The Army is offering big bucks to lure more warrant officers into the air defense artillery branch, where specialists are in high demand to meet an expanding set of global missions.

The Army said it will pay a $60,000 bonus in the hopes of attracting new warrant officers to fill manning gaps. Sixty-eight new ADA warrant officers are needed each year, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jonathon Boone said in a recent Army statement.

“We always need three warrant officers per (ADA) unit, and 12 warrant officers per battalion,” Boone said.

There are three ADA warrant officer specialties: command and control systems integrator, air and missile defense tactician, and air and missile defense systems technician.

The $60,000 bonus is open just to new defense tacticians and technicians, the Army said. The service added it will accept warrant applicants from service members in other branches interested in switching to the Army.

Army offers $60,000 bonuses for new air defense warrant officers
Airline asks staff to take unpaid leave over outbreak

Associated Press

HONG KONG — Cathay Pacific Airways asked its 27,000 employees on Wednesday to take three weeks of unpaid leave while the Hong Kong carrier grapples with plunging revenue due to China's virus outbreak.

In a video message to employees, CEO Augustus Tang said that the situation is as grave as the 2009 financial crisis, The South China Morning Post reported. On Tuesday, Cathay announced a 90% reduction in flight capacity to mainland China, which has canceled group tours and told businesspeople to put off foreign travel while Beijing fights the outbreak centered on the city of Wuhan.

The airline cut 30% of its worldwide capacity for two months. Employees were asked to take “special leave” some time between March 1 and June 30, a Cathay statement said.

“Preserving cash is the key to protecting our business,” the airline said.

The airline used similar “special leave” in 2009 and during the 2003 outbreak of SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, which also led to cuts in flights.

“I am appealing to each and everyone one of you to help,” Tang said.

The little-understood coronavirus has killed nearly 300 people, mostly in mainland China, but it has also spread panic and anger around the world as the cases grow.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Baghdad 71/47
Kandahar 55/32
Kabul 77/55
Riyadh 75/55
Dubai 74/55

THURSDAY IN EUROPE

Mildenhall/
Lakenheath 40/33
Ramstein 55/30
Zagan 38/30
Sigonella 48/40
Olcikow 71/63

FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC

Guam 82/78
Tokyo 41/31
Sasebo 48/40
Kawasaki 70/52
Okinawa 71/63

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates
Bahrain (Dinar) 0.3770
British pound 1.2966
Canada (Dollar) 1.3300
China (Yuan) 6.9716
Denmark (Krone) 6.7950
Egypt (Pound) 15.7603
Euro 1.0100/0.9989
Hong Kong (Dollar) 7.8267
Hungary (Forint) 305.20
Israel (Shekel) 4.4449
Japan (Yen) 109.42
Kuwait (Dinar) 0.3042
Norway (Kroner) 9.2250
Philippines (Peso) 50.74
Poland (Zloty) 3.45
Saudi Arabia (Riyal) 3.7516
Singapore (Dollar) 1.3795
South Korea (Won) 1,194.39

Commercial rates
Bahrain (Dinar) 0.3770
British pound 1.2966
Canada (Dollar) 1.3300
China (Yuan) 6.9716
Denmark (Krone) 6.7950
Egypt (Pound) 15.7603
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Philippines (Peso) 50.74
Poland (Zloty) 3.45
Saudi Arabia (Riyal) 3.7516
Singapore (Dollar) 1.3795
South Korea (Won) 1,194.39

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate 4.75
Discount rate 2.25
Federal funds market rate 1.53
3-month bill 2.68
10-year bond 3.69

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.
Baghdad tells its military to cease reliance on US

By Qassim Abdul-Zahra and Samya Kullab

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The Iraqi government has told its military not to seek assistance from the U.S.-led coalition forces in operations against Islamic State, two senior Iraqi military officials said. The mandate comes amid a crisis of mistrust tainting U.S.-Iraq ties after an American strike killed a top Iranian general and an Iraqi militia commander.

Officially, the Iraqi military announced Jan. 30 that it and the coalition assumed joint military operations after a three-week halt. The pause was called amid soaring tensions following the Jan. 3 U.S. air strikes that killed Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani and senior Iraqi militia leader Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis.

But in practice, Iraqis are seeking to minimize coalition assistance against ISIS, based on government orders, two Iraqi military officials and one militia official said this week.

"After the killing of Soleimani, the Iraqi government decided to inform us formally not to cooperate and not to seek assistance from the U.S.-led international coalition in any operation," a senior military intelligence official told The Associated Press.

The U.S.-led coalition paused its mission to fight ISIS in Iraq on Jan. 5 in the wake of the attacks.

That same day, Shiite lawmakers, irlers by what they called a flagrant violation of sovereignty, pushed a non-binding resolution requesting that the government cancel legal agreements that provide the basis for U.S. troop presence in the country.

Outgoing Prime Minister Abdel Abdul-Mahdi has stated publicly that U.S. troops must go, but has stepped back from unilaterally canceling existing agreements, saying the matter was up to the next prime minister to decide.

Prime Minister-designate Mohammed Allawi has not made his policy toward the troop presence known.

Some 5,200 U.S. soldiers are stationed in Iraqi bases to support local troops fighting ISIS. They are part of a larger international coalition invited by the Iraqi government in 2014.

A commander in Iraq’s elite U.S.-trained Counter-Terrorism Services in western Anbar province said some training continues, but "as for military operations and carrying out operations, there is no support."

According to coalition spokesperson Col. Myles Caggins, no airstrikes have been conducted since the killing of Soleimani.

"The Iraqis have not requested assistance or airstrike support in recent weeks, while our operations are paused. All Coalition airstrikes have been coordinated with the Iraq Security Forces for years," he said.

U.S. Marine Gen. Frank McKenzie, the top American commander for the Middle East, met Tuesday with Iraqi leaders and acknowledged that joint military operations had "groundhog day been scaled back, though he said U.S. special operations forces are doing some missions with Iraqi commanders."

"We’re still in a period of turbulence. We’ve got a ways to go," he said.

Army works to reduce suicides in Alaska

By Wyatt Olson

Stars and Stripes

The Army has launched a series of improvements aimed at reducing the risk of suicide in Alaska after a spike in deaths that peaked last year, the service said Monday.

The short- and long-term initiatives — better access to behavioral health care, improved fitness facilities, healthier food options and blackout blinds to battle sleep issues — are an attempt to "enrich the morale and quality of life for troops and families," stationed with U.S. Army Alaska, an Army news release said.

In the wake of five soldier suicides in Alaska from May 2018 to April 2019, the U.S. Army Public Health Center’s Behavioral Health and Social Outcome Program conducted an epidemiologic study to determine why the surge in suicides happened, the service said.

It identified 11 Army Alaska suicides from January 2014 through March 2019 and found multiple risk factors, including issues with pain, sleeplessness and relationships.

About 11% of Fort Wainwright soldiers reported having suicidal thoughts in the previous year, the service said. The Army’s public health center found in an online survey.

The study found that the most common reasons soldiers did not seek mental health care were related to stigma — for example, being seen as weak or harming their career.

Soldiers also bailed chronic sleeplessness on Alaska’s extend daylight during the summer, which can last for up to 21 hours, the Army said. Barracks windows are slated to receive blackout blinds by May 1.

"Suicide is a horrible, difficult issue and one in which our behavioral health scientists have worked very hard," Secretary of the Army Ryan McCarthy said during a press briefing Monday at Fort Wainwright.

McCarthy and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston spent Monday touring Fort Wainwright families and talking with soldiers to determine what improvements should be included in the 2022 defense budget, the Army said.

Most of the roughly 13,000 active-duty soldiers in Alaska are based either at Wainwright in Fairbanks or Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage.

The Army said that at the urging of soldiers, access to workout facilities had expanded to 24 hours a day. About $910,000 in new equipment is expected to arrive at Wainwright’s two gyms by April.

The Army is also moving to provide easier access to high-quality and affordable food.

"We put investments in getting above and beyond the rate that is allocated per Soldier, so we can get higher-quality foods into those dining facilities," Maj. Gen. Andreyski, U.S. Army Alaska commanding general, said in the news release.

As of this month, the so-called basic daily food allowance at Alaska installations increased by 25 percent, which will give dining facility managers a bigger budget for higher quality food, the Army said.

Andreski said the Army had also installed Wi-Fi and new televisions in dining facilities.

The Army’s Alaska Medical Department formed an outpatient behavioral health services team that began taking referrals in December, with the first patients now receiving care, the Army said.

Another planned initiative would give soldiers more extended time off and more entrance options for troops and families.

McCarty said on Monday that identifying suicide warning signs “must become part of our DNA.”

Stars and Stripes/Associated Press

Soldiers with U.S. Army Alaska compete in the Best Warrior Competition at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in April. The Army has launched a series of improvements aimed at reducing the risk of suicide in Alaska after a spike in deaths that peaked last year.

SEAL on trial in nude pics scheme

By Brock Vergakis

The Virginian-Pilot (Norfolk)

NORFOLK, Va. — A court-martial for a member of the Navy’s SEAL Team 6 who has been charged with sexting a woman who worked with his unit began Tuesday.

Military prosecutors say Petty Officer 1st Class Aaron Howard used text messaging apps that allow users to use a fake phone number and pretend to be someone else he is not in order to request nude photographs.

Lt. Kirwinn Mike, a Navy prosecutor, accused Howard of pretending to be a female performer who worked for Naval Special Warfare Development Group. Mike said that while pretending to be the performer, Howard told the woman by text message that he could provide nude photos if she sent them to him. Mike said he later analyzed an email from the woman that he said was sent to Howard by a female performer.

"It’s 100% safe," one text message said. "You don’t have to worry."

"He was willing to be whoever he needed to be to get those photos," Mike said during opening statements.

Eventually, the woman who was asked for a nude photograph became suspicious and contacted authorities because she worried that the person the messages were purportedly sent from. The real life dietitian then contacted authorities because she worried that other questions that were asked about SEAL identities could be a threat, perhaps from a foreign intelligence service.

Howard’s civilian defense attorneys countered that while the text messages are real, there’s no evidence Howard sent them. Nor are there any nude photos on his phone or the victim’s phone.

“Their case is in shambles,” Michael Waddington said. “You pull one string, it falls apart.”

Mike said Naval Criminal Investigative Service investigators were able to trace the apps to an internet protocol address registered to Howard’s Virginia Beach hometown.

But Waddington said the email address used to create the text messaging accounts aligns with another SEAL’s nickname and that Howard was in Afghanistan when the original email account was set up and no one could have linked that email address to Howard’s IP address.

Howard was censured in the NCIS investigation during opening statements by saying investigators were given the names of 23 people the messages could’ve been from, but they failed to follow up on those leads.

The court-martial at Naval Station Norfolk is scheduled to last through Friday.
**Correction**

A Feb. 4 article about Matt Morgan, who died while scuba diving off Okinawa, should have listed his rank as staff sergeant.

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**Airman dies in motorcycle crash in Japan**

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — An airman was killed in a motorcycle accident Wednesday morning at the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo, base officials said.

The service member, assigned to Yokota, was pronounced dead at approximately 8:25 a.m. after being taken to the base’s medical facility, the 374th Airlift Wing said in a statement.

No other vehicles were involved in the accident, officials said. The airman’s name was being withheld for 24 hours.

The last motorcycle fatality at Yokota happened in January 2014, when a rider was killed in a crash in front of the Yokota Community Center.

news@stripes.com

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**‘US Navy’ coveralls sell out on Urban Outfitters’ website**

**By Christian Lopez**

Stars and Stripes

A $120 pair of blue “U.S. Navy” coveralls, the baggy attire worn by some sailors at work, has sold out on a fast-fashion retailer Urban Outfitters’ website.

Posted as a “vintage item,” the one pair listed for sale was no longer available Wednesday.

“One pair is available for purchase by one lucky customer, so get them before they’re gone!” Urban Outfitters stated on the sale page. “Please note, this vintage item is final sale and cannot be returned or exchanged.”

The mark-up was substantial; a pair of standard-issue Navy coveralls sells for $27.89 on the Navy Exchange website.

Navy uniform guidance indicates coveralls are worn at the commander’s discretion and to avoid soiling other uniforms. According to regulations, coveralls are worn with black boots, black socks, a black belt with a silver clip, a silver buckle and the service member’s name on a white fabric tape on the right of the chest.

The Urban Outfitters version bore a name tape for someone named “King.”

People who commented on the coverall sale page had a field day.

“I’m selling some that come in ‘New recruit blue’ and ‘Working party worn’ for that ‘distressed’ look,” wrote someone with the username SN_Smuckatelli. “Go talk to a Navy recruiter, they’ll show you how to get 3 pair for free!”

Another identified as moll15 added: “I had to go through bootcamp to get them. If you’re not ready to commit to the life of a Navy sailor, then don’t wear our uniforms.”

In 2017, Forever 21 received similar criticism for marketing its own brand of military-style clothing, in this case a “repurposed” Army physical-training T-shirt bearing the stylized graphic “A.”

One version came in gray and slit up the back, another was black and open in front with a choker-style collar. The sales pitch drew flak from several corners: “Now you can sneak out of his barracks in style.”

The clothing chain removed the items after negative remarks were posted on its website.

lopez.christian@stripes.com

Twitter: @Clopez_Stripes

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**A pair of U.S. Navy-inspired coveralls that were on sale for $120 at Urban Outfitters.**

Urban Outfitters

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**News from the Yokota community center**

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**Dueling Pianos**

FEbruary 8 • 1st FLOOR, CLUB ALLIANCE • DOORS OPEN • 6 P.M. • SHOW STARTS • 7 P.M.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 • PURDY FITNESS CENTER

DOORS OPEN: 5 P.M. • SHOW STARTS: 6 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 • PURDY FITNESS CENTER

DOORS OPEN: 6 P.M. • SHOW STARTS: 7 P.M.
Japan quarantines cruise ship over virus outbreak

Associated Press

TOKYO — Large white sheets covering them head-to-knee, people infected with a new virus were led by gloved and masked officials Wednesday off a Japanese cruise ship, while the rest of the 3,700 people on board faced a two-week quarantine in their cabins. In Hong Kong, more than 3,600 people on another cruise ship were to be screened after it was banned by Taiwan amid growing worry about the spread of an outbreak.

The ships are caught up in a global health emergency that seems to worsen by the day. The coronavirus has killed nearly 500 people, mostly in China, and has spread panic and anger around the world.

As thousands of hospital workers in Hong Kong went on strike to demand the border with mainland China be closed completely, the city announced that all people entering from the mainland, including Hong Kong residents, must be quarantined for 14 days. Tokyo Olympics organizers, meanwhile, said they are increasingly worried about the disruption the virus is causing ahead of the games, which open in less than six months.

Tedros Ghebreyesus, the director-general of the World Health Organization, asked for $675 million to help countries address the expected spread of the virus. He acknowledged that the sum is a lot, but told a news briefing that “it's much less than the bill we will face if we do not invest in preparedness now.”

China has strongly defended its control measures and called on other nations not to go overboard in their responses.

To reduce the danger of exposure for health workers, Beijing is seeking to develop a robot to administer throat tests. Separately, Shanghai announced that all schools will delay reopening until at least the end of February, rather than the middle of the month as originally planned. The exact date will depend on how the outbreak develops.

As examples of anti-Asian discrimination mount, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appealed for “international solidarity” and support for China and other countries hurt by the virus. He urged a stop to any stigmatization of innocent people.

In the port city of Yokohama, just outside Tokyo, health workers, some in protective white jumpsuits, transferred 10 patients from the Diamond Princess cruise ship to a Japanese coast guard boat next to it. The 10, covered in sheets to protect their identities from cameras, were taken to a dock and put on ambulances bound for hospitals for treatment in isolation.

Health Minister Katsunobu Kato said all of the people on board will be quarantined on the ship for up to 14 days under Japanese law. The ship had 2,666 passengers and 1,045 crew members. Tests were pending on 273 people who had symptoms or had contact with a man who was diagnosed with the virus after leaving the ship in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong ship passengers were being screened after three passengers on a previous voyage were diagnosed with the virus. The territory's beleaguered leader, Carrie Lam, also announced that two terminals — including the terminal where the cruise ship is currently quarantined — will be shut down.

The latest mainland China figures showed an increase of 65 deaths from the previous day, all the new deaths from Wuhan. The number of new cases increased to 24,324, a rise of 3,887 from the previous day. Outside mainland China, at least 230 cases have been confirmed, including two fatalities, one in Hong Kong and another in the Philippines.

Jets with 350 American evacuees land at Travis

Associated Press

FAIRFIELD, Calif. — Two jets carrying about 350 Americans home from Wuhan will arrive this week at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, and Eppley Airfield in Omaha, Neb., where they will be quarantined, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control said in a statement.

The first plane, which arrived Wednesday, will be quarantined at a hotel in Northern California. Some passengers were led by gloved and masked officials Wednesday off a Japanese cruise ship, while the rest of the 3,700 people on board faced a two-week quarantine in their cabins.

Guests and staff at the hotel on Travis Air Force Base near the city of Fairfield, about 50 miles from San Francisco, were moved out ahead of the planes’ arrival, said Technical Sgt. Traci Keller. The Americans were evacuated from the Chinese city of Wuhan, which is at the center of the new virus outbreak.

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Mail delivery to service members in Iraq resumes after suspension

Stars and Stripes

U.S. troops in Iraq could soon see more care packages inbound. Mail delivery to military APO and FPO addresses in the country has resumed after a weeklong suspension that began in the wake of the U.S. killing of a top Iranian official and a retaliatory strike by Iran on two bases in Iraq.

Deliveries to several posts were temporarily stopped Jan. 13, reportedly to prevent a backlog of mail in the days after the Jan. 8 ballistic missile strike that hit al Asad Air Base in western Anbar province and a base at the international airport in Irbil, the capital of Iraq’s Kurdish region.

U.S. Central Command referred questions about the mail service this week to the State Department, where an official confirmed that deliveries had resumed.

The mailroom was operating normally “despite some earlier distribution delays,” an unnamed official at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad said Monday in response to a query.

“We regret the delays, but have been working diligently to address the issues that led to a temporary stoppage,” the official said.

Ronald Moeller, the father of a deployed soldier, confirmed that his local post office in South Dakota would again accept packages bound for military addresses in Iraq, he told Stars and Stripes on Tuesday.

The mail delay in Iraq was the result of U.S. forces being repositioned in the country, a coalition official said over the weekend. At least some deliveries had resumed Saturday, the official said.

Some 2,500 American forces and several thousand allied troops make up the coalition’s contingent in Iraq, where they aid government forces battling Islamic State through training, advising and assisting them with intelligence, airstrikes and other combat support.

In the wake of a U.S. drone strike in Baghdad that killed Iranian Quds Force commander Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani on Jan. 3, the coalition had suspended training and support for Iraqi anti-ISIS operations and began moving troops to focus on increased security.

Last week, the Iraqi government announced that coalition training had resumed.
VA improperly paid out more than $300K in disability claims

By Steven Beynon
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs handed out about $311,000 in improper disability payments after an agency employee miscalculated claims, according to the department’s inspector general. The overpayments stemmed from a single employee at the VA’s Little Rock Regional Office in Arkansas making bad decisions — improperly processing paperwork during the disability claims process, and the failure of managers to provide the proper oversight on across thousands of patients.

The system failure in Arkansas resulted in improper payments that weren’t warranted, according to the IG report. In some cases, these claims were previously denied. The erroneous payments were not the fault of the veterans, the IG report stated, and no one has to pay back the money. However, VA management in Little Rock is re-evaluating the disabilities processed by the employee.

The overpayments undermine the department’s history of both payments claimed by veterans. However, in most cases, the issue is underpaying or not issuing any compensation when a veteran is entitled to it.

Several issues came up in 2018 when the VA tried to implement the Forever GI Bill, a major expansion of education benefits. The issues caused thousands of incorrect or delayed payments to student veterans who rely on education benefits for food, housing, and tuition. Missed payments force some students into critical financial circumstances, taking out loans and maxing out on credit cards. Some of them faced eviction threats.

In the summer of 2019, the IG reported the VA wrongly rejected thousands of emergency-care claims during a five-month period, sticking an “undue financial burden” of millions of dollars on across thousands of patients.

The errors affected an estimated 17,400 veterans who were stuck with a total $53.3 million in medical bills that the VA should have paid, the IG reported. In that case, the IG blamed a culture that “created a systemic pressure to favor speed over accuracy,” leading to staff incorrectly rejecting 31% of veterans’ emergency-care claims.

During the same summer, the inspector general found the federal government owes at least $189 million to 33,000 disabled veterans who overpaid on their VA home loans. As a result of the inaccurate payments, the employee, who was not named in the IG report, has resigned.

“Not only does this sword help me move forward, but the Purple Heart finishes that journey,” Jeannine Ott said.

Iraq vet receives Purple Heart for TBI 14 years after injury

By Chad Garland
Stars and Stripes

Combat medic David Ott’s injury caused by a roadside explosion in Iraq in 2006 seemed minor, until months afterward he fell into a coma, his brain bleeding and swolled from the traumatic brain injury he’d acquired.

Fourteen years later, the Iraq war veteran had a Purple Heart pinned to his chest for TBI so severe it left him with memory issues and in need of a service animal.

“I’m happy and it finally brings closure to something that’s a long time coming,” Ott told local news outlets. “And kind of sad, too, because this is the last time that I’ll be getting an award from the military.”

Ott was presented the medal — considered the military’s oldest still in use — at a ceremony last week during the “Old Warriors” luncheon at VIPNCOVID in Carlisle, Pa., where he now lives. Carlisle Barracks Command Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Carden presented the medal as TBI was again in the headlines out of Iraq, after at least 64 U.S. troops were diagnosed with brain injuries from an Iranian ballistic missile strike on al Asad Air Base last month. Critics said President Donald Trump minimized the wounds’ seriousness when he told reporters they weren’t as bad as other traumatic brain injuries he’d seen, such as limb amputations.

“Veterans of the signature wounds of recent wars, TBI has long qualified for the Purple Heart. But in 2011 the Defense Department clarified the award criteria for cases where invisible wounds received during hostilities don’t cause loss of consciousness and may not show immediate symptoms requiring treatment. Though Ott was treated, initial attempts to get him the award were denied.

Initially, Ott only felt dizzy and nauseated, he told Stars and Stripes. Though he suffered night terrors and headaches, he remained in Iraq and finished his tour.

Two months after returning home, he was on a trip to Disney World with his family in August 2006 when he went “stiff as a board” and dropped to the ground. He was medically evacuated to an Orlando hospital and spent nearly six weeks in a coma.

The retired soldier, who also served as an Allentown police officer, has suffered memory difficulties and still takes anti-seizure medication. For balance, he needs the help of his service dog, a black Labrador retriever named Sarge.

He had initially been put in for the Purple Heart by his unit, but it was denied and the unit didn’t pursue it further, Ott said. His childhood friend Keith Holdren, a retired major who served in the same Pennsylvania National Guard unit, picked up the ball and submitted the paperwork seeking the Purple Heart for him four times.

The medal finally showed up unceremoniously in the mail last summer, but that didn’t sit well with Ott’s wife, who emailed Rick Olson, the VFW post commander in Carlisle, to tell him it came with “no paperwork, just a medal, nothing describing why it was awarded” or why it had taken so long, Olson said.

“You don’t need accolades, but sometimes it’s nice to have the feeling that somebody else knows you did good,” Jeannine Ott told the local Fox affiliate.

Olson involved Carlisle Barracks and got Rep. Scott Perry’s office to help obtain a citation for the award. He then scheduled it to be presented during a lunch the post hosts every two months for World War II and Korean War veterans from six local retirement homes, he said. Local JROTC cadets were also among more than 50 people in attendance.

“Not only does this sword help him move forward, but the Purple Heart finishes that journey,” Jeannine Ott said.
Trump promotes Tuskegee Airman to general

By Corey Dickstein
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Tuesday pinned a single star on each shoulder of 100-year-old Tuskegee Airman Charles McGee, giving the veteran of World War II and the wars in Korea and Vietnam an honorary promotion to brigadier general.

Trump announced the promotion, which was approved by Congress in December, during his third State of the Union address Tuesday evening.

“Earlier today, I pinned the stars on their shoulders in the Oval Office,” Trump said during the address. “Gen. McGee: Our nation salutes you. Thank you, sir.”

It was McGee’s second moment in the spotlight this week. On Sunday, McGee joined three other World War II veterans as honorary captains for the coin flip before the National Football League’s Super Bowl.

McGee is among the last survivors of the Tuskegee Airmen, the famous group of African-American fighter pilots and airmen whose success in World War II was considered critical to the eventual racial integration of the U.S. military after the war.

After 30 years of service on active duty, including more than 400 combat flights, McGee retired from the Air Force as a colonel in 1966.

“I want to tell you, General McGee, that it’s a great honor for me to be here today,” Trump said Tuesday after the White House ceremony, according to an Air Force release.

McGee’s great-grandson hopes to follow in his footsteps as a military leader. Trump said during the address that 13-year-old Iain Lanphier wants to join the U.S. Space Force, the new, sixth military branch long championed by Trump and established late last year.

“Iain has always dreamed of going to space,” Trump said of the Scottsdale, Ariz., eighth-grader who attended the speech alongside McGee. “He aspires to go to the Air Force Academy, and then, he has his eye on the Space Force. As Iain says, ‘Most people look up at space, I want to look down on the world.’

For now, he can look up to his great-grandfather. McGee flew 136 combat flights in the European Theater of World War II in 1944, mostly in P-51 Mustang and P-47 Thunderbolt fighter aircraft, according to his biography. He would go on to become a commander above some 6,200 hours including more than 1,500 in combat.

In Korea, he flew more than 100 missions in a P-51. Later, in Vietnam, he commanded the 16th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron and flew 172 combat missions in an RF-4 Phantom II photo-reconnaissance jet, according to his Air Force biography.

McGee amassed dozens of medals and awards throughout his career, including two Legions of Merit, three Distinguished Flying Crosses and a Bronze Star Medal. In 2007, President George W. Bush awarded him the Congressional Gold Medal, and in 2011, McGee was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio.

“Charles McGee is a genuine American hero whose courage in combat helped save a nation, and we felt it was time for us to witness his promotion and to thank him yet again for paving the way for today’s Air Force. The Tuskegee Airmen continue to inspire generations of Americans,” Trump tweeted.

Speech: Trump stays optimistic, focuses on economic growth

FROM FRONT PAGE

But while he tweets daily asailing his impeachment, Trump never mentioned the “i-word” in his State of the Union speech. That followed the lead of Bill Clinton, who did not reference his recent impeachment when he delivered his State of the Union in 1999. Trump spoke from the House chamber, on the opposite side of the Capitol from where the Senate on one day later was expected to acquit him largely along party lines.

Pelosi, a frequent thorn in Trump’s side, created a viral moment with a seemingly sarcastic applause of the president a year ago. This time, she was even more explicit with her very tactless riposte.

Trump appeared no more cordial to the House’s impeachment and impeachment acquittal, and seemed to embrace the notion that he had been vindicated and reelected.

He stood by his boasts about the economy, saying “right now there’s a tiff” with Wall Street over the tariffs.

Trump bragged about the Supreme Court — which was approved by Congress — and praised Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell as having “done a job that will last for decades and decades.”

The Democrats were incompetent, he said, and “will never mention the ‘i-word’ in the Senate trial comes to a close. Trump spent much of the speech highlighting the economy’s strength, stressing how it has helped blue-collar workers and the middle class, though the period of growth began under his predecessor, Barack Obama. And what Trump calls an unprecedented boom is, by many measures, not all that different from the solid economy he inherited from Obama. Economic growth was 2.3% in 2019, matching the average pace since the Great Recession ended a decade ago in the first year of Obama’s eight-year presidency.

While the White House said the president was offering a message of unity, he also spent time on issues that have created great division and resonated with his political base. He attacked Democrats’ healthcare proposals for being too intrusive and again highlighted his signature issue — immigration — Trumpeting the miles of border wall that have been constructed.

He also dedicated a section to “American values,” discussing efforts to protect “religious liberties” and limit access to abortion, as he continues to court the evangelical and conservative Christian voters who form a crucial part of his base.

The Democrats were supplying plenty of counter-programming, focusing on health care — the issue key to the takeaway of the House last year. Trump, for his part, vowed to not allow a “socialist takeover of our health care system,” a swipe at the Medicare for All proposal endorsed by some of his Democratic challengers.

Many female Democrats wore white as tribute to the suffragettes in 1913. This year wore red, white and blue-striped lapel pins to highlight climate change, saying that Trump has rolled back environmental safeguards and given free rein to polluters. Trump also left climate change out of the speech.

Buttigieg holds edge in partial Iowa results

Sanders a close second, but it’s still too early to name a caucus winner

**By Steve Peoples, Thomas Beaumont and Alexandra Jaffe**

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Pete Buttigieg held a slight lead over Bernie Sanders in the opening contest of the Democratic race for the presidential nomination, according to partial results released by the Iowa Democratic Party.

The results came out late Tuesday followed 24 hours of caucuses. Technical problems marred the complicated process, forcing state officials to apologize and raising questions about Iowa’s traditional place atop the presidential primary calendar.

It was too early to call a winner based on the initial results from Monday’s caucuses, but Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, former Vice President Joe Biden and Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar were trailing in the tally of votes Tuesday. Billionaire Michael Bloomberg, a former New York City mayor, sensed opportunity after Iowa, and said he would double his already massive advertising campaign and expand his operation to play down the caucus results.

While all campaigns were eager to spin the Iowa results to their advantage, there was little immediate indication that the incomplete results erased the confusion and concern that loomed over the caucuses. It was unclear when the full results would be released.

During a private conference call with campaigns earlier in the day, the chairman of the state party, Troy Price, declined to answer questions about the timeline — even whether it would be days or weeks.

“We have been working day and night to make sure these results are accurate,” Price said at a subsequent news conference.

The leading candidates pressed for possible importance by technical difficulties.

Sanders, 78, a self-described political jockeying, caucus day after voting concluded.

The two early leaders — Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Ind., and Sanders, Vermont’s senator — were separated by 40 years in age, conflicting mont’s senator — were separated by 40 years in age, conflicting...
### NATION

#### Judge OKs release of Pentagon Papers case records

**By Alanna Durkin Richer**
Associated Press

BOSTON — The government must release some documents that will shed light on two grand juries that sat in Boston nearly 50 years ago to investigate the leak of the Pentagon Papers, a federal judge ruled Tuesday.

The records detailing the probe into the publication of records that exposed the deceit of American policymakers during the Vietnam War were sought by Jill Lepore, a Harvard University professor and New Yorker staff writer.

Lepore filed a petition in 2018 seeking the long-secret documents from the 1971 grand juries, saying that the records would “fill a significant gap in the public’s understanding of the Pentagon Papers episode and contribute to contemporary debates over press freedom and national security.”

But federal prosecutors fought their release, arguing that it is critical to keep grand juries secret in order to encourage witnesses to testify freely and protect the privacy of people who are later cleared of accusations.

U.S. District Judge Allison Burroughs said in her written decision that she would grant a “limited disclosure” of the grand jury materials, but not allow the “unfettered” access Lepore sought.

Burroughs is allowing the release of transcripts and exhibits for witnesses who supported making the files public, but will allow officials to request redactions.

The judge is also allowing the release of the weather service’s temperature and snow reports.

If the government objects to the release of other documents, it has 60 days to explain why they should stay under wraps, Burroughs said. The judge signaled that she may be willing to delay the release of the records so that the government has a chance to appeal, “given the importance of this issue.”

The U.S. attorney’s office in Boston declined to comment. An email was also sent to Lepore’s attorneys Tuesday.

Burroughs said that she was allowing the documents to be released “reductively,” expressing concern that it could have “unintended consequences” or open the door to the release of other secret grand jury documents in the future.

“All of that being said, the authority of the court to allow the disclosure sought in this case seems clear, and given the passage of time, the historical significance of the materials at issue and the fact that much of the matter is already in the public domain, the court must conclude that the limited disclosure allowed here does not run afoul of any of the purposes of grand jury secrecy,” Burroughs wrote.

Among those who supported their release were New York Times, Washington Post and other newspapers.

Lepore said in a declaration filed in court that it is important “now more than ever” to release the grand jury investigation records because it represented one of the government’s earliest attempts “to use the Espionage Act to indict journalists for doing journalism.”

#### Ex-VMI student sues school, claims hazing

**By Lauren Lumpkin**
The Washington Post

A former Virginia Military Institute student says he was water-boarded, physically assaulted and forced to wrestle another student while partially clothed during his first year at the school, according to a lawsuit filed last week.

The alleged incident led the student, identified in the lawsuit as John Doe, to withdraw from the school. The man’s attorney said that the former student’s identity has been concealed because he is worried the lawsuit will affect his future and because he fears retribution from military institute leaders.

The small public school in Lexington, Va., has a documented history of racial and gender-based discrimination, according to the complaint. The U.S. Education Department’s Office for Civil Rights found in 2014 that the school permitted a hostile environment for female students.

The school denies the allegations, said Col. Stewart MacInnis, a VMI spokesman. Cadets are trained to prevent and report hazing and sexual misconduct, he added.

“We have not violated anyone’s rights and will defend the institution vigorously,” MacInnis said. VMI takes immediate action when policies are violated.

A wrestling match between John Doe and another first-year student is at the heart of Doe’s sexual harassment allegation, which included “naked wrestling and unwanted touching,” according to the complaint.

After school leaders learned of the alleged incident from an upperclassman, they did not launch a separate Title IX investigation into the sexual misconduct allegations, the lawsuit says. Doe says it is because he is a man. Title IX is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in schools that receive federal funding.

Timothy Furin, Doe’s attorney, said that he hopes the lawsuit will raise awareness of systemic issues within military academies and compel policy changes at the federal level.

The complaint accuses the school’s Board of Visitors — VMI’s governing body — of turning a blind eye to hazing and abuse on campus, Furin said. The school’s superintendent, retired Gen. Binford Peay, and its commandant of cadets, Col. William Wanovich, are also named as defendants, along with five current or former students who allegedly participated in the assault.

#### Powerful storm inciting tumbling temperatures, snow in Plains

From wire reports

DALLAS — A powerful winter storm dropped snow throughout parts of Texas and Oklahoma early Wednesday and brought the risk of ice to northwest Arkansas.

From sudden temperature drops, to disruptive ice and snow, to severe storms and flooding rain, a major storm will make its mark as it charges across the Lower 48 states this week.

Winter storm warnings were in effect Wednesday from eastern New Mexico to the St. Louis metropolitan area, the National Weather Service reported.

The powerful storm system sent temperatures tumbling in the Rockies, shifting springlike conditions back to winter in a matter of hours. On Sunday, Boulder and Denver were in the 70s. By Monday, they had ice and snow.

Northwestern Texas could see 4 to 8 inches of snow, while 3 to 5 inches of snow was expected in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa areas, forecasters said.

In Arkansas, forecasters said that up to a quarter-inch of ice and 1 to 3 inches of snow were possible in the northwest part of the state. The remainder of the state was expected to get heavy rain Wednesday.

Further north, snow was predicted in the Kansas City area, where hundreds of thousands of people were expected to attend a parade marking the Kansas City Chiefs’ Super Bowl win.

Snow also was expected to extend into Illinois, Michigan and other parts of the Midwest on Wednesday and Thursday before reaching the Northeast by Friday, in part because of this storm system.

By the time the storm reaches the eastern U.S., it will draw heat and moisture from the Gulf Mexico, fueling thunderstorms in the Southeast and heavy rainfall through the Mid-Atlantic and southern New England.

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**Commuters travel in snow and a wintry mix Wednesday on I-244 in Tulsa, Okla.**

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Scientists for former CIA employee in leaking case

By Shane Harris
The Washington Post

NEW YORK — Federal prosecutors Tuesday opened their case against a former CIA software engineer they say leaked a massive trove of the agency’s secret hacking tools to take revenge on his former employers.

Joshua Schulte, 31, is charged with disclosing classified information to WikiLeaks after allegedly stealing it from a secretive CIA unit where he worked. In more than 8,000 pages of material published in 2017 — known as the Vault 7 leaks — WikiLeaks showed how the CIA breaks into smartphones and internet-connected devices, including televisions.

The disclosure “was the single biggest leak of classified national defense information in the history of the CIA,” Assistant U.S. Attorney David Denton told jurors. Denton said that as a result of the disclosure, CIA operations had “come to a halt,” U.S. intelligence officers serving overseas had been exposed and American adversaries were able to turn cyberwarfare tools developed by the CIA against the United States.

Schulte has pleaded not guilty to 11 criminal counts.

Over the months that the case has wound its way to trial, Schulte’s lawyers have described the government’s charges as vague and overreaching. They also complained that prosecutors have been slow to share information about their case with the defense and placed burdensome rules on the handling of classified information.

Sabrina Shroff, Schulte’s lead defense attorney, accused the government of prosecuting Schulte out of embarrassment over losing such a huge volume of sensitive information, and because he was “an easy target.”

Schulte said previously that he was targeted for speaking out against what he described as incompeten-
tCIA management. From 2010 to 2016, Schulte worked in the CIA’s Engineering Development Group, which produced the computer code public-

On March 13, 2017, less than a week after the original WikiLeaks publication, FBI agents searched Schulte’s apartment in New York, where he had moved to take a new job after leaving the agency, and found a computer server and several external drives, as well as notebooks and handwritten notes, containing data Schulte said he had leaked at FBI agents that he had leaked the CIA materials.

But in August, Schulte was arrested after inves-
tigators searching his computer found evidence of child pornography, including more than 10,000 pho-
tos and videos, prosecutors alleged. He has pleaded not guilty to those charges, which will be tried separately.

While he was in jail in Manhattan, the government continued to investigate Schulte for the Vault 7 leaks but didn’t bring charges for months.

In June 2018, prosecutors charged him with vio-

tuating the Espionage Act and related crimes associ-
de with the WikiLeaks publication.

The FBI also charged him with using a contraband cellphone while in jail to disseminate classified information to the press and use social media to claim that the FBI was framing him for the leaks.

The trial is expected to last several weeks.

Court hears arguments in Ohio gunman school records case

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A school district is before the state high court fighting the release of student records of a gunman who killed nine people in Dayton last year.

Lawyers for Bellbrook-Sugar-
creek Local Schools say state and federal law protecting student privacy bar the release of confidential information without consent.

“There is nothing in the law that would advise an Ohio school administrator that either protection terminates upon the death of the student,” attorneys for the district argued in a Jan. 14 filing.

Likewise, media groups seek-
ing the records’ release say that nothing in the laws prevent the information’s release.

The Ohio Supreme Court could next decide to set oral arguments on the case, though no final decision is expected for several weeks.

The records could shed light on whether authorities properly handled early warning signs ex-
hibited by gunman Connor Betts, the media outlets, including The Associated Press, have argued.

Betts was killed by police half a minute after he opened fire Aug. 4 in Dayton’s crowded Oregon District entertainment area. But armed with an AR-15 style gun with an extended ammunition magazine, Betts still killed nine, including his sister, and injured dozens more.

Police investigators said Betts had a “history of obsession with violent ideations with mass shoot-
ings and expressed a desire to commit a mass shooting.” The FBI said it uncovered evidence Betts “looked into violent ideologies.”

The Supreme Court took the case after the appeals court ruled in favor of Bellbrook-Sugarcreek schools and its denial of access to Betts’ high school files.

School’s anti-racism meeting disrupted by parent’s Mexico remark

Associated Press

SALINE, Mich. — A public meeting called to address racist social media posts by students at a suburban Detroit high school turned volatile when a parent asked a Hispanic parent, “Why didn’t you stay in Mexico?”

The exchange Monday shocked many who had gathered for a community meeting at the Sal-
line Area Schools district office after white students posted racist messages to black classmates via Snapchat last month.

Remembering parent Adrian Irmla articulated that his son endured racist name-calling by students in the district and de-
scribed the impact it had on him. His son drew motivation from being called names such as taco, enchilada and nacho, Irmla said, ultimately fueling him to earn a master’s degree from Johns Hop-
kine University.

“I remember when I went to his bedroom to say good night and he was crying because he was afraid that his misdeeds in this school system,” said Irmla, who is the owner of an Ann Arbor-
based Mexican restaurant.

Tom Burtell, a white man who has children attending schools in the district, then interjected, “Then why didn’t you stay in Mexico?”

In an MLive.com interview Tuesday, Matthew Burtell, a 2014 Saline High School alumnus and Tom Burtell’s son, spoke out against his father’s racist and xenophobic behavior.” After see-
ing video of the exchange, he said it gave him “a sinking feeling.”

“It’s of vital importance to call out racism wherever you see it,” Matthew Burtell said. “We can’t stand idly by — as children, as brothers and sisters, as friends and as people interacting with each other in daily life — when someone says or does anything racist. It’s all of our responsi-
bilities and it shouldn’t have to get to this.”

Scot Graden, the district’s su-
pervisor, said the students’ Snapchat remarks are still under investigation.
Turkey avalanche wipes out rescuers

BY SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — An avalanche slammed into a mountain road in eastern Turkey on Wednesday, wiping out a team of rescue workers sent to find two people missing in an earlier avalanche. Officials said 23 rescue workers were killed while others were still buried under the snow.

Wednesday’s avalanche increased the overall death toll from the disaster to 28.

Approximately 300 emergency service workers were called to a highway near the town of Bahcesaray in Van province, which borders Iran, after an avalanche struck late Tuesday. That snowslide killed five people. Around noon Wednesday, the team was struck by the second avalanche.

Gov. Mehmet Emin Bilmez said that 23 rescuers’ bodies were recovered from the mass of snow on the steep slope. They included eight military police officers, three government-paid village guards, three firefighters and nine volunteers. Emergency teams were searching for other colleagues who may still be buried under the snow, Bilmez said. He did not provide a figure.

About 300 emergency service workers were called to a highway near the town of Bahcesaray in Van province, which borders Iran, after an avalanche struck late Tuesday. That snowslide killed five people. Around noon Wednesday, the team was struck by the second avalanche.

The first avalanche buried a snow-clearing vehicle and a mini-bus. The vehicle’s operator and seven passengers escaped alive. The Anadolu Agency said that the operator, Bahattin Karagulle, was trapped beneath the snow for 25 minutes before he managed to break a window and escape.

Plane skids off Istanbul runway, breaks up

ISTANBUL — A plane skidded off the runway Wednesday as it tried to land in Istanbul, crashing into a field and breaking into pieces. Passengers had to evacuate through cracks in the smashed plane and authorities said 120 people were sent to the hospital with injuries.

The low-cost Pegasus Airlines plane was arriving at Istanbul’s Sabiha Gokcen airport from the western Turkish city of Izmir when it had what the Transportation Ministry described as a “rough landing.” The ministry said no one died in the incident.

Video obtained by The Associated Press showed the wreckage of the plane in a field adjacent to the end of the runway. The video shows heavy rain and strong winds at the time, with smoke coming from one of the engines as passengers climb out of the fuselage onto the wings of the plane and away from the crash site.

Dozens of rescue crew members swarmed around the flood-lit fuselage, including around the cockpit, which had flipped over. The plane was a Boeing 737 that was 11 years old, according to the flight tracking website FlightRadar24.
UK plans to ban new gas, diesel vehicles by 2035

By Jill Lawless
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain announced Tuesday that it plans to ban the sale of new gas and diesel cars by 2035 — five years earlier than its previous target — in a bid to speed up efforts to tackle climate change.

The announcement was timed to coincide with the launch of Britain’s plans for the United Nations’ climate summit, known as COP26, which is scheduled to be held in Glasgow in November.

Britain has pledged to reduce its net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050. But the government’s advisory Committee on Climate Change has warned that the country’s action to slash carbon dioxide and other gases that contribute to global warming is lagging far behind what is needed.

The U.K.’s new 2035 gas and diesel car sales is one of the world’s more ambitious. Several countries, including France, plan to stop by 2040. Norway — one of the most aggressive early adopters of electric cars — has a goal, but not a requirement, to eliminate petrol and diesel cars, excluding hybrids, by 2025.

The U.K. says it will bring in a ban on fossil-fuel cars and vans even earlier than 2035 “if a faster transition is feasible.” The ban will also include hybrid vehicles. But environmental groups said Britain’s goal was not ambitious enough.

Germany appeals court denies bid to remove an anti-Semitic relic

Associated Press

BERLIN — A German appeals court Tuesday rejected a Jewish man’s bid to force the removal of a 700-year-old anti-Semitic statue from a church where Martin Luther once preached.

The “Judensau,” or “Jew pig,” sculpture on the Church in Wittenberg is one of more than 20 such relics from the Middle Ages that still adorn churches across Germany and elsewhere in Europe.

Plaintiff Michael Duellmann had argued that the sculpture was “a defamation of and insult to the Jewish people” that has “a terrible effect up to this day.”

Duellmann said he would appeal Tuesday’s decision to the Federal Court of Justice and is prepared to take the case outside Germany to the European Court of Human Rights, if necessary.

Placed on the church about 13 feet above ground level, the sculpture depicts people identifiable as Jews suckling the teats of a sow while a rabbi lifts the animal’s tail. In 1570, after the Protestant Reformation, an inscription referring to an anti-Jewish tract by Luther was added.

In 1988, a memorial was set up inside the church to the part of the parish. Now “part of an ensemble which speaks for another objective” on the facade of the Stadtkirche in Wittenberg, Germany.

A German appeals court has rejected a Jewish man’s bid to force the removal of the statue.

After a court in Dessau rejected Duellmann’s case in May, he took it a higher state court in Naumburg. That court said in its ruling Tuesday that he failed to prove the Town House sculpture must be taken down because “in its current context” it is not of “slanderous character” and didn’t violate the plaintiff’s rights.

The appeals court said that with the addition of the memorial and information sign, the statue was “a defamation of and insult to the Jewish people” that has “a terrible effect up to this day.”

The Holocast. In addition, a sign gives information about the sculpture in German and English.

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*Dates do not include travel days
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Woman acquitted of blasphemy for taking dog into mosque

Associated Press

CIBINONG, Indonesia — An Indonesian woman who doctors say should receive psychiatric treatment was acquitted Wednesday of blasphemy charges for taking a dog into a mosque.

Susetha Margareth was released after a panel of three judges at Cibinong District Court in West Java province absolved her of the charges because of her mental health.

“The defendant cannot be convicted because of her inability to take responsibility as she has psychiatric disorders,” presiding judge Indra Meinahtna Vidi said in the ruling, “What she has done was part of her mental illness.”

Many Muslims consider dogs to be impure.

A video that circulated online in Muslim-majority Indonesia last July shows a dog running around a mosque in the West Java district of Bogor while a visibly upset Margareth argues with shocked worshippers.

Angered conservative Muslims pressured police to bring the case to court.

The dog, which was chased out of the mosque, died a day later when it was hit by a car as members of an animal welfare group tried to capture it.
The walk to (mill)work

A worker crosses a pedestrian bridge on his way to work a shift at the ND Paper mill last week in Rumford, Maine, where the early morning temperatures were in the single digits. The company is planning upgrades this year to increase production of paper and packaging products.

Hands crushed, woman calls 911 with her toes

A woman whose hands were crushed while she was changing a tire slid off her shoe, manipulated her toes and called 911 to call for help using her toes.

Man accused of filming coworkers at day care

St. Petersburg — A cafeteria worker at a Florida child care center is facing a video voyeurism charge after his co-workers found a cell phone taped under the sink and facing the toilet in a bathroom.

Police: ‘Dumpster diving’ at store turned fatal

Officials: Virus killing Eurasian collared doves

Bismarck — A virus is killing some doves in the Bismarck-Mandan area, state wildlife officials said Monday.

Police: Mom forced son, 13, to vape THC

Lindeman was arrested last week following reports about child abuse. Lindeman’s son told investigators his mother physically abused him and made him smoke vape pens containing 90% THC, and grounded him for weeks if he refused. THC is the chemical in marijuana that makes users feel high.

Woman sees pet on cans promoting shelter dogs

A Florida brewery that recently began placing shelter dogs’ faces on beer cans helped reunite a Minnesota woman with her dog, Hazel, who went missing three years ago.

From wire reports
Doherty says breast cancer has progressed to stage 4

The actress from “Charmed” and “Beverly Hills, 90210” first revealed she had breast cancer in 2015 and charted her battle with the disease and its remission on social media. She said one reason she went public with the news is because her health conditions could come out in court. The actress has sued insurance giant State Farm after her California home was damaged in a fire in 2018. “I’d rather people hear it from me. I don’t want it to be a court document. I want it to be real and authentic,” Doherty said. “I want people to know from me, I just didn’t want them to know yet.”

Doherty, 48, has been working on the show “BH90210” and kept the diagnosis mostly secret. “People with stage four can work, too. Our life doesn’t end the minute we get that diagnosis. We still have some living to do,” she said.

Compiled from wire services

Original Beach Boys member encourages boycott of band’s music

One of the co-founders of The Beach Boys has joined a boycott of his own music to protest it being used by another band member at an animal hunting convention.

Brian Wilson has denounced a performance of Beach Boys music on Wednesday at the Safari Club International Convention in Reno, Nev. The concert is being led by The Beach Boys’ co-founder, lead singer and chief lyricist Mike Love.

In a tweet, Wilson said he and band member Al Jardine are “unequivocally opposed” to trophy hunting. He then pointed to a Change.org petition that calls for a boycott of Beach Boys’ music until the performance is canceled. The petition had garnered more than 100,000 signatures by Tuesday afternoon.

In response, Love offered a statement to Pitchfork magazine: “We look forward to a night of great music in Reno and, as always, support freedom of thought and expression as a fundamental tenet of our rights as Americans.”

The Beach Boys are known for sunny harmonies in such songs as “California Girls,” “I Get Around,” “Fun Fun Fun,” “Good Vibrations” and “Kokomo.”

Famed book editor Alice Mayhew dies

Alice Mayhew, the celebrated and influential editor of political and historical works whose association spanned from Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein to Taylor Branch and Doris Kearns Goodwin, has died at age 67.

Simon & Schuster, which she joined in 1971, announced that she died “peacefully” at her home in Manhattan and dubbed her death “a loss for all of us, a loss on so many fronts.”

A New York City native, Mayhew was on the editorial staff of the most notable nonfiction releases of the past half century, including Woodward and Bernstein’s landmark Watergate best-seller “All the President’s Men,” among the first books to broadly investigate a sitting presidential administration; the feminist classic “Our Bodies, Ourselves”; Branch’s Pulitzer Prize-winning “Parting the Waters,” and Kevin Poulsen’s Pulitzer Prize-winning “No Ordinary Time.” She also worked with former President Jimmy Carter, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the historians Stephen Ambrose, Michael Beschloss and David Herbert Donald among others.

Other news

A lawyer for a son of Aretha Franklin asked a judge Tuesday to keep an eye on professional fees paid by the late singer’s estate, which has stirred up a dispute over assets left by the Queen of Soul. Franklin died without a formal will in August 2018. His estate was worth an estimated $71 million last summer.
Iowa turnout should trouble all Democrats

By Karen Tumulty
The Washington Post

DES MOINES, Iowa — No one knew how long it would be before the unexpected presidential candidate won the Iowa caucuses.

But the unplanned tally of the night has been reported, and it should worry Democrats.

Even as the Iowa Democratic Party was trying to sort out the chaos in its reporting system, a party official announced that former Vice President Joe Biden had come on pace with what they had seen in 2016.

In other words, it was mediocre. About 170,000 people participated in the 2016 Iowa Democratic caucuses, far short of the unprecedented 240,000 voters who turned out in 2008 to hear Barack Obama on his way to the White House. What was so exciting a dozen years ago was not only how many Iowans showed up, but who they were: young, people of color, rural and gay caucusers, an ethnically diverse mix of voters in an overwhelmingly white state.

Until recent days, there had been plenty of buzz among Democrats that this year would set a new record. There was even some talk that turnout could reach 300,000, which would be incontrovertible evidence of the passion that party is supposed to bring out. But yesterday evening, President Donald Trump in November.

Indications last year gave them plenty of reason to think just that. All kinds of political analysts, including Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., made her visit to the state as a candidate in early January 2019, lined people up two- and-a-half hours in advance to get into one event that I went to in Ankeny. More than 12,000 people showed up for the traditional Democratic Steak Fry last September, so eager were Iowans to hear from the 17 candidates who spoke there. At the state party’s big annual fundraising dinner in November, an estimated 13,000 euphoric Democrats packed the Hilton in downtown Des Moines practically to the rafters.

In the past week, I’ve been struck at how different the atmosphere felt.

The single-minded focus on Trump — getting Trump out of the White House that has been, and remains far more a motivator than any differences these Democrats have over issues such as health care. But the voters I talked to seemed confused and anxious in the final hours before the caucuses, more torn than usual over which candidate to pick in a field that still numbers nearly a dozen. All but absent were the public displays of commitment to one candidate or another — the yard signs that typically dot suburban lawns and plaster the sides of barns in the countryside.

So what does the fact that so few actually turned out mean for the primary going forward? So-so turnout blows a hole in the rationale of Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., in particular. His methodology is that he can inspire the passion it takes to bring out young people and disaffected voters, but other candidates who didn’t vote. Sanders had shown a surge in the most recent polls. But as he told a crowd in Indianapolis on Saturday: “If the voter turnout is low, we’re going to lose. It’s as simple as that.”

On Monday, yet another caucuses that met in the same church hall in Waukee, an outer suburb of Des Moines that is in the fastest-growing part of the state. The Secretary of State, former South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete But- tigieg won both of them — handily.

In the meantime, the campaigns have already moved on to New Hampshire. The campaigns that failed to do so will be dropped in Iowa.

Karen Tumulty is a Washington Post columnist covering national politics.

Certainly acquittal, app mishap helped Trump win Iowa

By Kathleen Parker
Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON — If, as he didn’t do it again: Donald John Trump slid out the back door and won the Iowa caucuses Monday night thanks to a vote-counting app apocalypse, and he’s set to be acquitted on the two impeachment charges leveled against him.

Forget Former President Ronald Reagan, to whom no bad thing ever stuck. Forget the Comeback Kid, President Bill Clinton, who kept getting up after he was knocked down. For reasons as mysterious as the Iowa caucuses themselves, President Donald Trump may be the luckiest ever to hold the office. Despite being like a bank robber who practically leaves bread-crumbs for his dogs to follow, he can’t seem to get caught.

And, if Democrats continue their trend of ineptitude — there’s more — Trump will escape with another term in office come November. If he wants it.

Though he still falls short of exonerating, Trump doesn’t let anything interfere with his own reality. When the Mueller investigation failed to find evidence of a criminal conspiracy between his campaign and Russia, he insisted he was found “innocent.”

If the Senate’s inevitable acquittal of Trump won’t exonerate him, but he’ll surely claim that it does. From his perspec- tive, he and Trump are roughly the same: still president of the United States, isn’t he? Moreover, the chaos that has been ascribed to the Trump White House since Day One looks nothing like what was coordinated with the Democrats’ recent unraveling.

Another folly has been playing out in Milwaukee, where two leaders of the civic group and not part of the Democratic National Convention Committee, it isn’t helpful when a workplace scandal implying inappropriate behavior suddenly surfaces. Without enthusiasm and high morale, organizing a convention and raising the millions of dollars needed to fund the convention work was tantamount to a Siberian labor camp. Or, say, a short stint in the Trump White House.

These things can happen to anyone, obviously, but not in a campaign that is already too damn weak. But when they happen with such synchronicity with Trump’s sudden swell of sensational headlines, one may be inclined to give up to the night sky seeking answers. What starry misalignment or planets moving in the other hand, the stars form constellations of pearl-studded streets, diamond cushions and thrones of gold, reinforcing the belief that, hallelujah, God sent Trump to make America great again.

There’s plenty of time for Democrats to growl about Trump’s failures, and a Republican convention may pull another disqualifying caper. But for this all-important week, the story is that Trump is winning — while Democratic candidates, who spent months of sweat and lures in pursuit of a little lightning be- neath their feet — waited in line to lose.
**Eugene Sheffer Crossword**

```
ACROSS
1  Binge
4  Teeny bit
8  Sunscreen
12  Eggs
13  El — Texas
14  401(k) relatives
15  Bergman/Boyer film
17  Low-lying area
18  Pol brew
19  Type of exercise
21  Fingerprints
24  Body art
25  Method
26  However
28  Crystal-lined
32  War god
34  Bedazzle
36  Two-way
37  Stable mothers
39  Noah’s boat
41  Texter’s “More than I need to know!”
58  Radiator sound
60  Juno honorees
61  Observe

DOWN
1  Slow run
2  Ms. Gardner
3  “Suburbanary”
4  Beekeeper’s place
5  Label
6  Fed. workplace monitor
7  Sacred song
8  Swiveled
9  Basra resident
10  Island near Java
11  In — (shortly)
12  Meadow
13  Cleaning cloth
14  Emulated
15  Michael
16  Phelps
17  Norm (Abbrev)
18  Tennis feint
19  Von maiden

59  “The Martian”
62  Salty expanse
27  Delta’s one-time rival
29  On “E”
30  Slightly wet
31  Yale students
33  Spleen
34  Meetings
35  Hosp. parts
36  Fourth-yr. students
40  Scalawags
43  Like some floors
45  Tram load
46  Six-sided state
47  Cab
48  Building wings
49  News reporter
50  Logan
53  Norm (Abbrev)
54  Tennis feint
55  Von maiden

Answer to Previous Puzzle

PET  WERE  GAIL
AXE  ALEC  OSLO
CPR  NIGHTFALL
KORAN  OAK
LADS  BEAST
FALL  KESTU
AMOUR  STEN
ZOOM  BACKDATE
TEST  PHIL
TIL  RIVAL
DATE  NIGHT  ONO
AMER  ERIE  LEG
BIDS  DRED  TWO
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2-6

**CRYPTOQUIP**

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GBBF-XLZGL  IZSUUK  NJBVWTLN
TWUA  LNJBR  NQUBV  UKB
CVBBX  CZR  ZQ  JSIWT  NLR
YZBUVA: INZ NYZFFZ.
Today’s Cryptquip Clue: I equals S
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From Back Page

Maeda, right, is headed to the Minnesota Twins.

Adding Betts’ bat to a lineup that also includes reigning NL MVP Cody Bellinger. Los Angeles’ offense offers from the Red Sox for this season, has spurned nine-figure offers from the Red Sox for this season, has spurned nine-figure

FROM BACK PAGE

Big: Betts’ bat makes Dodgers’ lineup scarier

this season, has spurred nine-fig-

er makes Dodgers even more fearsome. Their offense

to test the free-agent market.

The Dodgers finally pulled

The Dodgers finally pulled

their offense. Turner, Max Muncy and Corey

The Dodgers finally pulled

the 2016 season. The 2012 AL

No. 19 Butler at Marquette

No. 23 Arizona vs. UCLA

No. 17 Florida State vs. Virginia

No. 9 Oregon State vs. No. 12 Arizona

No. 5 Louisville at Syracuse

Round of 32

Wednesday, February 6, 2020

The Podium

The 2016 season. The 2012 AL

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Penn State wins fifth straight Big Ten game

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Patrick Chambers is on a quest to keep Penn State’s basketball program hungry and humble as it surges in a successful season.

Lamar Stevens had 24 points and Myreon Jones made a career-high six three-pointers and scored 20 points, leading the second-ranked Nittany Lions to a 75-70 win over No. 16 Michigan State on Tuesday night.

Penn State (17-5, 7-5 Big Ten) has won five straight games in the Big Ten for the first time and has become a contender in the conference during the second half of the regular season.

“It’s great that we’re in the position we’re in,” Chambers said. “But if you focus on that, that’s when you start to slip.”

The Spartans (16-7, 8-4) dropped 25 points, but could not convert on two chances to pull into a tie in the closing seconds.

“It wasn’t his fault,” Spartans coach Tom Izzo said.

Winston certainly didn’t get much help offensively from his teammates, none of whom scored in double digits.

Stevens made two free throws to give the Nittany Lions a three-point lead with 16 seconds left. Winston had an opportunity to tie the game with a three-point play on the ensuing possession, but missed the free throw.

Stevens then made two free throws to restore the three-point lead with 9.1 seconds left.

Winston missed a three-pointer the next time down the court.

“They made us scramble a bit, but I got a good look at the rim,” he said. “That’s a shot I usually make.”

The Spartans were forced to foul Curtis Jones, who made two free throws to seal Penn State’s first victory at Michigan State since 2009 and just the second in 25 games.

“It’s great that we got a win here,” Chambers acknowledged.

Penn State was in control for much of the game, leading by as much as 11 in the first half and by six at halftime. The Nittany Lions played with composure in the second half when the Spartans tried to rally.

“They were the stronger, tougher team,” Izzo lamented. “We got nobody to blame, but ourselves.”

No. 7 Duke 63, Boston College 55:

Vernon Carey Jr. had 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead the visiting Blue Devils over the Eagles and give coach Mike Krzyzewski his 500th career Atlantic Coast Conference victory.

Carey made a layup and then hit two free throws with about six minutes left during a 10-0 run that gave Duke (19-3, 9-2 ACC) the lead for good. Tre Jones scored 14 of his 18 points in the second half for the Blue Devils.

Derrycrck Thornton scored 21 points and Steffon Mitchell had 12 rebounds for Boston College (11-12, 5-7), which lost by 39 points at Duke on Dec. 31 but was coming off a one-point win at North Carolina.

Krzyzewski, the all-time winningest coach in Division I basketball, improved to 500-200 in the ACC regular season and tournament.

The Blue Devils finished 1-0 from three-point range and BC was 2-0-18. The lone three-pointer kept alive a long streak for Duke, which has made at least one three in 1,081 consecutive games, the second-longest active streak in the nation behind UNLV’s 1,092 games.

No. 9 Maryland 56, Rutgers 51: Jalen Smith had 14 points and 15 rebounds, Anthony Cowan Jr. scored 17 and the host Terrapins used a strong second half to beat the Scarlet Knights.

Maryland trailed 25-20 at halftime after shooting 24%. With Smith leading the way, the Terrapins (18-4, 8-3 Big Ten) emerged from the break with a 14-4 run and held off a late surge by Rutgers to improve to 13-0 at home.

Three free throws by Cowan put Maryland up 32-49 with 2:12 to go. Myles Johnson answered with a dunk, but the Scarlet Knights did not score again.

Smith, a 6-foot-10 sophomore, notched his fifth straight double-double and blocked six shots. He had a three-pointer and a three-point play in succession to put the Terps ahead 34-29, and the margin swelled to eight points before Rutgers (16-7, 7-5) rallied.

No. 11 Auburn 79, Arkansas 76 (OT): The Tigers’ depth wore down the host Razorbacks, allowing the Tigers to rally in regulation and hold on in overtime.

Samir Doughty scored 23 points, hitting two free throws in the final seconds of overtime, as Auburn overcame a 40-point game by Arkansas’ Mason Jones.

The Razorbacks led 65-54 at the 5:59 mark on a jalen Harris dunk, but the Tigers closed on a 15-4 run to force the extra period.

Arkansas (16-6, 4-5) was coming off a big win at Alabama but was unable to continue the momentum against the Tide’s biggest rival.

No. 15 Kentucky 80, Mississippi State 72: Nick Richards scored a career-high 27 points, Immanuel Quickley added 21 and the host Wildcats beat the Bulldogs for the 14th straight time.

Seeking to regroup after last weekend’s 75-65 loss at No. 11 Auburn, Kentucky (17-5, 7-2 Southeastern Conference) never trailed and led by as many as 14 midway through the second half.

The Wildcats were quicker and more physical against Mississippi State, outscoring the Bulldogs 38-34 in the paint and drawing fouls. They made 31 of 36 from the line.

Mississippi State (14-8, 5-4) got within 64-59 with 2:36 remaining, but Richards and Quickley closed the victory by combining to make 14 free throws.

After totaling just seven points and seven rebounds on Saturday, Richards bounced back big by making seven of 10 from the field and grabbing 11 rebounds. The 6-foot-11 junior also made 13 of 15 free throws.

D.J. Stewart Jr. and Robert Woodard II each had 15 points and Reggie Perry 14 points for the Bulldogs, who outrebounded Kentucky 40-37 but shot just 31%.

Nebraska 88, Air Force 54: Jalen Harris scored a career-high 38 points and the host Wolf Pack overwhelmed the Falcons.

Harris reached 33 points with 9:58 remaining on a three-point play at a juncture when Air Force had only scored 35. He finished 12-21 for shooting, including 6-8 from three-point range, and made all eight of his foul-shots.

It was the 6-foot-5 guard’s second-straight game of 30 points or more and fifth of the season. He tied his previous career high of 31 points at home on Dec. 7.

Nebraska (14-10, 7-5 Mountain West Conference) opened with a 23-9 lead and extended it to 44-22 at intermission. Harris’ three-pointer with 11:47 left made it 64-33.

Nisre Zouzoua added 15 points for the Wolf Pack, who ended a two-game losing streak.

Lavelle Scottie scored 19 for the Falcons (9-14, 3-8), who have lost five straight and six of their last seven.

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Thursday, February 6, 2020

A hat trick for Ovie
Washington captain reaches 698 career goals

BY IAN QUILLEN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Washington Capitals star Alex Ovechkin doesn’t think he’s ever been this hot in a 15-year career that has included eight NHL scoring titles.

If he continues at his present pace, he’ll join the 700 career goal club by this weekend.

Ovechkin recorded his 27th career hat trick and raised his career goal total to 698 during a furious five-minute stretch of the third period, rallying Washington to a 4-2 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on Tuesday night.

With 14 goals in his last seven games, he closer to becoming the eighth player in an elusive NHL club than many would’ve suspected a month ago. Though there isn’t much time to reflect on it.

“No yet,” he said. “I’m still playing. But after the year, yeah, I’m pretty sure me and my family and my friends are going to talk about it.”

Ovechkin’s career-best recent flurry has pushed him to 40 goals on the season and back into the top spot in his chase of a ninth Maurice Richard Trophy, two ahead of Boston’s David Pastrnak. The Capitals also lead the Bruins by a point in the race for the Presidents’ Cup.

And No. 700 could come as early as Saturday against the Philadelphia Flyers.

Even within this recent run, Tuesday’s performance to singlehandedly lift Washington to victory stood out.

With 6:10 remaining, just over two minutes after the Capitals fell behind, Ovechkin one-timed a feed from T.J. Oshie to tie the game at 2-all. Seventy seconds later, he rebounded his own miss off goaltender Jonathan Quick’s pads and put Washington in front.

He added an empty-netter with 1:46 to play, meaning he reached 10 goals of Mike Gartner for seventh on the NHL’s all-time goals list.

John Carlson added his 14th goal and 35th and 31st assists for a career-best four assists for a third straight game.

Burakovsky had a goal and three assists for a career-best four assists for a third straight game.

Barzal tied z score with just under four minutes remaining in the third period, and Washington rallied from a late deficit to get a needed win.

Matt Barzal tied z score with just under four minutes remaining in the third period, and Washington rallied from a late deficit to get a needed win.

New York Islanders rallied from a late deficit to get a needed win.

Mathew Barzal tied z score with just under four minutes remaining in the third period, and Anthony Beauvillier scored his second goal of the game, tying the Islanders at 5-2 with 5:27 remaining, his third point streak to nine games with a win over Florida.

Lightning 4, Golden Knights 2: Steven Stamkos tipped in his 28th goal of the season in the third period and led host Tampa Bay over Vegas.

Avalanche 6, Sabres 1: Andre Burakovsky had a goal and three assists for a career-best four assists for a third straight game.

Bruins 4, Canucks 0: Charlie Coyle had a goal and an assist, Tuukka Rask stopped 25 shots for his third shutout this season and host Boston extended its winning streak to four games.

Canadiens 5, Devils 4 (SO): Ilya Kovalevich scored the only shootout goal and visiting Montreal rallied from a three-goal deficit to beat New Jersey.

Ducks 3, Senators 2 (SO): Rickard Rakell scored the shootout winner and visiting Anaheim beat Ottawa.

Blue Jackets 1, Panthers 0 (OT): Zach Werenski scored 1:54 into overtime and host Columbus extended its point streak to nine games with a win over Florida.

Ovechkin’s hat trick gave him 40 goals for the season and the Capitals won 4-2.

Beauvillier lifted Isles over Stars in OT

Beauvillier lifts Isles over Stars in OT

Associated Press

NEW YORK — With their hold over until the final buzzer goes.”

The Islanders’ Anthony Beauvillier chases down the puck during overtime of Tuesday’s 4-3 win against the Dallas Stars in New York.

Beauvillier scored the opening goal of the game, beating Bishop with a backhand shot from the right side. It was his fourth goal in the last seven games. The goal also marked the eighth straight game that the Stars had allowed their opponent to score first.

“They came out ready to play,” Bishop said. “They’re a good team and we did.”

Barstow improved to 5-0-1 in overtime and host Columbus extended its point streak to nine games with a win over Florida.

The Islanders’ power play finally broke through on its fifth opportunity of the night when Barzal tied it.

“There’s a good character test,” Barry Trotz said. “When you get one called back and you’re fighting for every point right now, and you have to get another one, and we did.”

Beauvillier then beat Bishop on a breakaway in the extra period as the Islanders improved to 5-0-3 in Brooklyn this season.

“The bench was great,” Trotz said. “They believe the game isn’t over until the final buzzer goes.”

New York had two power plays in the first 10 minutes of the game, but was unable to double its lead.

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Ducks 3, Senators 2 (SO): Rickard Rakell scored the shootout winner and visiting Anaheim beat Ottawa.

Blues 6, Hurricanes 3: Brayden Schenn had two goals and an assist, Zach Sanford scored twice and host St. Louis beat Carolina.


Predators 2, Jets 1 (OT): Mikael Granlund scored 1:11 into overtime, lifting visiting Nashville past Winnipeg.

Coyotes 3, Kings 2 (SO): Conor Garland and Lawson Crouse scored two minutes apart in the second period, Austi Risana stopped 36 shots and host Arizona ended a five-game losing streak.

Sharks 3, Flames 1: Joe Thornton had two assists to reach 1,500 career points and visiting San Jose beat Calgary.

Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin, left, celebrates his third goal of the night with center Nicklas Backstrom during the third period Tuesday in Washington. Ovechkin’s hat trick gave him 40 goals for the season and the Capitals won 4-2.

Rallying from a late deficit to get a needed win.

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LeBron is three-mendous in Lakers’ rout of Spurs

Scores 36 points with five 3-pointers in 3-minute span

LOS ANGELES — LeBron James absorbed contact and tumbled to the court while his fifth three-pointer in a three-minute span dropped through the net. The Los Angeles Lakers’ entire roster left the bench and stood on the court, gleefully picking up their leader while a sellout crowd roared.

“That’s what we’re all about,” James said. “Our team, anytime anyone is having success in the game, we cheer like it’s our own. So having that camaraderie, having that brotherhood, even though they’re beating you up, it’s just a pretty cool feeling.”

Nine days after Kobe Bryant’s death, the Lakers finally had an evening that felt like a return to normalcy.

Well, as normal as anything can be when King James is performing feats of basketball brilliance.

James scored 19 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter with that incredible three-point barrage, propelling the Lakers to a 129-102 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday night.

James added nine assists and seven rebounds, while Anthony Davis and Kyle Kuzma had 16 points apiece as the Lakers beat San Antonio for the third time, sweeping the season series.

After the Spurs chimed away at the Lakers’ big lead late in the third quarter, James and Kuzma put the game away with a combined seven three-pointers in 3½ minutes to start the fourth. James’ shots seemed to increase in difficulty with each possession, but he buried them all.

“When the guy gets hot like that, it’s always fun to watch him,” Davis said, laughing at the Lakers’ group celebration after the final three. “It wasn’t the plan. We all just kind of ran over there and jumped on him.”

San Antonio was outrebounded 58-28 by the bigger Lakers, and the Spurs grabbed only three rebounds in the fourth quarter while the Spurs went 16-24 from the field.

When asked what the Spurs can do when James gets rolling, coach Gregg Popovich quipped: “Make sure you get good pictures.”

Gregg Popovich said of the LA back-to-back: “That’s what we’re all about,” Davis said, laughing at the Lakers’ group celebration after the final three. “It wasn’t the plan. We all just kind of ran over there and jumped on him.”

Scores 36 points with five 3-pointers in 3-minute span

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James is swarmed by teammates after making five three-point shots in a row during the Lakers’ 129-102 defeat of the San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

LeBron is three-mendous in a row during the Lakers’ 129-102 defeat of the San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James is swarmed by teammates after making five three-point shots in a row during the Lakers’ 129-102 defeat of the San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Roundup

Jokic lifts Nuggets past Trail Blazers

DENVER — Nikola Jokic finished an assist shy of a triple-double in just three quarters Tuesday, and Gary Harris helped keep hot-shooting Denver in check as the Denver Nuggets routed the Portland Trail Blazers 127-99.

Jokic had 29 points and 13 rebounds in 30 minutes as the Nuggets topped the Blazers for the seventh straight time.

Denver led by 19 in the first quarter and never looked back, scoring 47 points in the second half. The Nuggets got 13 assists from Michael Porter Jr. (right ankle) and Jamal Murray returned to the lineup after missing 10 games with a sprained left ankle.

Denver has won 10 of its last 11 games.

Denver got as close as seven twice in the fourth. The Nuggets could still look to acquire an assist short of a triple-double after also scoring 40 points but falling one assist short of a triple-double in Houston’s last game. He’s scored 30 or more points in his past three games after struggling through a shooting slump over his previous four.

The Nuggets played without starters Clint Capela and Russell Westbrook. The Nuggets will make their third straight appearance on Saturday night.

The Nuggets have used a 15-2 run to take control.

Robert Covington is going to the Houston Rockets and Clint Capela is going to the Atlanta Hawks as the headline moves in a complicated trade that was struck early Wednesday involving four teams, 12 players and at least three draft picks, according to two people familiar with the situation.

The league’s trade deadline is Thursday afternoon.

Sources: Covington, Capela

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Denver led by 19 in the first quarter and never looked back, scoring 47 points in the second half. The Nuggets got 13 assists from Michael Porter Jr. (right ankle) and Jamal Murray returned to the lineup after missing 10 games with a sprained left ankle.

Denver has won 10 of its last 11 games.

Denver got as close as seven twice in the fourth. The Nuggets could still look to acquire an assist short of a triple-double after also scoring 40 points but falling one assist short of a triple-double in Houston’s last game. He’s scored 30 or more points in his past three games after struggling through a shooting slump over his previous four.

The Nuggets played without starters Clint Capela and Russell Westbrook. The Nuggets will make their third straight appearance on Saturday night.

The Nuggets have used a 15-2 run to take control.

Robert Covington is going to the Houston Rockets and Clint Capela is going to the Atlanta Hawks as the headline moves in a complicated trade that was struck early Wednesday involving four teams, 12 players and at least three draft picks, according to two people familiar with the situation.

The league’s trade deadline is Thursday afternoon.

Sources: Covington, Capela

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LeBron is three-mendous in Lakers’ rout of Spurs

Scores 36 points with five 3-pointers in 3-minute span

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James is swarmed by teammates after making five three-point shots in a row during the Lakers’ 129-102 defeat of the San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday in Los Angeles.
Michigan State's Mark Dantonio said he is stepping down after going 114-57 in 13 seasons as the Spartans' head football coach.

**Michigan State’s Dantonio says he’s retiring after a 13-year run**

Revising the overall specifications in a way that would produce substantial reductions in hitting distances at various levels of the game. Less clear is when any changes can be expected.

The USGA and R&A said they would publish a specific set of research topics within 45 days. After that, they will gather feedback that distance is to a year, and when comments and research are finished, manufacturers would receive notice of any changes that could begin a new round of feedback.

Even so, it was the strongest signal yet that the two groups that set the rules worldwide want to rein in distance.

The USGA governs the U.S. and Mexico. The R&A governs the rest of the world. They published a “Joint Statement of Principles” in 2002 that said “any further significant increases in hitting distances at the highest level are undesirable.”

“Golf is a game of skill, a broad range of skills, and no one skill should dominate,” R&A chief executive Martin Slumbers said from St. Andrews.

Officials have become concerned in recent years over a style known as “bomb and gouge,” meaning the game is more valuable than accuracy. Some players no longer worry if a big tee shot lands in the rough because they have fewer distances to the green, often with a wedge in hand.

**By Noah Trister**

**Associated Press**

**EAST LANSING, Mich. —** From “pride comes before the fall” to Little Giants, Mark Dantonio leaves Michigan State fans with an abundance of fond memories after bringing the Spartans to heights they hadn’t reached in decades.

Dantonio announced his retirement Tuesday, ending a 13-year run in which his teams won three Big Ten titles and he became the school’s winningest coach. The 63-year-old Dantonio called his decision a difficult one while noting the nonstop demands of the job.

“I just found myself never having the opportunity to come up for air, and that can wear on you,” he said Tuesday night at a news conference.

Dantonio went 114-57 as Michigan State’s head football coach. His teams were 114-57. The last of those three seasons included a trip to the College Football Playoff, but the Spartans declined after that. They went 7-6 this past season.

Defensive coordinator Mike Tressel will be the acting head coach while Michigan State seeks a replacement for Dantonio, who said qualified candidates would be willing to crawl to campus for an interview. Michigan State is expected to have a role within the athletic department.

Michigan State athletic director Bill Beekman said he will seek Dantonio’s input on the search for his successor. Dantonio plans to have a role within the athletic department.

Beekman acknowledged the timing isn’t ideal to search for a new football coach.

“T here are times that are better than other times,” he said.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Michigan State coach Mark Dantonio is retiring after 13 seasons. Some of his career achievements:

- His teams were 114-57.
- His teams won Big Ten titles in 2010, 2013 and 2015.
- His teams went 8-9 against Michigan despite losing to the Wolverines the past two seasons.

Source: Associated Press

**But I think when you’ve won 114 games, you’re our all-time winningest coach, and you’ve taken us to the places Mark has taken us and you’ve set the bar where Mark set it, I was comfortable operating on his timeline whatever that would be.**

“ ‘We’ll find a very good coach.’

The Spartans have fallen from the Big Ten’s elite in recent years, and Michigan State fans aren’t sure what the future holds. Even so, it was the strongest signal yet that the two groups that set the rules worldwide want to rein in distance.

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**Going, going, gone**

Golf’s rulers looking at equipment to slow rate of increased distances

By Doug Ferguson

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Golfers at all levels keep hitting the ball farther, and the game’s governing bodies plan to do something about it by going after the one area they can control — equipment.

The USGA and the R&A on Tuesday released their “Distance Insights Project,” which revealed a steady increase in distance for more than 100 years — with average gains of about 30 yards by PGA Tour players the last 15 years — and golf courses that keep expanding.

“We believe this continuing cycle of courses increasing in length is a cycle we want to break,” said Mike Davis, chief executive of the USGA.

The report attributes the distance gains to modern clubs and golf balls, improved athleticism and training, swing techniques geared toward hitting it longer and course conditions with tightly mowed fairways that allow for extra roll.

But the report made clear the governing bodies are targeting equipment as it seeks solutions.

“We also recognize that this assessment should not focus on player-related factors that contribute to increased distance, such as improved athleticism and swing techniques, for the desire to improve is intrinsic to the game, and it is to be encouraged,” the report summary said. Accordingly, we expect the majority of research for research and assessment to be potential changes in the equipment.

Among the possibilities is using specific golf balls or clubs that may be potential changes in the equipment.

“ ’Every February since 2007, I have reset this program in preparation for the next year’s challenges. After much reflection and discussion with my family, I feel that it is now time for change as we enter into a new decade of Michigan State football,’ he said in a statement earlier in the day.”

Beekman became athletic director in 2018. Mark Hollis, the previous AD, had retired following the sexual assault scandal involving Larry Nassar, a former Michigan State sports doctor who also worked for USA Gymnastics.

Hollis’ departure came just before ESPN reported allegations of sexual assault and violence against women involving Michigan State football and basketball players.

In 2017, four players were dismissed from the football team after criminal sexual conduct charges were brought against them.
New century of NFL brings new questions

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

MIAMI — The NFL's centennial season concluded with a championship a half-century in the making.

Now that the Kansas City Chiefs have ended that 50-year drought and own their second NFL championship, the focus will turn mostly elsewhere in what could be a very busy offseason.

The NFL really never goes away, so even as their fans will chant and do the Tomahawk Chop when the Chiefs have their celebratory parade, questions will arise on all fronts.

Here are some things to contemplate:

QB carousel

It starts — some might say it ends — with Tom Brady. For the first time in his six-ring career, the 42-year-old Brady is on the market. Maybe the fact the Patriots went 4-4 in the second half of the schedule, blew a bye in the AFC playoffs with a last-week loss at home to the lowly Dolphins, and then went out, also at home, to Tennessee in a wild-card game, made New England think twice about spending multi-millions on a middle-aged man whose skills just might be declining.

While it still seems likely Patriots owner Robert Kraft will pony up the bucks — say a two-year deal in which the second season can be voided without too much cost to the team — it’s fun to think of other landing spots for pro football’s most successful quarterback.

Try the Chargers if they are looking to make, uh, a charge into the new stadium they will share with the Rams. Brady would be an intriguing addition down the road from Hollywood, particularly if Philip Rivers is done with the Bolts.

Or the Raiders to make a splash in Sin City, though Derek Carr isn’t exactly headlined out the door.

Though wouldn’t Brady want to go to a potential contender seeking a winning QB to push it to the top? Perhaps Tennessee, where former teammate Mike Vrabel is the coach? Chicago with its strong defense? Brady and Rivers hardly are the only passers likely available. Cam Newton, Nick Foles, Joe Flacco, Marcus Mariota, Andy Dalton, Ryan Tannehill, and perhaps Jameis Winston could be out there.

Pass interference woes

The adjustment to the pass interference rules that allowed video reviews was a flop. Coaches who were so adamant about needing a change after the egregiously botched call in the NFC title game a year ago got little to no traction with their challenges. Interference became an even murkier proposition.

Will the powerful competition committee recommend more alterations? Or to drop the modification altogether?

Labor and 17 games

Commissioner Roger Goodell has been encouraged by negotiations toward a new collective bargaining agreement. The current 10-year deal expires in March 2021, but the league in particular is eager to get a contract finalized well before that. Indeed, well before next season.

Union officials are being coy, but simply the fact both sides have been meeting semi-regularly and reaching accords on a variety of issues is good news.

The public expects the main sticking point to be expanding the regular season by one game, which would include reducing the preseason, probably adding another bye week, and pushing the Super Bowl back into mid-February. Player safety concerns need to be paramount in any such discussions.

But 17 games could be a done deal if the union gets, say, three or four more roster spots per franchise. That’s anywhere from 96 to 128 additional jobs.

Whither Tua?

Cincinnati doesn’t need to wait until April 23 to announce LSU All-America quarterback Joe Burrow as the top overall draft choice. That’s a no-brainer, even for the Bengals.

And the second pick, barring injury, is not a mystery either: Ohio State defensive beast Chase Young to Washington, which already has its QB in Young’s former teammate, Dwayne Haskins.

So where does Tua Tagovailoa wind up? Does the projected No. 1 guy just a few months ago fall in the first round? The Alabama left-hander was sidelined in the ninth game with a major hip injury that could slow his debut, perhaps until 2021.

So does Detroit decide Tagovailoa can be the heir to Matthew Stafford? Does Miami get Tua at No. 5 or need to move up for what could be its franchise quarterback — or is that too much of a gamble because Tagovailoa could be an injury-prone player with an uncertain medical future?

See what we mean about plenty of questions in NFL 101?

WADA unhappy with reach of US anti-doping bill

By Eddie Pells
Associated Press

The World Anti-Doping AGENCY sent a letter to U.S. senators explaining how a bill designed to deter drug cheats in international sports would, instead, “have the unintended consequences of shattering the anti-doping system” if it is passed without changes.

The document, obtained by The Associated Press, was sent this week at the request of a Senate committee that is holding a hearing Wednesday in which it will hear testimony about the Rodchenkov Act.

The House passed the bill last year, and WADA has hired a lobbying firm to engage Congress for changes in the legislation triggered by a Russia cheating scheme that has shaken the global Olympic movement for the past three years.

The six-page WADA letter does, in fact, say the agency “supports the overall objectives of the legislation.” The letter also goes into extensive detail about provisions it says would create a “chaotic World Anti-Doping system with no legal predictability.”

The measure, named after the Moscow lab director who blew the whistle on Russia’s cheating at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, calls for fines of up to $1 million and prison sentences of up to 10 years for those who participate in schemes designed to influence international sports competitions through doping. (Individual athletes who get caught doping would not be subject to punishment under the law.)

It would also allow the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency to obtain information collected by federal investigators, which could help in prosecuting anti-doping cases.

The WADA letter had a long list of concerns, notably over the “extraterritorial” jurisdiction the bill proposes — a clause that would allow U.S. authorities to pursue those who perpetuate doping schemes at international events in which Americans are involved as athletes, sponsors or broadcasters. Many U.S. corruption laws, including those used to prosecute FIFA executives in the soccer-bidding scandal, include similar extraterritorial jurisdiction.

The athlete-advocacy group Fair Sport sent out a news release responding to the WADA document, giving a point-by-point rebuttal of the clauses with which the agency disagrees. In that statement, Rodchenkov’s attorney, Jim Walden, said similar laws with extraterritorial jurisdiction weren’t always popular “with corrupt nations.”

The act “will do the same in the fight against doping fraud deployed by gangster states who hijack international sports competitions,” Walden said.

At meetings last November, WADA officials took criticism for lobbying efforts on the bill.

“If we, as payers to you, use those funds to undermine legislation, then that’s not going to be a cooperative and effective way to go forward,” said Kendel Erlich, the U.S. government representative on WADA’s foundation board.
Twins, who are getting right-hander Kenta Maeda from the Dodgers and sending pitching prospect Brusdar Graterol to Boston. Los Angeles will also get cash from Boston to offset some of the $123 million owed to Betts and Price, but the exact amount was not yet known.

The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the trade, pending the exchange of medical information, had not been announced.

Betts, who will earn $27 million...