coverings.

“By clarifying that hair texture and hairstyles are tied to racial identity, this bill actually helps makes employers aware of traits that have been historically excluded and helps them create grooming policies that foster inclusion and diversity,” Mitchell said.

The measure now heads to the state Assembly.

Swole, go-cup among new words in Merriam-Webster’s dictionary

By Mark Pratt
Associated Press

BOSTON — Get swole, prepare a bug-out bag, grab a go-cup and maybe you’ll have a better chance of surviving the Apocalypse.

Translation: Hit the gym and bulk up, put a bunch of stuff essential for survival in an easy-to-carry bag, grab a drink for the road, and perhaps you’ll live to tell the tale.

That thinking was most recently challenged in 2010, when a black woman, Chastity Jones, successfully applied for a job at an Alabama insurance company. The company later rescinded the job offer because Jones wore her hair in dreadlocks and refused to remove them.

At the time, the company’s grooming policy required employees “to be dressed and groomed in a manner that projects a professional and business-like image.” The company’s human resources manager, who is white, told Jones dreadlocks “tend to get messy,” according to court documents.

A federal appeals court sided with the company, ruling dreadlocks were not an unchangeable characteristic of race. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal, which allowed the ruling to stand.

But state and local governments could be changing that. Earlier this year, the New York City Human Rights Commission clarified that the city’s anti-discrimination laws do cover hairstyles. California’s proposal, if it becomes law, could prompt other states to follow.

So on the bill against the bill on Monday, but Mitchell said some people worry her proposal would result in a multitude of frivolous claims or that it could prevent companies from requiring workers to wear hairnets or other protective coverings.

“By clarifying that hair texture and hairstyles are tied to racial identity, this bill actually helps makes employers aware of traits that have been historically excluded and helps them create grooming policies that foster inclusion and diversity,” Mitchell said.

The measure now heads to the state Assembly.

Swole, go-cup among new words in Merriam-Webster’s dictionary

By Mark Pratt
Associated Press

BOSTON — Get swole, prepare a bug-out bag, grab a go-cup and maybe you’ll have a better chance of surviving the Apocalypse.

Translation: Hit the gym and bulk up, put a bunch of stuff essential for survival in an easy-to-carry bag, grab a drink for the road, and perhaps you’ll live through a man-made disaster that could wipe out the human race.

Swole, bug-out bag, go-cup and omnicide are just a few of the 640 new words, such as “buzzy,” a new adjective that literally means “to disconnect from social media, he said.”

The first thing he thought of when he started reading reports was the exploding Note 7 phones.

“The good news is you aren’t dealing with live customers here and it’s not a safety issue,” he said, “but it’s still a black eye.”

Last week, the company shrugged off the problems with the Galaxy Fold review units, saying they affected a “limited number of phones.” It said it was investigating the matter.

It also sought to put blame on the removal of the protective film. “Removing the protective layer or adding adhesives to the main display may cause damage,” the company said in the statement.

Steven Osinski, a marketing professor at San Diego State University, said Samsung may have missed an opportunity to address the problem when it initially cropped up last week. “It would have been better to know the power of this technology immediately,” he said.

Being upfront with consumers, he said, would have helped prevent the amount of damage to the brand.

Last week, Samsung made the phones available for customers to purchase about 10 days before they were due to be available in stores. But after reports of problems with the phones surfaced on Twitter and online tech news publications, the preorders abruptly stopped.

Later that day, at AT&T and T-Mobile stores, sales representatives told customers that they were no longer taking orders for the phones because of high demand, essentially saying the phones were sold out. Store managers said they expected shipments of the phones to arrive this week and that they’d be put on display Thursday night. Those two carriers declined to comment.

Moorehead, who used to work in consumer electronics, said Samsung likely would have known about the screen issues with the Fold, but it probably believed it had found a fix or a workaround. Sometimes manufacturing fixes work in small batches and fail in mass production, he said.

Samsung declined to comment.
Official: Easter bombings retaliatory

Sri Lankan minister says attacks a response to New Zealand mosque massacres in March

BY EMILY SCHMALL AND KRISHAN FRANCIS

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — A top Sri Lankan official said Tuesday the Easter bombings that killed 321 people were carried out by Islamic fundamentalists in retaliation for the New Zealand mosque massacres last month by a white supremacist, while an Islamic State group declared it was responsible for the bombings.

The attacks, making them the leading militant killing spree in 1987, resembled the U.S. suicide attack, in which a bomb-laden truck ransacked a US military barracks, killing 231 American troops in Lebanon and took what they learned from Vietnam barrages, killing tens of thousands of Tamils died in the last few months of fighting alone. While the Tamils were secular nationalists, Islamic extremists in the Middle East also embraced the suicide bomb as a weapon. By the 1990s, Palestinian militants from both Hamas and Fatah were using suicide bombs against the Jewish state. Then, al-Qaida under Osama bin Laden employed them against U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania and, later, against the USS Cole off Yemen.

When they unleashed this carnage against the Saudi Embassy in Riyadh, and on the heels of Easter Sunday attacks that killed more than 300 people in Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia’s Interior Minister said Tuesday’s executions were carried out in accordance with Islamic law, using language that might signal they were all beheadings.

Trump to visit Britain for 3 days in early June

LONDON — President Donald Trump will pay a three-day state visit to Britain as a guest of Queen Elizabeth II in June, Buckingham Palace announced Tuesday at a signing ceremony. President Trump extended him an invitation for a pomp-filled ceremonial stay.

The palace said Trump and his wife, Melania, had accepted an invitation from the queen for a visit that will take place June 3-5.

Trump’s visit is expected to include meetings with the British prime minister and the queen. The trip also is expected to include a state banquet at Buckingham Palace.

Saudis behead 37 prisoners for terrorism

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Saudi Arabia on Tuesday beheaded 37 Saudi citizens in a mass execution across the country for alleged terrorism-related crimes, publicly pinning one of the headless bodies to a pole as a warning to others.

It marked the largest number of executions in a single day in Saudi Arabia since Jan. 2, 2016, when the kingdom executed 47 individuals, including a prominent Shiite cleric whose death sparked protests in Iran and the ransacking of the Saudi Embassy there.

The executions also come days after four Islamic State gunmen died trying to attack a Saudi security compound near the border with Iraq, and on the heels of Easter Sunday attacks that killed more than 300 people in Sri Lanka.

A Saudi official said the Saudi Interior Ministry said Tuesday’s executions were carried out in accordance with Islamic law, using language that might signal they were all beheadings.

Kim, Putin to meet in Russia’s Far East

MOSCOW — A Kremlin adviser said President Vladimir Putin will meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Russia’s Far East on Thursday.

Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev told Russian news agencies on Tuesday that the much-anticipated talks between Putin and Kim would be held in Vladivostok, on the Sea of Japan, and would focus on North Korea’s nuclear program.

The Kremlin said it has reported preparations and strict security measures undertaken in Vladivostok, where the Korean leader is expected to arrive by train.

Also, maritime authorities said the waters around Russky Island, the likely summit venue, will be closed for all maritime traffic between Wednesday morning and Friday morning.

From The Associated Press
N. Ireland police: Woman arrested in slaying of journalist McKee

Associated Press

LONDON — The Northern Ireland Police Service said Tuesday they have arrested a 57-year-old woman under the Terrorism Act in connection with the slaying of journalist Lyra McKee.

The arrest of the woman under the Terrorism Act came as an Irish Republican Army splinter group admitted that one of its “volunteers” killed McKee, 29, who was shot dead while reporting on rioting in Londonderry.

In a statement issued Tuesday to the Irish News, the New IRA offered “full and sincere” apologies to McKee’s family and friends.

The group said the journalist was killed during Thursday night’s unrest “while standing beside enemy forces” — a reference to the police.

The IRA and most other militant groups have disarmed since Northern Ireland’s 1998 peace accord. The New IRA has been formed from splinter groups opposed to the peace process.

Authorities believe one person pulled the trigger during the chaotic rioting that began Thursday night but that the person had organizational support.

The use of a firearm apparently aimed at police marks a dangerous escalation in sporadic violence that continues to plague Northern Ireland 21 years after the Good Friday peace agreement was signed.

The New IRA group rejects the peace agreement.

The riot followed a pattern familiar to those who lived through the worst years of violence in Northern Ireland. Police arrived in the city’s Creggan neighborhood to search for weapons and dissidents. They were barricaded with gasoline bombs and other flying objects before someone wearing a black mask appeared, fired some shots and fled.

No police were struck by the bullets, but McKee — who had been trying to film the riot on her phone — was hit. The journalist was rushed to a nearby hospital in a police car but died.
Vulture causes crash that kills veteran, wife

**KS**

 Authorities said a vulture caused a crash that killed an Army veteran and his wife as they rode a motorcycle in southern Kansas.

The Kansas Highway Patrol said the bird came out of a ditch Saturday afternoon and struck Brandon Husband, 42, of Fowler, in the head on a rural road near Medicine Lodge. The motorcycle went off the road, struck a barbed wire fence and overturned.

The patrol said neither Husband nor his wife, Jennifer Lynn Husband, 43, was wearing a helmet.

Brandon Husband's obituary says he served one tour in Kosovo, three in Afghanistan and was part of an Iraqi soldier training mission on the Iraq-Jordan border.

**THE CENSUS**

**5K**

The number of tree seedlings the Illinois Department of Transportation is sending to schools in the state. IDOT officials say the “Trees to Schools” initiative honors Earth Day, which was Monday. Trees are provided by the East Moline-based nature preservation group Living Lands and Waters. The program helps offset the loss of trees that are removed or otherwise affected by IDOT construction and maintenance work. Schools use the trees on their grounds or give them to students as a learning opportunity. Officials say one tree produces as much oxygen in a single season as 10 people do in a year.

**THE ARBITRATOR**

The arbitrator ruled Friday that the company should not have fired Amar Ramasar and Zachary Catanzaro in September. They were named in a lawsuit by a former student at the company's affiliated school.

Alexandra Waterbury said City Ballet tolerated a “fraternity-like atmosphere” where male dancers understood that “they could degrade, demean, mistreat and abuse, assault and batter women without consequence.”

**Sergeant is suspended after police gear sold**

**NV**

A sheriff’s sergeant in Nevada has been suspended for 45 days after authorities said he sold police-issued gear on eBay.

The project fell apart on Oct. 25, 2017, when Nevada Department of Agriculture officials reported the volunteers are restoring mustangs near Reno.

The Reno Gazette-Journal reported the volunteers are returning to the large in part because Assembly Minority Leader Jim Wheeler, R-Gardnerville, said, “These people understand that ‘they could degrade, demean, mistreat and abuse, assault and batter women without consequence.’”

**Ruling favors 2 ballet dancers fired over pics**

**NJ**

Dancers fired over pics

Ruling favors 2 ballet

**Mustang birth control program is revived**

**NV**

RENO — Nevada horse advocates are looking forward to getting back to their work in the field after the state agreed to resume a birth control project for a herd of free-roaming mustangs near Reno.

The Reno Gazette-Journal reported the volunteers are returning to the large in part because Assembly Minority Leader Jim Wheeler, R-Gardnerville, said, “These people understand that ‘they could degrade, demean, mistreat and abuse, assault and batter women without consequence.’”

**Caring for gravestones**

**FL**

Jacksonville — A sheriff’s sergeant in Florida has been suspended for 45 days after authorities said he sold police-issued gear on eBay.

The Florida Time-Union cited an internal affairs report in reporting that Jacksonville Sheriff’s Sgt. Richard E. Vercruyse made $60.50 in the sale of a gun belt, a double magazine holder and a double magazine holder for a double magazine holder.

**Man indicted in theft of 135 firearms**

**IL**

Wood River — A Madison County man has been charged with stealing 135 firearms from a sporting goods store in southwestern Illinois.

Federal prosecutors said Bradley Boswell, 30, of Wood River, was indicted by a grand jury Thursday. Boswell is accused of stealing shotguns, a grenade launcher and more in February at Benbow City Sports in Wood River.

Officers from Wood River police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System conducted a predawn raid in February at an address that neighbors had raised concerns about.

Boswell was later arrested at another location, police said.

**Rescuers save trapped couple, dog on icy lake**

**ME**

AUGUSTA—A Democratic legislator wants to declare a song about Maine’s most renowned Civil War soldiers as the official state ballad.

The Portland Press Herald reported that Democratic Rep. Scott Cuddy’s bill would name “The Ballad of the 20th Maine” by the Ghost of Paul Reveres the state ballad.

Maine doesn’t have a state ballad. It does have a little known, official song dating to the early 1930s: “The State of Maine Song” by Roger Vinton Snow, of Portland.

From wire reports
When Phyllis Rashad returns to Broadway, she will do so as a director.

The Tony-winning actress is former President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura.

She has directed productions of four August Wilson classics: “Gem of the Ocean” at Seattle Repertory Theatre, “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” and “Joe Turner’s Come and Gone” at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles, and “Fences” at both the Long Wharf Theatre in Connecticut and McCarter Theatre in New Jersey.

Rashad’s success is a combination that the show has never seen. And Holzhauer shows no sign of slowing down. So, did he break “Jeopardy”?

“Jeopardy!” champ James Holzhauer made $942,738 in his first 13 episodes. He is quick with the buzzer — and its power to touch the human heart.”

The veteran actress of stage and screen heads to Broadway after collecting directing credits across all Webby categories with 32 wins overall. Fortune is recognized in the video category, and NASA won for best overall social presence.

The 23rd annual Webby Awards will be presented in New York City on May 13.

Other news

“Today” show co-anchor Jenna Bush Hager is pregnant with her third child. The 37-year-old journalist shared the news with colleagues during Monday morning’s show. Hager and her husband, Henry, are the parents of daughters Mila, 6, and Poppy, 3. The children’s grandparents are former President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura.
Vehicle Shipping Services

- International shipping
- Import & export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All risk marine insurance
- Auto insurance (Germany only)

For further information please contact:

Germany:
Phone: +49-0161-947994
Toll-free: 0800-26358-1 (Germany only)
E-mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de
WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de

United Kingdom:
Phone: +44(0)1638-815714
E-mail: enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk
WEB: www.carshipuk.co.uk

USA:
Phone: +1-972-602-1670 Ext. 1701
E-mail: info@tpal.us
WEB: www.tpal.us

For 2nd POV shipments - Offices/Agencies near military installations

Transportation

AMERICAN DOCTORS & STAFF
Creating Healthy Smiles

- Certified Orthodontics
- American Dental Hygienists
- Family Dentistry

Ramstein Dental Care
06371 406 230
Poststrasse 1,
66877 Ramstein
Ramstein-dental.com

Wiesbaden Dental Care
0611 887 26 50
Bahnstrasse 14,
65205 Wiesbaden
Wiesbaden-dental.com

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

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill. Also available on mobile apps for Android smartphones and as an iOS app for both iPhone and iPad.

Stars and Stripes
Mobile • Online • Print
us reestablish strong presence in Europe

By F. Charles Parker IV
Special to Stars and Stripes

February 16, 2020

The West must shake off Ukraine fatigue

By Michael Carpenter
Special To The Washington Post

1978, a moment of truth for Ukraine. Volodymyr Zelensky has won a landslide victory in the second round of Ukraine’s presidential election, vanquishing the incumbent, Petro Poroshenko.

Most Ukrainians know Zelensky as a sitcom actor and TV character who hit show “Servant of the People,” on which he plays an ordinary citizen fed up with Ukraine’s pay-to-play political system. Zelensky’s character, who, after one of his rants against corrupt politicians goes viral, now has become the president of a country at a real-life inauguration later this spring.

Having run a campaign light on policy specifics, Zelensky is now about to show Ukrainians what he will really be. In contrast to his scripted TV persona, Zelensky is not exactly an ordinary citizen. He is a member of theinclu don who reportedly owns a lavish Italian villa and has close personal ties to at least one of Ukraine’s wealthiest — and most controversial — oligarchs.

While we don’t yet know what sort of president Zelensky will be, it is clear what sort of presidency he will want. His pre-election promise included continuing his anti-corruption and restore Ukraine’s sovereignty. Second, they want a reformer who will take a battering ram to the oligarchic system that corrupts Ukraine’s politics and economy. Finally, they want someone who will strengthen economic growth, boost wages and create jobs.

Those things are easier said than done. Yet if Zelensky truly wants to be a “servant of the people,” he at least knows what his constituency wants: a government that can deliver.

His campaign rhetoric seems to reflect an awareness of these priorities. To counter persistent images of Kyiv as the nation’s pay-to-play capital, Zelensky has called for the United States and the United Kingdom to apply greater leverage on Moscow and get off the sidelines of the diplomatic process, which has been monopolized by France and Germany. To fight corruption, he has called for insulating Ukraine’s law enforcement agencies — especially its National Anti-Corruption Bureau and nascent anti-corruption courts — from political interference. To boost the economy, he has recognized that investment is key but that it crucially depends on the rule of law and respect for property rights.

If Zelensky is to succeed with an agenda that matches this economic reality, he will need both domestic and international support. Domestically, he will need a president and civil society willing to back reforms. Ukrainian civil society is already a staunch advocate of reforms and will, if Zelensky chooses to engage it.

The other thing Zelensky needs is the support of the international community. Unfortunately, like the parliament, the transatlantic community is also fragment- and consumed with other issues. That means the U.S. must shake off its self-diagnosed “Ukraine fatigue” and take its wait-and-see attitude with a more strategic policy of proactively supporting military modernization and encouraging reforms in this strategically important country.

If the international community does not embrace Zelensky, other actors will. Oligarchs are already champing at the bit to ensure their corrupt interests are ad- vanced. The Kremlin will see the loss and seek to fill the resulting money holes in the Ukrainian budget. The West must stop acting as if it has no stake in the outcome and quickly to help the new president leverage his ties with his compatriots toward a more democratic, sovereign and prosperous Ukraine.

Michael Carpenter is senior director of the Penn-Biden Center for Diplomacy & Global Engagement.
Musk plan for robotic cars met with skepticism

By Michael Liedtke
Greenwire
SAN FRANCISCO — Tesla CEO Elon Musk expects to start converting the company’s electric cars into fully self-driving vehicles next year as part of an audacious plan to create a network of robotic taxis to compete against Uber and other ride-hailing services.

The vision sketched out Monday during an event at Tesla’s Silicon Valley headquarters requires several leaps of faith — something that the zealous investors and consumers who view Musk as a technological genius often are willing to take.

But self-driving car experts fear Musk is shirking public safety in an effort to boost Tesla’s stock and sell more of the company’s electric cars. This amid lingering questions about whether the 15-year-old automaker can consistently make money.

“It sounds like a pipe dream that he’s selling people,” said Raj Rajkumar, an electrical and computer engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University. “I think it’s basically overpromising, which is typical of Elon Musk.”

To prove his skepticism wrong, Musk will have to persuade regulators that Tesla’s technology for transforming potentially hundreds of thousands of electric cars into self-driving vehicles will produce robots that are safer and more reliable than humans.

To do that, Musk will have to be correct in his bet that Tesla has come up with a better way to produce self-driving cars than virtually every other of the more than 60 companies in the U.S. working toward the same goal.

Some of those companies are aiming to have their fully autonomous cars begin carrying passengers in small geographic areas as early as this year, but many experts don’t believe they’ll be in widespread use for a decade or more.

Unlike most of those other companies, Tesla’s cars won’t come with the light-beam sensors called Lidar that many industry experts consider to be essential equipment for robotic vehicles to navigate the road.

Musk dismissed Lidar as a “fool’s errand” and “frigging stupid” in a put-down of companies such as Google spinoff Waymo and General Motors’ Cruise Automation that are including the light-beam sensors in their systems.

“They are going to dump Lidar,” Musk assured investors and analysts gathered at Tesla’s Palo Alto, Calif., office for the 2½-hour presentation.

Calif. bill encourages banks to work with pot businesses

By Michael R. Blood
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — California lawmakers considered a Monday bill intended to encourage more banks to do business with marijuana companies that have been frozen out of thousands of financial institutions.

Most Americans live in states where marijuana is legally available in some form.

But most financial institutions don’t want anything to do with money from the cannabis industry for fear it could expose them to legal trouble since the federal government still considers marijuana illegal.

The conflict between state and federal law has left businesses in California’s emerging legal pot industry in a legal dilemma, shutting out many of everyday services such as opening a bank account or obtaining a credit card.

It also has forced many businesses to operate only in cash — sometimes vast amounts — making them ripe targets for crime.

An assembly bill would authorize regulators to share detailed sales, cultivation and shipping information collected from cannabis companies with banks. A step supporters hope will provide additional assurances to financial institutions that a pot store or grower is operating within the law.

During the Obama administration, the Justice Department issued guidelines to help banks avoid federal prosecution when dealing with pot businesses in states where the drug is legal.

But most banks don’t see those rules as a shield against charges that could include aiding drug trafficking. Also, they say the rules are difficult to follow, in effect placing the burden on banks to determine if a pot business is complying with all legal rules.

Cara Martinson, of the California State Association of Counties, told members of an assembly committee that the bill represented an incremental step until a solution is reached at the federal level.

“This could help move the ball,” she said.

The number of banks and credit unions willing to handle pot money is growing — it’s over 400 nationally — but they still represent only a small fraction of the industry.

MUSK PLAN FOR ROBOTIC CARS MET WITH SKEPTICISM

By Michael Liedtke
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Tesla CEO Elon Musk expects to start converting the company’s electric cars into fully self-driving vehicles next year as part of an audacious plan to create a network of robotic taxis to compete against Uber and other ride-hailing services.

The vision sketched out Monday during an event at Tesla’s Silicon Valley headquarters requires several leaps of faith — something that the zealous investors and consumers who view Musk as a technological genius often are willing to take.

But self-driving car experts fear Musk is shirking public safety in an effort to boost Tesla’s stock and sell more of the company’s electric cars. This amid lingering questions about whether the 15-year-old automaker can consistently make money.

“It sounds like a pipe dream that he’s selling people,” said Raj Rajkumar, an electrical and computer engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University. “I think it’s basically overpromising, which is typical of Elon Musk.”

To prove his skepticism wrong, Musk will have to persuade regulators that Tesla’s technology for transforming potentially hundreds of thousands of electric cars into self-driving vehicles will produce robots that are safer and more reliable than humans.

To do that, Musk will have to be correct in his bet that Tesla has come up with a better way to produce self-driving cars than virtually every other of the more than 60 companies in the U.S. working toward the same goal.

Some of those companies are aiming to have their fully autonomous cars begin carrying passengers in small geographic areas as early as this year, but many experts don’t believe they’ll be in widespread use for a decade or more.

Unlike most of those other companies, Tesla’s cars won’t come with the light-beam sensors called Lidar that many industry experts consider to be essential equipment for robotic vehicles to navigate the road.

Musk dismissed Lidar as a “fool’s errand” and “frigging stupid” in a put-down of companies such as Google spinoff Waymo and General Motors’ Cruise Automation that are including the light-beam sensors in their systems.

“They are going to dump Lidar,” Musk assured investors and analysts gathered at Tesla’s Palo Alto, Calif., office for the 2½-hour presentation.

Calif. bill encourages banks to work with pot businesses

By Michael R. Blood
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — California lawmakers considered a Monday bill intended to encourage more banks to do business with marijuana companies that have been frozen out of thousands of financial institutions.

Most Americans live in states where marijuana is legally available in some form.

But most financial institutions don’t want anything to do with money from the cannabis industry for fear it could expose them to legal trouble since the federal government still considers marijuana illegal.

The conflict between state and federal law has left businesses in California’s emerging legal pot industry in a legal dilemma, shutting out many of everyday services such as opening a bank account or obtaining a credit card.

It also has forced many businesses to operate only in cash — sometimes vast amounts — making them ripe targets for crime.

An assembly bill would authorize regulators to share detailed sales, cultivation and shipping information collected from cannabis companies with banks. A step supporters hope will provide additional assurances to financial institutions that a pot store or grower is operating within the law.

During the Obama administration, the Justice Department issued guidelines to help banks avoid federal prosecution when dealing with pot businesses in states where the drug is legal.

But most banks don’t see those rules as a shield against charges that could include aiding drug trafficking. Also, they say the rules are difficult to follow, in effect placing the burden on banks to determine if a pot business is complying with all legal rules.

Cara Martinson, of the California State Association of Counties, told members of an assembly committee that the bill represented an incremental step until a solution is reached at the federal level.

“This could help move the ball,” she said.

The number of banks and credit unions willing to handle pot money is growing — it’s over 400 nationally — but they still represent only a small fraction of the industry.

MARKET WATCH

EXCHANGE RATES

Dollar buys (April 24) .................... $1.1208/0.8922

Euro costs (April 24) ..................... €1.0691/

British pound (April 24) ................... $1.2960

South Korean won (April 24) ............. 1,112.00

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate ................................. 5.59

Discount rate .............................. 3.69

Federal funds market rate .............. 2.44

3-month bill ............................. 2.40

30-year bond ........................... 2.99

Steady rain is expected to continue in Great Britain and Nordic Europe for the next couple of days. Thereafter, generally dry weather will prevail. The Mediterranean Sea will be unaffected by the weather system.

A continuous pattern of stable weather will dominate the Middle East and central Asia. The weather is expected to remain dry and stable throughout the region.

In the Pacific, the weather is expected to remain generally dry and stable. The region will experience a few isolated rain showers, but these are not expected to have a significant impact on the overall weather pattern.
**Eugene Sheffer Crossword**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Church seat</td>
<td>1. Stand-in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Brit. record label</td>
<td>4. 2-Way switch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Singer Guthrie</td>
<td>7. Earl of Carnarvon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Golf clubs</td>
<td>8. Greek island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Vault intersection</td>
<td>10. 1960s British pop group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Pig sounds</td>
<td>11. Captain of the US Navy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 13. Good thing with a downside | 13. "All the Queen's Men"
| 16. Uter | 16. 80s pop group |
| 17. Wear down | 17. "24 Hours a Day"
| 18. Half of CIV | 18. "Here Come the Waves"
| 19. Vivacity | 19. "At the Drums"
| 20. Prescriptions, for short | 20. "Boxcar Bertha"
| 21. "—were the days!" | 21. "Die Another Day"
| 23. Expire | 23. "Duck Soup"
| 25. Channel marker | 25. "Grease"
| 26. Animation frames | 26. "head"
| 27. Carte lead-in | 27. "nail"
| 30. Mimic | 30. "All the Way"
| 33. Confusing statements | 33. "All the Way"
| 36. Bit of buckshot | 36. "All the Way"
| 37. Makes a sweater | 37. "All the Way"
| 38. Prolonged attack | 38. "All the Way"
| 39. "Downton Abbey" role | 39. "All the Way"


**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| P | A | R | A | S | O | L | S | D | A | R | E | N | E | D | A | S | R | A | S | P

**CRYPTOQUIP**

H G D Y V Q F R B D Q M F J D R O H P L G
F K M G D J D L T C Q P J C Q F J G P K
M T J D W X O F B L V D B, P L H F K F
C T T Q - G F B W X Q Q F V.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HAVE A SNAZZY NEW GRIZZLY-SHAPED AREA RUG, BUT I KEEP AVOIDING IT. IT'S A BEAR TO WALK ON.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals L
SCAM FADS

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the website.

Announcements 040

Classifieds Europe

For information on Commercial Rates: CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSM: 583-9012

Automotive 140

Free Classifieds!

Visit stripes.com for details.

STARS AND STRIPES

Want a better picture?

You’ll get one — just by reading Stars and Stripes military news coverage.

In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

No one covers the bases the way we do.

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

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

Also available on mobile apps for Android smartphones and as an iOS app for both iPhone and iPad.

Stars and Stripes

Mobile • Online • Print
For the troops

Stars and Stripes was a primary source of news for the troops at the Front and behind the lines in World War II. Although it printed only in the European theater during the war, it covered news from all theaters.
Go to the American Football Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.

**Monday's transactions**

**BASEBALL**

Baltimore Orioles — Optioned CF Cedric Mullins to Norfolk (IL).

Chicago White Sox — recalled INF/OF Drew LaBella from Charlotte (AHL) and transferred 60-day IL INF Eloy Jimenez to the bereavement list.

Los Angeles Dodgers — called up 3B Alexra Bregman from Oklahoma City (AAA) and placed 3B Max Muncy on the bereavement list.

Oakland Athletics — transferred RHP Sean Manaea from the 10-day IL to the 60-day IL.

Philadelphia Phillies — placed 2B Scott Kingery on the bereavement list, recalled INF Matt winchester from Lehigh Valley (AAA), transferred INF Jose Contreras from the 60-day IL to the 10-day IL and placed C Jason Vitek on the bereavement list.

San Diego Padres — recalled INF Eduardvo Diaz from Las Vegas (PCL) and placed 1B Luis Urias on the bereavement list.

San Francisco Giants — activated OF Eddy Alvarez from the 10-day IL, placed INF Christian Arroyo on the bereavement list, recalled OF Drew Robinson from the 60-day IL and placed INF Darin Ruf on the bereavement list.

San Francisco Giants — recalled RHP Tyler Rogers from the 60-day IL.

St. Louis Cardinals — recalled INF/OF Harrison Bader from the 10-day IL and placed 1B Nolan Gorman on the bereavement list.

Texas Rangers — placed OF Lars Nootbaar on the bereavement list and recalled INF/OF Drew Robinson from the 60-day IL.

**BASKETBALL**

Chicago Bulls — placed G Coby White on the bereavement list and recalled G Javonte Green from the G League.

Denver Nuggets — recalled G Monte Morris from the G League.

Detroit Pistons — recalled C Mason Plumlee from the G League.

Indiana Pacers — recalled G/SG Chris Duarte from the G League.

Los Angeles Lakers — recalled G Austin Reaves from the G League.

Los Angeles Lakers — recalled CRJ/SG Ben Moore from the G League.

New York Knicks — recalled C Jerian Grant from the G League.

New York Knicks — recalled SG Alex Caruso from the G League.

San Antonio Spurs — recalled G Tre’Von Bluiett from the G League.

Toronto Raptors — recalled G Victor Oladipo from the G League.

Washington Wizards — recalled G/SG Carter Verboncoeur from the G League.

**HOCKEY**

Colorado Avalanche — placed G Calvin Pickard on the Individuals IL.

Florida Panthers — recalled G Matt Murray from the G League.


Tampa Bay Lightning — recalled G Spencer Meeks from the G League.

Washington Capitals — recalled G Vitek Vanecek from the G League.

**FOOTBALL**

Anaheim Ducks — called up G Zach Osburn from the G League.

Cleveland Browns — recalled CB Jamarco Jones from the G League.

Los Angeles Rams — recalled CB Cornell Armstrong from the G League.

New York Giants — recalled CB Antonio Hamilton from the G League.

New York Jets — recalled CB Marcel Porter from the G League.

Philadelphia Eagles — recalled CB Josh Delerme from the G League.

San Francisco 49ers — recalled CB Deommodore Lenoir from the G League.

**HORSE RACING**

Oceanside, NY — John Velazquez aboard Sunny參加 the Grade 1 Metropolitan at Belmont Park.

**TENNIS**

Barcelona Open — Grigor Dimitrov (Bulgaria) beat Donald Young (United States) 7-6 (5), 6-3.

**CME Group Match Play**

Monday: 

Rahm (Spain) vs. Sęczek (Poland), 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-2). 

Waskul (United States) vs. Shapovalov (Canada), 6-2, 6-3.

Tuesday: 

Nadal (Spain) vs. Monfils (France), 6-3, 6-3.

Djokovic (Serbia) vs. Zverev (Germany), 7-6 (3), 6-2.

**LPGA TOUR**

Ko and Hataoka lead at 8 under, Golfweek.com. 

**WTA World Rankings**

Monday, April 20

**World rankings through April 19**

1. Tiger Woods 2,347.063
2. Dustin Johnson 2,308.186
3. Justin Thomas 1,914.673
4. Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy 1,221.891
5. Dustin Johnson 1,166.891
6. Matt Kuchar 1,103.108
7. Tiger Woods 1,075.768
8. Brooks Koepka 1,037.674
9. Moriya Jutanugarn 8 $247,235
10. Sung Hyun Park 5 $374,927

**FedEx Cup leaders**

Through April 21

1. Matt Kuchar 2,030 $5,394,944
2. Nelly Korda 7 $530,799
3. Patrick Cantlay 1,086 $2,604,266
4. Paul Casey 1,261 $3,199,473
5. Brooks Koepka 1,112 $3,526,317
6. Jason Day AUS 94.90 $2,266,763
7. Jim Furyk 729.214 $2,431,269
8. Sung Hyun Park 5 $363,694
9. Nasa Hataoka 6 $333,570
10. Phil Mickelson 886 $2,293,980

**Presidents Cup standings**

2020 FedEx Cup points

1. Tiger Woods 2,347,063
2. Dustin Johnson 2,308,186
3. Justin Thomas 1,914,673
4. Northern Ireland’s Rory McIlroy 1,221,891
5. Dustin Johnson 1,166,891
6. Matt Kuchar 1,103,108
7. Tiger Woods 1,075,768
8. Brooks Koepka 1,037,674
9. Moriya Jutanugarn 8 $247,235
10. Sung Hyun Park 5 $374,927

**2020 Ryder Cup points**

Note: Points: three points for victory, one point for tie.

**Top 10 automatically qualified**

1. Dustin Johnson
2. Tiger Woods
3. Jordan Spieth
4. Paul Casey
5. Brooks Koepka
6. Camilo Villegas
7. Phil Mickelson
8. Tony Finau
9. Justin Thomas
10. Patrick Cantlay

**Top 10 players not automatically qualified**

1. Justin Thomas
2. Patrick Cantlay
3. Moriya Jutanugarn
4. Sung Hyun Park
5. Nasa Hataoka

**Figure skating**

The 2020-21 World Figure Skating Championships, the season's top event, are scheduled to be held in April 2021, but they have been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event is usually held in April or May, and it is the culmination of the season's competition. The pandemic has also affected other sporting events, including the Olympics and the World Cup, which have been postponed or canceled.

**Music**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the music industry has been largely impacted, with concerts, festivals, and tours being postponed or canceled. Many artists have turned to streaming and social media to connect with fans and release new music. The Grammy Awards, which are held annually, have also been postponed due to the pandemic.

**Sports on TV**

Go to the American Football Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.

**Weather**

The weather forecast is not available in the image.

**Events**

The events section is not available in the image.
Hurricanes rally past Caps, force Game 7

By JODY MCCRaey
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Justin Williams earned another chance to live up to his nickname.

The rest of the Carolina Hurricanes aren't ready yet to call their first playoff appearance in a decade.

Jordan Staal scored the go-ahead goal and added an assist as the Hurricanes beat the Washington Capitals 5-2 on Monday night in the first round of playoff series.

"We didn't have a lot of chances," Staal said. "But the goalies did their jobs."

Williams scored an insurance goal seconds after the Capitals tied the series 2-2 last round.

"They were loud and our fans," Stars captain Jamie Benn said. "It was a great environment and what an exciting time for the fans."

Williams extended the lead with his empty-netter with 2:51 left in the game. He added an assist on a goal by the left circle 17:02 into overtime, giving the Stars a 3-1 victory over the Nashville Predators in their first-round playoff series.

"I was just trying to track the puck, and honestly, try to get a piece of it," Staal said. "And it was fortunate to go in.""The Caps had the key momentum swing of this one — the waved-off goal that Washington thought should have counted."

Staal gave the Hurricanes their first lead in the game at 3:51 of the third period, following a scramble in front of Holtby. Justin Faulk uncorked a shot from the point and Brock Mcginn and Staal both poked at it, with Staal ultimately slipping it past the Capitals goalie to make it 3-2.

"I don't want to be a bad guy or something," Ovechkin said. "I didn't play as well as I did in Game 5, so I couldn't help my team.""And Ovechkin's fourth goal of the series — and his third in three games — put the Caps up 2-1 with 4:48 left in the game."

The Hurricanes pushed back.

"He's just keeping us going," Staal said. "He's our best player once again."

The Capitals scored three third-period goals in bouncing back from a 6-0 deficit in Game 5 and prolonging their first playoff appearance in a decade by one game at least.

"I was happy with both teams," Williams said. "I didn't think we gave ourselves a great chance to win this game at the end."

The Hurricanes scored three third-period goals in bouncing back from a 6-0 deficit in Game 5 and prolonging their first playoff appearance in a decade by one game at least.

"I am continuing to work on my game and my things, but it was not fun," Ovechkin said. "I don't have that answer right now."

"I don't want to be a bad guy or something," Ovechkin said. "I didn't play as well as I did in Game 5, so I couldn't help my team.""And Ovechkin's fourth goal of the series — and his third in three games — put the Caps up 2-1 with 4:48 left in the game."

The Hurricanes pushed back.

"He's just keeping us going," Staal said. "He's our best player once again."

The Capitals scored three third-period goals in bouncing back from a 6-0 deficit in Game 5 and prolonging their first playoff appearance in a decade by one game at least.

"I am continuing to work on my game and my things, but it was not fun," Ovechkin said. "I don't have that answer right now."

"I don't want to be a bad guy or something," Ovechkin said. "I didn't play as well as I did in Game 5, so I couldn't help my team.""And Ovechkin's fourth goal of the series — and his third in three games — put the Caps up 2-1 with 4:48 left in the game."

The Hurricanes pushed back.

"He's just keeping us going," Staal said. "He's our best player once again."

The Capitals scored three third-period goals in bouncing back from a 6-0 deficit in Game 5 and prolonging their first playoff appearance in a decade by one game at least.

"I am continuing to work on my game and my things, but it was not fun," Ovechkin said. "I don't have that answer right now."

"I don't want to be a bad guy or something," Ovechkin said. "I didn't play as well as I did in Game 5, so I couldn't help my team.""And Ovechkin's fourth goal of the series — and his third in three games — put the Caps up 2-1 with 4:48 left in the game."

The Hurricanes pushed back.

"He's just keeping us going," Staal said. "He's our best player once again."
**STARS AND STRIPES**

**Avalanche moving on for first time since 2008**

*By Pat Graham*

DENVER — The brief message on social media from Colorado defensemen Nikita Zadorov was rhymed in nature: “How is your bracket?”

Because obviously, it’s pretty messy.

The eighth-seeded Avalanche simply played a big role in that. Colorado knocked off the Calgary Flames — the top team in the West — in five games for its first playoff series win since 2008. It’s on to the second round, where Colorado faces the winner of the Vegas-San Jose series.

The Golden Knights and Sharks were to play Game 7 Tuesday night.

While others may be surprised, Nathan MacKinnon and his teammates have been astounded that this postseason would be entirely different. This time, unlike a year ago, they wouldn’t be content with merely making the playoffs. This time, they would to make some noise even if they again entered as an eight seed and faced a No. 1 seed.

“We’re not just happy to be here,” said MacKinnon, whose team was eliminated in the opening round by top-seeded Nashville in six games last year. “We’re here to win the Cup.”

Colorado actually has been in playoff mode for about a month, needing to go 6-0-2 down the stretch to earn the last spot. Despite the Avalanche’s surge, they weren’t exactly a trendy pick to spring an upset on the Flames squad that amassed 107 points. But they outscored the Flames by a 17-11 margin and outshot them 205-164.

“Now we can rest before the second round,” forward Mikko Rantanen said Friday after a 5-1 win in Game 5. “That’s going to be huge.”

And just like that, another top seed exited. Tampa Bay, the Presidents’ Trophy winner with the league’s best record, got swept out of the playoffs by Columbus.

Dating to expansion in 1967-68, this marks the first time the top two teams in each division or conference or the teams with the two best regular season records have been eliminated in the opening round, according to the league.

“Told you going into the playoffs that I had a different feeling, a different mindset this year, that we’re here for a purpose,” Avalanche coach Jared Bednar said. “Our guys believe it ... Our guys are hungry for more.”

Rantanen turned in quite a series, with five goals and four assists. He has at least a point in four straight games, which is one away from tying the Colorado/Quebec franchise mark held by Peter Stastny in 1962 and equaled by Peter Forsberg on three separate occasions.

This after Rantanen missed the last eight games of the regular season with an upper-body injury. He shook off some rust in Game 1 and then spent the rest of the series skating free of defenders. He scored the game-winner in Game 4.

“He came back and he looked amazing and dominated,” MacKinnon said. “It’s nice to have a guy like that on your team.”

The same can be said for goaltender Philipp Grubauer, whose play down the stretch got the Avalanche into the postsea-son and whose play now has kept them rolling. Grubauer posted a 1.90 goals-against average in the playoffs.

“Hes a wall for us,” said captain Gabriel Landeskog, whose team went 0-3 against San Jose during the regular season and 2-1 versus Vegas. “He was really important for us. He’s been really solid this series.”

Grubauer believes this team can reach an even higher level.

“If we can manage to play that way for a long time, we’re going to set ourselves up for a good chance here, said Grubauer, who won a Stanley Cup title with Washington last season. “Guys are stepping up in the right moments.”

Like recently signed rookie defenseman Cale Makar, who made his NHL debut in Game 3 and scored a goal. The 20-year-old signed a three-year deal with Colorado last Sunday, a day after his college season ended when Massachusetts lost in the Frozen Four championship game.

Makar, who is from Calgary, grew up a big Flames fan. He just played a role in eliminating them.

Matt Nieto had two short-handed goals in the series, while Tyson Barrie added five assists and logged the most ice time among Colorado skaters.

In the clincher at Calgary, Rantanen, Colin Wilson, MacKinnon and Barrie all had at least three-point performances. This marked the first time in the team’s history that four players had at least three points in a series-clinching game.

That comes as no surprise to Landeskog.

“We wouldn’t be here,” Landeskog said, “if it wasn’t for every single guy in this room.”
Boston has time to dig out

By Noah Trister
Associated Press

Hold off — for now — on the panic in Boston.

The Red Sox are indeed off to a poor start in their campaign to win a World Series title. They have a 9-13 record and baseball's third-worst run differential. But after a one-game winning streak, the J.L. West with first-place Tampa Bay, Bos-

The reigning champs trail the Rays by 5 1/2 games in the AL East, but the deficit could be bigger.

The Sox have been hamstrung nearly at the bottom of the American League in runs scored and ERA. Aside from J.D. Martinez, no one on the team has an open big-name hitting has been worse.

Chris Sale and Rick Porcello are winless, and both have ERAs over 8.00.

There's still more than a week left in April, though. And there's plenty of precedent that suggests a team can recover from the start of the wild-

The 2015 Rangers started 7-15 and were 8 1/2 games out of first place at the end of April. They made up for that with a nine-game winning streak. They ended up as a 91-73 wild-card team in manager Bobby Cox's final season.

The 2006 Padres were 8-14, but they were only 4 1/2 games out of first place after 22 games — and still ended up in the post-

The 2002 Angels won the World Series after starting 8-14. They were actually back at .500 in early May and eventually took the wild card with 99 wins.

The Athletics of the early 2000s had a habit of slowly and steadily climbing back. The 2002 team featured in “Moneyball” was a good example, but the 2001 team also followed the pattern, start-

The 2010 Braves were 8-14 after losing nine straight games in April, but they made up for that with a nine-game winning streak. They ended up as a 91-73 wild-card team in manager Bobby Cox's final season.

The 2006 Padres were 8-14, but they were only 4 1/2 games out of first place after 22 games — and still ended up in the post-

The 2002 Angels won the World Series after starting 8-14. They were actually back at .500 in early May and eventually took the wild card with 99 wins.

The Athletics of the early 2000s had a habit of slowly and steadily climbing back. The 2002 team featured in “Moneyball” was a good example, but the 2001 team also followed the pattern, start-

The 2010 Braves were 8-14 after losing nine straight games in April, but they made up for that with a nine-game winning streak. They ended up as a 91-73 wild-card team in manager Bobby Cox's final season.
Pirates’ Burdi injures arm in D-backs’ win

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Nick Burdi’s combination of grit and resilience — oh and a fastball that can touch triple digits — helped the Pittsburgh Pirates reliever carve out a spot in the big leagues less than two years prior to Monday after making the Pirates’ director of sports medicine Todd Pannone alteration of Burdi’s roller from a two-run home run in the seventh inning. Christian Walker touched him for a two-run home run in the eighth inning then crumpled it was just a matter for us to put some good at-bats together. We did, we were just one knock away from breaking the game open, just like they were. We took some good approaches, it just didn’t go our way.”

Arenado helped defensively in the ninth, snaring pinch-hitter Kurt Suzuki’s sharply hit ground-er to third, stepping on the bag for the force before going to first for a game-ending double play.

Arenado’s HR, double play rally Rockies

BY DENNIS GEORGATOS

DENVER — No. 1,000 was nothing new for Nolan Arenado. Arenado hit a tiebreaking homer for his 1,000th career hit and the Colorado Rockies rallied to beat the Washington Nationals 7-3 Monday night.

Arenado also doubled twice and drove in two to help the Rockies win for the seventh time in eight games. He is the ninth Rockies player to reach 1,000 hits, getting there with a solo shot off Wander Suero (1-2) in the seventh to make it 6-5.

“I’m just thankful I was able to put the team ahead there and have a good quality at bat against a guy throwing hard and throwing really good cutters,” Arenado said. “I just tried to hit the ball hard there.”

Washington manager Dave Martinez said Tapia, who went to Arenado went over the middle of the plate.

“With a guy like Arenado you’ve got to make a better pitch than that,” Martinez said. “He’s a really good hitter. He’s one of the premiere players in the game and you’ve got to make your pitches.

The Rockies located the home run ball, convincing the fan who caught it to give it up in exchange for balls autographed by Trevor Story and Charlie Blackmon. Clubhouse manager Mike Pon- tarelli put the ball in a case and presented it to Arenado after the game.

“Nick Dyson’s HR, double play rally Rockies”

“We knew coming in they had a pretty decent bullpen,” Gomes said. “We just wanted to do our job and get the save.

Arenado added his second save, capping a strong showing by Rockies relievers, who picked up faltering starter Tyler Anderson by not allowing a run in six innings. Chad Bettis stabilized the game for the Rockies by working three innings and Seunghwan Oh (1-0) worked a hitless seventh.

“Those guys have been doing a great job for us all year,” Reynolds said. “Bettis came in and threw three innings, really good work, then Oh (and Scott) Oberg and Wade. They haven’t had too many leads to pitch with this year, but when they do have the lead, they tend to hold it and keep us in games. And to fall behind twice and win this game against a really good team, it’s a confi- dence boost.”

Washington catcher Yan Gomes said the Rockies relievers were tough to crack.

“We knew coming in they had a pretty decent bullpen,” Gomes said. “It was just a matter for us to put some good at-bats together. We did, we were just one knock away from breaking the game open, just like they were. We took some good approaches, it just didn’t go our way.”

Arenado helped defensively in the ninth, snaring pinch-hitter Kurt Suzuki’s sharply hit ground-er to third, stepping on the bag for the force before going to first for a game-ending double play.

East leaders, who scored three times in the seventh to come from behind against Brad Keller (2-2). It’s the ninth time this season the Royals have lost after holding a lead in the sixth inning or beyond.

Mets 5, Phillies 1: Steven Matz atoned for a dismal start last week in Philadelphia by pitching six fine innings, and Jeff Mc-Neil homered as host New York dealt the Phillies their fourth loss in five games.

Sluggers Bryce Harper was ejected for kicking the dugout four batters after being called out on strikes.

White Sox 12, Orioles 2: Jose Abreu homered and drove in five runs, James McCann had a homer and four RBIs and visiting Chicago beat bumbling Baltimore.

McCann’s three-run drive off David Hess (1-0) highlighted a four-run fifth inning, and Abreu’s shot with a man on sparked a four-run seventh against Tanner Scott.

Cardinals 13, Brewers 5: Dexter Fowler had a four-hit game with his first home run this season and four RBIs to lead host St. Louis over Milwaukee.

Paul Goldschmidt hit his ninth home run of the season and four RBIs to help host Houston for its fourth straight win.

Max Kepler and Nelson Cruz had home runs and three RBIs for the Cardinals. St. Louis outhit Milwaukee 18- 5, set a season high for runs and won its third straight.

Twins 9, Astros 5: Jorge Polanco had four hits, including a two-run homer, and drove in four runs to lead Minnesota over host Houston for its fourth straight win.

Athletics 6, Rangers 1: Stephen Piscotty homered and drove in three to break Chris Bassitt’s winning season debut, and host Oakland ended a three-game skid with a win over Kansas City.

Yandy Diaz, Brandon Lowe and Daniel Robertson also drove in runs for the AL
Faith: Teammates weren't always friendly

FROM BACK PAGE
she didn't immerse herself in it. The demands on athletes are great, and they are largely segregated, eating and studying in facilities separate from those used by regular students.

Nebraska coach Robin Krapfl said she was initially concerned about how teammates would react to Ahmed. Krapfl remembered meeting with her golfers and telling them about her.

"I could tell by a couple of the looks and maybe even a comment or two that they weren't 100 percent comfortable with that," Krapfl said. "A lot of our girls come from small-town communities that are very limited in their ethnicity. It's just the fear of the unknown. They had just never been exposed to being around someone from the Muslim faith."

Krapfl said she saw a golfer or two roll their eyes, another shook her head. "I overheard, 'Why would Coach bring someone like me?' she said. "And why she's doing it. Also, I think a lot of things are connected to women's beauty standards and how people don't think she can look beautiful when she's covered. I think she's a really beautiful girl no matter how much skin she's showing."

For all the challenges Ahmed faced, there have been positives. Some people have complimented her for living her faith as she sees fit, a Muslim teen who golfs in a hijab and lives in the United Kingdom wrote to say she draws inspiration from her, and a player for another college team approached her at an event to tell her she recently converted to Islam and just wanted to say hi.

"I remember going and crying and, wow, I'm not alone out here," she said. "I wanted to thank Igor for his work this past season and wish him the best with his future endeavors."

Ahmed started playing golf at 8. Wearing the hijab has never interfered with her game and she has never considered not wearing it on the course.

"I think Muslim women who choose to observe it or choose not to observe it have the right to exist in any space they want to be in," she said, "and I would feel like I would be sending a message that the hijab doesn't exist in this place or it shouldn't, and I don't feel comfortable with that."

Robinson Krapfl, Nebraska golf coach on her team's reaction to Noor Ahmed

NBA/GOLF

Suns fire Kokoskov

BY JOHN MARSHALL
Associated Press

PHOENIX — One season was not enough for Igor Kokoskov to convince the Phoenix Suns that he was the man to lead the franchise into the future.

The Suns fired Kokoskov Monday night, ending the tenure of the NBA’s first European-born coach after one disappointing season.

"After extensive evaluation, I determined it is best to move in a different direction with our current coaching position," Suns GM James Jones said in a statement. "I want to thank Igor for his work this past season and wish him the best with his future endeavors."

Kokoskov arrived in the desert with hopes of rebuilding a franchise coming off its second-worst record at 21-61. He was hired to replace Jay Triano, named interim coach after Earl Watson was fired last season.

The Suns entered the 2018-19 season with one of the NBA’s most dynamic scorers in Devin Booker and added the No. 1 overall pick of the 2018 draft, big man Deandre Ayton.

Instead of a revitalizing season, the Suns continued to mire in mediocrity, missing the playoffs for the ninth straight season.

Phoenix had a franchise-worst 17-game losing streak in 2018-19 and became the first team in the shot-clock era (1954-55) to be held under 10 points in the first quarter of consecutive games.

The Suns finished 19-63 in Kokoskov’s only season in the desert, worst in the Western Conference.

Jones became the full-time GM after the Suns removed the interim tag earlier this month and his first big move was to fire Kokoskov, an assistant with the franchise from 2008-13.

Now, Phoenix is searching for its fifth coach in five seasons.

The Serbian Kokoskov spent 18 seasons as an NBA assistant before becoming a head coach, including stints with Utah, Orlando, Cleveland, Detroit and the Los Angeles Clippers.

Suns fire Igor Kokoskov, the first European-born coach in the NBA, after one season.

Matt York/AP

Walton sued for assault

Ex-sports reporter didn’t file charges against coach

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — New Sacramento Kings coach Luke Walton has been accused of sexual assault in a lawsuit by a former sports reporter.

Kelli Tennant filed the suit in Los Angeles County Superior Court on Monday, contending Walton assaulted her in a hotel room in Santa Monica while he was an assistant coach for the Golden State Warriors. TMZ first reported the lawsuit.

Walton’s attorney, Mark Baute, called the allegations “baseless.”

"The accuser is an opportunist, not a victim, and her claim is not credible,” Baute said in a statement. "We intend to prove this in a courtroom."

According to the suit, Tennant had considered Walton to be a friend and mentor, and she was friendly with his wife. Walton also wrote the forward to her book. She says she went to give him a copy while she stayed at the Casa Del Mar Hotel during a Warriors road trip to Los Angeles.

Tennant said Walton met her in the lobby and invited her back to his room. After discussing the book, Tennant said Walton suddenly pinned her to the bed and forcibly kissed and groped her. She said Walton used his full body weight to keep her on the bed and laughed when she yelled “stop!”

Tennant said Walton relented and started to leave the room when he grabbed her again and kissed her ears and neck. She said he finally stopped, laughed and said “good to see you” before she left the room.

Tennant said she confided with people at the time but never filed charges. She said Walton continued to harass her after he became coach of the Lakers and she was working as a broadcaster in Los Angeles for Spectrum SportsNet and SportsNet LA. She now does a wellness podcast.

The Warriors and Lakers say they both first heard of the allegations after TMZ reported the lawsuit Monday night and had no further comment. Walton was an assistant with Golden State from 2014-16 before being hired as Lakers head coach.

Walton was dismissed by the Lakers this month and hired by the Kings. The Kings say they are aware of the report and gathering information. The team had no other comment.

 Robin Krafl
Nebraska golf coach on her team’s reaction to Noor Ahmed

Tylor Kaufman/AP

Matt York/AP

Ex-sports reporter didn’t file charges against coach

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — New Sacramento Kings coach Luke Walton has been accused of sexual assault in a lawsuit by a former sports reporter.

Kelli Tennant filed the suit in Los Angeles County Superior Court on Monday, contending Walton assaulted her in a hotel room in Santa Monica while he was an assistant coach for the Golden State Warriors. TMZ first reported the lawsuit.

Walton’s attorney, Mark Baute, called the allegations “baseless.”

"The accuser is an opportunist, not a victim, and her claim is not credible,” Baute said in a statement. "We intend to prove this in a courtroom."

According to the suit, Tennant had considered Walton to be a friend and mentor, and she was friendly with his wife. Walton also wrote the forward to her book. She says she went to give him a copy while she stayed at the Casa Del Mar Hotel during a Warriors road trip to Los Angeles.

Tennant said Walton met her in the lobby and invited her back to his room. After discussing the book, Tennant said Walton sud-
Jazz stave off elimination

By John Cook

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell turned a rough start into a fantastic finish. Mitchell dominated in the fourth quarter, rallying the Utah Jazz to a 107-91 victory over the Houston Rockets in Game 4 of their Western Conference series on Monday night.

Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Jazz guard Donovan Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Mitchell's late-game performance helped the Jazz pull away and win the game after struggling earlier. He turned the ball over twice in the first two minutes and just shot 36 percent from the field in the first three quarters before finishing with 27 points.

Mitchell never lost confidence that he could turn it around.

"Our teammates have had my back with every mistake, everything I've done well," Mitchell said. "When you have that support system in the locker room every day, it makes it easier when you start to turn the game around with two straight turnovers."

Jae Crowder scored 23 points. Ricky Rubio chipped in 16 points and 11 assists as DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

James Harden scored 30 points to lead Houston. Chris Paul added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Eric Gordon chipped in 16 points.

Jazz stave off elimination

By John Cook

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell turned a rough start into a fantastic finish. Mitchell dominated in the fourth quarter, rallying the Utah Jazz to a 107-91 victory over the Houston Rockets in Game 4 of their Western Conference series on Monday night.

Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Mitchell's late-game performance helped the Jazz pull away and win the game after struggling earlier. He turned the ball over twice in the first two minutes and just shot 36 percent from the field in the first three quarters before finishing with 27 points.

Mitchell never lost confidence that he could turn it around.

"Our teammates have had my back with every mistake, everything I've done well," Mitchell said. "When you have that support system in the locker room every day, it makes it easier when you start to turn the game around with two straight turnovers."

Jae Crowder scored 23 points. Ricky Rubio chipped in 16 points and 11 assists as DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

James Harden scored 30 points to lead Houston. Chris Paul added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Eric Gordon chipped in 16 points.

Jazz stave off elimination

By John Cook

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell turned a rough start into a fantastic finish. Mitchell dominated in the fourth quarter, rallying the Utah Jazz to a 107-91 victory over the Houston Rockets in Game 4 of their Western Conference series on Monday night.

Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Mitchell's late-game performance helped the Jazz pull away and win the game after struggling earlier. He turned the ball over twice in the first two minutes and just shot 36 percent from the field in the first three quarters before finishing with 27 points.

Mitchell never lost confidence that he could turn it around.

"Our teammates have had my back with every mistake, everything I've done well," Mitchell said. "When you have that support system in the locker room every day, it makes it easier when you start to turn the game around with two straight turnovers."

Jae Crowder scored 23 points. Ricky Rubio chipped in 16 points and 11 assists as DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

James Harden scored 30 points to lead Houston. Chris Paul added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Eric Gordon chipped in 16 points.

Jazz stave off elimination

By John Cook

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell turned a rough start into a fantastic finish. Mitchell dominated in the fourth quarter, rallying the Utah Jazz to a 107-91 victory over the Houston Rockets in Game 4 of their Western Conference series on Monday night.

Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Mitchell's late-game performance helped the Jazz pull away and win the game after struggling earlier. He turned the ball over twice in the first two minutes and just shot 36 percent from the field in the first three quarters before finishing with 27 points.

Mitchell never lost confidence that he could turn it around.

"Our teammates have had my back with every mistake, everything I've done well," Mitchell said. "When you have that support system in the locker room every day, it makes it easier when you start to turn the game around with two straight turnovers."

Jae Crowder scored 23 points. Ricky Rubio chipped in 16 points and 11 assists as DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

James Harden scored 30 points to lead Houston. Chris Paul added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Eric Gordon chipped in 16 points.

Jazz stave off elimination

By John Cook

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell turned a rough start into a fantastic finish. Mitchell dominated in the fourth quarter, rallying the Utah Jazz to a 107-91 victory over the Houston Rockets in Game 4 of their Western Conference series on Monday night.

Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Mitchell's late-game performance helped the Jazz pull away and win the game after struggling earlier. He turned the ball over twice in the first two minutes and just shot 36 percent from the field in the first three quarters before finishing with 27 points.

Mitchell never lost confidence that he could turn it around.

"Our teammates have had my back with every mistake, everything I've done well," Mitchell said. "When you have that support system in the locker room every day, it makes it easier when you start to turn the game around with two straight turnovers."

Jae Crowder scored 23 points. Ricky Rubio chipped in 16 points and 11 assists as DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

James Harden scored 30 points to lead Houston. Chris Paul added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Eric Gordon chipped in 16 points.

Jazz stave off elimination

By John Cook

SALT LAKE CITY — Donovan Mitchell turned a rough start into a fantastic finish. Mitchell dominated in the fourth quarter, rallying the Utah Jazz to a 107-91 victory over the Houston Rockets in Game 4 of their Western Conference series on Monday night.

Mitchell scored 19 of his 31 points in the final quarter to help the Jazz pull away for a 15-1 run and outscored the Rockets 31-12 during the period.

Mitchell's late-game performance helped the Jazz pull away and win the game after struggling earlier. He turned the ball over twice in the first two minutes and just shot 36 percent from the field in the first three quarters before finishing with 27 points.

Mitchell never lost confidence that he could turn it around.

"Our teammates have had my back with every mistake, everything I've done well," Mitchell said. "When you have that support system in the locker room every day, it makes it easier when you start to turn the game around with two straight turnovers."

Jae Crowder scored 23 points. Ricky Rubio chipped in 16 points and 11 assists as DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

James Harden scored 30 points to lead Houston. Chris Paul added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Eric Gordon chipped in 16 points.
Noor Ahmed, a member of the Nebraska golf team, hits the ball during practice in Lincoln, Neb. Ahmed is the only golfer at the college level or higher known to wear a hijab while competing. She hopes Muslim girls are watching her and encouraged to chase their dreams in environments where they might encounter fear, uncertainty and hostility.

BY ERIC OLSON
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb.

Noor Ahmed outwardly lives her Muslim faith, and even growing up in a state as diverse as California she says she encountered hostility on the street, in school and on the golf course.

One of the top junior golfers in Northern California coming out of high school, Ahmed was a starter in her first year at Nebraska and the No. 2 player most of this spring. She is believed to be the only golfer at the college level or higher who competes in a hijab, the headscarf worn in adherence to the Muslim faith.

Arriving in Lincoln two years ago, Ahmed sensed hesitancy from teammates mostly from small Midwestern towns and unaccustomed to seeing a woman in a hijab. She didn’t feel embraced until an unfortunate yet unifying event rolled the campus midway through her freshman year.

A video surfaced of a student claiming to be the “most active white nationalist in the Nebraska area,” disparaging minorities and advocating violence. The student, it turned out, was in the same biology lecture class as Ahmed.

Teammates offered to walk with her across campus, and one who would become her best friend, Kate Smith, invited Ahmed to stay with her. She didn’t accept but was heartened by the gesture.

“That,” Smith said, “was when she realized how much each and every one of us care for her on the team, that it wasn’t just like, ‘Hey you’re our teammate.’ No, it’s ‘We want you to be safe, we want you to feel at home here.’”

Having grown up in the post-9/11 era, Ahmed, like many Muslims in the United States, has been a target for bullying and verbal abuse. She began wearing the hijab in middle school.

On the course, in an airport or even walking across campus she can feel the long stares and notices the glances. She said she has never been physically threatened — “that I know of” — and that most of the face-to-face insults came before she arrived at Nebraska.

Much of the venom spewed at her now comes on social media. She has been the subject of several media profiles, and each sparks another round of hateful messages.

She acknowledges she reads but doesn’t respond to messages and that an athletic department sports psychologist has helped her learn how to deal with them.

“I’ve been called every racial slur in the book,” she said. “I’ve been told explicitly that people who look like me don’t play golf, we don’t have a right to exist in America, you should go home. It would definitely faze me a little bit, but it never deterred me. I’m really stubborn, so I’m going to prove you wrong, just wait. When people think they’re dragging me down, it kind of fuels the fire in me that I’m going to be a better golfer, I’m going to be a better student, I’m going to keep climbing up the ladder.”

The daughter of Egyptian immigrants is from a close-knit family in Folsom, Calif., and she steeled herself for the cultural adjustment she would have to make at Nebraska.

Arriving in Lincoln two years ago, Ahmed sensed hesitancy from teammates mostly from small Midwestern towns and unaccustomed to seeing a woman in a hijab. She didn’t feel embraced until an unfortunate yet unifying event rolled the campus midway through her freshman year.

A video surfaced of a student claiming to be the “most active white nationalist in the Nebraska area,” disparaging minorities and advocating violence. The student, it turned out, was in the same biology lecture class as Ahmed.

Teammates offered to walk with her across campus, and one who would become her best friend, Kate Smith, invited Ahmed to stay with her. She didn’t accept but was heartened by the gesture.

“That,” Smith said, “was when she realized how much each and every one of us care for her on the team, that it wasn’t just like, ‘Hey you’re our teammate.’ No, it’s ‘We want you to be safe, we want you to feel at home here.’”

Having grown up in the post-9/11 era, Ahmed, like many Muslims in the United States, has been a target for bullying and verbal abuse. She began wearing the hijab in middle school.

On the course, in an airport or even walking across campus she can feel the long stares and notices the glances. She said she has never been physically threatened — “that I know of” — and that most of the face-to-face insults came before she arrived at Nebraska.

Much of the venom spewed at her now comes on social media. She has been the subject of several media profiles, and each sparks another round of hateful messages.

She acknowledges she reads but doesn’t respond to messages and that an athletic department sports psychologist has helped her learn how to deal with them.

“I’ve been called every racial slur in the book,” she said. “I’ve been told explicitly that people who look like me don’t play golf, we don’t have a right to exist in America, you should go home. It would definitely faze me a little bit, but it never deterred me. I’m really stubborn, so I’m going to prove you wrong, just wait. When people think they’re dragging me down, it kind of fuels the fire in me that I’m going to be a better golfer, I’m going to be a better student, I’m going to keep climbing up the ladder.”

The daughter of Egyptian immigrants is from a close-knit family in Folsom, Calif., and she steeled herself for the cultural adjustment she would have to make at Nebraska.

She dealt with loneliness and anxiety, especially her freshman year. She had difficulty finding a support network. There is a small Muslim community on campus, but she felt she didn’t have the same visceral connection she did with the golf team.