

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

Volume 79, No. 140B ©SS 2020 CONTINGENCY EDITION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020

stripes.com

Free to Deployed Areas



US troops rescue American in Africa

By DANIELLE PAQUETTE
The Washington Post

DAKAR, Senegal — U.S. Special Operations on Saturday rescued an American citizen who was kidnapped by armed attackers last week in southern Niger, the Pentagon said.

U.S. Navy SEAL Team Six led the overnight mission in northern Nigeria, where fighters loyal to al-Qaida and the Islamic State have established hideouts.

‘The United States will continue to protect our people and our interests anywhere in the world.’

Jonathan Hoffman
assistant to the secretary of defense for public affairs

No service members were injured in the raid.

“This American citizen is safe and is now in the care of the U.S. Department of State,” said Jonathan Hoffman, assistant to the secretary of defense for public affairs. “The United States will

continue to protect our people and our interests anywhere in the world.”

The assailants forced Philippe Nathan Watson, 27, from his farm in remote Masalata on Tuesday, demanding more than \$1 million from his family, who are missionaries.

Otherwise, they threatened to sell the captive to extremists, said a U.S. official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

Groups linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State have made tens of millions of dollars from kidnappings in recent years, analysts say.

The extremists gained a foothold nearly a decade ago in the Sahel, which lies just south of the Sahara Desert, after the Libyan government collapsed and mercenaries once employed by Moammar Gadhafi streamed into neighboring Mali.

Violence has since spilled into Niger

SEE RESCUE ON PAGE 5

Army gets special delivery

New infantry squad vehicles can rapidly move nine-soldier team across battlefield

By JAMIE L. LAUREAU
Detroit Free Press

The U.S. Army received the first Infantry Squad Vehicle made by GM Defense LLC on Tuesday, just 120 days after winning the contract.

The Infantry Squad Vehicle is based on the 2020 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 pickup and uses 90% commercial components. It is designed for rapid ground mobility and carrying a nine-soldier infantry squad through the battlefield.

GM Defense will make 649 ISVs, which it will deliver by fiscal year 2024,

and it will support the production of up to 2,065 vehicles as it gets additional authorization over the eight-year contract.

GM Defense will make the first 27 ISVs at the General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, Mich. Then production will move to a facility in Mooresville, N.C., where higher volumes can be achieved.

GM’s ongoing fuel cell development led to the creation of GM Defense as a way to explore applying technology meant for the commercial car market into potential solutions for the Department of Defense.

SEE DELIVERY ON PAGE 5

LOOKING FORWARD

GM Defense is eyeing at least three more bids, one of which is for the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle, or JLTV, that is in production with Oshkosh Defense, a tactical vehicle maker. That contract was put up for bid in mid-June. The JLTV is the new and improved High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, or Humvee, which offers superior protection and performance compared to the old model.

SOURCE: Detroit Free Press

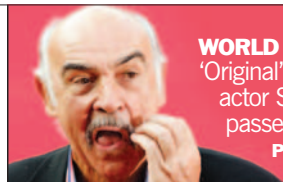
Above: The Infantry Squad Vehicle carries a nine-man squad, packs a payload of 3,200 pounds, can be sling loaded under Black Hawk and Chinook helicopters, is air droppable and provides exceptional mobility over all terrain.

U.S. Army

VIRUS OUTBREAK
Officials slow to act in hard-hit states as pandemic sweeps US
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NATION
Trump, Biden slugging it out on road to 270 electoral college votes
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WORLD
‘Original’ James Bond actor Sean Connery passes away at 90
Page 9

League-best NFC West has all four teams in playoff hunt » NFL, Back page

BUSINESS/WEATHER

S&P has worst loss in 7 months

Associated Press

Wall Street closed out another punishing week Friday with the S&P 500 posting its first back-to-back monthly loss since the pandemic first gripped the economy in March.

The S&P 500 dropped 1.2% and ended the week with a 5.6% loss, its worst in seven months. Sharp drops in big technology stocks drove much of the selling, reflecting worries that expectations

have been built too high for some of the market's biggest stars.

Investors have bid up shares in those and other Big Tech companies this year, anticipating they would deliver strong profits, but their latest results and uncertain outlooks left traders wandering.

Wall Street was already wracked by fears about the potential economic damage from surging coronavirus counts around the world, Washington's inability to provide more support

for the economy and uncertainty surrounding the presidential election.

The S&P 500 lost 40.15 points to 3,269.96. It ended October with a 2.8% loss. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 157.51 points, or 0.6%, to 26,501.60. The Nasdaq composite gave up 274 points, or 2.5%, to 10,911.59. The tech-heavy index is within 0.6% of a "correction" Wall Street-speaks for a decline of 10% or more from an all-time high.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		Commercial rates	
Euro costs (Nov. 2)	\$1.14	Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
Dollar buys (Nov. 2)	60.8335	British pound	\$1.2959
British pound (Nov. 2)	\$1.27	Canada (Dollar)	1.3318
Japanese yen (Nov. 2)	102.00	China (Yuan)	6.6927
South Korean won (Nov. 2)	1,100.00	Denmark (Krone)	6.3925
		Egypt (Pound)	15.7013
		Euro	\$1.1644/0.8588
		Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7537
		Hungary (Forint)	315.06
		Israel (Shekel)	3.4066
		Japan (Yen)	104.68
		Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3058
		Norway (Krone)	8.5538
		Philippines (Peso)	48.55
		Poland (Zloty)	3.96
		Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7596
		Singapore (Dollar)	1.3659
		South Korea (Won)	1138.95
		Switzerland (Franc)	0.9170
		Thailand (Baht)	31.17
		Turkey (Lira)	8.3756

(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

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.09
30-year bond	1.65

WEATHER OUTLOOK

SUNDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



SUNDAY IN EUROPE



MONDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

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PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at www.stripes.com/relo



MILITARY

West Point agrees to new uniform policy

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — Women entering the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., will now have access to smaller-sized Army combat uniforms following a request from Sen. Maggie Hassan, D-N.H., to review the school's policy on unisex uniforms for incoming cadets.

"I am grateful that the Army has agreed to change its uniform policy at West Point to be more inclusive for female cadets," Hassan said in a statement. "Uniforms are an important part of military academies' culture, and ensuring that female cadets have uniforms that fit is essential to making them feel included in a space that has been historically male-dominated."

The senator wrote to Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy on Oct. 5 asking he review the policy and explain why women weren't offered the female sizes of the Army Combat Uniform, known as the ACU, during their issuance of gear, even though the uniforms are sold in the base's Post Exchange. This left women to pay out-of-pocket for better-fitting uniforms. Known as the ACU-Female, this line of uniform sizes offers more room in the hips, thighs and bust and comes in smaller sizes. The unisex version of the ACU is better fit for a man's body, though some women might prefer it.

Lt. Gen. Darryl Williams, the West Point superintendent, responded Thursday to Hassan with a letter on behalf of McCarthy and wrote the perception of exclusion



The U.S. Military Academy agree to give female cadets access to smaller-sized uniforms before completing cadet basic training.

ANGELINE TRITSCHLER/U.S. Army

was never the intent of the policy.

He noted most uniforms are sized to each cadet and the full-dress uniform is custom tailored.

"Secretary McCarthy and I commit

to changing this uniform issue policy so that future incoming West Point cadets are afforded the opportunity to be issued the type of ACU that best fits their individual body type as part of their uniform

issue during cadet basic training," Williams wrote.

Working with Army Material Command, he wrote the academy developed a viable solution that will begin with the next group of incoming cadets. Current cadets can exchange two sets of issued unisex ACUs for the ACU-Female, he wrote.

The unisex policy went into effect in 2016, Williams wrote. Prior to that, all female cadets were automatically issued only ACU-Female sizes.

"The decision may have been informed by the cadet chain of command but ultimately was made without full consideration of the downstream impacts on our female cadets," he wrote. "We are committed to continuing our efforts for inclusive environments here at West Point where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. I appreciate you bringing this concern to our attention."

Adding the uniforms to the initial distribution adds 32 lines of warehouse stock and will cost an estimated \$156,000, Williams wrote.

"A properly fitted uniform is also important to a cadet's ability to perform competitively and effectively during their training," Hassan said. "I appreciate the crucial role that military academies play in molding the military's future leaders, and this is an important step as we continue working to fully support the young women and men who step up to serve."

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Midshipman asks judge to block his removal over tweets

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Chase Standage, a U.S. Naval Academy midshipman facing expulsion over social media posts, sees himself as a casualty of a campus "culture war." Academy leaders say the damage to his military career was self-inflicted.

An academy official recommended disenrolling the white midshipman for tweeting a flurry of crude messages, including one in which he said Breonna Taylor received "justice" on the day police in Louisville, Ky., killed the Black woman during a drug raid.

But a federal judge in Maryland ultimately could decide whether the 21-year-old California native has a future as a Naval officer and pilot. U.S. District Judge Ellen Hollander didn't immediately rule on Friday after presiding over a hearing on Standage's request for a court order allowing him to finish his senior year and graduate.

The judge said Standage's posts were "distasteful at best" and demanded "poor judgment, but she questioned why he faces "the most draconian sanction he could get" when the academy explicitly permits midshipmen to express their personal opinions on social media.

"It appears that people in charge didn't like his point of view. Not the way he said it but what he said," Hollander said. Standage sued to block his



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

An entrance to the U.S. Naval Academy campus in Annapolis, Md.

separation from the academy, claiming it violated his First Amendment right to freely express his views. His lawsuit also claims academy leaders violated his Fifth Amendment right to due process, denying him a fair and impartial disciplinary hearing. He is accused of violating academy rules governing political activity and of engaging in conduct unbecoming a midshipman.

Hollander expressed doubt that she will rule before the academy's semester ends on Dec. 12. She previously ruled that Standage could remain at the academy while his lawsuit is pending.

"This case is the kind of case that keeps you up at night when you're a judge," she said.

The son of two Los Angeles Police Department officers, Standage says he feared for their safety during the week in June when he posted the tweets in question.

"Why is it taking so long for Breonna Taylor to receive her justice?" a Twitter user posted in June.

"Her justice was received on March 13, 2020," Standage replied, referring to the day of the deadly raid. Academy investigators also

singled out several other tweets in which Standage advocated using lethal force against civilians.

"All it takes is one drone strike," he tweeted in response to another user's post about "antifa extremists" in Seattle.

Standage posted under the username "Cheese Sandwich" and didn't identify himself as a midshipman in the posts, but his Twitter handle was @ChaseStandage.

Hollander expressed concern that Standage's discipline will have a chilling effect on the free speech of other midshipmen.

"I am not condoning or endorsing what he said, but there is a larger issue here," the judge said. "Where does the student know what would be deemed unprofessional? Where is that outlined? Because it seems like it's totally subjective."

Standage's attorney, Jeffrey McPadden, said other midshipmen with different views than Standage routinely violate the same standards without any consequences.

"It's a deeply flawed process," McPadden said.

An academy official who recommended Standage's removal said the midshipman "lost my confidence in his ability to make sound decisions and to uphold the core values expected from an officer in the Navy." The court temporarily suspended Standage's disciplinary process after he sued on Sept. 30.

A government lawyer urged the judge to throw out the lawsuit. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kelly Marzullo said the courts must show

"great deference" to the judgment of military authorities.

"In this case, a military commander is better situated to evaluate whether comments that advocate for the use of airstrikes against civilians dishonor or disgrace an aspiring naval aviator and compromise his standing as an officer," Marzullo wrote in a court filing.

Standage's lawsuit claims the academy is waging a culture war "that not only mirrors the broader culture war at which the country currently finds itself, but one that is exacerbated by the unprecedented external stressor of the coronavirus pandemic and many midshipmen's reckless abuse of social media."

Like many other colleges and universities in the U.S., the Naval Academy has been grappling with questions about systemic racism within their institutions.

In June, the Naval Academy rescinded an appointment to a Maryland student who posted racist, transphobic and sexist statements on the Discord instant messaging platform. That same month, a retired Navy captain resigned from the US Naval Academy Alumni Association board after accidentally posting live video on social media of a conversation with his wife that included racist comments.

MILITARY

Unit rebranded as Guard reps for election

By DAN LAMOTHE
The Washington Post

The National Guard Bureau has established a new unit made up mostly of military policemen that could be dispatched to help quell unrest in coming days, after a turbulent summer in which National Guard members were deployed to several cities.

The unit, which also could be used to respond to natural disasters and other missions, was formed in September and initially described as a rapid-reaction force. But as one of the most divisive elections in American history closes in, National Guard officials have softened how they characterize the service members, instead referring to them as “regional response units.”

A National Guard official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said the new name more accurately details their mission. But the shift away from language used in war also hints at the complicated situation the National Guard could face, as President Donald Trump signals that he might not accept the results of the election if he loses.

National Guard members, who are organized within each state and territory and typically commanded by their governor, could be called upon to perform crowd control, safeguard landmarks or enforce curfews, based on roles they already have had this year. Some of them also could be deployed to the nation’s capital, if Trump decides to repeat his plan from June and amass a military force in Washington that teams with federal and local law enforcement.

The new response unit, with a total of about 600 members split between Alabama and Arizona, is not large enough to provide a response like the one Washington saw in June. First reported on by the Associated Press this month, it could provide an initial wave of law enforcement, where there is unrest or be used in the nation’s capital, where the Trump administration has broader control because of the city’s status as a federal jurisdiction.

“As governors across the nation continue to request support for law enforcement, they frequently turn to the National Guard,” Wayne Hall, a National Guard Bureau spokesman, said in a statement. “A National Guard Regional Response Unit was created to quickly provide additional Military Police to state or territory to augment their own responding units.”

The National Guard has long

sought to portray itself as citizen soldiers who are also neighbors. But convincing people of that has not always been easy, especially as the National Guard’s involvement in responding to unrest has been thrust into the spotlight.

In Washington, the low-hanging flight of two D.C. National Guard helicopters in June in an apparent attempt to disperse protesters prompted an investigation that found that the aircraft did not have the authorization they needed to be where they were, said two defense officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the issue.

The officials said that the investigation found that Lt. Col. Jeffrey Wingblade, who oversaw aviation for the District of Columbia National Guard, also did not get the special approval that would have been needed to use a medical helicopter, a Lakota emblazoned with a red and white cross, in a non-medical mission. The details were first reported Friday by Defense One.

The results of the investigation have not been released because the Defense Department Inspector General’s office has taken up the case for a separate review. That examination still has not concluded and is assessing the poor communication involved between National Guard officers that night and whether any more senior officers also should be held at fault, one of the defense officials said.

The flights came as National Guard members from several states were dispatched to Washington amid the unrest to perform crowd control functions. Alongside law enforcement, that eventually included the forced clearing of protesters in Lafayette Square outside the White House, which prompted an outcry over the use of pepper spray, shields and clubs.

In Louisville, a Black restaurant owner, David McAtee, was killed in June as police and the National Guard sought to enforce a curfew during protests over the police killing of Breonna Taylor. State officials said McAtee fired a handgun and was killed by a National Guard member’s rifle round. The McAtee family filed a wrongful-death lawsuit in September, alleging that the police used excessive force that included firing pepper balls — possibly indistinguishable from other ammunition — into McAtee’s restaurant.

Other interactions between National Guard members and the public during the protests have been peaceful. National Guard members at one point laid down their shields at the request of pro-



Van Croff, 715th PAD/U.S. Army

A District of Columbia National Guard soldier supporting local authorities, observes the Lafayette Park protest in Washington, D.C. on June 2.

More states adding Guardsman support at polls for Election Day

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — About 400 members of the Wisconsin National Guard will serve as poll workers during Tuesday’s presidential election, joining Guard troops in about 10 other states to support voting in various capacities.

“The Wisconsin National Guard has played a critical role in our response to the [coronavirus] pandemic and this mission is no different,” Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers said in a statement. “As Wisconsin faces an urgent crisis with more than 200,000 positive cases of [coronavirus] across the state, the help of the Guard will be needed to ensure that Election Day goes smoothly and that voters and election officials alike have the assistance they need.”

More than 10 states were planning to use troops as of Friday to support elections in various missions including cybersecurity, said Wayne Hall, spokesman for the National Guard Bureau, located at the

Pentagon. Because elections are conducted by state governments, Guard members working election-related missions are not deployed on federal active duty.

Another five states are anticipating the need to deploy troops next week, Hall said. Those numbers could change because not all states report nonfederal activations to the National Guard Bureau. Hall said he did not know which states were considering Guard deployments or how many troops could be activated.

In Washington, D.C., some National Guard troops have been placed on standby because of next week’s election, if needed, said Master Sgt. Craig Clapper, spokesman for the D.C. Guard. The mission and amount of troops would be determined once the Guard receives an official request.

The 400 troops in Wisconsin will report Tuesday to complete necessary training and begin receiving assignments, according to Wisconsin National Guard officials. They’ll report Monday to

receive site-specific training and assist with polling place setup before fulfilling the role of traditional poll workers on Tuesday during the election. The troops will be released from duty Wednesday.

Tuesday will be the fourth election in Wisconsin this year supported by Guard troops because of a shortage of poll workers in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. Prior to 2020, troops had never supported the state’s elections.

Kentucky National Guard announced earlier this week that 280 troops will serve as poll workers and Tennessee National Guard officials said it will provide 13 facilities to serve as polling locations, along with about two service members as support staff at each site.

Officials in Washington state, Illinois and Tennessee have said they are actively providing troops to state and county officials to conduct cyber missions related to election security.

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testers in Nashville and danced in the streets with demonstrators in Atlanta.

In a conference call with reporters this week, National Guard generals in four states detailed the duties their members have had in the run-up to the election, including preventing cyber intrusions and, in some cases, preparing to assist as unarmed poll workers in civilian clothing.

The officers said it is unlikely that the National Guard will be placed under federal control if there is turmoil after the election. If Guard members are dispatched, it will probably be by their own governor, they said.

“They determine how we are used in support of their efforts to address those kinds of situations,” said Air Force Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac, the adjutant general of the Nebraska National Guard. “The bottom line here is we are not in charge.”

Bohac said senior National Guard officers have had planning discussions with police in Nebraska but nothing that is atypical.

Army Maj. Gen. Jeff Holmes, the adjutant general of the Tennessee National Guard, said the duties of Guard members in his state on Election Day will include an effort to “backfill” for traffic officers, allowing more police to

be available if there is unrest.

Lindsay Cohn, a professor who studies civil-military relations at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., said that if there is unrest after Election Day, National Guard officials will probably be concerned about what governors ask them to do, especially if it involves crowd control or suppressing what appears to be political speech.

“The more political and more violent these things get, the less the Guard is going to want to have to do with them,” she said. “But the larger or more violent the situation is, the more likely the state is to need Guard support.”

MILITARY



MICHAEL J MALIN/U.S. Army

The ISV underwent rigorous Soldier evaluation as part of the formal acquisition process.

Delivery: Army eyes another contract for almost 50,000 replacements for Humvee

FROM FRONT PAGE

In June, the U.S. Army awarded GM Defense the contract for the ISV. The contract is worth \$214.3 million. GM Defense beat out two other finalists.

Tim Herrick, GM's global chief engineer, said this ISV contract is "just the beginning of GM's support" for GM Defense's future programs.

David Albrinton, president of GM Defense, said the ISV "represents a fantastic cornerstone" to look at expanding the business to other parts of government and even foreign government business.

GM Defense is eyeing at least

three more bids that carry big paydays if GM wins them.

One of those is the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle that is in production with Oshkosh Defense, a tactical vehicle maker. That contract was put up for bid in mid-June.

The Joint Light Tactical Vehicle or JLTV is the new and improved High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, more commonly called a Humvee. The JLTVs are formidable-looking trucks that offer superior crew protection and enhanced performance compared with the old Humvee.

The military wants 49,099 JLTVs, Jeff Ryder, vice president of growth and strategy for GM

Defense, told the Free Press in a previous report. Oshkosh built the first 15,000, but there will be a contract to build the other 34,099, Ryder said, "and that's the part we're looking at."

GM Defense is conducting a review to determine whether it has what it takes to win the JLTV contract. The Army's request for proposal is due in February 2022. It is expected to award the contract in September of that year, Ryder said.

It's a monumental contract worth \$14.5 billion to be paid out over the course of 10 years as vehicles are delivered.

Pentagon creates new top civilian job for overseeing space policies and planning

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has created a new top civilian job to oversee all of the Defense Department's space-related planning in a move that elevates the position of its senior space policymaker, defense officials announced Friday.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020 called for an assistant secretary of defense for space policy along with an office of the assistant secretary of defense for space policy, both of which were established Thursday, according to a Pentagon statement.

"The [assistant secretary] will be the senior official responsible for the overall supervision of DoD policy for space warfighting," the statement says. "In addition, [the assistant secretary] is responsible for interagency coordination and international engagement on space policy and strategy."

The new assistant secretary position, which will report to the undersecretary of defense for policy, requires a presidential nomination and Senate confirmation. The Pentagon did not state whether anyone has been nomi-

nated yet. Until that happens, Justin Johnson has been designated as the official performing the duties of the assistant secretary of defense for space policy, according to the Pentagon.

Johnson had been working as the acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for space policy when it was under the office of the assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense and global security. Now the position is being realigned under the new office of the assistant secretary of defense for space policy, according to Lt. Col. Uriah Orland, a Pentagon spokesman.

The new assistant secretary position will join five other assistant secretaries that oversee different policy areas, including Indo-Pacific security affairs and international security affairs.

Gregory Pejic has also been chosen to serve as the principal deputy assistant secretary of de-

fense for space policy until someone has been appointed for the position. Pejic has been working as a special assistant to the deputy secretary of defense, Orland said.

"The establishment of the assistant secretary of defense for space policy is a change of the civilian oversight of the space enterprise that aligns with the establishment of the U.S. Space Force and U.S. Space Command," David Norquist, the deputy secretary of defense, said in a prepared statement.

Space Force is the newest branch of military and was officially established December 2019 under the Department of the Air Force. The branch has already started enlisting recruits and activated Space Operations Command on Oct. 21 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., which is the first of three field commands, according to a news release. This Space Force field command provides Space Force personnel and capabilities such as intelligence and cyber support to U.S. Space Command, a combatant command established August 2019.

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Johnson

Petty officer gets 27-month term in bribery scandal

By KRISTINA DAVIS
The San Diego Union-Tribune

SAN DIEGO — Brooks Alonzo Parks, a naval logistics officer serving in the western Pacific, was often quite specific about what he thought he deserved in exchange for the insider information he was leaking to military contractor Leonard Francis.

One time, it was a case of Hennessy Pure White cognac.

Another, it was a \$4,000-a-night room at the Ritz-Carlton in Singapore.

"It feels good living like a KING on an E-6's salary!" Parks wrote in one email to Francis' company, Glenn Defense Marine Asia, or GDM, referring to his military pay grade.

Parks admitted back in 2007 that he'd been bitten by the GDMA "bug" by joining Francis' deep network of naval officers who leaked proprietary information to give his company a competitive advantage in exchange for bribes.

On Friday, he followed the same path of many in that network by being sentenced in a San Diego federal courtroom to prison.

U.S. District Judge Janis Sammartino, who has overseen the massive court case involving Francis, handed down a 27-month term. Parks was also ordered to pay just over \$24,000 in restitution, a figure corresponding to the value of the bribes.

As a logistics lead petty officer

in the 7th Fleet, Parks was in a prime position to offer Francis intelligence on ship itineraries, competitors and pricing to boost his company, which provides port services for visiting Navy ships. The relationship with Francis — nicknamed "Fat Leonard" for his girth — lasted from 2006 to 2010, according to Parks' plea agreement.

Much of the quid pro quo is documented in emails between Parks and GDM.

For instance, in 2009 Parks asked a GDM employee for a "major hook up" — specifically a five-star suite at the Shangri-La hotel in Singapore "because I have a very special lady meeting me there!!! ... I need the suite to be especially nice. Let me know if you and the Boss need anything!!!!"

Parks, 48, who lives in Maryland, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bribery in June.

"Parks traded on his important position of trust, selling his loyalty to a foreign defense contractor," U.S. Attorney Robert Brewer said in a statement.

Parks is among 34 defendants — most of them Navy officials — who have been charged in the U.S. in the case. Twenty-three have pleaded guilty. Francis, who has cooperated with the investigation, has not yet been sentenced since pleading guilty.

Rescue: Second kidnapped American still missing in Niger

FROM FRONT PAGE

and Burkina Faso, turning the once peaceful countryside into conflict zones.

Watson's abduction came two months after Islamic State fighters ambushed a gaffe sanctuary near Niger's capital, Niamey, killing seven aid workers and their local guide.

The nation's military has partnered with French and regional troops to fight rising extremism in West Africa. More than 5,000 people have died in the unrest this year alone, according to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project, which tracks the casualties.

Hundreds of American soldiers are stationed at two bases in Niger, a country of roughly 24 million. U.S. forces normally provide training and intelligence support in the region. Saturday's operation was extremely rare, the

official said.

"Thanks to the extraordinary courage and capabilities of our military, the support of our intelligence professionals, and our diplomatic efforts, the hostage will be reunited with his family," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement Saturday.

Another American kidnapped in Niger is still missing.

Jeffrey Roy Woodke, a 59-year-old Christian aid worker, remains in captivity four years after ISIS militants snatched him in the country's northern desert.

His wife, Els Woodke, urged his captors to free him this spring as the world battled the coronavirus pandemic.

"I would say, please consider Jeff's age and what is going on in the world," Woodke told ABC News. "It's not good to keep captives. Send him home."

VIRUS OUTBREAK

Limited response in states with 2nd waves

BY DAVID GELLER
AND ADAM PITT
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Even as a new surge of coronavirus infections sweep the U.S., officials in many hard-hit states are resisting taking stronger action to slow the spread, with pleas from health experts running up against political calculation and public fatigue.

Days before a presidential election that has spotlighted President Donald Trump's scattershot response to the pandemic, the virus continued its resurgence Friday, with total confirmed cases in the U.S. surpassing 9 million.

The number of new infections reported daily is on the rise in 47 states. They include Nebraska and South Dakota, where the number of new cases topped previous highs for each state.

The record increases in new cases have eclipsed the spikes that set off national alarms last spring and summer. During those outbreaks, first in the Northeast and then in Sun Belt states, many governors closed schools and businesses and restricted public gatherings.

But this fall's resurgence of the virus, despite being far more widespread, has brought a decidedly more limited response in many states. Most are led by Republican governors backing a president who insists, falsely, that the country is getting the virus under control.

Over the past two weeks, more than 76,000 new virus cases have been reported daily in the U.S. on average, up from about 54,000 in mid-October, according to Johns Hopkins University. Deaths, which usually lag case numbers and hospitalizations, are also rising from about 700 to more than 800 a day.

The virus has now killed more than 229,000 Americans.

Nevertheless, many officials have resisted calls to enact measures like statewide mask mandates or stricter curbs on the size of gatherings, casting the response to the virus as a matter of individual decision-making.

"At the end of the day, personal responsibility is the only way. People will either choose or



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ, POOL/AP

Technicians conduct COVID-19 tests at a new facility Friday in Valencia, Calif. California Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the new \$120 million, 134,000 sq. foot coronavirus testing facility Friday. The state is working with corporate partner PerkinElmer to run the lab, which will enable the state to process an additional 150,000 COVID-19 tests per day.

not choose to social distance, or choose to wear a mask or not," said Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, a Republican. "What we can do is to remind them is that personal responsibility can protect them."

Lee's state is among those without a blanket mask mandate despite a study released this week showing that areas of Tennessee where people are not required to wear them are seeing the most hospitalizations.

In Iowa, where a record 606 coronavirus patients were hospitalized Friday, one health expert said officials there had been too quick to reopen, along with several neighboring states.

"If we follow the course that the other Midwestern states like Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota have, we're going to have trouble keeping up," said Dr. Ravi Vemuri, an infectious

disease specialist at MercyOne hospitals.

Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds, who has rejected mask requirements and said Iowans must learn to live with the virus, continued this week to downplay efforts to contain it.

On Wednesday, Reynolds, who has made frequent campaign appearances for Trump and other candidates surrounded by crowds of often maskless supporters, poked fun at Theresa Greenfield, a Democrat running in a tight Senate race, for suspending a campaign tour after a staff member was exposed to someone who tested positive.

"Theresa didn't get very far on her RV tour; did she?" Reynolds said. She went on to accuse Greenfield and other Democrats of "hiding in their basements."

The pandemic has put similar

pressures on states with Democratic governors, but the politics have played out differently.

Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly, a Democrat, has repeatedly tried to impose restrictions but been stymied by the Republican-controlled legislature. She is considering calling lawmakers into a special session to impose a statewide mask mandate.

In Wisconsin, where the virus has raged since September, Democratic Gov. Tony Evers pleaded with residents this week to shelter in place to slow the spread. Evers issued a formal stay-at-home order in March, but the state's conservative Supreme Court struck it down in May. He was subsequently sued over a mask mandate and limits on gatherings in bars and restaurants.

The parrying by governors and legislators reflect the way that

politics and the personal beliefs of a significant sector of the population have become entangled with supposedly nonpartisan matters of public health.

Michele Riipinen, a 38-year-old resident of Boise, Idaho, said state-mandated school closings, business shutdowns and mask requirements are "draconian measures" that do more harm than good. She said she chooses not to wear a mask.

"I believe in personal responsibility and that it is our responsibility as American citizens to choose if we want to wear it or not," she said. "Our government shouldn't be making that choice for us."

In Utah, Republican Gov. Gary Herbert has ordered mask mandates and limited social gatherings to 10 people or fewer only in counties with the highest transmission rates, not the entire state. The latter measure includes exceptions for religious services and school events.

"This is not an easy thing to enforce. As you drive down the road, you talk about people getting tickets for speeding, but how many are actually speeding?" Herbert said when asked about his resistance to broader mandates.

Herbert said Friday he was "disgusted" after someone shot at a state health department office. The incident came a day after anti-mask protesters gathered outside the home of Utah state epidemiologist Dr. Angela Dunn, who recommended that the state reinstate restrictions to avoid overwhelming hospitals.

"It's taken a really big toll on my family and myself," Dunn said. "I think it's really unfortunate we live in a state where people feel that it is OK to harass civil servants."

Herbert, who has not heeded Dunn's recommendation, said protesters were within their rights to criticize him or other elected officials, but that they should leave state employees alone.

"I know we're asking a lot of the people of Utah to be patient," the governor said. "We know that their time is valuable. I would hope that they would put that in a constructive effort."

CDC develops new rules for cruise ships in US waters

Associated Press

Federal health officials on Friday issued new rules that will enable large cruise ships to start sailing again in U.S. waters, though not immediately.

Among the requirements spelled out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Ship owners must test all passengers and crew at the start and end of all voyages, which are limited to seven days.

In mid-March, the CDC ordered cruise ships to stop sailing to U.S. ports because several outbreaks

convinced officials that the vessels were potential cauldrons of infection. The order was renewed a few times, with the latest renewal set to expire Saturday.

The new guidelines effectively bring the no-sail order to an end.

To resume carrying passengers, the companies have to demonstrate they have procedures for testing, quarantining and isolating passengers and crew. They will have to build test labs on all ships, and make their own arrangements to isolate or quarantine passengers on shore if

needed. Before being allowed to sail, they will have to conduct mock voyages with volunteers playing passengers who get sick, the CDC said.

All of this will take time, possibly months, a CDC spokesperson said.

"This framework provides a pathway to resume safe and responsible sailing," said Dr. Robert Redfield, the agency's director, in a statement. "It will mitigate the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks on ships and prevent passengers and crew from seeding outbreaks

at ports and in the communities where they live."

The CDC developed the criteria with input from the White House Coronavirus Task Force, an agency spokesperson said.

The health agency said it could force limits on passenger capacity, but the framework doesn't spell out specifics.

The original no-sail order was influenced by an outbreak on the Diamond Princess early this year, which resulted in more than 700 people testing positive and nine reported deaths. At least 159

were infected on the Grand Princess, including eight who died.

On March 13, the Cruise Line International Association — a trade group — announced its members would voluntarily suspend operations. But at least 19 outbreaks were identified on cruise ships between mid-March and mid-April, the new CDC order noted.

The CDC document is "an important step toward returning our ships to service from U.S. ports," said Kelly Craighead, the trade group's president.

VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

Surge in cases is filling North Dakota hospitals

Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — The rampant spread of the coronavirus in North Dakota is putting its hospitals to the test, as the steady influx of people requiring in-patient stays has left only about 200 regular beds and 20 in intensive care units vacant, health officials indicated Friday.

After escaping the surge in cases that many other states were dealing with early on during the pandemic, North Dakota has the nation's highest number of new cases per 100,000 people over the past two weeks, according to The COVID Tracking Project.

The state reached a grim new milestone on Friday, as its COVID-19 death toll eclipsed the 500 mark, rising by 13 to 512, according to state health data. Nearly half of those deaths, 241, have occurred this month.

Hospitalizations from the disease caused by the coronavirus also reached a new high for the state, 191, with a net increase of seven since Thursday.

The surge is stressing the state's health system, and Sanford Health Bismarck President Michael LeBeau expressed worry on Friday about where things are headed.

"We have a concern that the rate of growth is not sustainable," LeBeau said.

He said medical facilities throughout the state are meeting regularly and working together to provide the best care they can to COVID-19 patients, but he hopes the public will do better at wearing face masks and social distancing to help slow the progression of the disease.

The state health department reported 1,357 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Friday, which was also a record high for North Dakota, eclipsing the record set one day earlier by 135 cases.

California

SAN FRANCISCO — A California county has filed a lawsuit against a San Jose church to stop it from holding weekly indoor services for hundreds of people, claiming \$350,000 in fines have not stopped church officials from violating coronavirus shutdown orders.

Clara County said Friday it filed for a restraining order against Calvary Chapel San Jose and Pastor Mike McClure over the services that attract about 600 people who don't wear masks or social distance.

Under the county's health order, indoor gatherings for religious or other purposes are capped at 100 people, masks must be worn, and social distancing requirements must be followed.

County officials spent months trying to work with church officials and issued fines when they refused to comply, the county said.

"After church officials made

clear they had no intention of ending their dangerous conduct, the county counsel and district attorney filed the request for a court order," it said.

Iowa

LOGAN — A surge in coronavirus cases has led officials in one western Iowa county to require people to wear face masks in public.

The Harrison County Board on Thursday approved the mask mandate in a 2-1 vote, according to television station KETV.

Supervisor John Straight, who voted for the mandate, said he hopes requiring masks will help reduce virus numbers in the county, where the positivity rate of the virus has topped 20% for three straight weeks.

"It's really a hot issue, and it is hard," Straight said. "It was hard on us today."

Supervisor Walter Utman also voted for the mandate, while Tony Smith voted no. All three supervisors are Republicans in a county that heavily leans toward the GOP, with state data showing active registered Republicans outnumber Democrats by a more than 2-to-1 ratio.

Outbreaks in elder care facilities have been driving the county's numbers up, said Brad Brake, the county's health administrator. Brake said 266 of the county's more than 700 confirmed cases come from nursing homes, and 16 COVID-19 deaths had been recorded in the county as of Friday. Statewide, 76 long-term care facilities have outbreaks, Iowa Department of Public Health data shows.

The state data also shows Iowa had 2,621 new confirmed coronavirus cases in the past 24 hours, one of the highest single-day totals recorded so far. The daily positive case numbers average more than 1,700 a day for the past week. An additional 14 deaths raised the state's death toll to 1,705. Hospitals reported 606 COVID-19 patients, a new high for the state.

North Carolina

CHARLOTTE — Health officials on Friday eased a shutdown of a North Carolina church when a COVID-19 outbreak stemming from a weeklong event led to 181 cases and six deaths.

Mecklenburg County health officials announced the decision on the same day 35 new COVID-19 cases and one additional fatality were reported from the outbreak at The United House of Prayer for All People. The Charlotte Observer reported. The church was prohibited last weekend from holding in-person gatherings at its buildings after covocation events earlier this month resulted in the outbreak.

County officials have said church leaders initially failed to comply with public health proto-



DAMIAN DOVRAGANES/AP

Artist and altar maker Ofelia Espanza, 88, from East Los Angeles, brings fresh marigolds for her community altar for Day of the Dead, titled at Grand Park in Los Angeles on Thursday.

cols and refused to help contact tracers identify who attended church events, which kept investigators from potentially containing viral spread.

On Friday, in their first public comments since the outbreak, church leaders praised the county's decision in a statement and said they were "excited and thankful to be able to worship the Lord and do so together."

The modified order, effective immediately, allows nearly a dozen House of Prayer locations in Mecklenburg County to reopen with capacity limits.

New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE — New Mexico on Friday marked a grim milestone, as deaths related to the coronavirus topped 1,000.

The statewide toll surpassed the mark with the addition of 13 more deaths, the most in a single day since the pandemic began. They included two women in their 20s and another in her 30s who all had underlying conditions.

The tally came as New Mexico struggles with increasing rates of spread and record daily case totals and hospitalizations. In just a week, the number of deaths in the state jumped by about 43%. Nationally, the U.S. is averaging just over 800 coronavirus deaths a day, up about 14% over the past two weeks. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham ordered flags to fly at half-staff starting Monday for a week of mourning. She called it "an unfathomable tragedy," saying the drumbeat of a few more deaths every day should not diminish the acute feeling of loss.

"Every one of these 1,000 New Mexicans was loved by someone. Every one of these 1,000 lost New Mexicans leaves a hole in a family, a community, our state. I grieve with them," New Mexico grieves with them," she said in a statement.

New York

ALBANY — A federal judge in upstate New York on Friday upheld the state's restrictions on religious gatherings in coronavirus

hot spots.

The decision by U.S. District Judge Gary Sharpe in Albany followed two other similar rulings earlier this month that also refused to block Gov. Andrew Cuomo's limits on areas in the state that are deemed COVID-19 hot spots.

The rules limit indoor prayer services to 10 people in areas where the virus is spreading fastest. In other areas within hot spots, indoor religious services are capped at 25 people.

The plaintiffs asking for the rules to be blocked include two Catholic priests who aren't currently in virus hot spots, as well as several Catholic and Jewish residents of parts of New York that had been designated as such.

In his decision denying a temporary restraining order against the rules, Sharpe said, "the court is satisfied that the initiative was guided by science and data."

Texas

EL PASO — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Friday joined several El Paso County restaurant owners in suing to block a county order shutting down all non-essential activities for two weeks.

The suit, filed in state court in El Paso, comes a day after County Judge Ricardo Samaniego ordered the shutdown amid a skyrocketing number of COVID-19 cases he said was "overwhelming" the county's medical resources.

In-person dining was among the non-essential activities Samaniego's order targeted. The order also closed bars, gyms, tattoo parlors and nail and hair salons, and directed residents to shelter in place except for essential tasks. Grocery and drug stores, funeral homes, health care services and government activities were among activities deemed essential, as were all election-related activities.

According to the lawsuit, the county order violates Gov. Greg Abbott's emergency orders that reopened those targeted activities. In a letter to Samaniego,

Paxton wrote that Abbott's most recent order "explicitly preempts all contradictory local orders," rendering the county judge's order "invalid and unenforceable."

In issuing the order Thursday, Samaniego said, "Our hospitals are at capacity, our medical professionals are overwhelmed, and if we don't respond we will see unprecedented levels of death." Samaniego, the county's top elected official, assured that county officials "have done everything possible" to avoid shutting down the county's economy.

"We need to build capacity for hospitals, build capacity, to shore up contact tracing and identify hot spots," he said.

El Paso and Ciudad Juarez in Mexico, with a combined metropolitan population of 3 million people, represent a hotspot in the deadly comeback of the virus across the entire U.S. Health officials blaming the spike on family gatherings, multiple generations living in the same household and younger people going out to shop or conduct business.

Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma health officials reported 1,302 new cases Friday of coronavirus.

That raised the state's total by 1.1% to 121,495 since the outbreak struck at the start of March, the Oklahoma State Department of Health said. That kept Oklahoma in the COVID-19 "red zone," Johns Hopkins University reported.

Of those cases, 15,032 are active, an increase of 64 from Thursday. Of those active cases, 865 have required hospitalization, down by 20 from Wednesday and by 91 from the record high set Oct. 23, state health officials said.

However, the true number of cases in Oklahoma is likely higher because many people have not been tested, and studies suggest people can be infected and not feel sick.

Twenty COVID-19 patients died since Thursday, raising the Oklahoma toll for the outbreak to 1,326.

NATION

Trump, Biden battle it out on road to 270

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — President Donald Trump and Democratic challenger Joe Biden each have a path to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House. Biden's is appreciably wider.

The former vice president is competitive in all the battleground states Trump carried in 2016 and has put a handful of traditionally Republican states, including Georgia and Arizona, in play. That has Trump scrambling to defend a wide swath of territory and putting the incumbent's hopes for reelection on two of the most populous swing states, Florida and Pennsylvania.

A look at the most likely roads to victory:

Biden

■ **True North:** Biden can win an electoral majority most simply by carrying the three states where Trump stunned Democrat Hillary Clinton in 2016: Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Those states were carried by Democrats for decades before 2016. They would give Biden 279 electoral votes, as long as he wins all the other states in Clinton's column. Under this scenario, Biden would not need to win any other states Trump won in 2016.

The three northern industrial states have been Biden's sharpest target for advertising dollars. He spent almost \$150 million — 30% of his total national ad spending since June — in the three, according to Kantar/CMA's review for The Associated Press.

The fiercest struggle among the three is in Pennsylvania. Biden has had a slight advantage in most polls, while some suggest Trump remains within striking distance. Biden, who was born in Scranton, claims some favorite-son status in the state. Trump's hopes have been boosted by Biden's recent call for phasing out fossil fuels, though Biden has said he would not ban fracking.

■ **South by Southwest:** If Biden loses Pennsylvania, it would require him to find 11 electoral votes elsewhere.

Once reliably Republican Arizona, offering exactly 11, and North Carolina, with 15, are states Trump won four years ago that are well within Biden's reach. The Arizona alternative supposes, as most of Biden's paths do, that he also wins Nevada, last carried by a Republican in 2004. Trump has campaigned in the state, though Democrats say they are comfortable with their prospects there.

The race for North Carolina appears tighter, but there is recent precedent for a Democrat car-



REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

Supporters of President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden wave flags and hand out information to arriving voters outside an early voting polling station in West Palm Beach, Fla., on Friday.

rying the state. In 2008, Barack Obama was the first Democrat to take it in 32 years. Although he narrowly lost there in 2012, as did Clinton in 2016, waves of college-educated newcomers are swelling its booming suburbs, a boost to Biden's chances.

■ **The rest is extra:** There's another scenario for Biden: a more comfortable Electoral College victory.

Should Biden win Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and either Arizona and North Carolina, he would capture at least 290 electoral votes.

He's also competing for Ohio, which Trump won by 8 percentage points in 2016; Iowa, which Trump won by nearly 10 percentage points; and Georgia, which Trump carried by 5 percentage points. Victories in those states would boost Biden's electoral total above 300.

Biden made two stops in Georgia this past this week and on Friday had his first fall campaign visit to Iowa. He's spent almost \$5 million but hasn't visited Iowa since the state's caucuses in February. Biden has campaigned lightly in Ohio but has spent almost \$7 million in advertising. Surveys and operatives in both parties said the two states were very close heading into the campaign's final weekend.

Oh, and remember Florida? The perennial battleground offers 29 electoral votes and is, per usual, exceedingly close.

There's one more big prize on the table: Texas. Democrats

have been eyeing the state for years, but this is the first year in decades where it may really be within reach for the party.

The state's new battleground status highlights not just Trump's struggles in the suburbs, which are booming outside Texas' major cities, but also his weaknesses in nearly every state with a diverse electorate.

"Biden has more of an opportunity to win by a larger electoral number than Trump does," said Republican pollster Glen Bolger, who is surveying in several battleground states but not for Trump's campaign. "It doesn't mean Trump can't win."

Trump

■ **Florida or bust:** Trump almost certainly cannot reach 270 electoral votes without carrying Florida, where polls show a tight race. Some have suggested a slight Biden advantage.

Trump's rally Thursday in Florida was his third campaign trip to the state this month, underscoring why Florida is so important to his reelection. He plans to return before Tuesday's election.

His stop Thursday was in swing-voting Hillsborough County, where Clinton beat him by about 41,000 votes. Hillsborough is next to — and shares a media market with — Pinellas County, the most populous county in the state to flip from Democratic in 2012 to Republican in 2016.

Trump won some counties in the surrounding area by more

than 60% of the vote, and his campaign hopes it can further run up the score with first-time and less regular voters in these places.

Trump planned to accompany first lady Melania Trump when she votes Tuesday near Palm Beach County. The Trumps moved their residence from reliably Democratic New York to Florida last year.

■ **Pennsylvania avenue:** Even if Trump nets Florida and holds battlegrounds he won in the South and Southwest, he would still be short of 270 electoral votes.

The president is waging much on Pennsylvania as the best chance of moving within striking distance of that threshold. After a trio of rallies this past week, Trump was set to hold four more in the state on Saturday.

He's been making stops across Pennsylvania, from counties outside Philadelphia, the largest metro area, to the rural northwest corner of the state.

Among his upcoming stops: Bucks County. It was once Philadelphia's most GOP-heavy suburb but has been trending Democratic and is an example of the obstacles Trump is facing. He lost the county by less than 2 percentage points in 2016 and has seen his standing in the suburbs steadily erode since then.

Trump's argument to Pennsylvania voters was recharged after Biden, during their Oct. 22 debate, called for phasing out fossil fuels. That created an opportunity for Trump in a state with a robust natural gas industry.

"Biden's plan to abolish the entire U.S. oil industry — you saw that," Trump noted at a rally last week in Lansing, Mich., recalling Biden's call for phasing renewable fuels in and fossil fuels out over time. "Will cripple our nation and send us into an absolute deep depression."

■ **The rest isn't the best:** Even if Trump wins Florida and Pennsylvania, he would still be short of the magic number if he can't carry most of the states he won in 2016.

He could nose ahead in Ohio, long one of his strongest states, but would still need to cobble together a series of states he won in 2016, such as Iowa, and some he lost narrowly and continues to trail.

That more complicated path would include flipping Minnesota, Nevada and New Hampshire. That, however, would defy political logic for an incumbent to lose in places won four years ago and win in places lost back then.

Grasping for every vote he can, Trump has even campaigned in Maine and Nebraska, where electoral votes are awarded by congressional district and to the overall state winner. A week ago, Trump was in Levant, Maine, near the hub of the state's GOP leaning north, Bangor, hoping to hold the single electoral vote in its 2nd District, and in Omaha, Neb., on Tuesday, hoping to hold that metropolitan district's single vote.

NATION/WORLD



PAULA BRONSTEIN/AP

People gather for Kevin Peterson Jr., who was killed in Thursday's shooting with police involved, at a candlelight vigil in Vancouver, Wash., on Friday.

Protests erupt over Black man killed by police near Portland

By Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Tensions boiled over into unrest late Friday following a vigil for a Black man shot and killed by law enforcement in a city near Portland, Ore., in southwestern Washington state.

Mourners gathered in Hazel Dell, an unincorporated area of Vancouver, Wash., where family and friends say Kevin E. Peterson Jr., 21, was shot Thursday night. The city is about 12 miles north of Portland.

Hundreds of people gathered for the vigil Friday evening, with some holding signs reading, "Honk for Black lives. White silence is violence" and "Scream his name."

Nearby, tensions flared between left- and right-wing protesters. Video recorded by journalists in a parking lot showed two groups

of people shouting at each other. Also, some armed demonstrators gathered near a building they told reporters they were protecting.

The crowds ultimately fizzled out near the vigil but a group of hundreds of protesters later marched through downtown Vancouver. Windows were shattered, flags were burned and federal agencies clothed in riot gear surrounded a building — warning people that trespassing on federal property would be subject to arrest.

Multiple videos showed two vehicles facing each other just after midnight on a downtown street. Two shots were heard but reporters at the scene said it didn't appear anyone was hit.

Authorities declared an unlawful assembly and ordered protesters to disperse. At least one person appeared to have been detained, according to video posted online by a journalist.

Family and friends had described Peterson as a former high school football player and the proud father of an infant daughter.

In a statement, Clark County Sheriff Chuck Atkins said a joint city-county narcotics task force was conducting an investigation just before 6 p.m. Thursday and chased a man into the parking lot of a bank, where he fired a gun at them. A firearm was recovered at the scene, Atkins said.

Authorities have not named the person who was shot, but Kevin E. Peterson Sr. told The Oregonian/OregonLive the person was his son, Kevin E. Peterson Jr. Atkins referenced the Peterson family in his remarks but did not confirm Peterson was the person who was killed.

"I can say that our agency is grieving as is the Peterson family and the community," Atkins said.

Sean Connery, 'original Bond,' dies at age 90

Associated Press

LONDON — Scottish actor Sean Connery, the first actor to play James Bond on film and for many fans the best, has died. He was 90.

Bond producers EON Productions confirmed his death, first reported by the BBC. Producers Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli said they were "devastated by the news."

"He was and shall always be remembered as the original James Bond whose indelible entrance into cinema history began when he announced those unforgettable words — 'The name's Bond... James Bond,'" they said in a statement.

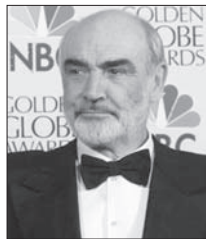
The producers said Connery's "gritty and witty portrayal of the sexy and charismatic secret agent" was largely responsible for the success of the series.

The Scottish actor rose to international superstardom as the suave and fearless secret agent, first playing Bond in "Dr. No" in 1962. After a further four films, he abandoned the role, before being enticed back to play him twice more, finally in 1983's "Never Say Never Again."

While he will be most remembered for his portrayal of Bond, Connery enjoyed a varied career, which included the best supporting actor Oscar for his portrayal of a tough Irish street cop in the 1987 movie "The Untouchables."

He also had major roles in films including "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," "Highlander" and "The Hunt for Red October."

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said she was "heartbro-



Connery

kenned at the news.

"Our nation today mourns one of her best loved sons," she said. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2000 for services in film drama and in 2005 he was chosen for a lifetime achievement award by the American Film Institute.

Thomas Sean Connery was born Aug. 25, 1930, in Edinburgh, Scotland, the first of two sons of a long-distance truck driver and a domestic worker.

He left school at age 13 during World War II to help support his family.

Wary of day labor, he joined the British navy and was medically discharged after three years. The ailment: stomach ulcers.

Back in Edinburgh, he lifted weights to build his body and compete in the Mr. Universe contest. He came in third, briefly considered becoming a professional soccer player, but chose acting because he reasoned his career would last longer.

IG: US turning away asylum-seekers at border is flawed

By Elliott Spagat
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The head of the Department of Homeland Security ordered border agents to stop asylum-seekers from stepping on U.S. soil at official crossings with Mexico in 2018, undercutting public statements at the time that they were welcome to do so, according to a government watchdog report published Friday.

The DHS inspector general also found those trying to seek asylum at four official crossings were removed to Mexico before having a chance to seek protection from persecution back home, contrary to U.S. immigration law. The internal watchdog said U.S. Customs and Border Protection had "misused detention space at two crossings that could have been used to process asylum-seekers."

The 37-page report paints a picture starkly at odds with previous accounts of how the practice of making people wait in Mexico was introduced two years ago amid an unprecedented surge of people seeking asylum, many of them Central American families. U.S. authorities have said repeatedly that processing constraints were the sole reason for making people wait in Mexico.

The practice — one of many measures President Donald Trump has implemented to limit asylum — has been on hold since March, when the administration temporarily suspended asylum altogether, using the coronavirus to invoke special powers under a public health law.

Kirstjen Nielsen, who as DHS secretary in 2018 was dealing with a crisis over the administration's decision to separate families at the border, repeatedly urged asylum-

seekers to go to ports of entry, instead of entering the country illegally between official crossings. At the time, CBP was turning away people at official crossings, though Nielsen disputed those reports.

Chad Wolf, her chief of staff and now acting secretary, acted on Nielsen's May 24, 2018, request to ask CBP how many asylum-seekers would likely be turned away each day if the agency limited processing at the border, a practice known as "metering." She was told that 650 people daily could be denied entry if 200 officers were assigned to the task.

On June 5, Nielsen signed an order putting the plan in effect, the report says.

"(While) DHS leadership urged asylum seekers to present themselves at ports of entry, the agency took deliberate steps to limit the number of undocumented aliens who could be processed each day at South-

west Border land ports of entry," the report says.

Homeland Security did not immediately respond to a request for comment and neither did Nielsen, who was ousted last year in a broad purge of senior department officials. CBP referred the AP to its written responses in the report.

The inspector general says that CBP, without public notice, stopped processing asylum-seekers at seven of 24 southern border crossings, all of them in the San Diego and Laredo, Texas, field offices. Officers at the Tecate, California, crossing questioned the legality of the order and refused to participate.

CBP, in its written response to recommendations, rejected the inspector general's proposal to resume processing at the seven crossings or publicly announce that it won't.

WORLD

Suspect's family demands answers in church attack

Associated Press

SPAX, Tunisia — A third suspect is in French custody Saturday in connection with an Islamic extremist knife attack that killed three people in a Nice church, as the family of the suspected Tunisian assailant demanded to see video footage of what happened.

Investigators in France, Tunisia and Italy are trying to determine the motive of chief suspect Ibrahim Issaoui and whether he acted alone and whether he premeditated Thursday's attack on the Notre Dame Basilica.

Authorities have labeled the

attack, which took place amid growing tensions around cartoons published by a French newspaper mocking the Prophet Muhammad, an act of Islamist terrorism.

Issaoui, who transited through Italy last month en route to France, is in critical condition in a French hospital after being wounded by police as they arrested him.

A 35-year-old man who had met with Issaoui in Nice was arrested overnight, a judicial official said Saturday. A 47-year-old man who had met with Issaoui the night

before the attack was already in custody, bringing the number of detained suspects to three. Their connection to the attack remains unclear.

A previously unknown Tunisian extremist group claimed responsibility for the attack, and Tunisian and French authorities are investigating whether the claim is legitimate.

In Issaoui's hometown of Sfax, his family expressed shock and appealed for peace. But they also expressed bewilderment that this young man who drank alcohol and showed no outward signs of

radicalism would flee to France and attack a church.

"We want the truth about how my son carried out this terrorist attack. I want to see what the surveillance cameras showed. I will not give up my son's rights outside the country. I want my son, dead or alive," his mother Gamra told The Associated Press, her words often interrupted by tears.

His father and brother Wissem said that if Issaoui indeed carried out the attack, he should face justice: "We are Muslims, we are against terrorism; we are poor. Show me that my brother com-

mitted the attack and judge him as a terrorist," Wissem said. "If he was the attacker, he will take his responsibility."

On the dusty Tina Street in the Nasr neighborhood of Sfax, his friends and neighbors described Issaoui as a man who sold gasoline for motorcycles. While not starving or homeless, he was poor like many in the area, poverty that is driving more and more young Tunisians to seek jobs in Europe. He had had small-time run-ins with the law as a teen, but nothing that alerted Tunisian authorities to possible extremist leanings.

Survivors sought in Aegean earthquake

Associated Press

IZMIR, Turkey — Three young children and their mother were rescued from the rubble of a collapsed building in western Turkey on Saturday, some 23 hours after a powerful earthquake in the Aegean Sea killed at least 37 people and injured more than 800 others.

The Friday afternoon quake that struck Turkey's Aegean coast and north of the Greek island of Samos registered a magnitude that Turkish authorities put at 6.6 while other seismology institutes said it measured 6.9. It toppled buildings in Izmir, Turkey's third-largest city, and triggered a small tsunami in the Sefirhisar district and on the Greek island. Hundreds of aftershocks followed.

At least 35 people were killed in Izmir, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said. Among them was an elderly woman who drowned in the tsunami. But rescue teams on Saturday made contact with 38-year-old Seher Perincek and her four children — ages 3, 7 and 10-year-old twins — inside a fall-

en building in Izmir and cleared a corridor to bring them out.

More than 5,500 rescuers from different agencies and cities worked together to reach survivors, at times hustling the crowds to listen into the rubble with sensitive headphones and crawling through the cracks. A 65-year-old man was saved 26 hours after the quake.

Earlier Saturday, search-and-rescue teams working on eight collapsed buildings lifted teenager Inci Okan out of the rubble of a dented eight-floor apartment building. Her dog, Fistik, or Pistachio, was also rescued, Turkish media reported.

A video showed a female rescuer trying to calm down the 16-year-old girl under the rubble as she inserted a catheter. "I'm so scared," the girl cried. "Can you hold my hand?"

"We are going to get out of here soon," the rescuer, Edanur Dogan, said. "Your mother is waiting outside for you."

In all, around 100 people have been rescued since the earthquake, Murat Kurum, the en-



DARKO BANDIC/AP

Security officers walk by the debris of a collapsed building in Izmir, Turkey, Saturday after a powerful earthquake struck Turkey's Aegean coast and north of the Greek island of Samos Friday afternoon.

vironment and urban planning minister, told reporters. It was unclear how many more people were trapped under buildings that were leveled.

Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency said 885 people were injured in Izmir and three other provinces.

The health minister said eight people were being treated in intensive care, with three of them in critical condition.

Two teenagers were killed on the island Samos after being struck by a collapsing wall. At least 19 people were injured on the island, with two, including

a 14-year-old, being airlifted to Athens and seven hospitalized on the island, health authorities said.

The small tsunami that hit the Turkish coast also affected Samos, with seawater flooding streets in the main harbor town of Vathi.

Armenian leader asks Russia for help after latest truce with neighbor frays

BY AVET DEMOURIAN

Associated Press

YEREVAN, Armenia — Armenia's leader urged Russia Saturday to consider providing security assistance to end the fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh, the biggest escalation in the decades-long conflict between his country and Azerbaijan.

Following more than a month of intense fighting in which Azerbaijani troops forged into the separatist territory, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian asked Russia's President Vladimir Putin to quickly discuss possible security aid to his country.

There was no immediate response from the Kremlin.

The request came as Azerbaijani troops pushed deeper into

Nagorno-Karabakh and both sides accused each of breaking a mutual pledge not to target residential areas hours after it was made.

Russia, which has a military base in Armenia and has signed a pact obliging it to protect its ally in case of foreign aggression, faces a delicate balancing act, of trying to maintain good ties with Azerbaijan and avoid a showdown with Turkey.

Pashinian's request puts Russia in a precarious position: joining the fighting would be fraught with unpredictable consequences and risk an open conflict with Turkey, while refusing to offer protection to its ally Armenia would dent Moscow's prestige.

Nagorno-Karabakh lies within Azerbaijan but has been under

the control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since a war there ended in 1994. The latest outbreak of hostilities began Sept. 27 and left hundreds — perhaps thousands — dead, marking the worst escalation of fighting since the war's end.

On Friday, the foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan met in Geneva for a day of talks, which were brokered by Russia, the United States and France, co-chairs of the so-called Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe that tries to mediate the decades-long conflict.

The talks concluded close to midnight with the two sides agreeing they "will not deliberately target civilian populations or non-military objects in accor-

dance with international humanitarian law."

But shortly after the mutual pledge was announced by the Minsk Group co-chairs, Nagorno-Karabakh authorities accused Azerbaijani forces of firing rockets at a street market and a residential building in the separatist region's capital, Stepanakert. They said that residential areas in the town of Shusha also came under Azerbaijani shelling.

Azerbaijan's defense ministry denied targeting civilian areas, and in turn accused Armenian forces of shelling several regions of Azerbaijan.

The rapid failure of the latest attempt to contain the fighting follows the collapse of three successive cease-fires. A U.S.-brokered truce frayed immediately

after it took effect Monday, just like two previous cease-fires negotiated by Russia. The warring sides have repeatedly blamed each other for violations.

With Azerbaijani troops advancing deeper into Nagorno-Karabakh, Armenia's prime minister made his first public plea for Russia's assistance since the latest fighting started.

While Pashinian stopped short of directly asking Moscow to intervene militarily, he asked Putin to conduct "urgent consultations" on the "type and amount" of assistance that Russia could offer to ensure the security of Armenia. The Armenian leader argued that the fighting is raging increasingly close to the border of Armenia and pointed at alleged attacks on the Armenian territory.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Dead zone in bay is the smallest in years

MD SALISBURY — Researchers said the Chesapeake Bay's infamous dead zone is the smallest it's been in years.

The so-called dead zone is an area where oxygen levels are so low that aquatic life dies. The area is caused by pollution, often from runoff from farms and cities in the bay's watershed.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources found that the bay's average dissolved oxygen conditions were the second best on record since 1985. The only year in which the dead zone was smaller was in 2012.

Both McGee, director of science at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, said the smaller dead zone is proof that yearslong cleanup efforts are working.

White rhino births 150-lb. baby at park

FL ORLANDO — It's a boy — a big boy.

A 150-pound white rhinoceros was born at Disney's Animal Kingdom theme park at Walt Disney World in Florida recently.

The as-yet-named rhino was born to Kendi, who was the first white rhinoceros born at the animal theme park back in 1999.

Both mom and son are doing well under the care of their human keepers, Disney said in a news release.

White rhinos are the second-largest land mammal and are an endangered species with a near-threatened status.

60 charged in elder fraud magazine scheme

MN MINNEAPOLIS — Sixty people were charged in a widespread magazine telemarketing scam that authorities said netted \$300 million from more than 150,000 elderly and vulnerable people nationwide, the U.S. attorney's office in Minnesota announced.

U.S. Attorney Erica MacDonald called the scam the largest elder fraud scheme in the country.

MacDonald said in a statement that 60 defendants face a host of charges, including conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud, and violating the Senior Citizens Against Marketing Scams Act of 1994. The defendants are from 14 states and two Canadian provinces.

The indictments and other court documents said that over the last 20 years, the defendants used a network of dozens of fraudulent magazine sales companies and telemarketing call centers to carry out the scam.

Kitten rescued after getting frozen to tire

CO COMMERCE CITY — A kitten was rescued in Denver after it was frozen to a tire on a semi-trailer at a tire shop, an animal shelter and humane society said.

The Dumb Friends League said the 5-week-old kitten was found hanging off the side of a



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Paws Across the Pacific to the rescue

Volunteers carry animals in kennels across the tarmac after the landing of a Paws Across the Pacific pet rescue flight in Seattle. Volunteer organizations flew more than 600 dogs and cats from shelters across Hawaii to the U.S. mainland, calling it the largest pet rescue. The animals were taken from overcrowded facilities in the islands to shelters in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

tire with her paws and tail frozen to the metal surface, KDVR-TV reported. It is unclear how long it was stuck.

The Dumb Friends League said the kitten appears to be healthy and a veterinary team will monitor it for a few days before going to a foster home until it is 8-week-old and ready for adoption.

Rocket booster likely source of lights in sky

HI HONOLULU — Reports of a cluster of blinking lights traveling across Hawaii's night sky were likely caused by a rocket booster reentering the planet's atmosphere, scientists said.

Astronomers said there is a high probability the booster pierced Earth's atmosphere after orbiting for 12 years. The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported.

The booster identified by scientists was used to launch Venezuela's communications satellite VENESAT-1 from China in October 2008.

What residents saw was the rocket body heating during reentry and breaking into pieces, said Roy Gal, associate astronomer of the Institute for Astronomy at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

"The friction from the atmosphere makes it glow and burn," he said.

THE CENSUS

10

The length in feet of a Burmese python that was removed from under the hood of a Ford Mustang in Dania Beach, Fla. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission tweeted that its officers safely captured and removed the invasive snake, which was coiled up inside the engine compartment. Pythons have become a serious environmental problem in the nearby Everglades because they eat almost anything and have no natural predators, save for the occasional alligator.

Judo champion subdues armed, would-be robber

MO KANSAS CITY — Police said a would-be robber was in custody after picking the wrong guy to victimize — a Judo champion.

WDFA-TV reported that Josh Henges, 36, was in the Midtown area when someone came up from behind, grabbed his shoulder and tried to rob him. Henges has traveled around the world competing in Judo events and training others. He's a former member of the national Judo team.

Henges turned to see a gun pointed directly at him. He took the suspect to the ground, pinned him and called police.

Number of endangered whales sinks even more

ME PORTLAND — The population of an endangered species of whale that

has been the focus of conservation efforts for decades has dipped to less than 370.

The North Atlantic right whale numbers only 366, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in an estimate that reflects the population as of January 2019. The previous estimate, which reflected that of January 2018, was 412.

The whales have struggled with poor reproduction and high mortality over the last decade, especially the last few years. They're vulnerable to ship collisions and entanglement in fishing gear.

Eagle Scout sentenced for robbing 2 banks

MA WORCESTER — An Eagle Scout who researched how to rob banks on YouTube was sentenced to 2½ years in prison after his attorney requested leniency because his client had reached a low point in his life and was driven by sub-

stance abuse and undiagnosed mental illness.

In addition to his prison sentence, Samuel Jose Baptista, 27, of Boston was also sentenced in U.S. District Court in Worcester to two years of probation and was ordered to pay restitution, federal prosecutors said in a statement.

He had faced up to 40 years in prison. Prosecutors had asked for nearly four years behind bars.

Baptista pleaded guilty in February to robbing banks in Worcester and Revere in October 2019.

Officials: Driving school gave answers for a fee

FL TALLAHASSEE — A Florida driving school was suspended after investigators said it was providing correct answers to people taking a written driver license test, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles announced.

Universal Driving School in Oakland Park charged undercover investigators at least \$400 to take the exam and then ensured that they'd pass it, the agency said in a news release.

The driving school also sold investigators Alcohol Drug Accident Prevention Training certificates even though they did not take the four-hour course required to receive them.

From wire reports

MUSIC

JUST LIKE STARTING OVER

Sean Ono Lennon on remixing his father's music for these times and a new generation: It was therapy



Sean Ono Lennon poses for a portrait Oct. 8 in New York City to promote a new collection of his father's songs (above). "GIMME SOME TRUTH. THE ULTIMATE MIXES" was released Oct. 9, which would have been John Lennon's 50th birthday. The set includes 36 tracks selected by Yoko Ono and Sean Ono Lennon, who serve as executive producer and producer.

MATT LICARI, INVISION/AP

By MESFIN FEKADU
Associated Press

Sean Ono Lennon's first experience re-working his father's catalog was terrifying and intimidating, but he had two main goals in mind to keep him on track: Preserve his father's message in the songs and help the late icon's music reach a younger audience.

On Oct. 9, which would have been John Lennon's 80th birthday, "GIMME SOME TRUTH. THE ULTIMATE MIXES" was released. It includes 36 tracks hand-picked by Yoko Ono and Sean Ono Lennon, who serve as executive producer and producer on the project. The duo worked closely with engineer and mixer Paul Hicks to maintain the essence of the songs, which were completely remixed.

Ono Lennon, who shares the same birthday as his father and turned 45 on Oct. 9, came out stronger at the end of the at-times heavy process.

"I knew that it was going to be kind of introspective for me, obviously. I was scared going into it, to be honest. I had a fear of messing everything up or not being helpful or it being too emotionally difficult to just listen to my dad's voice over and over again," Ono Lennon said. "Especially 'Double Fantasy'; it triggers a whole period of my childhood that was tough because that's when he died. I had a lot of resistance working on that record, actually."

"Ultimately it was very healing. It was like therapy. It was very therapeutic in the end. I'm very glad that I got to do it. I would not have revisited those songs on 'Double Fantasy' without having this project. It turned out to be kind of a cathartic thing."

"GIMME SOME TRUTH. THE ULTIMATE MIXES" includes Lennon's post-Beatles songs, from "Imagine" to "Woman" to "Whatever Gets You Thru the Night," released digitally, on CD and on vinyl.

"For me, the real motivation is this music can't be forgotten. Especially 'Gimme Some Truth,' for example, which is the track we chose to lead with. I've never felt like my dad's music was more needed in terms of message than literally this week, like right now," Ono Lennon said of the protest song.

"I think a lot of people who are cynical assume that, 'Oh everyone knows those songs.' No, they don't."

There are a lot of kids who don't know the difference between Ringo (Starr) and Paul (McCartney). There's a lot of kids who don't know the difference between Mick Jagger and my dad."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Ono Lennon talked about the relevance of "Gimme Some Truth," working on his dad's music and finding his voice in the process.

AP: What was it like to work on this project?

Ono Lennon: It was really deep and heavy and beautiful. I'd never listened to the original, multi-track tapes before. Just getting to hear my dad's voice or even mute the vocals, just hearing what the instruments are doing was amazing for me. It was really fun. It was a little daunting, I guess. I'm still nervous because when you're messing with music that's so loved and so classic and immortal, there's kind of a pressure there.

It's almost scary how "Gimme Some Truth" resonates today. Is that why the collection is named "Gimme Some Truth"?

There was no choice for us in this moment. I think "Gimme Some Truth" means something now. We wanted to lead with that. I think it's a message everyone can connect with. Every good person from whatever town you're in. If you're a good person, what you want now more than anything is a little reality. It just seems like we're living in an alternate dimension of bulls---. I think everyone feels that way. I think it's a very important message.

What was it like working with your mother on this project?

I was in the studio when I was young, so I learned things like how compression works, how delay works, how reverb works, how to EQ vocals — all from her. I actually know very much what her philosophy is. Her main priority with all mixing is to make sure that the voice is clear.

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 13



MUSIC REVIEWS



Sammy Tweedy

Wilco frontman gives pandemic some 'Love'

"Here I am," Jeff Tweedy sings at the onset of the title track, and also first song, of "Love Is the King," a record made in April while the Wilco frontman was quarantining with his wife and sons at home in Chicago.

The song sets the mood and tone for the record, which refuses to give up on love and optimism, while death, disaster and dread are never far away.

"There it is," Tweedy continues. "At the edge / Of as bad as it gets."

Tweedy's reaction to being quarantined was to work. In addition to the new record, made with his musician-sons Spencer and Sammy, he has a new book out called "How to Write One Song." "Love Is the King" is filled with beautiful melodies, while also embracing fear and uncertainty.



Jeff Tweedy
Love Is the King
(dBPM Records)

"I'm just having a ball / Being alive," he sings on "A Robin or a Wren." "And I don't want to die / I don't wanna die."

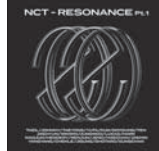
More than any other track, the stark "Bad Day Lately" sums up quarantining as the pandemic drags on.

"It's been a bad day lately / A lonely place / I can't endure," Tweedy sings.

For a record that can at times be so dark, it's not depressing. If anything, in Tweedy's embracing the darkness that surrounds him, and us, he emerges more hopeful than before. Perhaps, as Tweedy emphasizes with the record title, love indeed is the king.

"When you need me," he sings with assurance on "Half-Asleep," the final track, "I'll be there."

— Scott Bauer
Associated Press



NCT

NCT — The 2nd Album RESONANCE Pt. 1
(SM Entertainment/Capitol/Caroline)

Mega K-pop group NCT are not playing around.

Two years after releasing their debut album, the group featuring 21 members of NCT 127, NCT DREAM and WayV — as well as newcomers SHOTARO and SUNGCHAN — are launching into a sophomore effort with a third project expected later this year.

"NCT - The 2nd Album RESONANCE Pt. 1" skillfully combines a '90s R&B vibe with a more modern, electronic sound, leaning into the romantic boy band-ness of it all, with piano ballads showcasing the various members' beautiful voices.

Lead single "Make A Wish (Birthday Song)" reels in the unsuspecting fans with its catchy whistle beat, but the rest of the album pulls the rug and revels in its retro-ness with a slew of only slightly modernized raps and R&B bangers; "Volcano," "Lightbulb," "From Home" and "Faded In My Last Song" lead in this category.

"Misfit" is a classic, energetic rock tune that echoes its title in sound; "Déjà Vu" has a futuristic dance beat; and "Nectar" introduces a compelling if strange, wounded-animal trombone-like sound.

Overall, the hook of "Make A Wish (Birthday Song)" sums up my feelings about the album: "I can do this all day." But so does the song's naughtier, English version: "I can do this all night."

— Cristina Jaleru
Associated Press

FROM PAGE 12

She said my dad famously didn't love his vocals. He would turn it down a lot. When she was producing "Imagine," the album, he would go to the bathroom and she would turn it back up and he would come back and turn it down. ... She really believes that burying the vocal is the worst thing you can do. She really wants people to hear the lyrics and she thinks that the music has to serve the vocal.

When it comes to mixing my dad's stuff, that's her priority. I think she's right.

This is your first time working on your dad's music — what made you want to take this on?

I'm just trying to help. That's all it is. My mom's the boss and if I can help in any way, I'm here.

All moms are the boss.

She may trust me a little more now having made several albums together, and we've toured the world together. I was her music director for years. I think it may have taken some time, but I think she feels comfortable with me in that way now.

Your dad wrote "Beautiful Boy (Darling Boy)" about you — what was it like re-working that song?

Honestly, it was my least favorite experience. It's just kind

of awkward. That song makes me feel like I'm infantilized or something. People always play that song and look at me with a smile like, "Isn't that sweet?" I'm like, "Oh God, I'm an old man. I'm not some smiling baby in a baby food commercial." To be honest, that song is touching to me, but as a musician and a songwriter and a producer, it's sort of my least favorite song musically, because it's so saccharine. It's great. I love it. Maybe it's impossible for me to be objective about it.

"Beautiful Boy" is a very sort of family-friendly sound. It's not my aesthetic. Having said that, it was a privilege to help work on a mix of a song that was about me and is very touching. And yes, I was very touched by hearing my dad say my name. He's like "goodnight Sean" at the end. That always reminded me of him putting me to bed. He had a sort of ritual, the way he put me to bed. He would flick the lights sort of in rhythm with his voice, so it felt like his voice was controlling the lights. Then they'd go out. I have memories, so it was nice.

Has working on your dad's songs inspired your own music?

It's interesting because, first of all, the easiest songs to cover for me are my dad's, vocally espe-

cially. Whenever I try to sing one of his songs, I feel like I can sing them great. I do share a lot of the same chords. My voice isn't as tough as his, but it's easier to sing his songs than anyone else's. It does teach me something about how to sing great.

I think I've had a lifelong struggle with finding my own voice. I've had a lifelong struggle with finding my own voice because every time I would try to sing great, I would sound more and more like my dad. Actually, I hate my first few records because I was always trying to not sing like my dad, and it actually took a lot of effort. I wound up singing in this very kind of whispery, whiny way that I don't like. That was actually kind of unnatural to me.

Listening to this record ... all of his records, the compilation we put together, has helped me realize that I just need to stop trying to avoid singing in a way that I just sound better. I think it's going to help me with the vocals for the album that I'm working on now. To just not hold back. To just sort of sing. I have this fear that when I push my voice, I sound too much like him, but what's the point of singing if I'm not going to sound good?



AP

Musician John Lennon and his wife, Yoko Ono, hold a bed-in for peace in room 902, the presidential suite at the Hilton Hotel in Amsterdam, on March 25, 1969.

BOOKS

Images that tell a different story

Book of war photography challenges oversimplified typical narratives by conveying disorienting realities

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

Veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have often told me that they struggle to make sense of their time spent fighting in conflicts marked by ambiguity and lacking clear endings.

In his photo book "Attention Servicemember," Army veteran Ben Brody works through his experience during America's almost 20-year-old war on terrorism by forgoing traditional narrative tools like heroes and villains or victory and defeat.

The book, which recently received a second printing, alternates essays and photos from Brody's two combat tours in Iraq as an Army public affairs soldier and his coverage of fighting in Afghanistan as a civilian reporter.

Looking through the photos is a bit like picking up jumbled puzzle pieces one at a time. One page shows fighters storming a house. The next, a deployed soldier shops for jewelry on base, as if in a mall. Troops lounge on cots, sleep on duffel bags. A dead body lies beneath a tarp. A soldier plays with a cat. A horse bashes its head against its enclosure.

None of these photos seem to be in any logical order. Nor do any of the photos have captions. Very little is explained, except via the essays interspersed within the imagery.

The effect is bewildering at first, reminiscent of the disjointed narratives of war novels such as "Catch-22" by Joseph Heller or "Slaughterhouse-Five" by Kurt Vonnegut.

By not offering easy answers, the book prompts the reader to ask their own questions. The longer that one looks at his pictures, the more the intrinsic weirdness of each frame comes into focus, prompting thoughts such as, "How old is that child they're searching for bombs?"

In a phone call, Brody said he wanted readers to understand how his experiences with war were bizarre, absurd and often without explanation.

"The reason there are no captions," Brody said, "is it's more up to you to process what the pictures are about, because I wanted to convey how disorienting war is, and the effect that it has on you as a person."

This is the opposite of the work Brody used to do, which was to capture images that communicated the desired messages of the U.S. military as clearly as possible.

Looking back, Brody calls himself a propagandist, alluding to the job he did as a public affairs soldier.

Brody said he quickly learned what pictures his bosses wanted: soldiers look-

ing calm and heroic, with captions that proclaim with certainty that objectives were being met and wars were being won. These photos were generic enough that Brody said one of his war pictures was used to sell vape pens.

The photos that didn't fit the narrative or were confusing got discarded, even though Brody, looking back, said the confusing moments most exemplified the lives of soldiers downrange.

"Attention Servicemember" is a reminder that what really sticks out to a lot of veterans are the strangest moments of war. They're moments like realizing soldiers were risking their lives to deliver ice cream machines, or that sand was being imported into Iraq for a volleyball court.

Another war photographer, Christoph Bangert, said the absurdities are aspects of war that often get edited out of public view.

Bangert, like Brody, published his works of photography to go beyond showing heroic military figures and suffering victims. His 2016 book, "Hello Camel," shares with "Attention Servicemember" the same strangeness: camels peeking over walls at soldiers, cakes being cut with swords.

"War is something extremely confusing and surprising, and there are many more

layers in these events than we realize," Bangert told me in 2016. "But we want things to be simple, and what has happened in the last 15 years is we have oversimplified complicated events."

One wonders how the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan would have gone had there been more examination of these moments when things didn't quite seem to add up, and less listening to the dictation of official narratives that were so certain and yet so often wrong.

Today, Brody directs photography at the Ground Truth Project, where he trains early-career journalists, including several veterans. He said he hopes viewers see honesty in his work, but he acknowledged war photography is a crowded market.

"When people look at these photographs of some war, these pictures people have gone to extreme personal risk to make, it's just like they hear static," Brody said, "because they all look the same; they all say the same thing."

But his book rises above the noise to tell a story of its own.

"Attention Servicemember" is available at Brody's website, photobrody.com, and Amazon. Outside of North America, it can be found at Idea Books, online at ideabooks.nl.

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Photos by Ben Brody

"Attention Servicemember," a book by U.S. Army war veteran Ben Brody, attempts to convey the experience of the Iraq and Afghanistan war through photography. No captions accompany any of the photos such as the ones he took of smoke obscuring a field (top) or of Humvees at night and cafeteria lunches (center). "I wanted to convey how disorienting war is, and the effect that it has on you as a person," Brody said.

CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

TITLE BASIN'

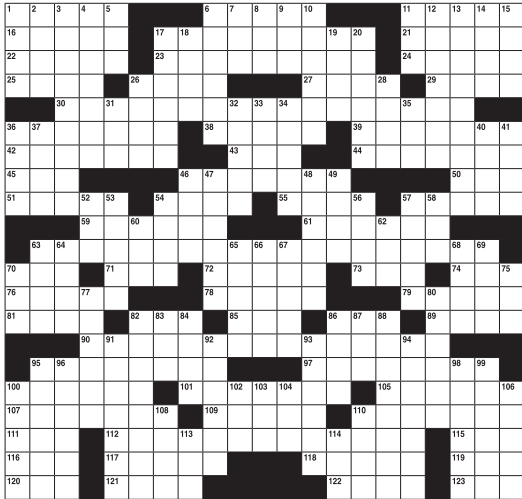
BY MIRIAM ESTRIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Miriam Estrin is a native of St. Louis, now living in London. She works for Google as a policy manager dealing with international laws and regulations on access to information. After graduating from Yale Law School, she spent four years at the U.S. State Department. Miriam started constructing crosswords a year ago after reading The Times's online series "How to Make a Crossword Puzzle." This is her second puzzle for the paper and her first Sunday. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dinosaur in the Mario games
 - 6 Titular film character opposite Harold
 - 11 Something offered in tribute
 - 16 ___ Martin DB5 ("Bondmobile")
 - 17 Knock-down-drag-out fights
 - 21 Nudge
 - 22 Barack, Michelle, Hillary and Bill took them, for short
 - 23 Yann Martel's baking memoir?
 - 24 Have heat eyes for
 - 25 Member of Britain's upper house
 - 26 Tone—
 - 27 Shunned, with "out"
 - 29 "Don't get ___!"
 - 30 F. Scott Fitzgerald's chivalric tale?
 - 36 Just like that
 - 38 Zaps, as leftovers
 - 39 Brainstorms
 - 42 Messes (with)
 - 43 Follower of "Je m'appelle..."
 - 44 What a figure skater has that a hockey skate lacks
 - 45 "...you seeing this?"
 - 46 Voltaire's sweet novel?
 - 50 Scan that excites hydrogen atoms, for short
 - 51 Can't keep one's mouth shut?
 - 54 Alternative to de Gaulle
 - 55 Debussy's ___ d'Étretat
 - 57 Prepare to go next ("Bondmobile")
 - 59 "...You're making me blush!"
 - 61 Lived (with)
 - 63 Marcel Proust's kitchen mystery?
 - 70 Trouble
 - 71 I
 - 72 "That's ___!"
 - 73 Halloween vis-à-vis Nov. 1
 - 74 "...Yeesh!"
 - 76 One of six parked on the moon
 - 78 Nasty, in a way
 - 79 Author Ferrante
 - 81 Neutral paint color
 - 82 Break
 - 85 Societal problem
 - 86 "When They See Us" director Du'Ernay
 - 89 Big e-commerce site
 - 90 Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's pet story?
 - 95 Guaranteees
 - 97 [Doh]
 - 100 Semibiographical source for "Citizen Kane"
 - 101 Small trunks
 - 105 Certain red wine
 - 107 Trap
 - 109 Had a friendly relationship (with)
 - 110 "___ is a wonderful thing if one does not have to earn one's living at it"; Einstein
 - 111 "Revenge ___ dish ..."
 - 112 William Shakespeare's historical romance?
 - 115 Gives one's seal of approval
 - 116 Woman's name that's a piece of furniture backward
 - 117 Classical singing venue
 - 118 Beat
 - 119 Call to reserve?
 - 120 The final installment of "The Godfather"
 - 121 Bit of coffee
 - 122 Sierra Nevadas, e.g.
 - 123 Word that can precede or follow "run"

DOWN

- 1 "... ready for this?" (opening of a pump-up jam)
- 2 Part of an Italian veal dish name
- 3 Go back to Square 1
- 4 Share a workspace, in modern lingo
- 5 Helpful connections
- 6 Breakfast order
- 7 Long period
- 8 What a weather balloon might be mistaken for
- 9 Letters on the "3'" button
- 10 Catches a glimpse of
- 11 What Mrs. Potts and Chip serve in "Beauty and the Beast"
- 12 Brit's term of affection
- 13 "Finally!"
- 14 Resolve, with "out"
- 15 Precious, to a Brit
- 17 Goes undercover?
- 18 Heated accusation
- 19 Sound effect during a bomb defusing, perhaps
- 20 "I watched that episode already"
- 26 Critical time
- 28 Queen who made Carthage prosper
- 31 Pittsburgh-to-Buffalo dir.
- 32 Fair forecast
- 33 Beat in a boxing match, in a way
- 34 Corral
- 35 Command for a right turn, in mashing
- 36 "It's possible!"
- 37 "You've Got Mail!" director Ephron
- 40 Neutral paint color
- 41 Sound like a broken record
- 46 Shoe with holes
- 47 Top dogs
- 48 Subject of Rick Steves's travel guides
- 49 God, in Gualatlajara
- 52 Bullet alternatives: Abbr.
- 53 Uter
- 54 Como ningún ___ (unique, in Spanish)
- 56 Pledge-drive gift



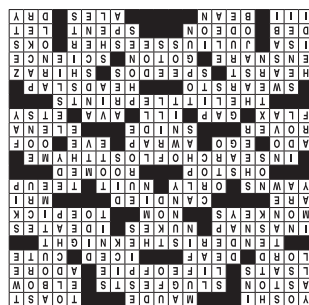
- 57 Giggle
- 58 Dreyer's ice-cream partner
- 60 ___ Harbor, first official port of entry to the United States
- 62 Channel that aired "Daria" and "The Hills"
- 63 Fan-mail recipient
- 64 Exploding star
- 65 Take pride in something
- 66 Ruffie
- 67 What can take a punch?
- 68 ___ & Chandon (Champagne)
- 69 Long periods
- 70 Little bowwow
- 75 Wray of "King Kong"
- 77 Nonsensical doctor
- 80 Lead role on "Parks and Recreation"
- 82 Writer Stein
- 83 Green and others
- 84 Sets (against)
- 86 The Amazons were the daughter of this god, in myth
- 87 By way of
- 88 Director's cry
- 91 Is employed
- 92 Movie with the line "I feel the need... I feel the need for speed?"
- 93 Dials
- 94 Some concert tour merchandise
- 95 Martial arts master
- 96 Sushi condiment
- 98 Traci in the Revolutionary War
- 99 Warehouse employee
- 100 "S.N.L." cast member Gardner
- 102 Lover of Orion, in myth
- 103 8-Dow pilots, in brief
- 104 Forest grazer
- 106 Full of spice
- 108 Where Zeno taught
- 110 Children's poet
- 111 Silverstein
- 113 ___ beam
- 114 Place for a shvitz

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ENTERTAINMENT

Starting point for dialogue

'Captain America' star Chris Evans says online political platform is 'landscape of competing ideas'

By GHOFF EDGERS
The Washington Post

So you're Tim Scott, the Republican senator from South Carolina who opposes Roe v. Wade and wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and you get a call from Chris Evans, a Hollywood star and lifelong Democrat who has been blasting President Donald Trump for years. He wants to meet. And film it. And share it on his online platform.

"I was very skeptical," Scott admits. "You can think of the worst-case scenario."

But then Scott heard from other senators. They vouched for Evans, most famous for playing Captain America in a series of films that have grossed more than \$1 billion worldwide. The actor also got on the phone with Scott's staff to make a personal appeal.

It worked. Sometime in 2018, Scott met on camera with Evans in the nation's capital, and their discussion, which ranged from prison reform to student loans, is one of more than 200 interviews with elected officials published on "A Starting Point," an online platform the actor helped launch in July. Not long after, Evans appeared on Scott's Instagram Live. They have plans to do more together.

"While he is a liberal, he was looking to have a real dialogue on important issues," Scott says. "For me, it's about wanting to have a conversation with an audience that may not be accustomed to hearing from conservatives and Republicans."

Evans, actor-director Mark Kassen and entrepreneur Joe

sides of the aisle. Many potential voters simply turn off the news, never mind talking about actual policy.

"A Starting Point" is meant to offer a digital home for people to hear from elected officials without having the conversation framed by Tucker Carlson or Rachel Maddow.

"If the downstream impact or the byproduct of this site is some sort of unity between the parties, great. But if nobody's still voting, it doesn't work. We need people involved."

Chris Evans

Actor, co-founder of "A Starting Point"

Kiani launched "A Starting Point" as a response to what they see as a deeply polarized political climate. They wanted to offer a place for information about issues without a partisan spin. To do that, they knew they needed both parties to participate.

Evans, 39, sat on the patio outside his Boston-area home on a recent afternoon talking about the platform.

Nearly 100 million people didn't vote in the 2016 general election, Evans says. That's more than 40% of those who were eligible.

He believes the root of this disinterest is the nastiness on both

"The idea is ... 'Listen, you're in office. I can't deny the impact you have,'" Evans says. "You can vote on things that affect my life." Let this be a landscape of competing ideas, and I'll sit down with you and I'll talk with you."

Or, as Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, who has appeared on the site, puts it, "Sometimes, boring is OK. You're being presented two sides. Everything doesn't have to be sensational. Sometimes it can just be good facts."

Evans wasn't always active in politics. At Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, he focused on theater, not student government. His uncle, Michael Capua-

no, served as a congressman in Massachusetts for 20 years, but other than volunteering on some of his campaigns, Evans wasn't particularly political.

In recent years, he's read political philosopher Hannah Arendt and feminist Rebecca Solnit's "The Mother of All Questions" — ex-girlfriend Jenny Slate gave him the latter — and been increasingly upset by Trump's policies and behavior. He's come to believe that he can state his own views without creating a conflict with "A Starting Point."

"I don't want to all of a sudden become a blank slate," Evans says. "But my biggest issue right now is just getting people to vote. If I start saying, 'vote Biden; I - - Trump,' my base will like that. But they were already voting for Biden."

Evans began to contemplate the idea that became "A Starting Point" in 2017. He heard something reported on the news — he can't remember what — and decided to search out information on the internet. Instead of finding concrete answers, Evans fell down the rabbit hole of opinions and conflicting claims. He began talking about this with Kassen, a friend since he directed Evans in 2011's "Puncture." What if they got the information directly from elected officials and presented it without a spin? Kassen, in turn,

introduced Evans to Kiani, who had made his fortune through a medical technology company he founded and, of the three, was the most politically involved.

Kiani has donated to dozens of Democratic candidates across the country and earlier this year contributed \$750,000 to Unite the Country, a super PAC meant to support Joe Biden. But he appreciated the idea of focusing on something larger than a single race or party initiative. He, Kassen and Evans would fund "A Starting Point," which has about 18 people on staff.

"There's no longer ABC, NBC and CBS," Kiani says. "There's Fox News and MSNBC. What that means is that we are no longer being censored. We're shouting our own ideas and people go to their own echo chamber and they don't get any wiser. If you allow both parties to speak, for the same amount of time, without goading them to go on into hyperbole, when people look at both sides' point of view and they realize that at the end of the time they'll come to a reasonable conclusion."

"What people do too often is they get in their silos and they only watch and listen and read what they agree with," says John Kasich, the former Republican presidential candidate. "If you go to Chris' website, you can't bury yourself in your silo. You get to see the other point of view."

As much as some like to blame Trump for all the conflicts in Washington, Sen. Christopher Coons, D-Del., says he's watched the tone shifting for decades. He appreciated sitting down with Evans and making regular submissions to "Daily Points," a place on the platform for commentary no longer than two minutes. During the Supreme Court confirmation hearings, Coons recorded a comment on Judge Amy Coney Barrett and the Affordable Care Act.

"A Starting Point" needs to be a sustained resource," Coons says. "Chris often talks about it being 'Schoolhouse Rock' for adults."

It's not by chance that Evans has personally conducted all of the 200-plus interviews on "A Starting Point" during trips to D.C. Celebrities often try to mobilize the public, whether it's Eva Longoria, Tracee Ellis Ross and Julia Louis-Dreyfus hosting the Democratic National Convention or Jon Voight recording video clips to praise Trump.

But in this case, Evans is using his status in a different way, to entice even the most hesitant Republican to sit down for an even-toned chat. And he's willing to pose with anyone, even if it means explaining himself on "The Daily Show" after Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas posted a selfie with Evans.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



ROSA PINEDA/U.S. SENATE

On one of his trips to Washington, D.C., to conduct interviews for "A Starting Point," actor Chris Evans, left, spoke with Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski. Evans launched the online platform with fellow actor-director Mark Kassen and entrepreneur Joe Kiani.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

Murkowski remembers when Evans came to Capitol Hill for the first time in 2018. She admits she didn't actually know who he was — she hadn't yet seen any Marvel movies. She was in the minority.

"We meet interesting and important people but, man, when Captain America was in the Senate, it was all the buzz," she says. "And they were like, 'Did you get your picture taken?' I said, 'Yeah, I sat down and did the interview.' 'You did an interview? How did you get an interview with him?'"

What impressed Murkowski wasn't his star power. It was the way Evans conducted the interview.

"It was relaxing," she says. "You didn't feel like you were in front of a reporter who was just waiting for you to say something you would get caught on later. It was a dialogue ... and we need more dialogue and less gotcha."

"Starting Points" offers two-minute answers by elected officials in eight topic areas, including education, the environment and the economy. This is where the interviews Evans conducted can be found.

"Daily Politics" has featured a steady flow of Republicans and Democrats. A third area, "Counterpoints," hosts short debates between officials on particular subjects. For example, Rep. Eric Swalwell, a Democrat from California, debated mail-in voting with Dusty Johnson, the Republican congressman from South Dakota.

"Most Americans can't name more than five members of the United States House," Johnson says. "A Starting Point" allows thoughtful members to talk to a broader audience than we would normally have."

The platform's social media team pushes out potentially newsworthy clips, whether it's Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, discussing his meeting with Barrett just before he tested positive for the coronavirus, or Angus King, the independent senator from Maine, criticizing Trump for his comments on a potential peaceful transfer of power after November's election.

Kassen notes that the King clip was viewed more than 175,000 times on "A Starting Point's" Twitter account, compared with the 10,000 who caught it on CNN's social media platform.

"Because it's short-form media, we're engineered to be social," Kassen says. "As a result, when something catches hold, it's passed around our audience pretty quickly."

The key is to use modern tools to push out content that's tonally different from what you might find on modern cable news. Or on social media. Which is what Evans hopes leads to more engagement. He's particularly proud of more than 10,000 people who have registered to vote through "A Starting Point" since it went online.

"If the downstream impact or the byproduct of this site is some sort of unity between the parties, great," Evans says. "But if not, it's still doing a damn good work. We need people involved."



In the second episode of season three of "The Conners," Mary (Layden Ray), right, is devastated that Halloween has been canceled by the city, so Darlene and Becky enlist the rest of the family to create an unforgettable night for her and Mark, left (Ames McNamara).

'Couldn't be more relevant'

The Conner family tackles COVID-19 in season 3 of the ABC show

By GREG BRAXTON
Los Angeles Times

Two years after the death of Roseanne Conner, the surviving Conners are still in turmoil. They're now dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the troubles just keep piling on.

But that hasn't stopped "The Conners," ABC's comedy about a struggling working-class family, from finding laughter and light in the darkness.

A spinoff of the short-lived "Roseanne" revival starring Roseanne Barr, which was canceled in 2018 after its namesake made racist comments on Twitter, "The Conners," entering its third season, continues to tackle topical issues facing the country. The hardships on families wrestling with the impact of COVID-19 are center stage as the Conners confront a dire financial situation and internal family tension.

The impact of the coronavirus also has been felt behind the scenes — the series was the first ABC comedy to go back into production, and strict guidelines requiring masks and social distancing were instituted before the cast and crew returned to the set.

"I was hesitant — it seemed too early to come back because no one else was doing it," said Laurie Metcalf, who plays Jackie Harris. "When I heard all the safety measures being taken, we all felt more comfortable to take that first step. And we've all been very strict about it."

Meanwhile, there's been a halt to the live audiences that would attend Friday night tapings.

Lacey Goranson, who plays Becky Conner, misses their instant reactions: "They were so excited. Many of them have been watching the show since the '80s. They know our characters."

When last we saw "The Conners," which has established a solid foothold in the ABC lineup, Dan Conner (John Goodman) learned that the bank was about to foreclose on the family home and wouldn't extend his

overdue mortgage. Jackie and Becky have sunk their inheritance money into reopening the Lunch Box diner.

As the season opens, the Lunch Box is closed except for takeout and delivery because of the pandemic, and it's struggling to stay afloat. Unable to hire a delivery person, Jackie delivers orders on a bike, and Becky is forced to take a second job at Wellman Plastics.

In an interview via videoconference last week, Metcalf and Goranson discussed working during a pandemic and their feelings about the continuing plight of the Conners.

Los Angeles Times: When did you know what would be happening to the Conners this season, and what's it been like returning under very different circumstances?

Laurie Metcalf: I knew it would become part of the show because "The Conners" has always been dealing with what's going on in everyone's life. The iffy part was knowing how it would be dealt with in terms of the cast and the crew. We come in minimal contact when we actually shoot our scenes together. We drop our masks and sometimes we're closer than six feet. But it's for a very short period of time, and then the masks go on again and we will scatter.

We're doing a lot of testing and sanitizing, but the environment has been a comfortable one and one where everyone is dedicated to looking out for each other. We have to stay on top of it without becoming complacent.

Lacey Goranson: The Conners are always going through crisis, so the family is somewhat prepared for something like this. They're constantly in a state of fighting some greater force, and they band together as they do that. This is no exception. As in real life, the Conners are handling the COVID situation differently. The younger generation has their stance — my TV nephew Mark (played by Ames McNamara) is really adamant about things.

It's interesting — everyone needs new content and are looking to shows coming

back. We all need to laugh. But it's still really melancholy. There is so much going on in the world, and there's huge financial risks. It's pretty frightening for the majority of Americans, and that is really reflected in the show in how the Conners are picking up the pieces now.

The show has always found humor in dire situations. But what's happening with the Lunch Box is happening with restaurants all over the country. It's a wrenching situation.

Metcalf: It couldn't be more relevant than where we last left the Conners. Becky and Jackie sunk their inheritance money into this restaurant, and now the two of them are in a predicament like so many people.

Goranson: There were so many stakes in Becky's and Jackie's journey to open the Lunch Box. They had to fight hard and have their business plan. They risked some of their familial relationships to get it going. Things got really tense.

Metcalf: It put a wedge in the family. This is the most intense situation that Jackie has had to deal with. She's gone through relationships and other stuff, but the stakes on this are pretty high. They used their safety net to open. It's do or die for this place.

Is it harder this season to strike that delicate tone between seriousness and humor?

Metcalf: It comes from the writers. They do the heavy lifting for us, walking that fine line. I don't know how they do it, but the tone is right on the page as a blueprint of how to play the scene. But it's very different without that live audience. We don't get that adrenaline boost we would get on Friday night. We've got a great crew that still finds us semi-funny in rehearsal, and they will chuckle so we sort of know what's working. But it's been a learning curve to do (it) without an audience after all these years. And now we're doing it out of sequence. When we have the audience, we do it like a play. Now we jump around. But we're finding a new momentum. And all of us are so grateful to be back, that's for sure.

STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

The danger in social media defining the truth

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekly days (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and 60 cents on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AF 96301-5002, Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA, Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AF 96301-5002.

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By STEPHEN L. CARTER

Bloomington Opinion

Democrats and Republicans alike missed the point on Wednesday, when members of the Senate Commerce Committee had their last chance before the election to grill the CEOs of Facebook, Twitter and Google. With the GOP on the hunt for partisan bias and the Democrats urging greater efforts to reduce misinformation, both sides ignored some fundamental principles of democracy.

The ostensible purpose of the hearing was to resume the argument over whether to amend Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. In truth, Republicans called the tech CEOs to press them on their handling of a controversial New York Post story that alleges wrongdoing by Hunter Biden, son of Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden. Democratic senators responded that the GOP was trying to "bully" the techies.

Well, good news. Let's start with a reminder that the social media companies are private enterprises, and even in the run-up to an election — one might say especially in the run-up to an election — they're clothed with a First Amendment right to curate content on their sites as they like. Yes, absolutely, one might sometimes wish that they acted in a more principled and even-handed manner, but did I happen to mention that they're private enterprises?

It's true that misinformation is rampant online. One is reminded of what Isaac Asimov called Generer's Law: "The falsely dramatic drives out the truly dull." There's a lot of falsely dramatic fluffing around out there, and people tend to gravitate toward the bits that make the other side look worse.

Nevertheless, the tech giants, by passing judgment on what's too unreliable to be seen, are taking tentative steps down a road that's rarely led anywhere good. Even private restriction, although not matching any of the classic definitions of censorship, betrays a kind of hubris — what John Stuart Mill would have called belief in one's own infallibility. Worse, what tends to motivate the removal of bad information is a fear of the danger posed by whatever is being omitted or suppressed — a worry about what might happen should the wrong people wind up seeing it.

The deep problem here isn't that the companies often act as though they're wearing partisan blinders. The problem is that even were the work done with perfect political neutrality, the determination to avoid the use of a platform to spread "misinformation" would still display the same basic attitude. When a platform spots a piece it considers suspect and its staff or review partners say, "Nope, can't let people see this," the unspoken message is, "We here at Twinstabook are clever enough to understand what's really going on. The people who rely on our platform aren't."

On issues from climate change to COVID-19, the social media companies often take the view that there are arguments too dangerous to allow their users to see. I agree that climate change poses a dangerous threat and that bad advice about the coronavirus could lead to a deadly spread. But it's an enormous leap from holding a position, even passionately, to believing that others shouldn't be treated as wise enough to make up their own minds.

Yes, the public square is awash in misinformation. It has been ever thus. I'm of the generation trained to believe that the cure for bad information is good information. If people are sometimes persuaded by the false, that's a risk attendant upon the

proper practice of democracy.

Nowadays, when we say "democracy" we almost always think of voting. But I cling to a classical vision in which voting is only one piece of what makes democracy valuable. More vital is acknowledging our joint participation, together with co-equals, in a contract that sets the rules under which an enterprise in which we respect, among other things, the ability of our fellow citizens to decide for themselves which argument to accept. When a point of view is suppressed because those who hold the power to shape dialogue consider it wrong — even dangerously wrong — we're engaged in the opposite of democracy.

Censorship deprives individuals of the ethical right to decide for themselves what to believe. That a private company has the unquestioned freedom to violate that ethical right doesn't mean that it should.

None of this means that I oppose efforts by social media companies to moderate content. Given the influence of their platforms, I think it's wise and good to edit out personal attacks, harassment, and the like. But the same reason — the importance of the platforms — forces me to conclude that the companies are mistaken in restricting portions of view they consider wrong.

My libertarian soul fears any effort by government to impose on privately owned companies a different set of rules. And I'll grieve for true democracy if the social media giants continue to display so much faith in the ability of their own employees and partners to make decisions about what's true and what isn't — and so little faith in the ability of the rest of us to make up our own minds.

Bloomington Opinion columnist Stephen L. Carter is a professor at Yale University and was a clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. His latest book is "Invisible: The Power of What We Don't See" by Walter D. Mignolo. Who Took Down America's Most Powerful Mobster?"

Some statistics to envision election night 2020

By GEORGE F. WILL

Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON
Never mind the geysers of overheated 2020 rhetoric about a constitutional crisis. Tuesday evening the nation will likely know that Vice President Walter Mondale's elegant words of concession on election night 40 years ago are still apposite: "The American people quietly yielded their staggering power, and peacefully, without intimidation, made their choice." The following data can help clarify the nature of this year's dramatic election.

Because of what Drew DeSilver of the Pew Research Center calls "the electoral vote inflation factor" — one of the Electoral College's many benefits — Joe Biden's victory, which will be decisive in the popular vote, will be even more so in electoral votes. Since the politics of mass mobilization began in America with the election of Andrew Jackson in 1828, the winner's share of the electoral vote has averaged 1.36 times the popular vote share. For example, in 2012 Barack Obama won 51% of the popular vote but 62% of the electoral vote (332 of 538). This inflation factor was especially dramatic, and civically beneficial, in 1960, when John Kennedy defeated Richard Nixon in the popular vote by a minuscule 0.16% (112,827 out of 68,832,483 votes cast). But Kennedy had a 15.6% electoral vote advantage (303 to 219; 56.4% to 40.8%). This was 97.5 times his popular vote margin, which gave the nation a sense of a decisive election.

So, on Wednesday many Democrats

might have kinder thoughts about the Electoral College. Because Democratic candidates lost two of this century's first five presidential elections while winning the popular vote, many Democrats have called for abolishing the electoral vote system and adopting election by direct popular vote. This year, the electoral vote inflation factor favoring Biden should have the wholesome effect of dampening Democratic enthusiasm for abolition.

Trump, no stickler for precision, said that in 2016 he won a "massive landslide" of electoral votes. In 45 of the 57 preceding elections the winner received a larger percentage of those votes than Trump's 56.5%.

In all five of this century's elections, 37 states have voted for presidential candidates of the same party. Twenty-two of those states have favored Republicans. None of the 15 Democratic states will vote for Trump. Biden might win three of the Republican states — Arizona, Georgia and Texas. In 2016, Donald Trump won more than 56% of the vote in 17 states — but not in those three. Georgia is one of eight states where more than half the voters under 40 are nonwhite. And, in most major electoral swing state, is another. This is the first year when a majority of eligible voters under 40 in Texas are nonwhite.

In 2000, George W. Bush became the first person to win the presidency while losing the North. In 2004, he was reelected because he carried Ohio with 50.8% of the vote. John Kerry would have become president if he had carried that 73,350 of the 5.6 million votes cast. Ohio was the only large

state Bush carried outside the South. Starting with the election of 1896, when the state chose Ohioan William McKinley, Ohio has backed the winner in all but two of 31 elections: In 1944, it favored Thomas Dewey (whose vice-presidential running mate was Ohio Gov. John Bricker) over President Franklin Roosevelt by just 0.36% of the vote, and it chose Nixon over Kennedy in 1960 by 6.56%.

The decline of political competitiveness is apparent in these numbers: In 1976, 20 states were won by five percentage points or less. Jimmy Carter won Texas with 51.1%, and President Gerald Ford carried California and Illinois with 49.3% and 50.1%, respectively. In 2016, 11 were. In 1976, a majority of House seats were won by 10 points or less. In 2016, most were won by at least 20 points. The average margin of victory was 36.6 percentage points. Democrats defeated Republicans with an average of 67.4% of the two-party vote, Republicans won with 63.8%.

Finally, if, as seems likely, the turnout percentage of this year's eligible voters soars past the 2016 level (55.67%) and past the highest level since after WWII (63.3% when Dwight D. Eisenhower entered the Democrats' five-election winning streak by defeating Adlai Stevenson in 1952), credit the president for motivating voters unhappy with him. Remember the story of which Winston Churchill was fond, about the man who received a telegram reporting the death of his mother-in-law and asking for instructions. The man telegraphed back: "Identify the dead, cremate, bury at sea. Take no chances."

SCOREBOARD/MLB/SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 19

Auto racing

NASCAR Hall of Fame 200

NASCAR Gender Outdoors Truck Series Friday
At Martinsville Speedway
Martinsville.

Lap length: 0.53 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (8) Grant Engfer, Ford, 200 laps, 51 points.
2. (7) Ben Rhodes, Ford, 200, 42.
3. (2) Zane Smith, Chevrolet, 200, 41.
4. (14) Christian Eckes, Toyota, 200, 41.
5. (2) Matt Crafton, Ford, 200, 55.
6. (18) Stewart Frisen, Toyota, 200, 42.
7. (19) Danny Bohm, Toyota, 200, 30.
8. (1) Shinnon Creed, Chevrolet, 200, 39.
9. (13) Austin Wayne Self, Chevrolet, 200, 28.
10. (11) Derek Kraus, Toyota, 200, 27.
11. (7) Trevor Bayne, Chevrolet, 200, 26.
12. (6) Tyler Ankrum, Chevrolet, 200, 30.
13. (20) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 200, 26.
14. (23) Timmy Hill, Chevrolet, 200, 25.
15. (17) Spencer Boyd, Chevrolet, 200, 21.
16. (24) Dawson Crain, Chevrolet, 200, 21.
17. (9) Brandon Jones, Toyota, 200, 0.
18. (22) Sam Mayer, Chevrolet, accident.
19. (16) Jordan Anderson, Chevrolet, 199, 18.
20. (10) Raphael Lessard, Toyota, 199, 26.
21. (32) Clay Greenfield, Toyota, 198, 15.
22. (23) McLeod, Chevrolet, 198, 0.
23. (15) Johnny Sauter, Ford, 197, 25.
24. (7) Parker Kligerman, Toyota, 196, 13.
25. (30) Ray Ciccarelli, Chevrolet, 196, 12.
26. (34) Norm Benning, Chevrolet, 196, 11.
27. (26) Natalie Decker, Chevrolet, 195, 10.
28. (4) Brett Moffitt, Chevrolet, accident, 192, 20.
29. (20) Jammer Jo Cobb, Chevrolet, 174, 8.
30. (15) Ryan Tracy, Chevrolet, 169, 7.
31. (12) Tanner Gray, Ford, garage, 154, 6.
32. (20) Todd Gilliland, Ford, overheating, 149, 5.
33. (5) Spencer Davis, Toyota, brakes, 135, 5.
34. (35) Cody Rohrbach, Chevrolet, overheating, 123, 5.
35. (2) Travis Lutz, Toyota, engine, 117, 5.
36. (27) Tate Fogleman, Chevrolet, accident, 117, 5.
37. (13) Josh Reaume, Toyota, transmission, 0, 0.

Race statistics
Average speed of race winner: 52.407 mph
Time of race: 2 hours, 0 minutes, 27 seconds
Margin of victory: 0.803 seconds.
Caution flags: 0 for 82 laps.
Lead changes: 16 among 3 drivers.

Top 16 in points: 1. S. Creed, 4037; 2. G. Engfer, 3948; 3. F. Frisen, 3926; 4. G. Engfer, 3916; 5. S. Lutz, 126; 6. H. Hocevar, 126; 7. G. Engfer, 126; 8. S. Creed, 126; 9. G. Engfer, 126; 10. R. Lessard, 182-191; 11. G. Engfer, 192-197; 12. B. Rhodes, 198; 13. G. Engfer, 198-200; 14. S. Creed, 200; 15. M. Crafton, 200; 16. S. Mayer, 1.

Wins: S. Creed, 6; G. Engfer, 4; S. Smith, 2; B. Rhodes, 1; M. Crafton, 1; S. Mayer, 1.

Top 16 in points: 1. S. Creed, 4037; 2. G. Engfer, 4024; 3. S. Smith, 4022; 4. M. Crafton, 4020; 5. S. Lutz, 246; 6. A. Hill, 2217; 7. C. Eckes, 2200; 8. B. Rhodes, 2189; 9. S. Creed, 2188; 10. S. Mayer, 2113; 11. D. Kraus, 631; 12. R. Lessard, 528; 13. S. Lutz, 497; 14. T. Gray, 489; 15. F. Frisen, 487.

Xfinity 500 lineup

Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Race Sunday
At Martinsville Speedway
Martinsville.

Lap length: 0.53 miles
(Car number in parentheses)

1. (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford.
2. (14) Ryan Blaney, Ford.
3. (88) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet.
4. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
5. (1) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet.
6. (4) Kevin Harvick, Ford.
7. (15) Denny Hamlin, Toyota.
8. (9) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet.
9. (18) Kyle Larson, Toyota.
10. (10) Ryan Blaney, Ford.
11. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
12. (21) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford.
13. (14) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford.
14. (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet.
15. (41) Cole Custer, Ford.
16. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
17. (8) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet.
18. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
19. (20) Erik Jones, Toyota.
20. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
21. (6) Ryan Newman, Ford.
22. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
23. (38) John Hunter Nemechek, Ford.
24. (34) Michael McDowell, Ford.
25. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
26. (32) Corey LaJoie, Ford.
27. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
28. (17) Chris Buescher, Ford.
29. (6) Daniel Suarez, Toyota.
30. (15) Brennan Poole, Chevrolet.
31. (14) Clint Bowyer, Toyota.
32. (43) Bubba Wallace, Chevrolet.
33. (7) Josh Billicki, Chevrolet.
34. (10) Ryan Blaney, Ford.
35. (60) Quin Houff, Chevrolet.
36. (15) Daniel Suarez, Toyota.
37. (27) J. J. Yeley, Ford.
38. (51) Joey Gase, Ford.

Free agent total rises as teams cut back

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jon Lester, Corey Kluber and Brad Hand were among 15 more major leaguers who became free agents Friday when teams declined their 2021 options, many the victims of budget cuts following a regular season without fans due to the new coronavirus pandemic.

Also cut loose were Milwaukee infielders Jedd Gyorko and Eric Sogard, Chicago White Sox designated hitter Edwin Encarnacion and left-hander Gio Gonzalez, and Philadelphia relievers David Robertson, Hector Neris and David Phelps.

Al, champion Tampa Bay declined 2021 options on right-hander Charlie Morton and catcher Mike Zunino but says it remains hopeful of re-signing them.

There are 175 players who became free agents following the World Series and about 15 more can go free this weekend. Among the remaining decisions are on player options by Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton, Boston designated hitter JD Martinez, Cincinnati outfielder Nick Castellanos and Mets reliever Dellin Betances.

Teams must decide by 5 p.m. Sunday whether to make \$18.9 million qualifying offers to eligible former players who went free.

Lester gets a \$10 million buyout from the Chicago Cubs that completes a \$155 million, six-



ASHLEY LANDIS/AP

The Milwaukee Brewers declined the 2021 option on infielder Jedd Gyorko on Friday as teams across the league cut loose more than 15 major leaguers as a result of coronavirus pandemic-induced budget cuts following a season without fans.

year contract rather than a \$25 million multi-year option. The 36-year-old left-hander was 3-3 with a 5.16 ERA in 12 starts this year with 42 strikeouts and 17 walks. He earned a prorated \$5,555,556 from his scheduled \$15 million salary.

He was 77-44 with a 3.64 ERA in 171 starts over six seasons

with the Cubs, in 2016 helping them win the first World Series in 108 years. He was 3-3 with a 2.44 ERA and .201 opponents' batting average in the postseason.

Gyorko and Sogard, a day after declining a \$15 million option on 2011 NL MVP Ryan Braun.

Gyorko and Sogard each had

\$4.5 million options. Gyorko gets a \$1 million buyout and Sogard \$500,000.

The 32-year-old Gyorko hit .248 with nine homers and 17 RBIs in 42 games and 135 at-bats. Sogard, who turns 35 on May 22, hit .209 with one homer, 10 RBIs and a .560 OPS in 43 games.

"I think there's a recognition that flexibility is important right now, and we don't know what the next couple of months are going to look like," general manager David Stearns said. "We don't know what the environment is going to be as we do plan for a spring training in the 2021 season. So we have to remain flexible."

Cleveland declined Hand's \$10 million option and also turned down first baseman Carlos Santana (\$17.5 million). The Indians did exercise a \$5.5 million option for catcher Roberto Perez. Cleveland owes buyouts of \$1 million to Hand and \$500,000 to Carlos Santana.

Hand went 2-1 with a 2.06 ERA and went 16-for-16 in save chances in the 60-game season.

Santana struggled in his second season back in Cleveland after leaving as a free agent in 2018.

The switch-hitter batted a career-low .199 with eight homers and 30 RBIs in 60 games. Antonetti said it's possible the club could re-sign the 34-year-old Santana, who has spent 10 seasons with the Indians.

Sports briefs

Mets' Wilpon era nears end as sale is approved

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Wilpon family's control of the New York Mets neared its end after 34 years when Major League Baseball owners voted Friday to approve the sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers to the team to billionaire hedge fund manager Steve Cohen.

The vote was 26-4, a personal familiar with the meeting told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because the balloting was not announced. Cohen needed 75% approval.

The transfer from the Wilpon and Katz families values the franchise at between \$2.4 billion and \$2.45 billion, a record for a baseball team that tops the \$2 billion sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers from Frank McCourt to Guggenheim Baseball Management in 2012. The Mets sale is likely to close within 10 days.

"I am humbled that MLB's owners have approved me to be the next owner of the New York Mets," Cohen said in a statement. "Owning a team is a great privilege and

an awesome responsibility." Cohen said all Mets employees, including unionized groundskeepers, security guards and engineers, will receive restored pre-pandemic salaries as of Sunday that reverse 5-30% salary cuts begun in March. He valued the restoration at over \$7 million.

In other MLB news: The Detroit Tigers have hired AJ Hinch to be their new manager, giving him a chance to return to a major league dugout after he was fired by Houston in the wake of the Astros' sign-stealing scandal.

"I understand how wrong it was, and I'm sorry for that," Hinch said. "I've said that before, I'll say it again, I'll continue to say it. I'll never forget the feeling that I've had throughout the past year as I've navigated this with my family, but you quickly get to the exciting time of getting back and leading a group of men again, and establishing what 'Tigers baseball's going to be all about."

NBA, players extend CBA opt-out deadline

The NBA and its players agreed Friday to extend the deadline for opting out of the Collective Bargaining Agreement by one week until Nov. 6, and talks will continue in the interim regarding

the numerous issues that have to be decided before next season begins.

It is the fourth extension of the opt-out deadline since the pandemic started in March. If either the NBA or the National Basketball Players Association chooses to opt out by that date, the CBA will be terminated Dec. 14 "unless the parties agree otherwise," the NBA said.

In other NBA news: Mike D'Antoni and Amare Stoudemire are joining Steve Nash's coaching staff, bringing a glimpse of the old Phoenix Suns to Brooklyn.

D'Antoni will be the first of his two Coach of the Year awards in 2005 while leading the potent Suns to 62 victories behind the play of point guard Nash and power forward Stoudemire. He spent the last four seasons coaching Houston, leading the Rockets to the playoffs each season and winning his second Coach of the Year award in 2017.

No new 2021 inductees to Hockey Hall of Fame

TORONTO — The Hockey Hall of Fame will have no new inductees in 2021, with the class of 2020 honored that year instead.

The 2020 inductees were to have been inducted Nov. 16 in To-

ronto, but the ceremony was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In other hockey news: The University of North Dakota said Friday that Arizona Coyotes top draft pick Mitchell Miller is no longer on the school's hockey team.

The announcement by university president Andrew Armacost came a day after the Coyotes retracted their rights to the 2020 fourth-round pick after learning more about his bullying of a Black classmate with developmental disabilities four years ago.

Miller, an 18-year-old defenseman, is a freshman at North Dakota.

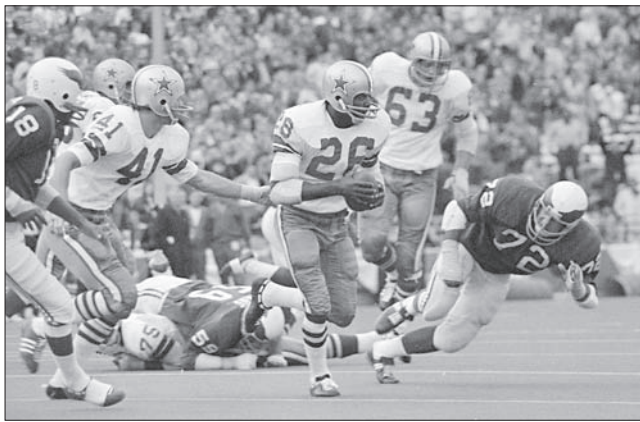
Wimbledon champion Halep tests positive

BUCHAREST, Romania — Wimbledon champion Simona Halep has tested positive for COVID-19 and said Saturday that she is "recovering well from mild symptoms."

The 29-year-old Halep, currently ranked No. 2 in the world, had skipped the U.S. Open due to fears of catching the coronavirus. She said in August that she preferred to stay and train in Europe.

The Romanian player announced her test result Saturday.

NFL



Cowboys cornerback Herb Adderley, center, returns an interception during the fourth quarter of Nov. 1, 1970 game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Dallas. Adderley finished his career with six NFL titles.

Hall of Fame cornerback Adderley dies at age 81

Associated Press

Herb Adderley, the Hall of Fame cornerback who joined the NFL as a running back and became part of a record six championship teams with the Packers and Cowboys, has died. He was 81.

His death was confirmed by the team Friday, with no details given. Nasir Adderley, a safety for the Los Angeles Chargers, tweeted that his cousin was a "unique soul who has had such an incredible influence on my life."

Adderley played in four of the first six Super Bowls and won five NFL championships with Green Bay and one with Dallas during his 12-year career. But he was always a Packer at heart.

"I'm the only man with a Dallas Cowboys Super Bowl ring who doesn't wear it. I'm a Green Bay Packer," Adderley said in the book "Distant Re-

play," a memoir by former Packers teammate Jerry Kramer.

Along with former teammates Fuzzy Thurston and Forrest Gregg, Adderley is one of four players in pro football history to play on six championship teams. Tom Brady is the other. Adderley was enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1980.

Bart Starr, the Hall of Fame quarterback and a former Packers teammate, once called Adderley the "greatest cornerback to ever play the game."

Born on June 8, 1939, in Philadelphia, Adderley was a three-sport star in high school. He excelled at running back at Michigan State and was the 12th pick overall of the 1961 draft. He came to training camp expecting to compete for a starting job against future Hall of Fame running backs Jim Taylor and Paul Hornung.

Midway through the season, Packers coach Vince Lombardi switched Adderley to defense to replace injured starter Hank Greenberg.

The move paid immediate dividends. Adderley's speed and instincts made him a quick learner in his new position, which helped propel him into a stalwart of Green Bay's secondary. Adderley intercepted 48 passes, returning them for 1,046 yards and seven touchdowns.

"Herb Adderley simply wouldn't let me get to the outside," Hall of Fame receiver Tommy McDonald once said. "He'd just beat me up, force me to turn underneath routes all the time. ... Other guys tried the same tactic, but he was the only one tough enough and fast enough to get it done."

The 6-foot-1, 205-pound Adderley had a career-best seven interceptions in 1962. He also led the league in interceptions in 1965 and 1969. Adderley also returned kickoffs in all but the final year of his playing days with the Packers, averaging 25.7 yards per return.

Adderley was a member of all five of Lombardi's NFL title teams and played in the first two Super Bowls. In the second Super Bowl in 1968, he returned an interception 60 yards for the clinching touchdown over the Raiders.

Adderley played in two more Super Bowls with Dallas in 1971 and 1972, winning his sixth title with the Cowboys in his final season. Adderley was an All-Pro seven times from 1962-67 and again in 1969.



MEL EVANS/AP

Adderley poses next to a copy of his Hall of Fame bust in a room full of memorabilia from his playing days at his New Jersey home on Oct. 2, 2008. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1980.

Best: Divisional games work against all 4 teams

FROM BACK PAGE

"Obviously, everybody has winning records in our division and everybody's doing really good, and some people might say we have the best division," said Tyer Lockett, the Seahawks' outstanding wide receiver. "But at the end of the day, who cares? We still got to be able to take care of business and those divisional games might end up being key."

The schedule shows a regular dose of those divisional showdowns, beginning Sunday with the Seahawks hosting the 49ers. They gave us a classic 2019 finale in which tight end Jacob Hollister was stopped inches short of a touchdown that would have lifted Seattle to the division crown.

Beyond this weekend, Seattle visits Los Angeles in Week 10; Arizona goes to Seattle in Week 11; the Rams host the 49ers in Week 12, then visit the Cardinals in Week 13; the Rams at Seahawks and Cardinals at Niners in Week 16; and the grand finale of Seattle at San Francisco and Arizona at Los Angeles on Jan. 3.

Don't be shocked if the division title and more than one wild-card spot are decided in Week 17.

When the Rams fell to the 49ers, all-world defensive tackle Aaron Donald noted: "I'd rather we lost every other game we did, but win this division game. That means a lot more."

Which of these teams is best positioned to not only emerge atop the NFL's premier sector, but do damage in the postseason? In a year impacted by a pandemic, with so many intangibles — and so many key injuries already — no one knows. But here are some thoughts.

Seattle (5-1)

The Seahawks have the most dynamic player, Russell Wilson, and the most experienced coach, Pete Carroll. They also have a sieve of a defense that can't pressure opposing passers. Injuries have diminished the secondary

and running back.

Still, their resourcefulness and versatility with the ball in a league where offense tends to rule, a relatively healthy Seattle is a Super Bowl threat.

Los Angeles (5-2)

Rebounding nicely after a 2019 fade that curtailed a Super Bowl appearance, the Rams have the stingiest defense and the best player in the division, Donald. Goff's re-emergence as a dependable (or more) quarterback, operating behind a back-in-form offensive line, makes LA formidable.

There's also a concern that the Rams sometimes over-think things. They do play on the edge. Regardless, they're capable of a return to the big game.

Arizona (5-2)

Maybe arriving a year before expected, especially after losing pass-rushing demon Chandler Jones for the season, the Cardinals are 2-0 inside the NFC West. They have no fear of the big boys, but they also have more question marks than the others. Many of these apply to an inconsistent defense and offensive line.

Is Kyler Murray, the 2019 top offensive rookie, ready to lift the Cardinals to unexpected heights so soon? He certainly has the creativity and athletic ability. The excitement quotient is through the State Farm Stadium roof.

San Francisco (4-3)

Teams that lose a Super Bowl tend to struggle the next season, as the Rams did in '19. But the 49ers' issues have been more related to injuries; only Philadelphia has been more damaged.

That said, many of the reserves, particularly on offense, have come through lately. But overcoming the losses of Nick Bosa, Richard Sherman and so many other regulars might be too tall a task for a deep January run.



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray avoids the sack as Seattle Seahawks middle linebacker Bobby Wagner, right, makes the hit during the first half last weekend in Glendale, Ariz.

NFL

Channeling Favre

For better or worse, Eagles QB Wentz is playing more like the Ol' Gunslinger

By **ROB MAADDI**
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Carson Wentz is playing more like his favorite player this season.

Wentz, who grew up rooting for Brett Favre, has turned into a younger version of the Ol' Gunslinger in his fifth year with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Just like Favre was in his two decades with the Packers, Jets and Vikings, Wentz is supremely confident in his ability to make any throw from anywhere on the field. That can be risky but the reward can be even greater.

Wentz made an exceptional 18-yard TD pass to Boston Scott with 40 seconds left in the game to lift the Eagles to a 22-21 win over the Giants last Thursday. It was the fifth time Wentz has engineered a comeback win in the fourth quarter in the past 11 games.

Earlier in that game, however, Wentz threw his 10th interception of the season into double coverage in the end zone from the New York 20. That was one he needed to throw away.

He also made a crossbody, cross-field pass to Travis Fulgham that every coach tells his quarterback never to make. A defender was there, but the ball hit Fulgham's hands and he dropped it.

Wentz has 10 touchdown passes to go with those picks and he's also run for a career-high five TDs.

The Eagles led the weak NFC East at 2-4-1.

"That was always the thing with Brett, the reward was definitely greater, but you knew there was going to be some risk involved," said Eagles coach Doug Pederson, who played several seasons with Favre in Green Bay.

"Carson obviously has the ability to do that. He's got the arm strength, the mobility to extend plays with his legs. I would think the one thing that we're seeing with Carson now, the same thing I saw with Brett, is that physical

By the numbers

5

Number of fourth-quarter comebacks engineered by Eagles QB Carson Wentz over the past 11 games.

10

Number of interceptions this season for Wentz, the most since his 2016 rookie campaign.

SOURCE: Associated Press, NFL.com

toughness, being able to stand in the pocket, take some hits, bounce up, and do it again. To me, that's kind of some of the similarities there."

Favre was a three-time NFL MVP and won a Super Bowl on his way into the Hall of Fame. He also threw more interceptions than any player in league history.

Wentz hasn't always been reckless with the ball. He threw only seven picks in each of the past three seasons. He finished third in NFL MVP voting in his second year when the Eagles won the Super Bowl with backup Nick Foles after Wentz was injured.

Wentz became the first quarterback in NFL history to throw for 4,000 yards without a wide receiver having 500 yards receiving last year. He also is the only quarterback to throw 20 or more touchdowns and seven or fewer interceptions in three straight seasons. Tom Brady, Drew Brees, Aaron Rodgers and Russell Wilson have done it twice.



KELVIN Kuo/AP

Los Angeles Rams safety Taylor Rapp, center, celebrates with coaches and teammates after intercepting a pass in the end zone during the team's win over the Chicago Bears on Monday in Inglewood, Calif. The Rams are 5-2 and hope to join the Lakers and Dodgers as champions.

Rams looking to join Dodgers, Lakers in bringing title to LA

By **GREG BEACHAM**
Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Jared Goff texted congratulations to Cody Bellinger and Joe Pederson right after the Los Angeles Dodgers won the World Series on Tuesday night.

"Cody actually texted me back and said, 'It's your turn now,'" the Los Angeles Rams quarterback recalled Wednesday. "And I said, 'Absolutely!'"

Los Angeles has become a city of champions again in an incredible October, and the Rams (5-2) want to extend this winning feeling into February. They've been discussing it on group chats and in the locker room ever since the Lakers raised their trophy two weeks ago, and the anticipation only increased when the Dodgers claimed their own championship.

"It'd be good to make that a little three-peat with us involved there," Goff said. "It's definitely something that we're conscious of, absolutely."

The Rams were watching and cheering from home while the Lakers won the NBA Finals in Florida just 16 days before the Dodgers raised the World Series trophy in Texas, capping an unprecedented quick back-to-back coronation for their metropolitan area's two most beloved teams.

Although the Rams are the city's most popular franchise in the nation's most popular sport, they realize they aren't nestled in LA's heart as snugly as the Dodgers or the Lakers — particularly not after their former owners moved them to Anaheim and St. Louis for 36 years before Stan Kroenke brought them home in 2016.

But the Rams fully intend to be a cornerstone of the sports establishment in the nation's second-largest metro area for decades to come. Kroenke's sparkling new \$5 billion SoFi Stadium in Inglewood is a major step toward that goal — and bringing a third championship in four months to Los Angeles just might clinch it.

Can the Rams do it? They've had three straight winning seasons, and they made it to the Super Bowl two years ago. Although they play in the NFL's toughest division, they're off to another strong start this fall as they hit the midway point of the regular season Sunday at Miami (3-3).

"We've got all the pieces," Goff said. "We're win-

ning games. We are playing well on offense, defense, special teams. We always believe in ourselves, and we've been there once with a lot of the same people. We know how to get there. We've just got to finish it off, and hopefully this is the year."

And now there's the City of Champions factor: If there is such a thing as civic momentum, the Rams are riding a big old wave of it alongside the Lakers and the Dodgers.

"You've got to be great to be relevant in this city, and I think that's awesome," said coach Sean McVay, a boyhood Atlanta Braves fan who now roots for the Dodgers and manager Dave Roberts, whom he describes as a role model.

"Really amongst the team it's, 'Hey, let's continue to produce and do our part to hold up our end of the bargain for the city,'" McVay added. "That pressure is a good thing. I think all 32 teams want to be able to do what the Dodgers' fans just did, so we're no different. But we've got to get to (win) No. 6 first."

The Rams actually arrived in Los Angeles before either the Lakers or the Dodgers, becoming the West Coast's first major pro sports franchise way back in 1946.

But their subsequent moves took them out of many LA sports fans' hearts until they returned to a city that famously hadn't had an NFL franchise since 1994, when Georgia Frontiere and Al Davis simultaneously left a wildly lucrative market and its millions of hungry sports fans.

Although rings are irreplaceable, the Rams are steadily building their case to deserve LA's love. They've been winners since McVay took over in 2017, and the league machinations that subsequently landed the Chargers in LA instead of the Raiders — the childhood favorite team of most Generation X and many millennial Angelenos, thanks to their thrilling 13-year run in the Coliseum from 1982-94 — undoubtedly benefited the Rams' quest.

Just ask Kai Forbath, the Rams' new kicker. The 33-year-old UCLA product is a Los Angeles native who lives in West Hollywood in the offseason. He grew up with season tickets at Dodger Stadium, and Kobe Bryant is his childhood hero.

"Just being an LA native, it's crazy, because (the Rams) are the team here now," said Forbath, who signed with the Rams last week. "All my friends and family here are Rams fans now, so it's very exciting to be a part of it."



DERIK HAMILTON/AP

Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz has as many interceptions (10) as touchdowns this season.

NFL

Vikes limited at CB against Rodgers, Pack

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

The Minnesota Vikings could be without three of their top four cornerbacks — Cameron Dantzler, Holton Hill and Mike Hughes — on Sunday at Green Bay.

Hill (foot) and Hughes (neck) were ruled out on Friday with injuries for the game against the Packers, who are second in the NFL in scoring with an average of 32.8 points per game. Neither Hill nor Hughes practiced all week. Hill will miss his third straight game. Hughes missed two games earlier this season, was re-injured on Oct. 18 against Atlanta and placed on injured reserve on Friday. That means Hughes, the 2018 first-round draft pick who has played in only 24 career games, will be sidelined for a minimum of three weeks.

Dantzler was placed on COVID-19 reserve on Wednesday. Coach Mike Zimmer left open the possibility of him suiting up in Green Bay, but he would need to clear the league's return-to-play testing protocols in time. Otherwise, rookie Jeff Gladney would be the only regular cornerback available for the Vikings, an ominous sign for facing Aaron Rodgers. Kris Boyd, who was limited in practice this week with hamstring and back injuries, is next on the inexperienced depth chart, followed by Harrison Hand and Mark Fields.

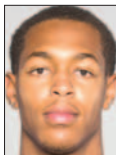
The Vikings listed running back Dalvin Cook as questionable, though Zimmer said before Cook's status was designated that he anticipated a standard workload. Cook hurt his groin on Oct. 11 at Seattle and was sidelined for the next game. He was limited in practice this week.

"He should be ready to go," Zimmer



MATT PATTERSON/AP

Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers could be in for a big game this weekend against the hobbled Minnesota Vikings secondary, which could be without three of its top four cornerbacks when it faces the Packers in Green Bay, Wis., on Sunday.



Dantzler

said. The Packers won't have leading rusher Aaron Jones, who will miss a second straight game with a calf injury. That leaves Jamaal Williams and A.J. Dillon as Green Bay's top two running backs against the Vikings.

Green Bay also announced cornerback Kevin King will miss a third straight game with a quadriceps injury. Josh Jackson has been starting in King's place. The Packers have listed offensive tack-



Hill

le David Bakhtiari (chest), kicker Mason Crosby (calf/back), running back Tyler Ervin (wrist), safety Raven Greene (oblique) and defensive lineman Tyler Lancaster (shoulder) as questionable. Crosby practiced on a limited basis on Friday after not practicing at all Wednesday or

Thursday. Vikings linebacker Todd Davis joined Dantzler on the COVID-19 reserve list on Friday, and Zimmer confirmed the



Hughes

Vikings had entered the NFL's intensive protocol phase, requiring the organization to implement additional preventative measures against virus spread.

Davis could be replaced in the base defense by rookie linebacker Troy Dye, who was designated on Monday for return from injured reserve along with starting right guard Pat Elflein. Both Dye (ankle) and Elflein (thumb) practiced this week. They were hurt in Week 2.

Virus outbreak

League recommends some sideline players wear masks

Associated Press

The NFL is recommending that players on the sidelines who are not participating in a game or about to go on the field wear protective masks.

In a memo obtained by The Associated Press on Friday, the league's management council also suggested the 32 teams enhance physical distancing on the sidelines while the NFL considers expanding the bench area.

Although the NFL stopped short of mandating masks for all players not on the field, it "strongly encouraged" all active players in the bench area who are not about to enter the game to wear masks while standing on the sideline and/or sitting on the bench. "A player wearing a mask during a close contact has a significantly reduced probability of being designated a 'High Risk Close Contact' after an exposure to a COVID-positive individual," the memo said.

Citing a player who tested positive two days after playing in a game and who had close contacts with 17 teammates and two



BRETT CARLSEN/AP

Titans head coach Mike Vrabel, right, wears a mask on the sidelines during a game against the Buffalo Bills in Nashville, Tenn., on Oct. 13. The NFL has expanded its recommendations to include players not participating in a game or about to go on the field among those who should be wearing masks to limit the spread of COVID-19.

team staffers — most of which occurred while the player was standing on the sideline — "we are strongly recommending that

clubs continue to implement measures to encourage physical distancing among players and staff on the sidelines during games,"

the memo said.

While the NFL considers expanding the bench area further down the sideline, teams may consider reconfiguring or adding benches.

"Assistant coaches and members of the football staff should pay particular attention to ensuring that players remain separated while waiting to enter the game, as well as avoiding grouping or bunching," the league said.

"It's really a look at how we can expand that physical distancing on the sideline ... the distancing and face masking are critical," said Dawn Aponte, the NFL's chief football administrative officer. "Every week we are learning something and trying to share best practices ... with our clubs."

The league also is offering an additional testing option for bus drivers retained by teams in the away city, prior to the team's arrival.

The NFL has been proactive in dealing with coaches who have not obeyed protocols — though such efforts might seem unsuccessful given how Panthers coach

Matt Rhule and some assistants on Thursday night skirted those rules about properly wearing masks. Several coaches, including Pete Carroll and Jon Gruden, were fined \$100,000 for not obeying the requirements, and teams have been fined \$250,000 apiece for sideline issues.

"We do try to remain in constant communication with the clubs through memos, phone calls, conference calls, one-offs, trying to remind and educate," Aponte said. "Everyone needs to lead by example. It is more so about trying to educate and get everyone to adhere to the face-covering protocol."

Two teams, the Tennessee Titans and New England Patriots, have had significant coronavirus outbreaks, causing juggling of the NFL schedule. Several other clubs have had isolated cases.

"We have to continue to reinforce all the messages about risk mitigation, something we can never say enough," said Dr. Allen Sills, the league's chief medical officer. "I think it just speaks to the need to be diligent all the time."

SPORTS



Cut loose

Free agent pool deeper as result of budget reductions » **MLB, Page 20**

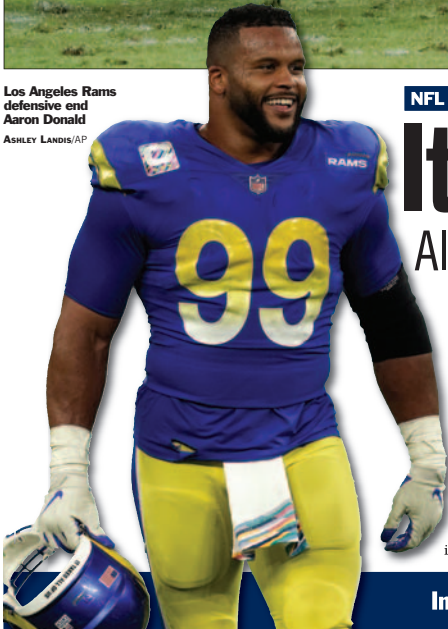
Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson, right, escapes the reach of Cardinals outside linebacker Devon Kennard during last weekend's game in Glendale, Ariz.

RICK SCUTEN/AP



Los Angeles Rams defensive end Aaron Donald

ASHLEY LANDIS/AP



NFL

It's best out West

All 4 NFC West teams in playoff hunt

BY BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

Here's a premise few can dispute: The NFC West is the best division in pro football.

In fact, it isn't close. Sure, the AFC North has shown some power, but it also has the 1-5-1 Bengals. Plus, the Browns have built their 5-2 record mostly against the league's dregs.

NFC West teams are 19-8 overall. The AFC North is 17-8-1, but it's top-heavy, and until we truly know if Cleveland is legitimate, the guys on the West Coast win the prize.

It's not inconceivable that the Seahawks, Cardinals, Rams and 49ers all could find their way into the NFC playoffs with a third wild card added.

It's unlikely, though, because they could be knocking off each other during intradivision play. So far, only three games have been played within the division: Arizona beating San Francisco and Seattle, and the Niners defeating the Rams.

"Yeah, we're in the best division in football and, you know, there's a reason for it," Rams quarterback Jared Goff said after the loss to the 49ers. "These guys are good. Arizona's good. Seattle's obviously undefeated (then). We're a great team. So every time you play in this division, it's going to be a tough game, and we know that coming in."

What the four clubs also know, coming in and going out, is they could be battered by the time they get to January. Fully tested by the trials and tribulations of the division, for sure. But perhaps not in the best shape for a Super Bowl run.

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