

### **MILITARY**

Navy Band gets mixed reviews for sea-shanty video Page 3



### **FACES** 'Resident Alien' series, Arlo Parks new this week

**Page 18** 

Storm blankets Midwest with heavy snow, travel disruptions >> Page 9

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**50¢/Free to Deployed Areas** 



BENJAMIN WISEMAN/U.S. Air Force

The 378th Expeditionary Logistic Readiness Squadron installs a rapid refueling platform at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, in July. The Defense Department is considering an expansion of its presence in Saudi Arabia.

# US exploring new bases in kingdom amid heightened Iran tensions

By Jon Gambrell Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The U.S. military is exploring the possibility of using a Red Sea port in Saudi Arabia and an additional two airfields in the kingdom amid heightened tensions with Iran, the military said Tuesday.

While describing the work as "contingency" planning, the U.S. military said it already has tested unloading and shipping cargo overland from Saudi Arabia's port at Yanbu, a crucial terminal for oil pipelines in the kingdom.

Using Yanbu, as well as air bases at Tabuk and Taif along the Red Sea, would give the American military more options along a crucial waterway that has come under increased attack from suspected mine and drone boat attacks by Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels.

However, the announcement comes as Saudi-American relations remain strained by the 2018 killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi and the kingdom's ongoing war in Yemen in the first days of President Joe Biden's administration. Deploying — even temporarily — Amer-

**SEE FOOTPRINT ON PAGE 4** 

### **VIRUS OUTBREAK**

# Biden boosts goal on vaccines

By Josh Boak AND ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON - President Joe Biden appeared to boost his goal for coronavirus vaccinations in his first 100 days in office, suggesting the nation could soon be injecting 1.5 million shots on an average per day.

Biden signaled on Monday his increasing bullishness on the pace of vaccinations after signing an executive order to boost government purchases from U.S. manufacturers. It was among a flurry of moves by Biden during his first full week to show he's taking swift action to heal an ailing economy as talks with Congress over a \$1.9 trillion relief package showed few signs of progress.

Biden reiterated that he believes the country is in a precarious spot and that relief is urgently needed, even as he dismissed the possibility of embracing a scaleddown bill to secure passage faster. Among the features of the stimulus plan are a national vaccination program, aid to reopen schools, direct payments of \$1,400 to individuals and financial relief for state and local governments.

Time is of the essence," Bluen said. "I am reluctant to cherrypick and take out one or two items here."

Biden's new vaccination target comes after he and his aides faced criticism for the 100 million goal in his first 100 days in office. The U.S. has exceeded a pace of 1 mil-

**SEE VACCINES ON PAGE 6** 

## **BUSINESS/WEATHER**

# **Twitter permanently bans My Pillow CEO**

Associated Press

Twitter has permanently banned My Pillow CEO Mike Lindell's account after he continued to perpetuate the baseless claim that Donald Trump won the 2020 U.S. presidential election.

Twitter decided to ban Lindell, who founded bedding company My Pillow, due to "repeated violations" of its civic integrity policy, a spokesperson said in a statement. The policy was implemented last September and is targeted at

fighting disinformation.

It was not immediately clear which posts by Lindell on Twitter triggered the suspension of his account.

Lindell, a Trump supporter, has continued to insist that the presidential election was rigged even after U.S. President Joe Biden's administration has begun.

Major retailers such as Bed Bath & Beyond and Kohl's have said that they would stop carrying My Pillow's products, Lindell previously said.

Lindell is also facing potential litigation from Dominion Voting Systems for claiming that their voting machines played a role in alleged election fraud. He had also urged Trump to declare martial law in Minnesota to obtain its ballots and overturn the election.

Following the storming of the U.S. Capitol earlier this month, Twitter has banned over 70,000 accounts for sharing misinformation.

### **EXCHANGE RATES**

| Military rates           |          | So. Korea (W<br>Switzerland ( |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| ro costs (Jan. 27)       | \$1.19   | Thailand (Bal                 |
| llar buys (Jan. 27)      | 0.8013   | Turkey (New                   |
| tish pound (Jan. 27)     | \$1.34   |                               |
| anese yen (Jan. 27)      | 101.00   | (Military ex                  |
| uth Korean won (Jan. 27) | 1,073.00 | to customers                  |
|                          |          |                               |

### Commercial rates

| Commerciarrate     | •       |
|--------------------|---------|
| Bahrain (Dinar)    | .3769   |
| Britain (Pound)    | 1.3725  |
| Canada (Dollar)    | 1.2708  |
| China (Yuan)       | 6.4644  |
| Denmark (Krone)    | 6.1176  |
| Egypt (Pound)      | 15.7307 |
| Euro               | .8224   |
| Hong Kong (Dollar) | 7.7520  |
| Hungary (Forint)   | 295.16  |
| Israel (Shekel)    | 3.2634  |
| Japan (Yen)        | 103.59  |
| Kuwait (Dinar)     | .3025   |
| Norway (Krone)     | 8.5260  |
| Philippines (Peso) | 48.04   |
| Poland (Zloty)     | 3.74    |
| Saudi Arab (Riyal) | 3.7509  |
| Singapore (Dollar) | 1 32/19 |

Korea (Won) 1,102.54 itzerland (Franc) .8876 ailand (Baht) 29.97 rkey (New Lira) 7.3519 Military exchange rates are those available

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

### **INTEREST RATES**

| ime rate                   | 3.25 |
|----------------------------|------|
| terest Rates Discount rate | 0.75 |
| deral funds market rate    | 0.09 |
| month bill                 | 0.09 |
| -year bond                 | 1.80 |

### **WEATHER OUTLOOK**

### WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST **KAZAKHSTAN** RUSSIA UZBEKISTAN RYRGYZSTA GEORGIA AZERBALJAN ¬TAJIKISTAN Caspian TURKMENISTAN Kabul **√**55/26 • **Baghdad** AFGHANISTAN 73/49 • IRAG Kandahar • **1**60/29 **PAKISTAN Kuwait City** 74/60 75/62 Riyadh • Doha U.A.E. 76/64 ARIA OMAN SAUDI ARABIA Arabian Sea YEMEN Diibouti 83/73 Gulf of Aden





# TODAY

**IN STRIPES** 

| American Roundup | 11 |
|------------------|----|
| Classified       | 13 |
| <b>Comics</b>    | 16 |
| Crossword        | 16 |
| Faces            | 18 |
| <b>Opinion</b>   | 14 |
| Sports 20-       |    |

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### **MILITARY**

# **DOD** nominates new head of US Army Pacific

By WYATT OLSON Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii—Lt. Gen. Charles Flynn has been nominated to lead U.S. Army Pacific, a post now held by Gen. Paul La-Camera, who took command in November 2019.

Flynn, who will be promoted to a four-star general if confirmed by the Senate, is stationed in Washington, D.C., and serves as deputy chief of staff in the Army's G-3/5/7 section.

It plans and coordinates mobilization of the Reserve component in the continental United States.

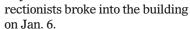
He is the younger brother of Michael Flynn, who briefly served as national security adviser in 2017.

The elder Flynn pleaded guilty to a felony count of "willfully and knowingly" making false statements to the FBI during its investigation looking into ties between Russia and Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign.

Trump pardoned him in No-

vembei

Charles Flynn
has faced scrutiny in recent days
over the sluggish
deployment of
National Guard
troops to the U.S.
Capitol as insur-



Officials with D.C.'s city government and the Capitol Police have alleged that the Pentagon

was slow in responding to a request for assistance from the National Guard in quelling the riot.

The Army has acknowledged that Charles Flynn was in the room for a key call from the local officials making that request, but the service did so only after it had "falsely denied for days" he did not attend, according to The Washington Post.

Flynn is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College, where he earned a master's degree in national security and strategic studies, according to his official bio.

He has command experience from a platoon to a division and served in both Iraq and Afghanistan

In recent years, he commanded the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii, after which he became deputy command general of U.S. Army Pacific Command.

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# Navy Band's foray into sea-shanties gets mixed reviews

By WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Navy Band jumped into the sea-shanty craze Monday by releasing a whaling version of a Taylor Swift pop song — an interpretation quickly met by mixed reviews online.

In a roughly two-minute video posted to the band's social media accounts, five uniformed sailors sing "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," accompanied by only a single drum and violin. It was approaching 30,000 views on Twitter on Monday evening.

The song was a hit for Swift in 2012, and in it she recollects with regret her lapses in judgment in returning to a relationship she knows has no chance of working.

In earnest, five-part harmony, the Navy Band members croon lyrics such as, "I'm really gonna miss you picking fights and me falling for it, screaming that I'm right."

The sea shanty is a song style first popular among sailors during

the pre-steam era of whaling. In recent weeks, sea shanties have become all the rage on the video-sharing network TikTok.

The judgment of some Twitter users on the merits of the Navy Band's foray into Swiftian sea shanties was harsh.

"There will be plenty of time for work songs in Leavenworth when you're all brought to justice for making this," said one commenter.

Another said simply, "superbly awful."

Others loved it.

"I\_loathe\_sea shanties but I'm glad the United States Navy is dragging this genre into the 21st Century!" wrote a commenter with the Twitter handle @billgau. "This is the kind of dirge I can get behind!"

Another of the song's defenders wrote, "Don't listen to the haters. This was superb."

Taking note of the "strong opinions" generated by the song, Rear Adm. Charlie Brown, the Navy's



U.S. Navy

Members of the U.S. Navy Band perform a sea-shanty version of Taylor Swift's "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together" in this screenshot from a video posted to Twitter on Monday.

chief of information, on Monday weighed in with his own assessment of the band's effort.

"While this shanty parody may not be your jam, I'm thankful for the talent, creativity & sense of humor of our @usnavyband," he

He posted a link to the band's recordings of more traditional shan-

ties for "those who take their sea shanties more seriously."

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### China hopes for thawed relations with US under Biden administration

By Caitlin Doornbos

Stars and Stripes

China hopes for a more relaxed relationship with the United States under President Joe Biden, but his press secretary Monday said the administration is mindful of Beijing's "economic abuses."

Biden's leadership should "bring China-U.S. relations back onto the track of sound and stable development," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said at a press conference Thursday.

The new president should "view China and China-U.S. relations in an objective and rational

manner," she said, according to a transcript of her remarks.

"We have been stressing that China would like to strengthen dialogue and cooperation and properly manage differences following the spirit of non-conflict, non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation," Hua said.

"China hopes the United States will meet us halfway."

At a press conference Monday, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said the Biden administration is "starting from an approach of patience" with Beijing.

"China is engaged in conduct that hurts American workers,

blunts our technological edge and threatens our alliances and our influence in international organizations," Psaki said. "... Beijing is now challenging our security, prosperity and values in significant ways that require a new U.S. approach."

Tensions with China soared under President Donald Trump.

His administration in 2018 started a trade war by imposing tariffs on \$360 billion worth of Chinese imports, which brought retaliatory measures from Beijing

In July, the State Department formally rejected China's territorial claims in the South China Sea

and its militarization of islands there.

The U.S. also boosted relations with Taiwan, a hot-button issue for Beijing, which considers the self-governed island a part of its territory and has made reunification a national goal.

Hua on Thursday accused the Trump administration of having had a "selfish political agenda, bias and hatred against China," according to the transcript.

"In the past few years ... some anti-China politicians in the United States planned, worked on and made a lot of crazy moves that severely interfered in China's internal affairs, undermined China's

interests, hurt the Chinese people's sentiments and damaged China-U.S. relations," Hua said.

Psaki said Biden would "take a multilateral approach to engaging with China, and that includes evaluating the tariffs currently in place," according to the briefing transcript.

"The president is committed to stopping China's economic abuses on many fronts, and the most effective way to do that is through working in concert with our allies and partners to do exactly that," she said.

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 Page 4
 第3種郵便物認可
 STARS AND STRIPES •
 Wednesday, January 27, 2021

### MILITARY

# Guard troops to remain in DC for months

By Corey Dickstein Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has approved a plan that would keep about 5,000 National Guard troops in Washington for several months at the request of federal law enforcement agencies concerned about the potential for violence in the national capital.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has approved a plan to retain 7,000 National Guard soldiers and airmen in Washington through March 12 and then 5,000 indefinitely beyond that date, Army and National Guard officials said Monday. The troops' continuing presence in the city, where a mob of former President Donald Trump's supporters attacked the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, was requested by the U.S. Park Police, the Secret Service, the Capitol Police, and metro police, acting Army Secretary John Whitley said.

National Guard forces in D.C. drew down from nearly 26,000 for President Joe Biden's inauguration Jan. 20 to about 13,000 over

the weekend, said Army Gen. Daniel Hokanson, the chief of the National Guard Bureau. They are expected to draw down to about 7,000 troops by the end of the week.

Most of the remaining troops — many of them armed —will provide security at the Capitol as the FBI has warned officials of several forthcoming demonstrations that they are concerned could turn violent.

Army Maj. Gen. William Walker, the D.C. National Guard commander, declined to provide specifics about the potential threat, but he said law enforcement officials were keeping the Guard abreast of any threats to troops in the area.

He and other officials have declined to say how many troops have been authorized to carry firearms since the Army first said it would arm some National Guard members in the days before the inauguration.

"We are posturing our forces to respond to those threats if they



REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

National Guard members buy lunch from food trucks parked along the National Mall on Sunday.

emerge," Walker said Monday, adding he was comfortable with the number of troops carrying firearms given the current risk assessment. "If there needs to be a shift in our security posture [the FBI] will let us know, and we will adjust accordingly."

Walker also confirmed news reports that about 200 National Guard soldiers — many from out of state — had tested positive in recent days for the coronavirus.

The D.C. Guard commander said he was "deeply troubled" by the outbreak, but he added the 200 cases was a small fraction among the 25,600 troops deployed in the national capital in recent weeks.

Whitley, who took over last week as the Army's top civilian until Biden selects his own Army secretary, defended the prolonging of the National Guard deployment as necessary while also warning the Pentagon cannot provide military troops to defend the Capitol indefinitely.

He said the Army was working with federal officials to determine when all the Guard troops will be sent home.

"We believe that military forces should be used as a last resort," Whitley said. "We faced an unprecedented crisis over the last three weeks, and our ... National Guard responded in an exemplary manner, and we will always do that if there's a need for the security of our nation."

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# Spouse's body found on beach on Okinawa

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A Kadena Air Base spouse was found dead at an Okinawa beach Monday after going missing the day before, according to the 18th Wing.

Few details regarding the circumstances surrounding the death were available Tuesday. It is unclear if the deceased was the spouse of a service member, Defense Department civilian or contractor

The missing person's body was discovered at Oku Beach in Kunigami, on the northern tip of the island, the 18th Wing told Stars and Stripes in an email Monday. The person was positively identified later that day.

The person's name is being withheld until 24 hours after next-of-kin notification.

"The cause of death is unknown at this time and the incident is currently under investigation," the wing said. "Kadena law enforcement is leading the investigation and will work with Okinawa Prefectural Police throughout the investigation."

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# Footprint: Analysis started after 2019 attacks on Saudi Arabia

FROM PAGE 1

ican troops to bases in the kingdom, which is home to the Muslim holy city of Mecca, could reignite anger among extremists.

U.S. Navy Capt. Bill Urban, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said the evaluation of the sites had been going on for over a year, sparked by the September 2019 drone-and-missile attack on the heart of the Saudi oil industry.

Saudi Arabia and the U.S. have blamed that attack, which temporarily halved Saudi oil production and saw a spike in oil prices, on Iran. Tehran has denied being involved and the Houthis claimed the assault, though the drones involved appear to be Iranianmade.

"These are prudent military planning measures that allow for temporary or conditional access of facilities in the event of a contingency, and are not provocative in any way, nor are they an expansion of the U.S. footprint in the region, in general, or in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in particular," Urban wrote.

U.S. Marine Gen. Frank McKenzie, the head of CENT-COM, visited Yanbu on Monday. Defense One and The Wall Street Journal, which traveled with McKenzie to Yanbu, first reported on the American planning. Saudi officials did not respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

Already, Saudi Arabia paid for improvements at the sites and are considering more, Urban said. Tabuk is home to King Faisal Air Base, while Taif is home to King Fahd Air Base.

The Gulf Arab states are home to a vast array of American military bases, the legacy of the 1991 Gulf War that saw U.S.-allied forces expel Iraq from Kuwait, and the later 2001 invasion of Afghanistan and 2003 invasion of Iraq. America pulled its forces out of Saudi Arabia after the 9/11 attacks. Osama bin Laden had cited their deployment in his attacks targeting the U.S.

Already, CENTCOM has a forward headquarters in Qatar. The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet operates from the island kingdom of Bahrain off Saudi Arabia's coast. Kuwait hosts the U.S. Army Central's forward headquarters, while the United Arab Emirates hosts American aviators and sailors

Those locations also don't include the American troop presence in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. Former President Donald Trump also deployed the first troops into Saudi Arabia since 9/11 over concerns about Iran. Some 2,500 American troops now man fighter jets and Patriot missile batteries at Prince Sultan Air Base southeast of Riyadh.

The addition of these Saudi locations appears to be part of what McKenzie previously described to the U.S. Congress as the "Western Sustainment Network," a new logistics system designed to avoid maritime chokepoints, said Becca Wasser, a fellow at the Washington-based Center for a New American Security.

These locations likely would not have permanently stationed troops and could allow the U.S. to drawdown forces at other bases through that flexibility, she said.

"If we are trying to have a flexible posture where we are not tied to permanent bases ... you are going to need to back it up with a logistics network that can make sure you can flow in people and weaponry as needed," Wasser said.

Such contingency plans already exist in the Mideast, like the agreements that grant American forces rights to use bases in Oman under certain circumstances. But the western coast of Saudi Arabia also provides additional distance from Iran, which has invested heavily in ballistic missiles as sanctions have locked it out of global arms sales.

The Persian Gulf "would be contested waters under any scenario of armed conflict with Iran, so you look at the places where you would move your forces as they enter the theater from being in a contested area," McKenzie was quoted as telling journalists in Yanbu.

For Iran, additional bases likely will increase the suspicions of its theocratic government. Tensions between Iran and the U.S. remain high after Trump unilaterally withdrew from Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in 2018, leading to an escalating series of confrontations.

Alireza Miryousefi, a spokesman for Iran's mission to the United Nations, criticized the U.S. move, calling the presence of foreign troops in the Mideast "one of

the main reasons for the chaotic situation and insecurity in our region."

"Any 'contingency for conflict' with Iran would only make sense if another country intended to attack Iran and we are determined to defend ourselves if attacked," Miryousefi said.

It remains unclear how Biden's relationship with Saudi Arabia will be. While campaigning, Biden referred to the kingdom as a "pariah" over the killing of Khashoggi.

However, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab states remain top clients for American weaponry and rely on the U.S. for ensuring the free flow of oil and goods through the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf.

Riyadh also came under a mysterious air attack on Saturday that the U.S. State Department under Biden condemned as "an attempt to target civilians." It remains unclear if it was a missile or a drone used in the attack.

Yemen's Houthi rebels, who earlier have targeted Riyadh, denied being involved, though Gulf Arab countries blamed the assault on the rebels.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 • STARS AND STRIPES • 第3種郵便物認可 PAGE

### VIRUS OUTBREAK



WINIFRED BROWN/U.S. Army

The Information, Ticket and Travel office at Camp Zama, Japan, will close indefintiely on Friday because of the impact the coronavirus has had on business.

# Camp Zama travel office to close due to virus limits

By Erica Earl Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The Information, Ticket and Travel office at Camp Zama will close indefinitely on Friday, another casualty of the impact the coronavirus has had on travel and tourism worldwide.

The ITT office at Camp Zama, the headquarters of U.S. Army Japan near Tokyo, provides information and books off-duty travel for service members, base employees and their families.

But with leisure travel outside Japan on hold and trips inside the country often canceled due to changing pandemic conditions, business for ITT all but dried up.

"The ITT office has had almost no business because of COVID-19, with the majority of travel booked through them being for emergency travel," a U.S. Army Garrison Japan spokesman, Dustin Perry, told Stars and Stripes via email Friday. COVID-19 is the respiratory illness caused by the coronavirus.

ITT operates through a contract with the installation's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. ITT, not Zama or the directorate DFMWR, made the decision Jan. 11 to close indefinitely, Perry said.

If the travel situation improves, Tokyobased Millesimes, a company that manages Zama's ITT contract, has indicated it may bid on a contract for travel services on the installation, Perry said. He said reopening will "depend on the future situation."

Zama's ITT office opened in 1982, and Larry Clements, the liaison officer there, came on board three years later. He's one of three employees at the office.

Clements turned his own love of exploring into helping others plan their own discoveries, he said. He said the office closing is a disappointment.

"Of course, I'm sad," he said in a phone call with Stars and Stripes on Friday. "There's always mixed feelings when things have to change."

Anyone with travel plans to the areas authorized for Zama personnel must now make their own arrangements. Trips usu-

ally sponsored by the base Morale, Welfare and Recreation office are also suspended, according to the Camp Zama website. ITT is a contracted service, while the MWR office is run by the Army.

Zama is not alone in reducing off-duty travel services for its personnel. Each U.S. installation in Japan has its own set of travel restrictions that limit personnel to off-duty travel in a defined area.

Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo permits travel throughout the country, for example, except to central Tokyo and Yokohama. Sasebo Naval Base on Kyushu island, by contrast, has painted most of the country red, or high risk, meaning many activities and leave travel are prohibited.

In January, ITT and MWR offices canceled or postponed trips and tours at Yokota, Kadena Air Base on Okinawa and Misawa Air Base in northern Japan after Japan declared a state of emergency in 11 prefectures, according to the installations' websites and social media pages. Other prefectures, including Okinawa, have declared local emergencies.

At Yokosuka Naval Base, south of Tokyo, all trips through MWR and ITT have been canceled since March, said base spokesman Randall Baucom. However, those offices are open to provide general information and trip planning, he said.

Yokosuka had some of the highest coronavirus case numbers of all military bases in the Pacific region, with 150 active cases as of Tuesday, according to the base Facebook page. Its permitted travel area encompasses parts of Kanagawa prefecture, where the base is located. The remainder of Japan is off-limits, according to the base public health order.

Similar limits apply to Naval Air Facility Atsugi, 27 miles northwest of Yokosuka, according to the air base's public health order

"Our ITT is not shut down," said base spokesman Sam Samuelson by phone Tuesday, "but we're not doing tours, either."

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# Germany to enforce virus rules near US bases

By Marcus Kloeckner and Jennifer H. Svan

Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — German law enforcement officials in the state of Rheinland-Pfalz, home to several U.S. military bases, will be looking for violations of coronavirus restrictions and could issue fines for noncompliance Thursday.

"Corona Control Day" will include checks to ensure physical distancing and that people are following mask rules, state officials said in a statement Monday.

Anyone using public transportation or entering shops, offices and many other indoor facilities must wear either a medical mask or an FFP2-equivalent, which filter out about 95% of particulates. The rule went into effect Monday following a meeting last week between state leaders and Chancellor Angela Merkel.

U.S. security forces from bases in the Kaiserslautern area, which include Ramstein Air Base and U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz, won't be involved in the operation, local military officials said.

The focus of the effort "is to raise awareness of the importance of the measures, Diana Eilenz, a Kaiserslautern police spokeswoman, said Tuesday.

But citations haven't been ruled out, she

"If there is a violation, the circumstances will be considered" and it will be up to regu-

latory and law enforcement officials to decide on the penalty, Eilenz said.

The state fine for not wearing a mask where one is required is 50 euros.

State officials have not said whether they have directed police to issue fines for not wearing cloth or other nonmedical masks.

"Especially in view of the consistently high numbers of new infections and deaths, every citizen must act with particular responsibility and solidarity," Rheinland-Pfalz Interior Minister Roger Lewentz said in a statement.

The state has a seven-day average incidence of 100 new cases per 100,000 people, the Robert Koch Institute reported Tuesday. That compares to 108 nationwide, which is a drop from about 123 one week ago. Merkel has said the country needs to get to a seven-day rate of 50 cases per 100,000 people before restrictions can be eased.

Other ongoing restrictions include a ban on in-person dining and the closure of school classrooms throughout the country. But in Baden-Wuerttemberg, home to U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, state leaders said they were considering gradually reopening day care and elementary schools starting Monday, after three straight weeks of declining new infection rates.

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## Coronavirus wave still breaking at key US naval base south of Tokyo

By Joseph Ditzler

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The largest Navy base in Japan announced Tuesday that another 32 people have become infected with the coronavirus since Friday, adding to the installation's worst outbreak since the pandemic began.

Yokosuka Naval Base, homeport for the U.S. 7th Fleet, so far this month has reported 269 infections, nearly twice the numbers in December, the next highest month, when it announced 144 cases.

In Tokyo, 35 miles to the north, the city reported 1,026 people tested positive for the virus Tuesday, according to public broadcaster NHK. Tokyo and the surrounding three prefectures are under a state of emergency until Feb. 7.

The government encourages teleworking and businesses to close between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m.

The number of new cases daily in Tokyo has trended downward since Thursday and dipped below 1,000 Monday for the first time since Jan. 12, according to metro government data.

Nearly 800 people have died in the city during the pandemic, as of Monday.

At Yokosuka, 11 of the individuals tested since Friday had shown symptoms of CO-

VID-19, the coronavirus respiratory disease; another 16 were discovered during contact tracing.

Two were recent arrivals to Japan, two

tested positive during medical screening and one is a base employee who also became ill, according to the base.

Naval Hospital Yokosuka is monitoring 150 patients, the base said.

One person at Kadena Air Base on Okinawa tested positive in quarantine after returning from travel outside of Japan, according to a Monday evening base Facebook post.

Public health authorities identified and placed several close contacts into quarantine.

Kadena Middle School told all seventhgrade students and staff to stay home Tuesday after someone there tested positive, Principal Mynda Massey-Vukovic wrote in a message to families and staff Monday evening. The base did not connect the two reports.

The same school closed Dec. 18, a day ahead of the scheduled winter break, to permit contact tracing after someone at the school tested positive for the virus.

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 PAGE 6
 第3種郵便物認可
 • STARS AND STRIPES •
 Wednesday, January 27, 2021

### VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Appointments canceled amid supply confusion

By Jonathan Drew Associated Press

An increasing number of CO-VID-19 vaccination sites around the U.S. are canceling appointments because of vaccine shortages in a rollout so rife with confusion that even the new CDC director admitted she doesn't know exactly how many shots are in the pipeline.

States were expected to find out their latest weekly allocation of vaccines Tuesday amid complaints from governors and top health officials about inadequate supplies and the need for earlier and more reliable estimates of how much is on the way so that they can plan accordingly.

President Joe Biden suggested Monday that he hopes the country can soon ramp up to 1.5 million shots dispensed per day. His administration has also promised more openness and said it will hold news briefings three times a week about the outbreak that has killed over 420.000 Americans.

Amid the rising frustration, the White House planned to hold a call with governors Tuesday to discuss the vaccine supply.

The setup inherited from the Trump administration has been marked by miscommunication and unexplained bottlenecks, with shortages reported in some places even as vaccine doses remain on the shelf.

Dr. Rochelle Walensky, Biden's new director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was herself flummoxed over the weekend in trying to describe current supplies.

"I can't tell you how much vaccine we have," she told "Fox News Sunday," describing the problem as a challenge left by the outgoing Trump administration. "And if I can't tell it to you, then I can't tell it to the governors, and I can't tell it to the state health officials. If they don't know how much vaccine they're getting, not just this week, but next week and the week after, they can't plan."

As of Tuesday morning, the CDC reported that just over half of the 41 million doses distributed to states have been put in people's arms. That is well short of the hundreds of millions of doses that ex-



KATHY WILLENS / AP

People who had appointments to get COVID-19 vaccinations talk to New York City health care workers outside a closed vaccine hub in the Brooklyn borough of New York after they were told to come back in a week due to a shortage of vaccines.

perts say will need to be administered to achieve herd immunity and conquer the outbreak.

The U.S. ranks fifth in the world in the number of doses administered relative to the country's population, behind No. 1 Israel, United Arab Emirates, Britain and Bahrain, according to the University of Oxford.

The reason more of the available shots in the U.S. haven't been dispensed isn't entirely clear. Some state officials have complained of a lag between when they report their numbers to the government and when the figures are posted on the CDC website.

And while some vaccination sites have canceled appointments

for first-dose shots, many are believed to be holding large quantities of vaccine in reserve to make sure people who have already gotten their first shot receive the required second one on schedule, three to four weeks later.

Inova Health System, the largest health provider in Virginia's Washington, D.C., suburbs, said it is canceling all first-dose appointments at its mass vaccination clinics beginning Thursday because of inadequate supplies. Those who have already received a first dose will have their appointments for a second dose honored, it said. Inova has administered more than 70,000 shots.

In North Carolina, Greensboro-

based Cone Health announced it is canceling first-dose appointments for 10,000 people and moving them to a waiting list because of supply problems. Also, UNC Health said Monday that the 10,000 doses it will receive this week are less than half of what it expected.

The vaccine rollout across the 27-nation European Union has also run into roadblocks and has likewise been criticized as too slow.

Pfizer is delaying deliveries while it upgrades its plant in Belgium to increase capacity.

And AstraZeneca disclosed that its initial shipment will be smaller than expected.

# Vaccines: Biden warns the nation will be 'in this for a while'

**FROM PAGE 1** 

lion doses per day over the last week.

"I think we may be able to get that to ... 1.5 million a day, rather than 1 million a day," Biden said, "but we have to meet that goal of a million a day."

Biden added that he expects widespread availability of the vaccines for Americans by spring, with the U.S. "well on our way to herd immunity" necessary to end the pandemic by summer. Even so, he warned the nation was going to be "in this for a while," and could see between "600,000 and 660,000 deaths before we begin to turn the corner in a major way."

As of Sunday, the federal government had distributed 41.4 million vaccine doses to states and other jurisdictions. Of that, 21.8 million doses had been administered, or about 53%. About 3.2 million people had received their full two-dose vaccination, a little less than 1% of the population. That's according to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Already, more than 420,000 people have died

### "I think we may be able to get that to ... 1.5 million a day, rather than 1 million a day, but we have to meet that goal of a million a day."

**President Joe Biden** 

from the coronavirus in the United States.

Biden's team held a call Sunday to outline the stimulus plan with at least a dozen senators, while the president also privately talked with lawmakers.

"There's an urgency to moving it forward, and he certainly believes there has to be progress in the next couple of weeks," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Monday. She warned that action needed to be taken before the U.S. reaches an "unemployment cliff" in March, when long-term unemployment benefits expire for millions of Americans.

But Republicans on Capitol Hill were not joining in the push for immediate action.

One key Republican, Sen. Su-

san Collins of Maine, said after Sunday's call that "it seems premature to be considering a package of this size and scope." Collins described the additional funding for vaccinations as useful while cautioning that any economic aid should be more targeted.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Monday that "any further action should be smart and targeted, not just an imprecise deluge of borrowed money that would direct huge sums toward those who don't need it."

Monday's order will likely take 45 days or longer to make its way through the federal bureaucracy, during which time wrangling with Congress could produce a new aid package. That would be a follow-up to the roughly \$4 trillion previ-

ously approved to tackle the economic and medical fallout from the coronavirus.

The order was aimed at increasing factory jobs, which have slumped by 540,000 since the pandemic began last year.

Biden's order would modify the rules for the Buy American program, making it harder for contractors to qualify for a waiver and sell foreign-made goods to federal agencies. It also changes rules so that more of a manufactured good's components must originate from U.S. factories. America-made goods would also be protected by an increase in the government's threshold and price preferences, the difference in price over which the government can buy a foreign product.

It's an order that channels Biden's own blue-collar persona and his promise to use the government's market power to support its industrial base, an initiative that former President Donald Trump also attempted with executive actions and import taxes.

While Trump also issued a series of executive actions and tar-

iffs with the goal of boosting manufacturing, he didn't attempt to rewrite the guidance for what constitutes a U.S.-made component or tighten the process for granting exemptions to buy foreign goods, a key difference from Biden's agenda, Biden's administration said.

The order also has elements that apply to the separate Buy America program that applies to highways and bridges. It aims to open up government procurement contracts to new companies by scouting potential contractors. The order would create a public website for companies that received waivers to sell foreign goods to the government, so that U.S. manufacturers can have more information and be in a more competitive position.

Past presidents have promised to revitalize manufacturing as a source of job growth and achieved mixed results. The government helped save the automotive sector after the 2008 financial crisis, but the number of factory jobs has been steadily shrinking over the course of four decades.

### VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

# NC field hospital helps fight coronavirus surge

Associated Press

LENOIR — Chris Rutledge peels an N-95 mask off her tired face, revealing the silhouette it leaves behind. Her name and a tiny heart are drawn on the face covering in black marker so her patients know who she is.

"I look terrible when it comes off," she jokes as she takes a break during her ninth straight day of 12-hour shifts inside a temporary field hospital in Lenoir, N.C.

Rutledge, a 60-year-old retired nurse from Lisbon, Iowa, is one of dozens of health care workers who have been treating coronavirus patients inside 11 massive white medical tents set up in the parking lot of Caldwell Memorial Hospital.

The tents became necessary in late December when the virus began surging through this rural community in the Carolina foothills, overwhelming the hospital's capacity. The tents were set up earlier this month.

The tents and care givers have been provided by Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief charity led by evangelist the Rev. Franklin Graham that is based in Boone, N.C. The 30-bed field hospital comprises four medical wards and a pharmacy for patients who have been discharged from the hospital's intensive care unit and do not need ventilators. Four other hospitals besides Caldwell are sending patients there so they can use hospital beds for more serious cases.

While the work is physically and emotionally grueling, Rutledge said she has no regrets. She is grateful for a supportive husband who cheers her on from their home in Iowa. She said her religious faith sustains her during most of the long days—along with moments of hope that seem to present themselves when she needs them most.

She smiles recalling the elderly couple who celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary while battling the coronavirus together, and how she walked the husband to his wife's ward to visit. Rutledge said she cried the first time she saw the couple reunited. She

wept again when they were cleared to go home, virus-free.

"It was wonderful," she said.

### Missouri

O'FALLON — Missouri ranks dead last among states for the percentage of residents who have received their first dose of the coronavirus vaccine, and two neighboring states don't fare much better.

Information released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Monday showed that 242,937 Missourians have received the first shot, or 3,958 people per 100,000 residents. Idaho, Nevada and Alabama had the next worst per capita rates, followed by Missouri's neighbors on both sides — Kansas with 4,374 vaccinations per 100,000 residents, and Illinois with 4,392 vaccinations per 100,000 residents.

The supply of vaccine has failed to keep up with demand across the

Missouri's health director, Dr. Randall Williams, said last week that he had already been contacted by the Biden administration, which sought further details regarding Missouri's plan.

### **Texas**

AUSTIN — The number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients in Texas continues to fall from record highs as the state nears the end of what has been its deadliest month of the pandemic.

State health officials Monday reported fewer than 13,000 people were being treated for the virus in Texas hospitals, marking the seventh consecutive day of declining patient loads.

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins said that the area was "starting to see some metrics go in the right direction" as the average number of daily new cases fell by 800.

More than 34,000 people have died from COVID-19 in Texas, the second-most in the nation behind California. More than 5,000 new cases were reported statewide Monday.

### **Florida**

TALLAHASSEE — Florida businesses would be protected from coronavirus lawsuits if they made a good effort to follow state-issued guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 under a proposal approved Monday at its first Senate committee stop.

While Republican Gov. Ron De-Santis has lifted restrictions on businesses, such as limiting capacity at restaurants, the bill would retroactively cover businesses, individuals and other organizations when businesses were ordered closed or to limit customers.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved the bill on a 7-4 vote, with Republicans supporting it and Democrats opposed.

In order for a lawsuit to move forward, a plaintiff would have to present a signed affidavit from a Florida physician saying that there is a reasonable degree of certainty that the defendant's actions caused the illness or death.

### Maine

ORONO — Maine's public university system has expanded its coronavirus wastewater monitoring program through the end of the spring semester.

The University of Maine System said it's adding new sample collection sites and increasing sampling and testing frequency. The university system uses the program to track the presence of the virus on its campuses and in surrounding areas.

The system said samples will be collected twice weekly at campuses around the state. The program will also be used to analyze samples from two municipal wastewater facilities and the University of New England in Biddeford, the system said.

University of Maine System officials said the system began conducting wastewater surveillance in August.

### **North Dakota**

BISMARCK — North Dakota health officials on Monday report-



ARAH BLAKE MORGAN/AP

Nurse Chris Rutledge suits up in personal protective equipment Jan. 15 before entering the patient wards of a COVID-19 field hospital in Lenoir, N.C.

ed zero deaths due to the coronavirus for a second straight day, along with back-to-back daily CO-VID-19 counts in double digits.

The number of fatalities stayed at 60 for January and 1,411 since the start of the pandemic. The death toll per capita ranked among the highest in the country after 500 deaths in November, but data compiled Sunday by The CO-VID Tracking Project lists the state at the eighth-highest compared to population.

Health officials confirmed 58 new cases in the last day after 2,144 tests were processed for a positivity rate of 3.14%. There were 99 positive tests in Sunday's update. There have been 96,874 cases in the state since the start of the pandemic.

North Dakota ranks 50th in the country for new cases per capita in the last two weeks and the rolling average of new cases in that time has declined by 43.1%, Johns Hopkins University researchers said. One in every 798 people in North Dakota tested positive in the past week.

### Kentucky

FRANKFORT — Kentucky reported its lowest number of new coronavirus cases in four weeks, an encouraging sign in a report Monday that pointed to another drop in the positivity rate for COVID-19 tests.

Gov. Andy Beshear reported 1,268 new virus cases statewide, but he cautioned that Monday case numbers are typically lower than other days because many labs are closed on weekends.

The number of new COVID-19

cases statewide fell for the second straight week, halting a bump in infections following Christmas, Beshear said.

But that post-holiday rise in cases continued to be reflected in the state's death rate. Beshear reported 39 more virus-related deaths across Kentucky on Monday. That raised the state's death toll to at least 3,460 since the pandemic began.

### **New Hampshire**

CONCORD — Nonresidents are no longer eligible to get coronavirus vaccinations in New Hampshire, state officials said Monday.

Earlier rules would have allowed anyone who owned property in New Hampshire, including second homeowners and out-of-state landlords, to get vaccinated in the state, regardless of where they actually live. But after some backlash, the state updated its guidance to say that only New Hampshire residents are eligible. Such residency must be proven with documentation such as a driver's license or a recent payroll check showing a legal New Hampshire address.

Vaccinations began Saturday for the more than 300,000 people in Phase 1B, which includes those aged 65 and older, those living and working in residential facilities for people with developmental disabilities, people with multiple qualifying medical conditions and corrections workers. While the next phase is supposed to start in March, if the state doesn't begin getting more doses, it would take well into May to finish the current phase.



# Memories with STARS STRIPES. Pacific

Share your Memories with Stars and Stripes Pacific!

Your photos/stories will appear on the Stars and Stripes Pacific 75th Anniversary Website, <u>75.stripes.com</u>.



 Page 8
 第3種郵便物認可
 • Stars and Stripes •
 Wednesday, January 27, 2021

### NATION



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/AP

Then-Vice President Joe Biden, left, shakes hands with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in Moscow, Russia, on March 10, 2011.

# Arms deal, hacking muddle Biden's approach to Russia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden has been quickly thrown into a high-wire balancing act with Russia as he seeks to toughen his administration's stance against Vladimir Putin while preserving room for diplomacy in a post-Donald Trump era.

The relationship is sure to be different from the one Putin enjoyed with Trump, who was enamored of the Russian leader and sought his approval, casting doubt on Russian interference in the 2016 elections and involvement in a massive hack last year. Despite this conciliatory approach, his administration toed a tough line against Mos-

cow, imposing sanctions on the country, Russian companies and business leaders for issues ranging from Ukraine to energy supplies and attacks on dissidents.

Unlike his immediate predecessors, Biden has not held out hope for a "reset" in relations with Russia, but has instead indicated he wants to manage differences with the former Cold War foe without necessarily resolving them or improving ties.

As a presidential candidate, Biden didn't speak to Putin. When he does as president, he's expected to call Putin out for the arrest of opposition figure Alexei Navalny and the weekend crackdown on his

supporters, raise charges that Russian security services were behind the recent massive cybersecurity breach and press allegations that Russia offered the Taliban bounties to kill American troops in Afghanistan.

At the same time, Biden must be mindful of his own proposal to extend for five years the last remaining U.S.-Russia arms control treaty that is due to expire in early February.

On Monday, Biden told reporters that he had not yet decided how to respond to the Navalny situation but expressed hope that the U.S. and Russia could cooperate in areas where both see benefit.

# Biden tells Merkel he wants to renew Germany alliance

By Aamer Madhani

Associated Press

President Joe Biden told German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Monday that he is looking to revitalize the transatlantic alliance with Germany, a relationship that became strained under former President Donald Trump.

The new president has made a series of calls to his foreign counterparts in recent days as part of his efforts to recalibrate U.S. relationships around the globe after four years of Trump's more inward-looking "America First" policy.

The White House said in a statement that Biden conveyed that he viewed the U.S. partnership with NATO and the European Union "as the cornerstone of our collective security and shared democratic values."

Trump and Merkel's relationship started off icy and remained cool throughout Trump's term.

After meetings with Trump in 2017, Merkel said Europe could no longer completely rely on its allies and must become more independent.

After the 2018 NATO summit, Trump called for members to devote at least 4% of their GDP to military spending and took particular aim at Merkel, whom he accused of paying Russia "billions of dollars for gas and energy" while failing to meet her nation's

commitment to spend at least 2% of GDP on defense.

Steffen Seibert, a spokesperson for the German government, said in a statement regarding the call that Merkel welcomed Biden's decisions in the first day of his presidency to rejoin the World Health Organization and Paris climate agreement. Trump had withdrawn the United States from the international health agency and climate accord signed by nearly every nation to limit global warming.

Merkel has spoken positively of Biden's election.

Last week, the chancellor said that "there is simply a much broader political overlap with President Biden" than with Trump. But Merkel cautioned that not everything will be smooth — in line with her long track record of keeping public expectations low.

"There will be differences of opinion with the Biden administration, too," she said.

One issue that will likely continue to be contentious is a German-Russian gas pipeline project, the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, which would bring Russian gas to Germany under the Baltic Sea. It faces bipartisan opposition in Washington.

Neither side mentioned the project in their statements on the leaders' call.

# AP sources: Biden to pause oil drilling on public lands

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden is set to announce a wide-ranging moratorium on new oil and gas leasing on U.S. lands, as his administration moves quickly to reverse Trump administration policies on energy and the environment and address climate change.

Two people with knowledge of Biden's plans outlined the proposed moratorium, which will be announced Wednesday. They asked not to be identified because the plan has not been made been public; some details remain in flux.

The move follows a 60-day suspension of new drilling permits for U.S. lands and waters announced last week and follows Biden's campaign pledge to halt new drilling on federal lands and end the leasing of publicly owned energy reserves as part of his plan to address climate change. The moratorium is intended to allow time for officials to re-

view the impact of oil and gas drilling on the environment and climate.

Environmental groups hailed the expected moratorium as the kind of bold, urgent action needed to slow climate change.

"The fossil fuel industry has inflicted tremendous damage on the planet. The administration's review, if done correctly, will show that filthy fracking and drilling must end for good, everywhere," said Kierán Suckling, executive director at the Center for Biological Diversity, an environmental group that has pushed for the drilling pause.

Oil industry groups slammed the move, saying that Biden had already eliminated thousands of oil and gas jobs by killing the Keystone XL oil pipeline on his first day in office.

"This is just the start. It will get worse," said Brook Simmons, president of the Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma. "Meanwhile, the laws of physics, chemistry and supply and demand remain in effect. Oil and natural gas prices are going up, and so will home heating bills, consumer prices and fuel costs."

Kathleen Sgamma, president of the Western Energy Alliance, which represents oil and gas drillers in Western states, said the expected executive order is intended to delay drilling on federal lands to the point where it is no longer viable.

"The environmental left is leading the agenda at the White House when it comes to energy and environment issues," she said, noting that the moratorium would be felt most acutely in Western states such as Utah, Wyoming and North Dakota. Biden lost all three states to former President Donald Trump.

The drilling moratorium is

among several climate-related actions Biden is expected to announce Wednesday. He also is likely to direct officials to conserve 30% of the country's lands and ocean waters in the next 10 years, initiate a series of regulatory actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and issue a memorandum that elevates climate change to a national security priority. He is also expected to direct all U.S. agencies to use science and evidence-based decision-making in federal rule-making and announce a U.S.-hosted climate leaders summit on Earth Day, April 22.

The conservation plan would set aside millions of acres for recreation, wildlife and climate efforts by 2030, part of Biden's campaign pledge for a \$2 trillion program to slow global warming.

Under Trump, federal agencies prioritized energy development and eased environmental rules to speed up drilling permits as part of the Republican's goal to boost fossil fuel production. Trump consistently downplayed the dangers of climate change, which Biden, a Democrat, has made a top priority.

A 60-day suspension order at the Interior Department did not limit existing oil and gas operations under valid leases, meaning activity would not come to a sudden halt on the millions of acres of lands in the West and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico where much drilling is concentrated. The moratorium also is unlikely to affect existing leases. Its effect could be further blunted by companies that stockpiled enough drilling permits in Trump's final months to allow them to keep pumping oil and gas for years.

The pause in drilling is limited to federal lands and does not affect drilling on private lands, which is largely regulated by states.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 • STARS AND STRIPES • 第3種郵便物認可 PAGE

## NATION

# 'Historic' snow blankets parts of Midwest

By Josh Funk Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — A major winter storm dropped more than a foot of snow on parts of Nebraska and Iowa, disrupting traffic and shuttering some schools, while blanketing other parts of the middle of the country with snow that continued to fall Tuesday.

There were early closures of several coronavirus testing sites on Monday in Nebraska and Iowa, and both states saw 12 or 13 inches of snow in places by Tuesday morning. At least 4 inches of snow was expected into Tuesday across most of an area stretching from central Kansas northeast to Chicago and southern Michigan.

National Weather Service meteorologist Taylor Nicolaisen, who is based near Omaha, said up to 15 inches was likely between York, Neb., and Des Moines, Iowa, and that it has been at least 15 years since that area received more than a foot of snow in a single storm.

"This is historic snow," Nicolaisen said of the snow in that area.

In northern Illinois, snowfall



Kenneth Ferriera, Lincoln (Neb.) Journal Star /  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{AP}}$ 

A StarTran driver tries to clear a snow drift from in front of his bus during a winter storm in downtown Lincoln, Neb., on Monday.

began around sunset Monday and by early Tuesday more than 3 inches was reported in places. Meteorologist Bett Borchardt forecast snowfall up to 8 inches or more before it ends Tuesday evening.

The last comparable snowfall

hit the area in November 2018, when 8.4 inches fell.

Chicago on Monday warned residents that hazardous conditions were likely during Tuesday morning commutes and some power outages are possible. City officials have dispatched about 280 salt spreaders to clear main streets and have created warming centers in libraries and park facilities. And a winter weather advisory was issued for northwest Indiana.

Many schools and businesses closed Monday as the storm

moved across the Midwest and officials urged drivers to stay off the roads. In western Iowa, Missouri Valley Superintendent Brent Hoesing reworked the lyrics of the 1970s hit "I Will Survive" to tell students in his district, "So Stay Inside."

Roughly 250 semi trucks waited out the storm at the Petro truck stop alongside Interstate 80 in York, Neb. Manager Rachael Adamson said she could see knee-high drifts and that sidewalks needed to be shoveled every half hour.

"We haven't had this much snow in quite a few years," Adamson said.

Over the weekend, more than a foot of snow fell in Southern California's mountains.

Until recently, California had been experiencing significantly dry weather accompanied by relentless wildfires.

A band of clouds suggested more rain could fall Tuesday in areas north and south of San Francisco Bay, bringing the threat of possible flash floods and landslides in areas scarred by the fires.

# 1 dead, many injured after tornado strikes Ala. town

Associated Press

FULTONDALE, Ala. — A teenager huddling in his basement was killed and several of his family members were critically injured when a tornado blew a tree onto their home and it collapsed on top of them, police said Tuesday. At least 28 other people were injured as the twister carved a 10-mile path of destruction north of Birmingham.

The tornado caused damage

from Fultondale to Center Point, striking an area of Alabama that was severely harmed by a much larger tornado a decade ago.

This time, piles of furniture, appliances and tree limbs were strewn about and vehicles ended up in awkward positions, as if a child had flung his collection of Matchbox cars into the air. One car landed upside down against some tree branches on a large pile of debris.

Police Chief D.P. Smith said the teen was pronounced dead at the scene Tuesday morning, and several of his family members were critically injured in the wreckage, while one escaped harm.

"They were doing what they were supposed to be doing,' the chief said.

Fultondale Fire Chief Justin McKenzie said 17 people have since been hospitalized and 11 others were treated on scene, WVTM-TV reported.

Injuries range from minor to severe but search and rescue efforts are still ongoing, said James Coker, the director of the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency.

Fultondale also caught the tail end of an EF-4 tornado that ripped across Alabama from Tuscaloosa to northern Jefferson County on April 27, 2011, killing 65 people and injuring 1,500 along a damage path more than 80 miles long, according to the National Weather Service.

This tornado's path of damage stretched for 10 miles, from Fultondale to Center Point, Ala., FE-MA said. Survey crews from the National Weather Service had yet to confirm details such as the twister's estimated strength, but FEMA described it as a "large tornado."

# Genetic genealogy helps ID victim of Green River Killer

Associated Press

SEATTLE—Genetic genealogy helped identify the youngest known victim of one of the nation's most prolific serial killers almost 37 years after her remains were discovered near a baseball field south of Seattle.

Wendy Stephens was 14 and had run away from her home in Denver before Gary Ridgway, the Green River Killer, strangled her in 1983, the King County Sheriff's Office announced Monday.

Ridgway terrorized the Seattle area in the 1980s, and since 2003, he has pleaded guilty to killing 49 women and girls. Four of the victims — including Stephens — had not been identified.

"Ridgway's murderous spree left a trail of profound grief for so many families of murdered and missing women," King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg said in a written statement. "We are thankful that Wendy Stephens' family will now have answers to their enormous loss suffered nearly 40 years ago."

Researchers at the DNA Doe Project, a volunteer organization that uses publicly available DNA databases to find relatives of unidentified victims, helped make the identification.

Genetic genealogy has increasingly been used to track down unidentified criminal suspects and help solve scores of cold cases in recent years, some of them more than a half-century old or involving other serial killers. It unmasked the Golden State Killer, Joseph DeAngelo, who pleaded guilty to 13 murders and 13 rape-related charges that spanned much of California between 1975 and 1986.

Stephens' remains were found in a wooded area next to a baseball field in what is now the suburb of SeaTac on March 21,1984, after the groundskeeper's dog came home with a leg bone.

The remains of another Ridgway victim, Cheryl Wims, were discovered at the same time.

Stephens' family requested privacy and declined to speak with reporters, said Sgt. Tim Meyer, a spokesman for the sheriff's office.

Cairenn Binder, who led the DNA Doe Project team that identified Stephens, said that by entering her DNA information into a genealogy website, they were able to locate distant cousins on both her mother's side and father's side. By building out a family tree with census, birth and other records, they pinpointed where the families intersected — Stephens' parents.

Investigators found a missing person report for Stephens that had been filed in 1983, and they matched her DNA directly with one of her parents.

It only took a few weeks for Binder's team to come up with Stephens' name. But it could have been even quicker: Years ago, one of Stephens' parents entered DNA into the database GEDmatch, in hopes of finding her or any children she might have had, Binder said.

That would have provided a quick DNA hit. But in 2019, GED-match changed its policies, better protecting the privacy of users by requiring them to opt in if they wanted law enforcement to be able to use their DNA in investigations. Because the parent had provided their DNA before the policy change, and they had not subse-

quently opted in, Binder's team didn't see the parent's DNA profile when they searched.

Ridgway was long a suspect in the Green River killings — so called because the first victims were found in the Green River, which runs through several south Seattle suburbs. Detectives were unable to prove his role until 2001, when advances in DNA technology allowed them to link a saliva sample they had obtained from him in 1987 to semen found on several victims.

Ridgway claimed to have killed dozens more women than he was charged with—so many he said he lost count. He pleaded guilty in a deal to avoid the death penalty after agreeing to help investigators find additional remains. He is now 71, spending the rest of his life at the Washington State Penitentiary.

### NATION

# Rate of guns seized by TSA jumped in 2020

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Security screeners confiscated guns at airport checkpoints at a record pace last year although the total number of guns dropped along with the steep plunge in travelers because of the pandemic.

The Transportation Security Administration said Tuesday that screeners found 3,257 firearms on passengers or in their carry-on bags in 2020, or about 10 for every million travelers. About 83% of the guns were loaded.

The rate was double that in 2019, when screeners found 5 guns for every million passengers. However, with 500 million more travelers screened in 2019, TSA officers found a record 4,432 guns that year.

Screeners found 220 guns at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, followed by 176 at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, 126 at George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, 126 at Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport, and 104 at Denver International Airport.

Federal law prohibits passengers other than certain law enforcement officers from bringing guns or ammunition into the cabin. Federal law allows passengers to put guns in checked bags that go into the cargo hold if they are unloaded and in a locked

Airlines don't have to permit guns even in checked bags. All leading U.S. carriers temporarily banned guns in checked bags on flights to Washington, D.C.-area airports for a week after the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of former President Donald Trump. Those bans lapsed last weekend, three days after the inauguration of President Joe Bi-

# PepsiCo goes Beyond Meat in partnership on new snacks, drinks

Associated Press

PepsiCo and Beyond Meat are creating a joint venture to develop snacks and drinks made from plant-based proteins.

The companies didn't reveal what kinds of products they will make Tuesday, saying they're still in development.

But the collaboration sent Beyond Meat's shares to their largest single-day gain since they began trading in 2019, jumping by more than \$50 each to \$209.17.

The join venture gives Pepsi access to one of the leading plantbased meat companies at a time when consumers are increasingly cutting back on meat consumption and looking for healthier, more sustainable foods. Beyond Meat's burgers, sausages and chicken, which are made from pea protein, are sold worldwide, including at Starbucks in China and Pizza Hut in the U.S.

Beyond Meat gets access to Pepsi's distribution system and broad product line. Pepsi, in addition to drinks, makes Fritos, Cheetos and Tostitos, as well as Matador beef jerky.

It's a shot in the arm for El Segundo, Calif.-based Beyond Meat, which had been struggling to convinceinvestors of its growth opportunities as competition increased. Beyond Meat shares plummeted in November after retail sales slowed and McDonald's hinted that it might work with another supplier on a new plant-based burger for the U.S. market.

Food companies are increasingly jumping into the plant-based space. In 2019, Chobani introduced coconut milk-based yogurt and Nestle brought out plant-based burgers and ground meat. Meat giant Tyson Foods, which used to own a stake in Beyond Meat, now has its own line of plant-based

"Plant-based proteins represent an exciting growth opportunity for us, a new frontier in our efforts to build more sustainable food system," said Ram Krishnan, Pepsi-Co's global chief commercial offi-

Financial terms of the deal weren't released. The joint venture will be managed through a new entity called The Planet Partnership.



Wrecked vehicles are seen after a driver struck and injured at least five people over a 20-block stretch of southeast Portland, Ore., before crashing and fleeing on Monday, according to witnesses.

# Elderly woman killed, 5 others hurt in Ore. driver's rampage

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — A motorist repeatedly drove into people along streets and sidewalks in Portland, Ore., on Monday, killing an elderly woman who was dragged beneath the wheels. The man then tried to flee on foot but neighbors surrounded him until police arrived and wrestled him into custody.

Five other people were hurt and taken to hospitals. Authorities said they believe more people were hurt who did not need ambulance transport.

Police received a call shortly after 1 p.m. that a driver had hit a pedestrian, according to Portland Police Bureau spokesman Derek

Additional calls then came from people saying a person driving the same suspect vehicle, a Honda Element, was striking other people and vehicles, he said.

Larry Wolfe told The Oregonian/OregonLive that he had an appointment to meet the person who was killed, a woman in her 70s. He said he saw her get hit by the car and scream, and was walking toward her when the car came back, hit her again, did a U-turn and dragged her along the pave-

motorist The eventually crashed the Honda a final time. fled on foot and with help from the community, was apprehended by police, Carmon said. A group of people saw him run from the scene and corralled him until police were able to take him into custody.

Police did not immediately release the identities of the driver or his victims. The crime scene spans at least 15 city blocks.

## Epstein's ex-girlfriend seeks dismissal of charges she faces on multiple grounds

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A British socialite charged with recruiting teenage girls for financier Jeffrey Epstein to sexually abuse in the 1990s asked a judge Monday to dismiss the case on multiple grounds, including that a deal years ago not to prosecute Epstein and others should shield her from prosecu-

Lawyers for Ghislaine Maxwell said the indictment against their client was obtained unjustly and doesn't allege crimes specific enough to bring before a jury.

But they listed first among 12 separate arguments attacking the indictment that a non-prosecution deal Epstein reached with the federal government a dozen years ago should shield Maxwell from prosecution too.

The agreement sought to protect Epstein and those around him, but Maxwell was not identi-



fied by name in document that was signed Epstein agreed to plead guilty to state charges in Florida that forced him to register as a sex offender afterward.

Lawyers for Epstein had planned to argue that the deal with federal prosecutors in Florida in 2008 protected him against sex trafficking charges lodged against him in July 2019 in New York City.

Manhattan federal prosecutors maintained they could proceed against Epstein or those who worked for him regardless. Epstein killed himself at a Manhattan federal lockup a month after his

Maxwell, 59, was arrested last July and has remained jailed on grounds she might flee. She has

pleaded not guilty to charges that she recruited three teenage girls, including a 14-year-old, for Epstein to sexually abuse from 1994 to 1997. The indictment alleged she sometimes joined in the abuse.

Federal prosecutors declined through a spokesperson to comment. They will file arguments in response in a few weeks.

Maxwell's trial is scheduled for July. In a recent bail application, Maxwell revealed that she had set aside \$7.67 million to be spent on lawyers out of \$22.5 million in assets belonging to herself and her

Maxwell's lawyers also asked that Maxwell be tried separately on charges that she committed perjury when she testified in a civil case brought by one of Epstein's accusers. They said prosecutors were using those charges improperly as a way to introduce evidence from after the 1990s.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 • STARS AND STRIPES • 第3種郵便物認可 Page 11

### AMERICAN ROUNDUP

# City of Presidents works on adding Trump statue

RAPID CITY — The City of Presidents organization has begun work on adding President Donald Trump's statue in downtown Rapid City.

Dallerie Davis, co-founder and artist liaison for the organization, said the project is in the concept stage and that they plan to incorporate a couple of Trump's distinctive trademarks.

"Right now, we know we've got to deal with the very unusual hair style, and we know we'll have to involve tweeting," Davis said. "I try to remind people this is history, it's not politics. We have nothing to do with politics. We have everything to do with history."

A location has not yet been selected for the nation's 45th president. Davis said the City of Presidents has more than 80 street corners available.

# Police dispatcher accused of slur is out

CLAYTON — A St. Louis County police dispatcher is no longer with the department, less than two weeks after using a racial slur over a police radio, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

The dispatcher, whose name has not been released, was recorded saying an expletive and then using the racial slur, according to the recording that was released by the police department when a woman sued for the audio.

After the slur, another voice on the police radio can be heard telling the dispatcher that his audio was left open. Commanders launched an internal investigation and the dispatcher was on unpaid leave before his departure.

## Council approves home deliveries for alcohol

LAS VEGAS—Las Vegas city residents will be able to dial for drink deliveries at home under a new law approved by the City Council.

The measure lets restaurants and convenience stores deliver alcohol through third-party services. It was cast as a boost for businesses struggling with coronavirus pandemic restrictions.

Councilman Stavros Anthony, the sponsor, said it connects "someone at home who wants a 12-pack of beer" with stores and third-party deliverers.

Licensees will be required to ensure drivers are at least 21 years old, undergo background checks and training on the illegality of selling to minors, and to keep transaction records.

## Ex-soccer club treasurer accused of \$200K theft

MIAMISBURG — A former youth soccer club treasurer accused of stealing



DAVE SCHERBENCO, THE (WILKES-BARRE, PA.) CITIZENS' VOICE/AP

## **Balancing act**

Showing that parenting is a balancing act, Eric Greco, of Mountain Top, Pa., has some fun with his two sons Vito and Anthony, both 4, at the Wright Township Recreation Park, on Sunday, in Mountain Top, Pa.

nearly \$200,000 from the organization is now facing charges, authorities said.

Richard Campbell, 59, of Miamisburg, faces three counts of aggravated theft in an indictment recently handed up by a Montgomery County grand jury.

Miamisburg Soccer Association board members contacted authorities after noticing discrepancies between bank statement balances and the balances reported to them by Campbell. When the board members confronted Campbell, prosecutors said he admitted misappropriating some of the funds.

# Major music festival may reschedule to next year

MIAMI — Organizers of a major electronic music festival that is held in South Florida annually are making plans to cancel the festivities for a second year in a row due to the pandemic.

Organizers of the popular Ultra Music Festival asked in a letter to Miami's city manager if they could reschedule the music jamboree for next year, according to the Miami Herald.

City manager Arthur Noriega told the Herald in a text that the city has not yet responded to the request.

# Police, suspect exchange fire at shopping center

GA WARNER ROBINS — A suspect exchanged

### THE CENSUS

The approximate amount given to help remodel Riverside, Calif.'s library to display Cheech Marin's art collection. The Riverside City Council voted 4-0 to greenlight the renovation of the 1960s building that will reopen as the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture late this year, the Press-Enterprise reported. The newspaper said so far Marin, a California native, has donated 11 masterpieces, with 500 additional pieces expected once there's a proper storage facility. The 74-year-old actor and comedian of Cheech & Chong fame is considered one of the world's foremost art collectors, according to the newspaper.

gunfire with police outside a Georgia outlet store after stealing a firearm from a vehicle in the parking lot, investigators said.

Derik Edward Jones, of Salem, N.C., was shot and wounded by police in Warner Robins and taken to a hospital in Macon for treatment, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation said.

Jones, 27, was suspected of breaking into a vehicle in a Walmart parking lot. He ran when police approached him, and he and three officers exchanged fire in front of a nearby Bealls Outlet, according to the GBI.

The officers were not hurt. The GBI is investigating the shooting.

# **Couple charged with** day care bomb threats

ST. PETERS — A St. Louis area day care worker and her boyfriend are charged with making two bomb threats that forced youngsters to be evacuated in the cold.

Janet Porzelt, 40, and Evan Hauserman, 39, were charged with two counts each of making a terrorist threat and making a false bomb report.

Hauserman made the threats to Primrose School in St. Peters twice because Porzelt, an employee at the school, did not want to go to work but still wanted to be paid for a full day, charging documents said.

Hauserman used an anonymous texting application with a fake phone number to call in the threats, prosecutors said.

After the first call, the preschool evacuated everyone in 36-degree weather. After the second threat, the preschool evacuated more than 90 people, including infants who had to be rolled in the parking lot in cribs, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

# Juvenile suspects caught after crashing into train

**NC** CHARLOTTE — Two juvenile robbery suspects were captured after crashing a car into an Amtrak train while trying to flee police, authorities said.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg police said officers received a call about a robbery on Mont Carmel Lane.

Officers found the suspect vehi-

cle and tried to pull it over, but the driver did not stop.

A vehicle pursuit ended when

A vehicle pursuit ended when the car hit the train.

Amtrak officials said no one on the train was injured.

# 2 hikers rescued after running barefoot in snow

FRANCONIA — Two trail runners were airlifted from a New Hampshire mountain after one man lost his shoes and continued running barefoot through several feet of snow, officials said.

State Fish and Game Department conservation officers were called to Mount Lafayette after Michael Burleson, 35, of Gorham, Maine, and Nicholas Drouin, 34, of North Hampton, contacted 911 for help, The New Hampshire Union-Leader reported.

The hikers told conservation officers that they were trying to complete a popular trail loop in four hours but lost the path as they descended from the mountain amid 40 mph winds, snow and freezing temperatures.

While trekking through deep snow one of the men lost his trail running shoes and decided to continue barefoot before being forced to stop "due to frozen extremities," officials said in a statement.

From The Associated Press

第3種郵便物認可 **PAGE 12**  STARS AND STRIPES Wednesday, January 27, 2021

### NATION

# 'THIS IS ME': Rioters flaunt involvement in Capitol siege

WASHINGTON — These suspects weren't exactly in hiding.

"THIS IS ME," one man posted on Instagram with a hand emoji pointing to himself in a picture of the violent mob descending on the U.S. Capitol. "Sooo we've stormed Capitol Hill lol," one woman texted someone while inside the building. "I just wanted to incriminate myself a little lol," another wrote on Facebook about a selfie he took inside during the Jan. 6 riot.

In dozens of cases, supporters of President Donald Trump downright flaunted their activity on social media on the day of the deadly insurrection. Some, apparently realizing they were in trouble with the law, deleted their accounts only to discover their friends and family members had already taken screenshots of their selfies, videos and comments and sent them to the FBI.

Their total lack of concern over getting caught and their friends' willingness to turn them in has helped authorities charge about 150 people as of Monday with federal crimes. But even with the help from the rioters themselves, investigators must still work rigorously to link the images to the



The FBI identified the man wearing a Trump 2020 winter cap and a bullet proof vest beside a wooden coat rack, standing among other

vandalism and suspects to the acts on Jan. 6 in order to prove their case in court. And because so few were arrested at the scene, the FBI and the U.S. Marshals Service have been forced to send agents to track suspects down.

"Just because you've left the D.C. region, you can still expect a knock on the door if we find out that you were part of criminal activity inside the Capitol," Steven D'Antuono, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's Washington office, said earlier this month.

"Bottom line — the FBI is not sparing any resources in this investigation.'

In the last few weeks, the FBI has received more than 200,000 photos and video tips related to the riot. Investigators have put up billboards in several states with photos of wanted rioters. Working on tips from co-workers, acquaintances and friends, agents have tracked down driver's license photos to match their faces with those captured on camera in the building. In some cases, authorities got records from Facebook or Twitter to connect their social media accounts to their email addresses or phone numbers. In others, agents used records from license plate readers to confirm their travels.

More than 800 are believed to have made their way into the Capitol, although it's likely not everyone will be tracked down and charged with a crime. Federal prosecutors are focusing on the most critical cases and the most egregious examples of wrongdoing. They must also weigh manpower, cost and evidence when charging rioters.

A special group of prosecutors is examining whether to bring sedition charges against the rioters, which carry up to 20 years in prison. One trio was charged with conspiracy, while most have been charged with crimes like unlawful entry and disorderly conduct.

Many rioters posted selfies inside the Capitol to their social media accounts, gave interviews to news outlets describing their experience and readily admitted when questioned by federal investigators that they were there. One man created a Facebook album ti-"Who's House?

HOUSE" filled with photos of himself and others on Capitol grounds, officials said.

"They might have thought, like so many people that work with Trump, that if the president tells me to do it, it's not breaking the law," said Michael Gerhardt, an expert on impeachment and professor at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Others made blunders, like a Houston police officer, who denied he went into the Capitol, then agreed to let agents look at the pictures on his phone. Inside his deleted photos folder were pictures and videos, including selfies he took inside the building, authorities said. Another man was wearing a court-ordered GPS monitor after a burglary conviction that tracked his every movement inside the building.

Even defense attornevs have acknowledged that the evidence poses a problem for them.

"I'm not a magician," said an attorney for the man seen in a photo carrying House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's lectern. "We've got a photograph of our client in what appears to be inside a federal building or inside the Capitol with government property.'



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### WORLD

# Lake covered in trash places more focus on Balkan waste problem

Associated Press

PRIBOJ, Serbia — Trucks and building machines are parked on a river dam in southwest Serbia, but not for construction work. Instead, huge cranes are being used to clear tons of garbage crammed at the foot of the power plant.

Serbia and other Balkan nations are overwhelmed by communal waste after decades of neglect and lack of efficient waste-management policies in the countries aspiring to join the European Union.

Burning trash dumps can be seen from the roads, plastic bags are hanging from trees and islands of waste are floating down the region's rivers. The problem usually comes into focus in winter, when swollen waters sweep over landfills, pushing the garbage toward hydropower dams.

This has been the case at the

Potpec accumulation lake near the power plant after a spate of rainy and snowy weather in December and early January. The surface of the lake got covered in a thick layer of waste ranging from plastics to rusty metal scraps, tree trunks and even reportedly a coffin

The garbage has been swept downstream by the Lim River, which feeds the Potpec dam. The Lim originates in neighboring Montenegro, passing through several municipalities and their waste sites in both Montenegro and Serbia.

"Based on a recent study, we found out that in these towns, in the five municipalities in Montenegro and three in Serbia, about 45,000 tons of waste are collected (per year)," said Predrag Saponjic, the Lim River hydropower



DARKO VOJINOVIC/AI

A boat pushes tons of garbage stuck at the foot of the hydro power plant at the Potpecko accumulation lake near Priboj in southwest Serbia on Friday.

plant system manager. Looking at the garbage-strewn lake, he added that "even if only a fraction of that waste ends up in the Lim River, we get this."

Environmentalists in the Balkans have warned that because most landfills aren't managed properly, they leak toxic materials into rivers, threatening ecosystems and wildlife.

Bosnia, too, has reported a garbage pileup that endangers the hy-

droelectric dam on the Drina River, near the eastern town of Visegrad. The Lim is one of the tributaries of the Drina, which makes their waterways — and garbage flows — closely connected.

The two emerald-colored rivers — the Drina flows along the border between Serbia and Bosnia — during summer are favored by adventurers and water rafters who enjoy the winding waterways and seemingly pristine nature.

944

### EU urges US to draft joint rules to rein in tech giants

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The European Union on Tuesday called on President Joe Biden to help draw up a common rule book to rein in the power of big tech companies like Facebook and Twitter and combat the spread of fake news hurting Western democracies.

In a speech to the Davos World Economic Forum, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen urged the Biden administration to join forces against "the darker sides of the digital world," which she said was partly behind the "shock" storming of Capitol Hill on Jan. 6.

"The business model of online platforms has an impact and not only on free and fair competition, but also on our democracies, our security and on the quality of our information," von der Leyen said. "That is why we need to contain this immense power of the big digital companies."





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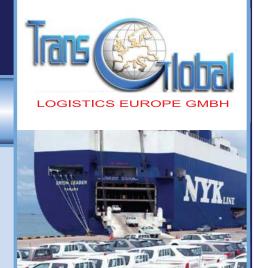
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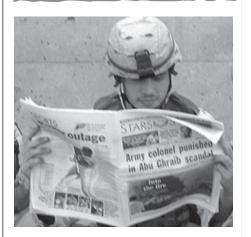


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# Biden's Iran challenge will be engaging its people

By Jason Rezaian

The Washington Post

resident Joe Biden is rethinking U.S. policy on Iran. Here's my advice: Focus on the Iranian people.
Critics of the Iran nuclear deal often complained that it didn't address the Tehran regime's abuse of human rights. While that was never the goal of the agreement, they had a point. Yet it was under President Donald Trump, who withdrew from the deal, that the Islamic Republic engaged in its most relentless repression of Iranian citizens in more than a generation. Over the past four years, the regime killed protesters en masse, abducted and executed dissidents, and jailed critics at a dizzying pace.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration was piling on sanction after sanction, merely increasing the suffering of ordinary Iranians.

After the spectacular failure of Trump's so-called maximum pressure campaign, which did nothing to hinder the regime's worst behavior, Biden now has a chance to make a clean start. Doing so will require empathy and pragmatism, two words often used to describe him.

What could this look like?

He can start by rebuilding long-dormant public diplomacy programs and encouraging people-to-people exchanges—the same sorts of policies were essential to U.S. Cold War strategy, and they work to strengthen civil society and its institutions.

Iranians once made up the highest number of foreign students in U.S. universities; during the Trump years, it dwindled to almost none. Building on Biden's decision to rescind the travel ban that disproportionately targeted Iranians, the administration should make it clear they are once again welcome here and ease the visa process.

Independent and small Iranian business owners should be encouraged to buy from U.S. companies, not be barred from doing so.

And yes — the Biden administration should recommit to negotiations with the Islamic Republic over its nuclear program and other destabilizing and destructive activities, which will entail lifting some of the sanctions that have made life miserable for Iranians.

Senior Biden administration officials I've spoken to say negotiations are a long way off. Yet Biden is already facing head wind from regime change advocates who claim Robert Malley, the new administration's choice for Iran envoy, won't prioritize human rights. While those claims lack merit, they're just the latest reminder that changing Washington's stance on Iran won't be easy.

Biden's Inauguration Day coincided with the 40th anniversary of the freeing of 52 Americans held hostage in Iran. That saga entrenched U.S. enmity toward Iran and Iranians. Four decades and seven presidents later, the United States' troubles with Iran are as palpable as ever. Yet, despite years of punishing sanctions on Iran's economy, the Tehran regime's grip on power hasn't diminished.

In Washington, it's become almost second nature to see Iran's hand in virtually every threat to U.S. security. In his final speech as secretary of state, Mike Pompeo called Iran the new home base of al-Qaida, without bothering to substantiate the claim. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, meanwhile, said that her "first thought" during the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was that the invaders were Iranians, rather than the white supremacists who, at the behest of the sitting U.S. president, announced they were coming that day.

Listening to these Republicans, one might think Iranians are an existential threat to the

American way of life. They aren't.

Ultimately, proponents of Trump's maximum pressure campaign had four years to get results, and they failed miserably. In the end, that policy led to nothing more than hardship for ordinary Iranians.

Of course, Iran's leadership isn't doing anything to improve its reputation. All the more reason to differentiate it from Iranian society. As Iran struggles with one of the worst COVID-19 outbreaks in the world, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei banned the import of U.S.- and British-made vaccines, calling them untrustworthy. "Why do they want to give it to us?" he asked suspiciously in a Jan. 8 speech. Last weekend, Tehran announced the "conviction" of another U.S.-Iranian dual national. Just the latest in the long line of American hostages in Iran.

On this last point, Biden should take a clear stand — along with Germany, France and Britain—that there will be no new negotiations until nationals of these countries and other allies held hostage in Iran are set free and the Islamic Republic commits to quitting this savage practice.

This is the intricate Iran puzzle that Biden inherits. His Cabinet appointees are already saying they plan to take their time in figuring it out. So for now the Washington consensus on Iran holds; changing it will be hard. But I think the president should see that as one more reason to think big.

He can do that by making concerns and aspirations of ordinary Iranians central to his policy. His challenge will be to engage those Iranians, 83 million people who have long been punished by American power for the sins of their rulers.

Jason Rezaian is a writer for Global Opinions. He served as The Washington Post's correspondent in Tehran from 2012 to 2016. He spent 544 days unjustly imprisoned by Iranian authorities until his release in January 2016.

## Time is now for Dems to stand up to teachers unions

By Henry Olsen

Special to The Washington Post

he Chicago Teachers Union's refusal on Sunday to go back to the classroom is more than a possibly illegal strike. It is another example of unions failing to put the interest of students first.

The refusal to work comes in response to the Chicago school district's decision to begin in-person instruction for K-8 students on Feb. 1. Approximately 3,200 pre-K and special needs students are already trying to attend in-person instruction that started two weeks ago, but teachers continue to refuse to attend classes and are trying to teach remotely.

A growing consensus finds that children from less-advantaged backgrounds are falling behind academically because remote learning does not work as well for them as for kids from more advantaged families. These students are disproportionately minorities, especially so for Chicago's student body. Roughly 80% of the 355,000 children in Chicago Public Schools qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch, a factor that is often used as a proxy to measure a district's population of low-income and working-class students. Staying out of the classroom will hurt children who can ill afford falling even further behind.

There is also little reasonable concern for safety. Schools have reopened for younger

children across the globe with little evidence that doing so heightens the risk of teachers or students getting COVID-19. The Biden administration understands this, which is why it released a statement last week calling for the reopening of K-8 schools within 100 days. Despite this, the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) refuses to return to class.

This cannot stand. Surely schools should accommodate teachers who are at genuine risk because of their age or comorbidities. But that does not justify a general refusal to do the jobs teachers are getting paid for.

This is a challenge for Illinois Democrats. They hold every lever of power in the state and Chicago. If they cannot solve this problem quickly, the buck stops with them.

It is a potential problem for national Democrats, too. Teachers unions are among the staunchest backers of the Democratic Party at all levels. That gives them great leverage when Democrats control government, as they do in most large cities and the federal government. If the CTU revolt spreads, Democrats across the country will be forced to choose between their backers and parents. That's a choice they will want to avoid, which union leaders surely know and will be tempted to use to extract concessions as a price for reopening schools.

That temptation is something both sides should resist. Tens of millions of people are out of work or are finding it difficult to balance work and family with children attending school online. Parents—especially those who must work in difficult circumstances every day—won't take kindly to leaders who fail to fix this situation based on exaggerated fears. Nor will parents appreciate efforts from unions to effectively extract extra money to fulfill their contracts.

Ronald Reagan had to deal with a similar situation early in his presidency. The air traffic controllers union was one of the few that endorsed his candidacy in 1980. They then tried to use that in bargaining for a new contract, refusing to come to agreement with the hope that Reagan would swoop in and grant them a windfall. When that didn't happen, they went out on strike, again thinking that Reagan wouldn't risk the bad publicity should an accident occur on his watch. Instead, Reagan told them to go back to work or be fired for engaging in an illegal strike. They stayed firm, and Reagan's firing of the air traffic controllers became a defining point in his tenure.

There's probably no Democrat today who would do something similar, even if courts ruled that the CTU or other unions were acting illegally. But if they don't place the interest of parents and students first, eager Republicans at all levels will surely use the Reagan example to campaign. Lots of angry parents would probably listen.

Henry Olsen is a Washington Post columnist and a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.



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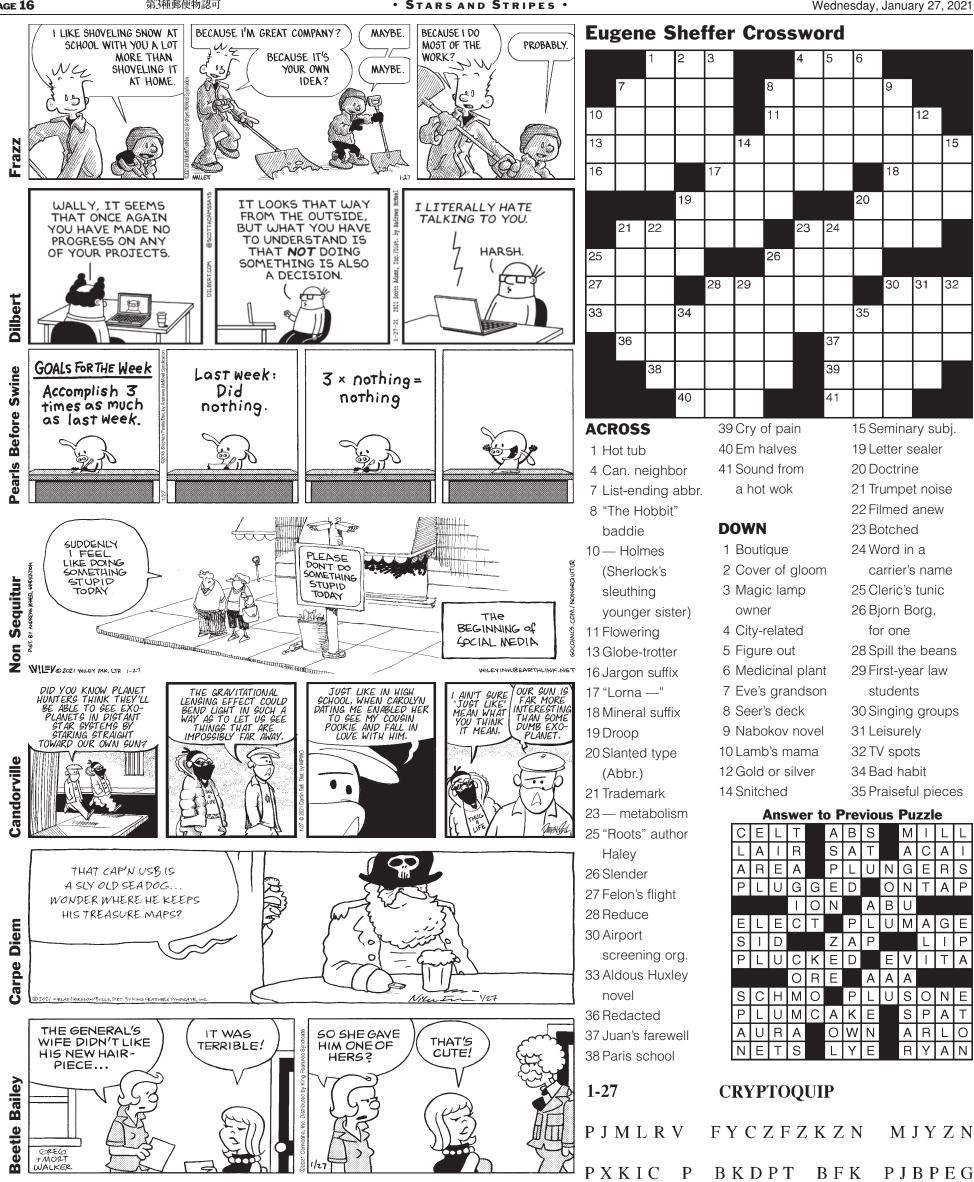
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 PAGE 18
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 • STARS AND STRIPES •
 Wednesday, January 27, 2021

### **FACES**

# This week: 'Resident Alien,' Arlo Parks

Associated Press

Here's a collection curated by The Associated Press' entertainment journalists of what's arriving on TV, streaming services and music platforms this week.

### **Movies**

- An intimate melodrama set in England just before the outbreak of World War II, "The Dig" is the kind of well-crafted, well-acted period drama not unearthed so often. Simon Stone's adaptation of John Preston's novel, which begins streaming Friday on Netflix, stars Carey Mulligan as a Britishlandowner and widow who brings in a local excavator for a provincial museum (Ralph Fiennes) to investigate what will prove to be a landmark archeological find. In herreview, AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr called "The Dig" "a truly beautiful piece, contemplative and melancholy, with a lovely score by Stefan Gregory and enveloping scenery shot by Mike Eley."
- Justin Timberlake hasn't been acting much since a string of good early '10s performances including "The Social Network" and "Inside Llewyn Davis." In Fisher Stevens' "Palmer," Timberlake takes a rare leading role in a predictable but tender redemption drama. In the film, debuting Friday on Apple TV+, a bearded Timberlake plays an ex-convict and former college football star who returns home from prison and strikes up a friendship with a boy (Ryder Allen) being looked after by his grandmother (June Squibb).
- The first in Warner Bros.' planned yearlong rollout of films opening on both HBO Max and in theaters is the starry neo-noir thriller "The Little Things." Denzel Washington, Rami Malek and Jared Leto star in John Lee Hancock's '90s-set crime drama, with Washington and Malek playing police investigators of a Los Angeles serial killer. It debuts Friday.

—AP Film Writer Jake Coyle

### Music

- iHeartRadio's fifth annual ALTer EGO show dedicated to contemporary rock artists starring Billie Eilish, Foo Fighters and Coldplay will air virtually Thursday night. Other performers include Mumford & Sons, twenty one pilots, Beck, the Black Keys, the Killers, Weezer, blink-182, Cage the Elephant and Muse.
  - British singer-songwriter Arlo Parks is



Alan Tudyk plays Harry, an alien masquerading as a small-town doctor — and a human — in the new Syfy series "Resident Alien."

having a breakthrough, and she can count former first lady Michelle Obama as a fan. The singer's "Eugene" — taken from her debut "Collapsed In Sunbeams" — was featured on "Vol. 1: The Michele Obama Playlist" on Spotify, inspired by the first season of Obama's podcast. Parks, who will release her album Friday, was also longlisted for the prestigious BBC Sound of 2020 poll.

■ Live from the Roxy Theatre in Los Angeles, Adam Lambert will hold a concert Friday to celebrate his 39th birthday. "Adam Lambert Live" will include two shows — one at 3 p.m. EST and another at 10 p.m. EST. He will perform songs from his latest album, "Velvet," and other tracks from his catalog. Tickets cost \$18.50.

—AP Music Editor Mesfin Fekadu

### **Television**

■ "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" returned Tuesday for season No. 27 with a sidekick: "The Real Sports Podcast," which expands on stories featured on the HBO series with further

interviews and behind-the-scenes details.

- If a wacky sci-fi series sounds appealing, check out "Resident Alien." Alan Tudyk plays Harry, masquerading as a small-town doctor—and a human after crash-landing on Earth. He's pulled into helping solve a murder and relationships with his new neighbors, complicating his assignment to wipe out the planet's population. Based on the comic book series of the same name, "Resident Alien" debuts 10 p.m. EST Wednesday on SyFy.
- "Forgotten Genius" pays tribute to Percy Julian, an African American chemist whose achievements and success came despite the roadblocks of racism. The 2007 documentary, which is being rebroadcast Wednesday on PBS' science series "Nova," recounts his pioneering research that helped lead to the mass production of cortisone and birth control pills. Ruben Santiago-Hudson ("Billions") portrays Julian, who became a wealthy businessman and advocate for civil rights. The documentary streams free through February on PBS.org.

 $-- AP\, Television\, Writer\, Lynn\, Elber$ 

# Netflix

Viola Davis stars in "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," named one of the top 10 films of the year by The American Film Institute.

### 'Ma Rainey's,' 'Soul' among AFI selections

By Lindsey Bahr Associated Press

The American Film Institute on Monday announced its top 10 films of the year, including Pixar's jazzthemed "Soul" and two of Chadwick Boseman's final films: the August Wilson adaptation "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" and Spike Lee's Vietnam drama "Da 5 Bloods," both of which are Netflix films.

Netflix featured heavily in the AFI's list, taking four positions including David Fincher's "Citizen Kane" origin story "Mank" and Aaron Sorkin's "The Trial of the Chicago 7." Amazon, too, got two spots with the hearing loss drama "Sound of Metal," with Riz Ahmed and Regina King's "One Night in Miami."

Chloé Zhao's awards and festival favorite "Nomadland" with Frances McDormand was also named an honoree in advance of its theatrical rollout in the coming weeks, as was "Minari," with Steven Yeun, which opens Feb. 12. AFI also selected Warner Bros.' Black Panther Party film "Judas and the Black Messiah," which will have its premiere at the Sundance Film Festival on Feb. 1.

The AFI also named its top 10 television shows, including Netflix's "The Queen's Gambit," the Disney+ phenomenon "The Mandalorian" and Apple TV+'s "Ted Lasso."

The selection jury included filmmakers Rian Johnson and Lulu Wang. The group also included a special citation for "Hamilton."

In lieu of the annual luncheon celebrating the honorees, AFI will hold a virtual benediction on Feb. 26 streaming on YouTube and the AFI website.

# Arizona State names new film school after Poitier

Associated Press

In 1963, Sidney Poitier made a film in Arizona, "Lilies of the Field." The performance led to a huge milestone: He became the first Black winner of a lead-acting Oscar.

Now, Arizona is the site of another career milestone for the legendary actor and filmmaker — Arizona State University has named its new film school after him. The Sidney Poitier New American Film School was unveiled at a virtual ceremony on Monday.

The decision to name the school after Poitier, 93, is about much more than his achievements and legacy, but because he "embodies in his very person that which we strive to be—the matching of excellence and drive and passion with social purpose and social outcomes, all things that his career has really stood for," said Michael M. Crow, president of the university.

The university did not make Poitier, who has been out of the public eye for some time, available for an interview. His daughter Beverly



Poitier

Poitier-Henderson told The Associated Press her father was "doing well and enjoying his family," and considered it an honor to be the namesake of the new film school.

Poitier-Henderson and two of Poitier's other daughters described in interviews how

the film school's emphasis on inclusivity and access aligned with their father's long-held ideals.

"If it has my Dad's name on it, it has to be inclusive, because that's the foundation of who he is and what he stands for," said Anika Poitier, like her father a filmmaker.

"And it's important to not only have inclusion but to have diversity, and to give people the opportunity to tell their stories. I think it's imperative to cast a wide net and allow anyone who's called to tell their story to learn how to do that."

# **Trey Songz arrested at AFC Championship game**

R&B artist Trey Songz was jailed overnight after he scuffled with police officers during his arrest for not following coronavirus protocols and other rules at the AFC championship game in Kansas City, Mo., police said Monday.

Songz, 36, whose name is Tremaine Aldon Neverson, was released Monday while an investigation continues, Jackson County Sheriff's spokesman LeVanden Darks said. No charges have been filed.

Songz is a three-time Grammy-nominated singer. He earned his third No. 1 on Billboard's Top R&B Albums chart with "Back Home" last year. His other two chart-topping albums are "Trigga" and "Tremaine The Album."

He has also appeared in films including "Texas Chainshaw 3D" and "Baggage Claim," and he starred in "Blood Brother" in 2018.









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### SCOREBOARD/HIGH SCHOOL/OLYMPICS

### **PRO FOOTBALL**

### **NFL** playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 9
Buffalo 27, Indianapolis 24
Los Angeles Rams 30, Seattle 20
Tampa Bay 31, Washington 23
Sunday, Jan. 10
Baltimore 20, Tennessee 13
New Orleans 21, Chicago 9
Cleveland 48 Pittsburgh 37
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 16
Green Bay 32, Los Angeles Rams

Green Bay 32, Los Angeles Rams 18 Buffalo 17, Baltimore 3

Sunday, Jan. 17
Kansas City 22, Cleveland 17
Tampa Bay 30, New Orleans 20
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 24
AFC

Kansas City 38, Buffalo 24

Tampa Bay 31, Green Bay 26 Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7 At Tampa, Fla.
Tampa Bay vs. Kansas City

### **COLLEGE HOCKEY**

### Monday's score

**MIDWEST** 

Michigan Tech 4, N. Michigan 1

### **DEALS**

### **Monday's transactions** BASEBALL

Major League Baseball American League

American League

BOSTON RED SOX — Acquired RHPs

Adam Ottavino and Frank German and

cash considerations from the New York

Yankees in exchange for a player to be

named later or cash considerations.

HOUSTON ASTROS — Signed OF Michael

Brantley toa two-year contract.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with 3B Pablo Sandoval on a minor league

contract.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Agreed to terms with C Joe Hudson on a minor league contract.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Promoted Sean Kugler to offensive line coach/run game coordinator and Cam Turnet to quarter-backs coach. Hired Shawn Jefferson as wide receivers coach.

CAROLINA PANTHERS — Named Sean

CAROLINA PANTHERS — Named Sean Ryan quarterbacks coach and Tony Sparano Jr. offensive line assistant coach.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed OLB Tipa Galeai, LB De'Jon Harris, G Zack Johnson, TE Isaac Nauta, DTs Willington Previlon and Anthony Rush, CB Stanford Samuels, RBS Mike Weber and RB Dexter Williams, and P Ryan Winslow.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Promoted Mar-cus Brady to offensive coordinator. LOS ANGELES RAMS — Signed QB Devlin Hodges and S Jake Gervase to reserve/fu-

Hodges and a semi-tures contracts.

National Hockey League
BUFFALO SABRES — Loaned G Jonas Johansson to the taxi squad. Reassigned F Rasmus Asplund and G Dustin Tokarski from the taxi squad to Rochester (AHL).
DETROIT RED WINGS — Designated LWs Givani Smith and Taro Hirose for assignment to the taxi squad.
NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled G Ksimir Kaskisus from the minor leagues to

Ksimir Kaskisuo from the minor leagues to the taxi squad.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Sent LW Nolan

Foots to Binghamton (AHL).
SOCCER
Major League Soccer

**D.C. UNITED** — Agreed to terms with M Felipe Martins on a one-year contract ex-NEW YORK RED BULLS — Signed MF Wi-

kelman Carmona. **SEATTLE SOUNDERS** — Signed head coach Brian Schmetzer to a multiyear con-tract extension.

### **AP SPORTLIGHT**

### Jan. 27

1937 — Tris Speaker and Cy Young are elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.
1970 — The Pittsburgh Steelers select Louisiana Tech quarterback Terry Bradshaw with first pick of the NFL Draft.
1973 — UCLA, led by Bill Walton, sets an NCAA record for consecutive victories with its 61st win, an 82-63 victory over Notre Dame. UCLA breaks the record of 60 set by San Francisco in 1956. Walton scores 16 points, grabs 15 rebounds and blocks 10 shots.

**1982** — Geoff Houston of the Cleveland Cavaliers hands out 27 assists, two short of the NBA record and scores 24 points in a 110-106 victory over the Golden State War-

riors.

1991 — The New York Giants survive the 1991 — The New York Giants survive the closest Super Bowl ever when Scott Norwood's 47-yard field goal attempt with 8 seconds left in the game goes wide. The Giants win their second Super Bowl in five years, 20-19 over the Buffalo Bills.

1993 — American Chad Rowan is awarded the highest rank in sumo wrestling, the

ancient Japanese sport, making him the first foreign "yokozuna." The 6-foot-8, 455-pounder from Honolulu, becomes the 64th person to hold the top rank in the sport's history.

### **COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

### AP Men's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 24, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

|                   | Record | Pts  | Prv |
|-------------------|--------|------|-----|
| 1. Gonzaga (61)   | 15-0   | 1597 | 1   |
| 2. Baylor (3)     | 14-0   | 1539 | 2   |
| 3. Villanova      | 10-1   | 1459 | 3   |
| 4. Michigan       | 13-1   | 1376 | 7   |
| 5. Texas          | 11-2   | 1341 |     |
| 6. Houston        | 13-1   | 1281 | 8   |
| 7. Iowa           | 12-3   | 1214 | 4   |
| 8. Virginia       | 10-2   | 1067 | 13  |
| 9. Alabama        | 13-3   | 1039 | 18  |
| 10. Texas Tech    | 11-4   | 954  | 12  |
| 11. West Virginia | 10-4   | 869  | 14  |
| 12. Missouri      | 10-2   | 833  | 19  |
| 13. Ohio St.      | 12-4   | 810  | 15  |
| 14. Wisconsin     | 12-4   | 757  | 10  |
| 15. Kansas        | 10-5   | 665  | 9   |
| 16. Florida St.   | 9-2    | 656  | -   |
| 17. Creighton     | 11-4   | 640  | 11  |
| 18. Tennessee     | 10-3   | 638  | (   |
| 19. Illinois      | 10-5   | 415  | 22  |
| 20. Virginia Tech | 11-3   | 242  | 16  |
| 21. Minnesota     | 11-5   | 223  | 17  |
| 22. Saint Louis   | 7-1    | 218  | 25  |
| 23. UCLA          | 12-3   | 157  | 24  |
| 24. Oklahoma      | 9-4    | 151  | -   |
| 25. Louisville    | 10-3   | 117  | -   |

Others receiving votes: Boise St. 108, Drake 75, Colorado 59, Southern Cal 50, Ok-lahoma St. 49, Oregon 49, Florida 37, UConn 20, Winthrop 16, Xavier 14, Loyola of Chica-go 12, BYU 11, Purdue 11, Belmont 9, Clem-son 8, St. Bonaventure 6, Toledo 4, Arizona

### **Men's Coaches Poll**

Ferris Mowers Top 25 Men's Basketball Coaches Poll with team's records through Sunday, total points based on 25 for first place through one point for 25th, first-place votes received and ranking in last week's poll:

|                             | Record | Pts | Prv |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----|-----|
| 1. Gonzaga (29)             | 15-0   | 797 | 1   |
| 2. Baylor (3)               | 14-0   | 771 | 2   |
| <ol><li>Villanova</li></ol> | 10-1   | 735 | 3   |
| 4. Michigan                 | 13-1   | 666 | 7   |
| 5. Texas                    | 11-2   | 665 | 5   |
| 6. Houston                  | 13-1   | 635 | 8   |
| 7. Iowa                     | 12-3   | 555 | 4   |
| 8. Virginia                 | 10-2   | 527 | 12  |
| 9. Alabama                  | 13-3   | 527 | 16  |
| 10. Texas Tech              | 11-4   | 439 | 13  |
| 11. West Virginia           | 10-4   | 408 | 15  |
| 12. Missouri                | 10-2   | 406 | 19  |
| 13. Wisconsin               | 12-4   | 360 | 10  |
| 14. Creighton               | 11-4   | 359 | 11  |
| 15. Ohio State              | 12-4   | 340 | 18  |
| 16. Florida State           | 9-2    | 334 | 25  |
| 17. Tennessee               | 10-3   | 320 | 6   |
| 18. Kansas                  | 10-5   | 296 | 9   |
| 19. Virginia Tech           | 11-3   | 225 | 14  |
| 20. Minnesota               | 11-5   | 152 | 17  |
| 21. UCLA                    | 12-3   | 150 | 20  |
| 22. Illinois                | 10-5   | 138 | 24  |
| 23. Louisville              | 10-3   | 88  | _   |
| 24. Saint Louis             | 7-1    | 73  | _   |
| 25. Oregon                  | 9-3    | 66  | 21  |
|                             |        |     |     |

Dropped out: No. 22 Clemson (9-4); No.

23 Coforado (12-4).

Others receiving votes: Oklahoma (9-4)
65; Boise State (13-1) 60; Southern California (12-3) 51; Colorado (12-4) 40; Oklahoma State (9-4) 37; Xavier (10-2) 22; Loyola-Chicago (12-3) 21; Drake (13-0) 17; Clemson (9-4) 15; Florida (8-4) 14; Purdue (11-6) 7; Connecticut (7-3) 5; Arkansas (12-4) 4; St. Bonaventure (8-1) 3; San Diego State (11-4) 3; Michigan State (8-4) 3; Winthrop (15-0) 1.

### Monday's men's scores

### EAST

West Virginia 88, Texas Tech 87 SOUTH

Alabama St. 66, Southern U. 64 Gardner-Webb 80, Charleston Southern

1 Presbyterian 71, High Point 56 Radford 73, UNC-Asheville 63 Virginia 81, Syracuse 58

### MIDWEST

Chicago 65, Bradley 58 Indiana St. 69, S. Illinois 66 N. Iowa 70, Coe 60 Oklahoma St. 81, Iowa St. 60

### SOUTHWEST

Prairie View 73, Ark.-Pine Bluff 56 **FAR WEST** 

Arizona 80, Arizona St. 67 Loyola Marymount 75, Portland 50 New Mexico St. 70, W. New Mexico 41 UNLV 59, Utah St. 56

### Men's Top 25 schedule

### Wednesday's games

No. 2 Baylor vs. Kansas St. No. 4 Michigan at Penn St., ppd. No. 13 Ohio St. vs. Penn St.

# No. 14 Wisconsin at Maryland No. 16 Florida St. vs. Miami No. 17 Creighton at Seton Hall No. 20 Virginia Tech at Notre Dame No. 25 Louisville at Clemson

Thursday's games

No. 1 Gonzaga at San Diego No. 3 Villanova at UConn No. 6 Houston at Tulane No. 15 Kansas vs. TCU No. 23 UCLA vs. Oregon

### Friday's games

Saturday's games

No. 7 Iowa at No. 19 Illinois No. 22 Saint Louis at Richmond

No. 1 Gonzaga at Pepperdine
No. 2 Baylor vs. Auburn
No. 3 Villanova at Seton Hall
No. 4 Michigan vs. Indiana, ppd.
No. 5 Texas at Kentucky
No. 8 Virginia at No. 20 Virginia Tech
No. 9 Alabama at No. 24 Oklahoma
No. 10 Texas Tech at LSU
No. 25 Louisville vs. Boston College, ppd.

### Sunday's games

No. 6 Houston vs. SMU No. 13 Ohio St. vs. Michigan St.

### AP Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 24, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previ-

|                       | Record | Pts | Prv |
|-----------------------|--------|-----|-----|
| 1. Louisville (22)    | 14-0   | 739 | 1   |
| 2. NC State (5)       | 11-0   | 710 | 2   |
| 3. UConn (1)          | 10-0   | 692 | 3   |
| 4. South Carolina (2) | 12-1   | 679 | 4   |
| 5. UCLA               | 9-2    | 618 | 6   |
| 6. Stanford           | 12-2   | 572 | 5   |
| 7. Maryland           | 11-1   | 565 | 7   |
| 8. Texas A&M          | 14-1   | 550 | 8   |
| 9. Baylor             | 10-2   | 522 | 9   |
| 10. Arizona           | 11-2   | 494 | 10  |
| 11. Oregon            | 11-3   | 420 | 13  |
| 12. Michigan          | 10-1   | 382 | 11  |
| 13. South Florida     | 10-1   | 353 | 14  |
| 14. Ohio St.          | 8-1    | 346 | 17  |
| 15. Kentucky          | 11-4   | 320 | 12  |
| 16. Indiana           | 9-3    | 308 | 16  |
| 17. DePaul            | 9-3    | 238 | 18  |
| 18. Gonzaga           | 13-2   | 186 | 20  |
| 19. Arkansas          | 11-5   | 182 | 15  |
| 20. Tennessee         | 10-3   | 180 | 25  |
| 21. Mississippi St.   | 8-4    | 156 | 19  |
| 22. Georgia           | 12-2   | 122 | 22  |
| 23. Northwestern      | 8-3    | 93  | 21  |
| 24. West Virginia     | 11-2   | 72  | _   |
| 25. South Dakota St.  | . 13-2 | 66  | _   |

Others receiving votes: Texas 52, Missouri St. 49, Iowa St. 29, Syracuse 27, Alabama 10, Rice 7, Georgia Tech 5, Milwaukee 4, South Dakota 2.

### Monday's women's scores

### **EAST**

Manhattan 49, Monmouth (NJ) 48 Minnesota 85, Penn St. 76 Villanova 81, St. John's 78, OT

### SOUTH

Austin Peay 74, Murray St. 71 Georgia 75, Arkansas 73 Jacksonville St. 69, Tennessee Tech 58 James Madison 67, Northeastern 49 Southern U. 60, Alabama St. 56

### MIDWEST

Nebraska 57, Illinois 53 Ohio St. 88, Maryland 86 Oklahoma St. 69, Kansas St. 55

### SOUTHWEST Louisiana-Lafayette 54, UALR 45

**FAR WEST** 

San Francisco 64, Pepperdine 56 UNLV 89, Utah St. 59

### Women's Top 25 schedule

### Wednesday's games

No. 6 Stanford at Washington St. No. 13 South Florida at Temple No. 24 West Virginia at Texas Tech

### Thursday's games No. 1 Louisville vs. North Carolina

No. 2 NC State at Duke, ccd. No. 2 NC State at Virginia Tech No. 3 UConn at No. 19 Arkansas No. 4 South Carolina at No. 21 Mississippi

No. 7 Maryland vs. Rutgers, ppd. NO. 14 Ohio St., at No. 16 Indiana No. 15 Kentucky vs. Alabama No. 18 Gonzaga at Pacific NO. 22 Georgia vs. LSU No. 23 Northwestern at Iowa

### Friday's games

No. 5 UCLA vs. Arizona St. No. 6 Stanford at Washington St. No. 10 Arizona at Southern Cal No. 11 Oregon vs. Utah No. 25 South Dakota St., at Denver

### Saturday's games

No. 13 South Florida vs. Cincinnati No. 18 Gonzaga at Saint Mary's (Cal) No. 24 West Virginia at TCU No. 25 South Dakota St., at Denver

# **Basketball season** scrapped in Korea

### By Dave Ornauer

Stars and Stripes

The on-again, off-again DO-DEA Korea high school basketball season is now off again — this time apparently for keeps.

That announcement was made in a letter dated Tuesday from DODEA Korea district superintendent Jeff Arrington. Osan, Humphreys and Daegu high schools notified their student-athletes and coaches over the past two days, school athletics officials and coaches said.

"While we know this will be upsetting news to our student-athletes, due to current conditions, we will be unable to move forward with winter sports," Arrington's letter stated.

Basketball was not on the initial list of sports to be offered by DO-DEA Pacific this school year.

However, on Nov. 13, the DO-DEA Korea district announced it would offer basketball for boys and girls from mid-January to mid-February, culminating with district finals scheduled for Feb.

But U.S. Forces Korea announced Dec. 19 it was implementing Health Protection Condition C, or Charlie. Under DODEA Pacific guidelines, schools reverted to remote learning, with no cocurricular activities. HPCON-C has remained in effect since.

"I'm kind of disappointed, but

not surprised," Osan athletics director Jerome Learman said. "I was hoping they would keep holding. I feel badly for the kids, particularly the seniors who didn't get to have (their final) season. But it's out of our hands."

DODEA Pacific schools have not played basketball since the first day of the 2020 Far East tournaments.

Humphreys' boys players and coaches in particular were upset; the Blackhawks won the Far East Division I tournament in 2019 and now will go without a season this school year.

"I'm very disappointed," Blackhawks senior center Collin Metcalf said. "We're all frustrated that there is no basketball season."

It's not known when or if USFK might revert back to HPCON-B.

"Hopefully, we can have a full spring season," Daegu athletics director and boys basketball coach Blake Sims said.

In other developments, track and field received a faint glimmer of hope when DODEA Pacific athletics coordinator Tom McKinney said Monday that consideration is being given to staging a virtual Far East meet.

Practices for spring sports were originally scheduled to start Jan. 19 on Okinawa. But those were put on hold and remain that way, DO-DEA Okinawa superintendent Jacqueline Ferguson said.

# Italy hopes decree can help it avoid Olympic sanctions

### By Andrew Dampf Associated Press

ROME — The Italian government pushed through a last-minute decree Tuesday providing more autonomy for the country's Olympic committee in an effort to prevent the team from being suspended for the Tokyo Games.

It was one of the final acts of Giuseppe Conte's government before he offered his resignation amid an unrelated political crisis.

The International Olympic Committee's executive board had on its agenda Wednesday whether to impose a humiliating probation on Italy because of a two-year domestic dispute that it said amounted to government interference.

After the decree, Italian Olympic Committee president Giovanni Malagò called IOC president Thomas Bach and both expressed "satisfaction" over the development.

The IOC had taken issue with the Italian government's formation of an organization, "Sport e

Salute," that was created at the start of 2019 to run the country's sports finances. The money was previously controlled by an arm of the country's Olympic committee, which is known as CONI.

"The cabinet has approved a decree containing regulations that provide autonomy for the Italian Olympic Committee," Sports Minister Vincenzo Spadafora said.

"Considering the long and glorious sporting and democratic history of our country it was improbable that Italy would be sanctioned," Spadafora added. "But today's decision removes every doubt and resolves the issue of CONI's independence."

The decree should give CONI more control over its employees and training centers.

Possible punishments from the IOC could have included preventing Italian athletes in Tokyo from wearing their national team uniforms and from hearing their national anthem being played.

### MLB/NFL/BRIEFS



SUE OGROCKI / AP

Fans take photos at Sloan Park, the spring training site of the Chicago Cubs, in Mesa, Ariz. The Cactus League is asking Major League Baseball to delay the start of spring training due to coronavirus concerns.

# Cactus League asks MLB to delay spring training due to COVID-19

By Jake Steiner Associated Press

The Cactus League and Arizona community leaders have asked Major League Baseball to delay the start of spring training due to coronavirus concerns just over three weeks before pitchers and catchers are supposed to report.

The Cactus League made the request in a letter to Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred obtained by The Associated Press on Monday. The letter was co-signed by the mayors of Mesa, Scottsdale, Surprise, Glendale, Goodyear and Peoria, as well as representatives from Phoenix and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

MLB said in a statement that it "will continue to consult with public health authorities, medical experts, and the players' association whether any schedule modifications to the announced start of spring training and the championship season should be made in light of the current COVID-19 environment to ensure the safety of

the players, coaches, umpires, MLB employees and other game day personnel."

Arizona is averaging just under 7,000 new coronavirus cases per day, but the Cactus League cited data in its letter from the University of Washington's Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation projecting a sharp decline in infections by mid-March, down to as few as 3,072 daily. Spring camps are set to open the week of Feb. 15, with the regular season set to start on April 1.

Despite the roiling case numbers, the NHL's Arizona Coyotes are hosting 3,450 fans for home games in Glendale, while the NBA's Phoenix Suns are playing without fans. High school sports are also still operating. The Cactus League hosts 15 MLB clubs.

In a sign that other teams are moving forward with preseason plans, the spring training home in Jupiter, Fla., shared by the St. Louis Cardinals and Miami Marlins announced Monday it will begin selling tickets for spring games beginning Feb. 1. Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium said 2021 tickets will be sold in seating pods of two, four or six spaced six feet apart throughout the stadium.

Any changes to the major league schedule are subject to agreement with the players' association per terms of their collective bargaining agreement. A person familiar with talks between the sides said MLB asked the union in November about moving back opening day a month to create a safer playing environment, possibly spurred by the availability of vaccines.

The union asked if the postseason could be moved back to make up the 30 or so missed games, or if the league would pay players for the missed games if they weren't made up. The league declined, saying it wouldn't push the postseason deep into November over broadcast concerns and wouldn't pay players for missed games.

Talks stalled there, and no formal proposals about altering opening day have been exchanged.

# Patriots fans still rooting for Brady

By Jimmy Golen Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — As soon as the Tampa Bay Buccaneers won the NFC title game, Brian Pope went shopping for a Tom Brady jersey to wear when he watches them play in the Super Bowl.

One problem: Pope lives in Connecticut. And he isn't really even a Buccaneers fan — or at least he wasn't, until Brady left the New England Patriots to make another championship run with Tampa Bay.

"I'll be watching, and I'll be rooting for Brady," Pope said as he eyed a rack of the quarter-back's Patriots and Michigan Wolverines jerseys in the Gillette Stadium pro shop on Monday afternoon.

"I wish he hadn't left, but so be it," Pope said. "I'm still a Patriots fan, but I'm not upset that he's playing in the Super Bowl, by any stretch."

Brady won an NFL record six Super Bowls with the Patriots, and he also played in three others during a 20-year career in New England that ended when he signed with the Buccaneers as a free agent in March.

Since then, the fans he left behind have been following him from afar. And now that he is getting ready to play in his 10th Super Bowl, many are rooting for him as if he'd never left.

"He was here 20 years; he did a great job; never got into trouble. So why not pursue his dream," said Kathie McCarthy, who was at Gillette Stadium to receive her COVID-19 vaccination.

Boston has a long history of watching its star athletes leave, dating back at least as far as the Red Sox's sale of Babe Ruth to the rival Yankees in 1919. Ruth went on to win four World Series in New York; the Yankees won 26 before the Red Sox won it all again, snapping an 86-year drought in 2004.

Just last summer, 2018 AL MVP Mookie Betts was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers, following a trail out of town blazed by Red Sox stars like Ruth, Carlton Fisk and Roger Clemens. The Dodgers then won the World Series.

"This might be worse than Mookie because (Brady) has been there so long and won so many championships," Pope said. "I obviously wasn't here when Babe Ruth left, but I'd say it's got to equal that."



ELISE AMENDOLA / A

Brian Pope browses for Tom Brady jerseys in the pro shop at Gillette Stadium on Monday in Foxborough, Mass.

BRIEFLY

# Nationals sign Indians reliever Hand to 1-year deal

Associated Press

Left-handed reliever Brad Hand finalized a \$10.5 million, one-year contract with the Washington Nationals on Tuesday, giving the team more strength and flexibility in the back end of its bullpen.

The 30-year-old Hand led the majors with 16 saves during the pandemic-truncated 2020 season

for the Cleveland Indians, compiling a 2.05 ERA, .169 opponents' batting average, 29 strikeouts and four walks in 22 innings over 23 appearances.

In other baseball news:

■ Free agent second baseman César Hernández has agreed to return to the Cleveland Indians on a 1-year contract, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The team and Hernández have an agreement, which includes a club option for 2022 in place and it will become official once medical tests have been completed.

■ The New York Yankees sent struggling reliever Adam Ottavino to Boston on Monday along with minor league right-hander Frank German for a player to be named or cash.

# Former Knicks forward Wingo dies at age 73

Harthorne Wingo, a fan favorite and reserve on the New York Knicks' 1973 NBA championship team, has died. He was 73.

He died Jan. 20 in a New York City hospital, the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner told The Associated Press.

# Washington promotes female assistant

Washington promoted Jennifer King to assistant running backs coach Tuesday, making her the first Black female assistant position coach in the NFL.

## Dogs will screen fans for virus at Heat games

### By Tim Reynolds Associated Press

MIAMI — The Miami Heat are bringing back some fans, with help from some dogs.

The Heat will use coronavirussniffing dogs at AmericanAirlines Arena to screen fans who want to attend their games. They've been working on the plan for months, and the highly trained dogs have been in place for some games this season where the team has allowed a handful of guests - mostly friends and family of players and staff.

Starting this week, a limited number of ticket holders will be in the seats as well, provided they get past the dogs first.

"If you think about it, detection dogs are not new," said Matthew Jafarian, the Heat's executive vice president for business strategy. "You've seen them in airports, they've been used in mission critical situations by the police and the military. We've used them at the arena for years to detect explo-

The first Heat game with ticket holders is set for Thursday against the Los Angeles Clippers. Monday was the first day that season ticket holders were able to start securing their seats.

The Heat have sold out 451 consecutive games, the sixth-longest streak in NBA history. Sellouts obviously aren't happening this year. The Heat will keep attendance under 2,000 for now, or less than 10% of the arena's typical capacity.

"Please note that seating will be very limited, as we will be observing proper physical distancing," the team said in its letter to season ticket holders.

The coronavirus-sniffing dog idea has been put into place at airports in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and Helsinki, Finland, in recent months. At Heat games, fans arriving for the game will be brought to a screening area and the detection dogs will walk past. If the dog keeps going, the fan is cleared; if the dog sits, that's a sign it detects the virus and the fan will be denied entry.

Other protocols the Heat will use: A health screening questionnaire will be mandatory for all guests, masks must be worn continually and only soda and water will be sold. All transactions will be cashless and if a fan feels ill during a game, isolation rooms will be available.

And if a fan is allergic to or afraid of dogs, the Heat are offering an option to skip the dog screening and submit to a rapid antigen test instead.

### **Scoreboard**

### **Eastern Conference** Atlantia Division

| Atlantic Division |           |      |      |      |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|
|                   | w         | L    | Pct  | GB   |
| Philadelphia      | 12        | 6    | .667 | _    |
| Boston            | 10        | 6    | .625 | 1    |
| Brooklyn          | 11        | 8    | .579 | 11/2 |
| New York          | 8         | 10   | .444 | 4    |
| Toronto           | 7         | 10   | .412 | 41/2 |
| South             | east Divi | sion |      |      |

| Southie          | ast Divis |    |      |      |
|------------------|-----------|----|------|------|
|                  | W         | L  | Pct  | GB   |
| Atlanta          | 8         | 8  | .500 | _    |
| Orlando          | 8         | 10 | .444 | 1    |
| Charlotte        | 7         | 10 | .412 | 11/2 |
| Miami            | 6         | 10 | .375 | 2    |
| Washington       | 3         | 9  | .250 | 3    |
| Central Division |           |    |      |      |

| Central Division |    |    |      |      |
|------------------|----|----|------|------|
|                  | w  | L  | Pct  | GB   |
| Milwaukee        | 10 | 6  | .625 | _    |
| Indiana          | 10 | 7  | .588 | 1/2  |
| Cleveland        | 8  | 9  | .471 | 21/2 |
| Chicago          | 7  | 10 | .412 | 31/2 |
| Detroit          | 4  | 13 | .235 | 61/2 |

### Western Conference

### **Southwest Division**

|             | W       | L     | Pct  | GB |
|-------------|---------|-------|------|----|
| Memphis     | 7       | 6     | .538 |    |
| San Antonio | 9       | 8     | .529 | _  |
| Dallas      | 8       | 9     | .471 | 1  |
| Houston     | 6       | 9     | .400 | 2  |
| New Orleans | 5       | 10    | .333 | 3  |
| Northu      | ost Div | ision |      |    |

| Northwest Division |           |    |      |      |
|--------------------|-----------|----|------|------|
|                    | W         | L  | Pct  | GB   |
| Utah               | 12        | 4  | .750 |      |
| Denver             | 10        | 7  | .588 | 21/2 |
| Portland           | 9         | 7  | .563 | 3    |
| Oklahoma City      | 7         | 9  | .438 | 5    |
| Minnesota          | 4         | 12 | .250 | 8    |
| Pacifi             | c Divisio | on | •    |      |

|               | W  | L Pct   | GB   |
|---------------|----|---------|------|
| L.A. Lakers   | 14 | 4 .778  | _    |
| L.A. Clippers | 13 | 4 .765  | 1/2  |
| Phoenix       | 8  | 7 .533  | 41/2 |
| Golden State  | 9  | 8 .529  | 41/2 |
| Sacramento    | 6  | 10 .375 | 7    |

### Sunday's games

Toronto 107, Indiana 102 L.A. Clippers 108, Oklahoma City 100 Boston 141, Cleveland 103 Charlotte 107, Orlando 104 San Antonio 121, Washington 101 Milwaukee 129, Atlanta 115 Portland 116, New York 113 Sacramento at Memphis, ppd

### Monday's games

Orlando 117, Charlotte 108
Detroit 119, Philadelphia 104
Indiana 129, Toronto 114
Brooklyn 98, Miami 85
L.A. Lakers 115, Cleveland 108
Denver 117, Dallas 113
Boston 119, Chicago 103
Oklahoma City 125, Portland 122
Golden State 130, Minnesota 108
Sacramento at Memphis, ppd
San Antonio at New Orleans, ppd

### Tuesday's games

L.A. Clippers at Atlanta Washington at Houston New York at Utah

### Wednesday's games

Detroit at Cleveland Indiana at Charlotte Sacramento at Orlando Brooklyn at Atlanta Denver at Miami L.A. Lakers at Philadelphia Milwaukee at Toronto Chicago at Memphis, ppd Boston at San Antonio Dallas at Utah Oklahoma City at Phoenix Washington at New Orleans Minnesota at Golden State

### Thursday's games

L.A. Clippers at Miami L.A. Lakers at Detroit Portland at Houston Golden State at Phoenix

### **NBA** leaders

### Through Jan. 24 Scoring

|                 | G  | FG  | FT  | PTS | AVG  |
|-----------------|----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Beal, WAS       | 11 | 134 | 85  | 380 | 34.5 |
| Durant, BKN     | 13 | 136 | 96  | 406 | 31.2 |
| Lillard, POR    | 15 | 130 | 115 | 433 | 28.9 |
| Curry, GS       | 16 | 146 | 88  | 447 | 27.9 |
| Embiid, PHI     | 14 | 123 | 125 | 388 | 27.7 |
| Brown, BOS      | 15 | 157 | 56  | 410 | 27.3 |
| Anttoknmpo, MIL | 15 | 149 | 86  | 405 | 27.0 |



Brooklyn Nets guard James Harden, left, passes the ball between Miami Heat forward Andre Iguodala (28) and guard Kendrick Nunn during the Nets' win Monday in New York.

### ROUNDUP

# Big three help Nets break away late, overcome Heat

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kevin Durant wasn't making shots. James Harden was barely taking them.

That sent the Brooklyn Nets into a defensive struggle, and the NBA's highest-scoring team handled it well until their superstars showed up.

Harden and Durant each scored 20 points despite three relatively quiet quarters, and the Nets broke away with a big run in the fourth to beat the Miami Heat 98-85 on Monday night.

Kyrie Irving added 16 points for the Nets, who completed a sweep of the Heat in two games that couldn't have been more different. Brooklyn won 128-124 on Saturday, then took the rematch despite barely topping its lowest-scoring game of the season.

"I think our defense held tight the whole game," Durant said. "Once we were able to start making some shots there in the fourth, we were able to pull away. But our defense won us this game for

Pistons 119, 76ers 104: Delon Wright scored a career-high 28 points and Wayne Ellington had another impressive shooting night for host Detroit, leading it past Eastern Conference-leading Philadelphia.

Jerami Grant scored 25 points for the Pistons (4-13), who still have the NBA's worst record but took advantage of Joel Embiid's absence. The 76ers star was out with back tightness.

Lakers 115, Cavaliers 108: Le-Bron James scored 23 of his 46 points in the fourth quarter to keep Los Angeles unbeaten on the road.

Anthony Davis added 17 points as the defending NBA champions improved to 10-0 away from home. The win for the Lakers came on the eve of the one-year anniversary of Los Angeles legend Kobe Bryant's tragic death in a helicopter crash.

Pacers 129, Raptors 114: Malcolm Brogdon scored a careerhigh 36 points and Myles Turner scored 11 of his 21 in the final  $8\frac{1}{2}$ minutes to help host Indiana pull away from Toronto.

Brogdon also had nine assists and seven rebounds. Jeremy Lamb matched his season high with 22 points as the Pacers earned a split in the two-game set against the Raptors. Indiana won this one despite losing All-Star forward Damontis Sabonis to a bruised left knee in the first half.

**Magic 117, Hornets 108:** Nikola Vucevic scored 28 points and rookie point guard Cole Anthony added a career-high 21 points as host Orlando topped Charlotte.

The Magic snapped a two-game losing streak and bounced back from squandering a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter a night earlier in a loss to the Hornets.

Nuggets 117, Mavericks 113: Michael Porter Jr. tied his season

high with 30 points and Denver overcame Jamal Murray's ejection for a shot to the groin of Dallas guard Tim Hardaway Jr. to win on the road.

Porter was 6-for-10 from threepoint range, including a go-ahead shot to start a decisive 7-0 run late in the fourth quarter after the Mavericks had rallied immediately following the incident involving Murray and Hardaway.

Celtics 119, Bulls 103: Jaylen Brown scored 26 points, Jayson Tatum added 24 after missing five games because of COVID-19 protocols and Boston won at Chicago.

Tatum made three three-pointers and had five assists over 31 minutes in his first appearance since Jan. 8.

Thunder 125, Trail Blazers 122: Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 24 points, Mike Muscala added 23, and Oklahoma City snapped a three-game losing streak with a win at Portland.

Damian Lillard, who had scored 30 or more points in his last three games, had 26 points and 10 assists for the Blazers. Anfernee Simons had 26 points off the bench and Enes Kanter added 13 points and 22 rebounds.

Warriors 130, Timberwolves 108: Stephen Curry scored 36 points with seven three-pointers, Andrew Wiggins took it to his old Timberwolves team with 23 points, and host Golden State beat Minnesota.

Curry shot 11-for-21 overall.

### OLLEGE BASKETBALL/NHL

### **TOP 25 ROUNDUP**

# Virginia routs Syracuse

Associated Press

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. Sam Hauser hit seven of Virginia's 14 three-pointers and the No. 8 Cavaliers cruised to an 81-58 victory against Syracuse on Monday

Hauser hit five threes before halftime as Virginia (11-2, 7-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) took a 41-26 lead into the locker room. He finished with 21 points.

With Jay Huff adding a careerhigh 21 points to go along with 12 rebounds and Trey Murphy III making four threes on his way to 16 points, the Cavaliers finished 14-for-31 from deep. It was the seventh consecutive victory for the 2019 national champions.

Quincy Guerrier led the Orange (9-5, 3-4) with 15 points, and Alan Griffin had 13. Syracuse was 5for-24 from three-point territory and just 22-for-59 overall (37.3%).

No. 11 West Virginia 88, No. 10 Texas Tech 87: Miles McBride made a go-ahead jumper with 6 seconds left, helping the host Mountaineers rally past the Red

McBride finished with a seasonhigh 24 points. Jalen Bridges and reserve Sean McNeil each scored 13 points for West Virginia (11-4, 4-3 Big 12), which trailed by 12 with about seven minutes left.

Texas Tech (11-5, 4-4) wasted a stellar performance by Mac McClung, who scored a seasonhigh 30 points. Terrence Shannon Jr. added 15 points and eight



ANDREW SHURTLEFF, THE DAILY PROGRESS / AP

Virginia guard Trey Murphy III, left, dunks in front of Syracuse forward Alan Griffin during Monday's game in Charlottesville, Va.

McBride's three-pointer with 1:36 left tied it at 84, but McClung responded with his own three with 1:10 remaining.

Taz Sherman made a layup with

50 seconds to go and the Mountaineers got the ball back for one last chance. McBride drove the lane and made an off-balance shot over two defenders.

# Win: Coach says Eagles pass 'eye test'

### **FROM PAGE 24**

Despite their lack of signature wins, Kelsey believes the Eagles belong in the NCAA Tournament discussion because of their chemistry, depth and resolve.

"We pass the eye test," he said with conviction. "We're a tough, tenacious, connected team that's a veteran team and has elite players, too."

Winthrop's lineup includes former Tennessee player D.J. Burns Jr., who returned home to Rock Hill, S.C., after a year with the Vols. Senior guard Adonis Arms played at Mesa Community College and Northwest Nazarene before joining the Eagles and becoming their second-leading scorer this season.

Things always start with Vaudrin, college basketball's active leader with six career triple-doubles, including two this year.

Vaundrin transferred from Division II Walsh College when many in his circle told him he was

wasting his time trying to play in the sport's top level. Instead, the senior from Uniontown, Ohio, leads the Eagles in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals.

"I always bet on myself," he

Winthrop's success this season was forged a year ago after it cut down the nets as the Big South Tournament champion with a ticket to the NCAAs in hand.

Then came the pandemic shutdown and the Eagles were left disappointed and with so many questions going forward.

Vaundrin came to Winthrop because of its past success at reaching the NCAAs — the Eagles have made 10 NCAA appearances since 1999 — and was naturally upset circumstances cost him an opportunity on basketball's grandest stage.

Soon after, Vaudrin knew his only response was using last year as motivation. His teammates were on the same page and pledged to be ready no matter

what the season would look like.

"We felt like there was a chance (the virus) might've overshadowed one of the best teams we've ever had in Rock Hill," athletic director Ken Halpin said. It hasn't "because of the resolve of the

Kelsey has helped shaped that,

The 45-year-old from Cincinnati has had several noteworthy moments in his basketball career. He was a captain for Xavier. Kelsey was a member of Skip Prosser's staff and was in the building years later as a Wake Forest assistant watching paramedics trying to revive Prosser the day he died of a heart attack in 2007.

The grief lingered so much that Kelsev said it made him step away as Xavier's associate head coach in 2011, undergoing therapy before rediscovering his passion for coaching.

It's passion Kelsey's players and Winthrop leaders say he still carries with him today.

### NHL scoreboard

### **East Division**

|                | GP | vv | - | O. | PLS | GF | UA |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|-----|----|----|
| Washington     | 6  | 3  | 0 | 3  | 9   | 22 | 21 |
| Pittsburgh     | 6  | 4  | 2 | 0  | 8   | 21 | 23 |
| New Jersey     | 5  | 3  | 1 | 1  | 7   | 11 | 11 |
| Boston         | 5  | 3  | 1 | 1  | 7   | 15 | 10 |
| Philadelphia   | 6  | 3  | 2 | 1  | 7   | 20 | 22 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 5  | 3  | 2 | 0  | 6   | 9  | 8  |
| Buffalo        | 6  | 2  | 3 | 1  | 5   | 18 | 19 |
| N.Y. Rangers   | 5  | 1  | 3 | 1  | 3   | 13 | 15 |
|                |    |    |   |    |     |    |    |

### **Central Division**

|           | GP | W | L | ОТ | Pts | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|---|---|----|-----|----|----|
| Tampa Bay | 4  | 3 | 1 | 0  | 6   | 15 | 10 |
| Columbus  | 6  | 2 | 2 | 2  | 6   | 15 | 18 |
| Chicago   | 6  | 2 | 3 | 1  | 5   | 19 | 23 |
| Dallas    | 2  | 2 | 0 | 0  | 4   | 10 | 2  |
| Florida   | 2  | 2 | 0 | 0  | 4   | 10 | 6  |
| Carolina  | 3  | 2 | 1 | 0  | 4   | 9  | 6  |
| Nashville | 5  | 2 | 3 | 0  | 4   | 12 | 17 |
| Detroit   | 6  | 2 | 4 | 0  | 4   | 12 | 20 |

### **West Division**

|             | GP | W | L | ОТ | Pts | GF | GA |
|-------------|----|---|---|----|-----|----|----|
| Vegas       | 6  | 5 | 1 | 0  | 10  | 19 | 12 |
| Minnesota   | 6  | 4 | 2 | 0  | 8   | 18 | 15 |
| St. Louis   | 6  | 3 | 2 | 1  | 7   | 17 | 23 |
| Colorado    | 6  | 3 | 3 | 0  | 6   | 18 | 15 |
| Los Angeles | 6  | 2 | 2 | 2  | 6   | 20 | 20 |
| Anaheim     | 6  | 2 | 2 | 2  | 6   | 11 | 14 |
| San Jose    | 6  | 3 | 3 | 0  | 6   | 19 | 21 |
| Arizona     | 6  | 2 | 3 | 1  | 5   | 17 | 19 |
|             |    |   |   |    |     |    |    |

### **North Division**

|           | GP | W | L | ОТ | Pts | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|---|---|----|-----|----|----|
| Montreal  | 6  | 4 | 0 | 2  | 10  | 29 | 18 |
| Toronto   | 7  | 5 | 2 | 0  | 10  | 22 | 19 |
| Winnipeg  | 6  | 4 | 2 | 0  | 8   | 22 | 17 |
| Edmonton  | 7  | 3 | 4 | 0  | 6   | 19 | 23 |
| Vancouver | 8  | 3 | 5 | 0  | 6   | 27 | 34 |
| Calgary   | 4  | 2 | 1 | 1  | 5   | 13 | 9  |
| Ottawa    | 6  | 1 | 4 | 1  | 3   | 15 | 27 |
|           |    |   |   |    |     |    |    |

### Sunday's games

Sunday's games
Chicago 6, Detroit 2
Buffalo 4, Washington 3, SO
Vegas 1, Arizona 0
Toronto 3, Calgary 2
New Jersey 2, N.Y. Islanders 0
Anaheim 3, Colorado 1
San Jose 5, Minnesota 3
Edmonton 4, Winnipeg 3
Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 2
Dallas 3, Nashville 2
Los Angeles 6, St. Louis 3

### Monday's game

Vancouver 7, Ottawa 1

### Tuesday's games

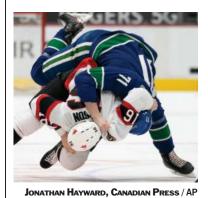
Florida at Columbus N.Y. Islanders at Washington N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo Philadelphia at New Jersey Pittsburgh at Boston Chicago at Nashville Edmonton at Winnipeg Los Angeles at Minnesota Detroit at Dallas Anaheim at Arizona San Jose at Colorado St. Louis at Vegas Toronto at Calgary

### Wednesday's games

Chicago at Nashville Ottawa at Vancouver

### Thursday's games

Calgary at Montreal Cargary at Montreal
Florida at Columbus
N.Y. Islanders at Washington
N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo
Philadelphia at New Jersey
Pittsburgh at Boston
Tampa Bay at Carolina
Los Angeles at Mingesota Los Angeles at Minnesota Detroit at Dallas Anaheim at Arizona San Jose at Colorado St. Louis at Vegas Ottawa at Vancouver Toronto at Edmonton



Canucks center Zack MacEwen,

top, fights Senators left wing **Austin Watson on Monday.** 

# Canucks hammer Senators

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Brandon Sutter recorded a hat trick and the Vancouver Canucks routed the Ottawa Senators 7-1 on Monday night.

It was a much-needed victory for Vancouver, which had not won in regulation since its season opener on Jan. 13.

In an arena devoid of fans, Sutter had only his teammates to celebrate his three-goal night with, but the lack of noise didn't dull

"It feels pretty good. You never know when you're going to get one, if you're going to get one," he said."It only took me 13 years."

The 31-year-old Sutter has played in 735 NHL games and is known more for killing penalties than scoring highlight-reel goals. Over 12 NHL seasons, he's amassed 278 points (144 goals, 134 assists).

"Any time someone scores a hat trick, it's always a good feeling as a coach for the player," Canucks coach Travis Green said. "But obviously in this scenario, a guy that doesn't get a lot of recognition for offense, you feel good for Sutts."

Tanner Pearson had a goal and an assist, and Tyler Motte, Quinn Hughes and Olli Juolevi also scored for Vancouver. Bo Horvat notched two assists.

"I just like that we stuck with our game. We didn't waver. Sometimes if you get up 3-1, 4-1, sometimes you can kind of take your foot off the gas," Green said. "We just needed to get a win, whether it was 2-1, 1-0, 3-2. And more importantly, just play a real solid game for 60 minutes and I thought we accomplished that."

The Sentators' only goal came midway through the second period when Austin Watson scored off assists from Thomas Chabot and Mike Reilly.

Thatcher Demko had 34 saves and collected his first win of the season for the Canucks.

"I thought our team defense was great tonight," he said. "When you're forechecking well and you're reloading hard and guys are getting back through the middle, those are the things that kind of add up and deter the other team from creating those scoring chances."

Ottawa goalie Matt Murray stopped 28 of 35 shots.

Senators coach D.J. Smith was less than impressed with his group's performance.

Ottawa failed to capitalize on any of its five power plays, and recorded nine giveaways.

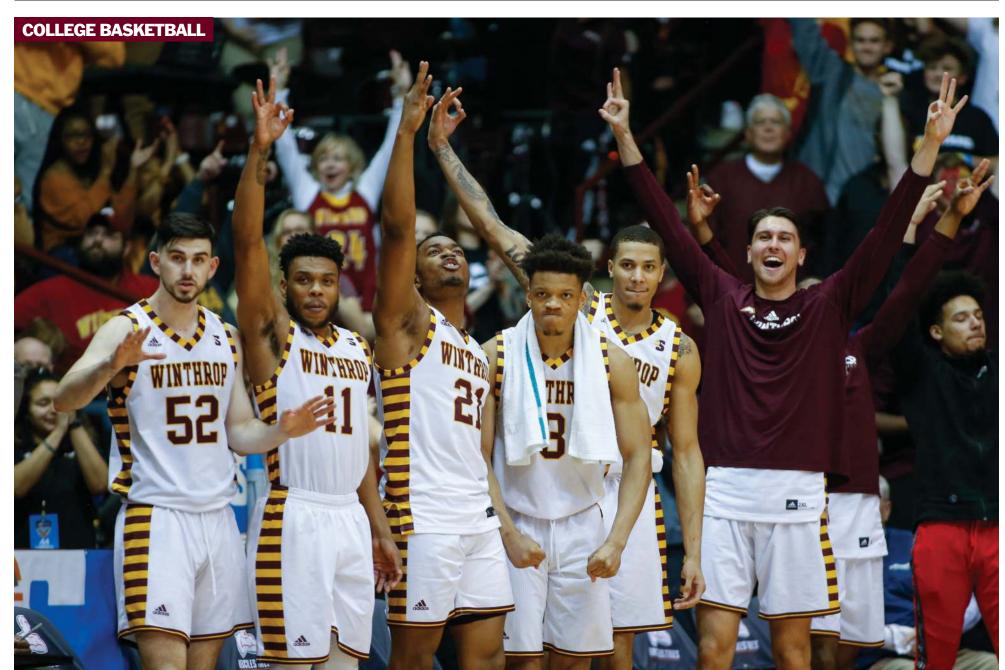
PAGE 24 第3種郵便物認可 • STARS AND STRIPES • Wednesday, January 27, 2021

# SPORTS



### **Still fan club members**

Patriots supporters continue to pull for Brady >> NFL, Page 21



NELL REDMOND / AP

Winthrop players Chandler Vaudrin (52), Charles Falden (11), Kyle Zunic (22) and D.J. Burns (30) join teammates in celebrating their Big South championship on March 8.

# Putting the 'win' in Winthrop

# Eagles unnoticed despite being 15-0

By Pete Iacobelli Associated Press

inthrop guard Chandler Vaudrin can't understand how the undefeated and unranked Eagles don't seem to be on anyone's national radar.

"Dang, they should be noticing," said Vaudrin, the Eagles' do-it-all point guard. "We're 15-0."

But the 6-foot-7 guard knows the remedy, however — just keep winning.

The Eagles have won more games than No. 1 Gonzaga and No. 2 Baylor, both 14-0. They've won a bestin-the-nation 20 straight games in Division I men's basketball dating back to their Big South Conference Tournament title and NCAA Tournament berth last

season. Yet, Winthrop remains on the outside of the rankings and much of college basketball's consciousness in this pandemic-affected season.

The virus limited Winthrop's nonconference schedule and any attention grabbing Power Five matchups quickly disappeared.

"We can only play who we can play," Winthrop coach Pat Kelsey said. "We tried to schedule every Power Five under the sun. It's hard to do and the ones we did got canceled."

The Eagles completed a back-to-back sweep of Big South rival Presbyterian this week and don't play again until they host UNC Asheville on Jan. 28-29.

**SEE WIN ON PAGE 23** 



GERRY BROOME / AP

Winthrop head coach Pat Kelsey has guided the unranked Eagles to a 15-0 start The Eagles have won 20 consecutive games.

Nets overcome close start to douse Heat » NBA, Page 22

