The coronavirus outbreak widened its impact on the U.S. military as more troops in more countries were quarantined and the Army banned soldiers in Italy from moving to new assignments or attending training schools.

On Friday, the Pentagon said a U.S. soldier assigned to Operation Inherent Resolve in the Middle East was isolated after possible contact with someone infected with COVID-19.

In Norway, almost two dozen U.S. soldiers participating in a large exercise were isolated after possibly encountering a Norwegian service member who tested positive for the virus, the Marine Corps said Friday.

In Italy, a U.S. sailor stationed at Naval Support Activity Naples tested positive for virus Friday, in the first confirmed case linked to a U.S. service member in Europe.

In addition, the Army has banned soldiers based in Italy from taking new assignments or attending military schools in the U.S.

"Effective immediately, all PCSing soldiers and families on orders from Italy will stop movement," U.S. Army Garrison Italy commander Col. Dan Vogel said Saturday in a Facebook video. "They are delayed for the next 60 days or until further notice."

Likewise, those who were to attend professional military education in the U.S. will not be able to attend unless the course is for six months or longer. In those cases, "There definitely is ambiguity between the text of the agreement and what U.S. officials seem to be saying they expect from the Taliban," said Andrew Watkins, a senior Afghanistan analyst at International Crisis Group, a nonprofit think tank based in Brussels. "Things have already reached the point where the U.S. is obliged to draw clear lines."
Roller-coaster week ends with stocks sinking

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A dizzying, brutal week of trading dropped one last round of harrowing swings on investors Friday.

After skidding sharply through the day as fear pounded markets, steep drops for stocks and bond yields suddenly eased up in the last hour. By the end of trading, the S&P 500 had more than halved its loss for the day to 1.7% and even locked in a gain for the week.

It’s the latest lurch in a wild ride that has sent stocks flipping between huge gains and losses. Investors are trying to guess how much economic damage the coronavirus will ultimately inflict, and they’re shifting by the minute as the number of new infections piles up on one hand and central banks and governments offer stimulus on the other.

All the uncertainty has left markets churning.

“It’s anyone’s guess at this point why it rallied into the close,” Adam Taback, chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank, said of the last hour of Friday’s trading.

Earlier in the day, the S&P 500 had been down 4%. Even more alarming was another breathtaking drop in Treasury yields to record lows.

The 10-year Treasury yield falls when investors are worried about a weaker economy and inflation, and it sank below 0.70% at one point. It had never in history been below 1%.

After skidding sharply through a dizzying, bruising roller-coaster week ends with stocks sinking...
A U.S. Marine fires an M98A2 Javelin during an exercise in preparation for Exercise Cold Response 20 near Setermoen, Norway, on March 3. Nearly two dozen U.S. soldiers in Norway have been quarantined after testing positive for the coronavirus.

**Soldier isolated in Mideast after possible contact**

**BY WYATT OLSON**  
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. soldier assigned to Operation Inherent Resolve in the Middle East has been placed in isolation after possible contact with someone infected with the coronavirus, the Pentagon said Friday.

The soldier’s isolation came as a “precautionary measure,” Navy Capt. Bill Urban, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said in a statement.

The soldier has undergone testing, which will be performed by Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, Urban said.

In accordance with the guidance issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, those the soldier had recent contact with have also been screened, Urban said.

The soldier, who has been quarantined in Jordan since he was placed in isolation Friday and instructed to self-quarantine on Sunday, March 8, 2020

**Impact:** Added screening set up at basic training centers across US

**BY WYATT OLSON**  
Stars and Stripes

EUCOM says US sailor in Italy infected

Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — U.S. European Command confirmed a U.S. sailor stationed at Naval Support Activity Naples tested positive for the new coronavirus Friday, in the first confirmed case linked to a U.S. service member in Europe.

“Military health professionals are conducting a thorough contact investigation to determine whether any other personnel may have been exposed,” EUCOM said in a statement on Saturday.

Personnel who the service member said he has had close contact with have been notified already and are in self-isolation in their residence, EUCOM said.

In northern Italy, the 31st Fighter Wing at Aviano Air Base had 134 people in isolation or self-quarantine Friday and instructed everyone to keep their distance from others as a precaution.

Both Aviano and U.S. Army Garrison Italy have closed schools through March 15. In the south, schools on Navy bases in Sigionel-la and Naples — where EUCOM said the first positive case was confirmed Friday — remained open as of Thursday.

The Italian Civil Protection Agency said Friday that the death toll from the virus hit 197 in Italy and the total number of presumptive cases in the country reached 4,636.

**Florida: 2 dead who tested positive for coronavirus**

MIAMI Two people who tested positive for coronavirus have died in Florida, marking the first deaths on the East Coast attributed to the outbreak in the U.S., health officials said Friday.

Helen Aguirre Ferre, a spokeswoman for Gov. Ron DeSantis, confirmed the deaths on Twitter, writing the people were in their 70s and had traveled overseas.

This raises the U.S. death toll to 16, including 13 in Washington state and one in California.
**VIRUS OUTBREAK**

**Cruise ships stranded in bid to curb spread**

**BY JOE MCDONALD AND ANGELA CHARLTON**
Associated Press

**BEIJING** — The spreading new coronavirus — fears of it — immobilized cruise ships or left them searching for ports on four continents Saturday as the bug that has infected more than 100,000 people shifted its travel patterns.

Iran declared a "sacred jihad" against the virus after its case numbers spiked anew. Italy shut down its courts, and the Vatican decided to livestream the pope's Sunday blessing. Cruise ships faced trouble in waters of the United States, Malaysia, Egypt and Malta as those aboard got confined or turned away.

In China, the number of people recovering from COVID-19 mounted. But hopeful signs had not erased the scope of the recent crisis in the country where the new virus emerged late last year.

A hotel used for the medical observation of people who had contact with infected patients collapsed Saturday in southeastern China's Fujian province. The hotel was used for medical observation of people who had contact with coronavirus patients, state media reported.

**Scientists, experts say outbreak is pandemic; UN, WHO disagree**

**BY MARIA CHENG**
Associated Press

**LONDON** — As cases of the coronavirus surge in Italy, Iran, South Korea, the U.S. and elsewhere, many scientists say it's plain that the world is in the grips of a pandemic — a serious global outbreak.

The World Health Organization has so far resisted describing the crisis as such, saying the word "pandemic" might spook the world further and lead some countries to lose hope of containing the virus.

"Unless we're convinced it's uncontrollable, why (would) we call it a pandemic?" WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said this week.

The U.N. health agency has previously described a pandemic as a situation in which a new virus is causing "sustained community-level outbreaks" in at least two world regions.

Many experts say that threshold has long been met: The virus that was first identified in China is now spreading freely in four regions, it has reached every continent but Antarctica, and its advance seems unavoidable.

The disease has managed to gain a foothold and multiply quickly even in countries with relatively strong public health systems. On Friday, the virus hit a new milestone, infecting more than 100,000 people worldwide, far more than those sickened by SARS, MERS or Ebola in recent years.

"I think it's pretty clear we're in a pandemic and I don't know why WHO is resisting that," said Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Diseas Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota.

Experts acknowledge that declaring a pandemic is politically fraught because it can rattle markets, lead to more drastic travel and trade restrictions and stigmatize people coming from affected regions.

WHO was previously criticized for labeling the 2009 swine flu outbreak a pandemic. But experts said calling this crisis a pandemic could also spur countries to prepare for the virus' eventual arrival.

WHO already declared the virus a "global health emergency" in late January, putting countries and humanitarian organizations on notice and issuing a broad set of recommendations to curb its spread.

It was the second port to reject the ship after Phuket in Thailand.

In Egypt, a cruise ship on the Nile with more than 150 aboard was under quarantine in the southern city of Luxor after 17 tested positive for the virus. The passengers include American, French and Indian tourists.

Also Saturday, the port of Penang in Malaysia turned away the cruise ship Costa Fortuna with 2,000 aboard because there were 64 passengers from Italy, the center of Europe's epidemic.

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Now, it's heading to Singapore.

And in Malta, which reported its first case of the virus Saturday, the MSC Opera ship agreed not to enter the Mediterranean country's port — even though there are no infections confirmed on board.

Transmission of the virus, which started as a one-way journey out from the Chinese city of Wuhan, is now going in every direction. New cases in Asia are being imported from Italy. Global travel hubs like Dubai reported cases imported from multiple continents.

The global death toll has risen past 3,400, though most people who have contracted the virus since December have now recovered.

As of Saturday, nearly 90,000 cases have been reported in Asia; more than 7,000 in Europe; some 5,000 in the Mideast; about 400 in North America; about 50 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and fewer than 50 cases reported so far in Africa.

The virus is still much less widespread than annual flu epidemics, which cause up to 5 million severe cases around the world and 290,000 to 650,000 deaths annually, according to the World Health Organization.

In Iran, fear over the virus and the government's warning credibility has become a major chal-
Amazon’s bid protest lawsuit over JEDI ‘likely to succeed’

By Aaron Gregg
The Washington Post.

WASHINGTON — A federal judge has concluded that a bid protest lawsuit brought by Amazon over President Donald Trump’s intervention in an important Pentagon cloud computing contract “is likely to succeed on the merits” of one of its central arguments, according to a court document made public Wednesday.

The document provides the first indication of how Court of Federal Claims judge Patricia Campbell-Smith views the evidence.

In a blow to Microsoft and the Defense Department, Campbell-Smith ordered the Pentagon to halt work on JEDI last month. In an opinion explaining her reasoning, Campbell-Smith sided with Amazon’s contention that the Pentagon had made a mistake in how it evaluated prices for competing proposals from Amazon and Microsoft. She also concluded that the mistake is likely to materially harm Amazon, an important qualifier for government contract bid protests. And she rejected arguments raised earlier by Microsoft and the Defense Department that Amazon should have raised its concerns sooner.

A Defense Department spokesman expressed disappointment in the ruling but declined to comment on its specifics.

“The Department is disappointed in the Court’s ruling,” Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Robert Carver said in an email. “We remain focused on getting this critical capability into the hands of our warfighters as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

Microsoft spokesman Frank Shaw downplayed the ruling, saying it focused on a single technical factor.

“The decision disagreed with a lone technical finding by the Department of Defense about data storage under the evaluation of one sub-element of one price scenario,” Shaw said in a statement. “While important, there were six pricing scenarios, each with multiple sub-elements, and eight technical factors, each with numerous subfactors evaluated during the procurement. The decision does not find error in the Department of Defense’s evaluation in any other area of the complex and thorough process that resulted in the award of the contract to Microsoft.”

Shaw further defended the Defense Department’s handling of JEDI, adding: “We have confidence in our technology, our bid, and the professional staff at the Department of Defense.”

The Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure contract, better known as JEDI, calls for a powerful cloud computing system through which military agencies can access data centers operated by a commercial tech company. Top defense officials have labeled it a crucial national security priority that will improve deployed troops’ access to technology and intelligence, and lay the groundwork for the military’s adoption of artificial intelligence. It has been delayed repeatedly since it was first announced in early 2018.

Campbell-Smith has not yet ruled on Amazon’s contention that Trump interfered personally in the bidding process. Representatives from Amazon did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Friday’s ruling.

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President names Rep. Meadows as chief of staff

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In the midst of one of the most daunting crises of his administration, President Donald Trump announced he had made a major staff overhaul, replacing his acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney with Republican Rep. Mark Meadows.

While much of the country was focused on the spreading coronavirus, Trump announced the surprise reshuffle on Friday night tweet, saying Mulvaney would become the U.S. special envoy for Northern Ireland.

“I have long known and worked with Mark, and the relationship is a very good one,” he wrote, thanking Mulvaney — whoever shook his “acting” title — “for having served the Administration well.”

The long-rumored move comes as Trump has been pulling together a team of loyalists and allies ahead of what is expected to be a bitter reelection fight. But the timing — as his administration was already facing criticism over its handling of the outbreak — threatened to exacerbate concerns about the government’s ability to protect the nation from a virus that has now infected more than 100,000 people worldwide.

Mulvaney had been acting in the role.

Meadows will be Trump’s fourth chief of staff in as many years. Mulvaney had been leading the administration’s response to the virus until Trump designated Vice President Mike Pence to lead the whole-of-government effort more than a week ago.

It was just one of a long series of moves Trump has made in recent months, often in response to dramatic public health events. He announced the January 29, as his chief of staff, replacing Mick Mulvaney, who had been acting in the role.

First elected in the post-Party wave of 2012, Meadows quickly established himself as a conservative Republican on Capitol Hill. He served as chairman of the unfreeing Freedom Caucus, and his antics in the House helped spur Speaker John Boehner’s sudden retirement.

As Trump ascended in 2016, Meadows switched from his earlier backing of Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and — urged on by his wife — joined the Trump train. Since then he has proven himself an unwavering Trump ally.

A skilled negotiator, Meadows is seen as both a leader and an outlier among Republicans on Capitol Hill. Meadows was central to talks on the failed effort to repeal Obamacare and pass the GOP tax cuts. But in many ways, he remains his own counsel, with a skill set and status that may serve him well in Trump’s White House.

Meadows has also made clear he wants to be secretary of veterans affairs, a position once occupied by his predecessor, Robert Wilkie, who has served in that role since March 2018. The 20,000 veterans who are his caregiver, would not be removed any uncertainty and make them — and many others like them — eligible for this critical support,” Whitehead said.

“DAV is reading through the rest of the changes in the proposed rules before submitting feedback, he said.

The VA has struggled to comply with a measure in the VA Mission Act, approved in 2018, that ordered the agency to expand benefits to caregivers for veterans from the Gulf War and Vietnam War eras. The program currently provides benefits such as monthly stipends, health insurance and medical training only to caregivers for veterans injured after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The VA missed a deadline last year to establish the information technology needed to expand caregiver benefits to families of pre-9/11 veterans — a deadline that had been extended from the previous year. The missed deadline pushed back other target dates, delaying enrollment into the program at least until this summer.

Richard Stone, executive in charge of the Veterans Health Administration, told lawmakers last week that the IT system is “progressing well.” The 20,000 families in the caregiver program have been moved onto the system. Next, they’re working on its ability to automatically pay beneficiaries and take in new applicants.

“We are quite optimistic that the summer the program will be ready for the secretary to certify,” Stone said.

However, there could be more delays depending on the feedback the VA receives about the proposed rules published Friday, Stone said.

“This is a very complex regulation of more than 200 pages, and we do expect a robust response,” he said.

One major change in the proposed rules is to include veterans with any service-connected disability as eligible for caregiver support, including illnesses and injuries from service before the war, the program specifies that only injured veterans are eligible. Confusion in what constitutes an “injury” has led to inconsistencies about who can be admitted, the VA said.

Disabled American Veterans, which has long advocated to expand the program, praised that change in particular. Whitehead noted one of the group’s past commanders, Dave Riley, who lost all of his limbs to a bacterial infection in 1997. Riley’s wife, who is his caregiver, would not be eligible under the current rules because the infection occurred before 9/11 and because his disability resulted from an illness, not an injury.

“This regulation would finally remove any uncertainty and make them — and many others like them — eligible for this critical support,” Whitehead said.

By Nikki Wentling

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs published new rules Friday for its caregiver support program, putting the agency one step closer to expanding benefits to more veteran caregivers after months of delays.

The proposed changes to the program are outlined in a 200-page document published in the Federal Register on Friday. The public will have 60 days to respond before publication.

Stephen Whitehead, national commander of Disabled American Veterans, said it was an “important step to correct a long-standing injustice.”

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President tours tornado damage in Putnam County

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. — President Donald Trump on Friday toured a neighborhood reduced to rubble by a tornado earlier this week and marveled at “the tremendous heart” he witnessed. He also offered a message for survivors and those who lost family members: “We love them, they’re special people,” he said.

Trump assumed the role of national consoler as he traveled to Tennessee. Trump surveyed devastated communities in Putnam County, where a 1-mile-wide, 2-mile-long path, killing 18 people, including five children under 13. Many more people were injured, some critically.

Statewide, the death toll stood at 24 from a pair of storms.

Trump was met upon his arrival by Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn and other top officials.

“It’s been a painful, tragic week for our state,” Lee said after surveying with Trump a street where eight people were killed.

The street was filled with debris where houses once stood. Limbs were crudely snapped from trees. A white laundry basket, chairs from a dining table, cinder blocks and a step ladder dotted the landscape.

Trump then met with survivors and volunteers at a local church filled with boxes of emergency supplies, pallets of water and tables filled with clothes.

“When you have those who lost somebody, that’s a very tough situation,” Trump said during the nearly 40-minute stop. “We are with you all the way.”

He posed for pictures and shook hands with people before speaking to emergency personnel.

“Nobody’s seen what you had to go through,” Trump said.

Such trips have become familiar for the president, who has visited numerous scenes of disaster and tragedy after hurricanes, mass shootings and wildfires during the past three years.

North Nashville’s recovery uncertain in wake of storm

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — On a frigid Friday morning in North Nashville, Ishvicka Howell stood in her driveway and peered down the street at several utility trucks.

“When I saw those blinking lights, it was like Christmas,” she said.

Howell has been without electricity since a tornado tore through her neighborhood shortly after midnight on Tuesday.

“No power. No heat. We peeringing it,” Howell said. “Grilling it and boiling water on the grill. We’re in survival mode.”

The tornado that struck Nashville wrecked several neighborhoods as it hopped across the city, smashing into the trendy Germantown and Five Points, where two people died.

But North Nashville’s historically African American neighborhoods were already suffering from decades of redlining and neglect, isolated from more affluent neighborhoods by the interstates that cut through the heart of the city.

More recently, they have begun to feel the pressure of gentrification as new residents and short-term renters search out affordable areas near downtown.

And now this. The killer storm devastated whole blocks, tearing down roofs, blowing down walls, uprooting huge trees and toppling electrical poles. While many parts of North Nashville had little storm damage, most residents were still without electricity Friday. No lights. No heat. And no way to store or cook food.

Some are wondering if North Nashville can recover from this latest hit or if its African American families will be permanently displaced.

“We are worried because we know developers are going to come in,” said Cornelius A. Hill, pastor of Ephesian Primitive Baptist Church.

But Hill said he was encouraged by the outpouring of aid. His church, too, is without power. But outside in the parking lot, donations of all sorts have been pouring in to be scooped up by grateful residents. It was a scene repeated on nearly every corner of the storm-damaged blocks on Friday. Volunteers manned folding tables with free water, batteries, diapers, trash bags, and hot food like barbecue, hot dogs and pizza.

Meanwhile, hundreds of volunteers toting rakes and chainsaws were taking advantage of the daylight. They covered roofs with tarpas, sliced away at downed and damaged trees, and piled debris outside for public works trucks to cart away.

“This is a historic part of Nash-ville. Some of these homes have been here 40 or 50 years,” said Jonathan Williamson with the community group Friends and Fam. “It’s beautiful to see every-one come out and work together to get things fixed.”

North Nashville is home to several historically black colleges and universities. Fisk University and Meharry Medical College were largely unscathed from the storm. But Tennessee State University suffered the near total destruction of its agricultural research center. The loss is estimated at between $30 and $50 million.

College of Agriculture Dean Chandra Reddy said the school has never been funded on par with the University of Tennessee. It’s only in the past few years that the state government has started matching federal funding, and the school has been working hard to build up the program.

“This tornado is a double whammy for us. We were barely putting something up there, and then this comes and wipes it out,” said Reddy.

Reddy said he is encouraged that Gov. Bill Lee, who supports rural development, visited Tuesday morning. He is hoping the state government will come through to help the program quickly rebuild and grow.

“If we want to produce top-class research, we need good fa-cilities and good faculty,” Reddy said. “Those don’t come cheap.”

Over at the corner of 16th Ave. North and Knowles Street, one of the most heavily damaged residential blocks, new city councilman Brandon Taylor stopped to talk with Robert Sherrill of the nonprofit Impact Youth Outreach.

Taylor said city leaders already are discussing ways to help resi-dents rebuild.

“We’re trying to build a plan to make sure the community comes out of this whole,” he said.

Sherrill grew up on 16th Ave. North and has already seen how much it has changed through gentrification. He worries that any help won’t come soon enough.

Paige Jack, with the group Friends and Fam, was handing out food nearby and was more op-timistic about the volunteers from other parts of the city and beyond who will feel more connected to North Nashville. “It’s made people much more appreciative of our community,” she said.
By Greg Miller
The Washington Post

U.S. spy agencies were on the verge of an espionage break-through, closing in on the clandestine purchase of a Swiss company that could give the American intelligence the ability to crack much of the world’s encrypted communications.

But the deal fell apart, done in by one of many behind-the-scenes battles between the CIA and the National Security Agency. Detailed in classified documents tracing one of the most remarkable intelligence operations in American history:

The terms of the transaction were all in place when the NSA abruptly “opted out” of negotiations to acquire the Swiss firm, Crypto AG, in the late 1950s, according to the documents. NSA’s last-minute balk is depicted as a typically misguided move by a code-breaking agency known for risk aversion, raising petty objections and “dithering.”

It took more than a dozen years to put the transaction back on track. The CIA and West German intelligence went on to acquire Crypto AG in 1970 and used the company as an intelligence asset to form targeting more than 100 countries.

The operation continued to be marred by frictions between the United States’ preeminent but perpetually squabbling spy siblings. Their rivalry is widely acknowledged in Washington and has been cited as a factor in intelligence failures including the now widely cited lapse of warning before the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

But the classified history of the Crypto operation, written by the CIA’s Center for the Study of Intelligence, provides unusually direct insight into the nature of their antagonism and its consequences over years of unavoidable collaboration on high-stakes espionage.

The document contains the names of dozens of CIA operatives and NSA cryptographers, but the agencies emerge as characters themselves, with distinct institutional personalities.

The CIA comes across as an overbearing elder, impatient with its more timid counterpart, dismissive of its cryptology, and the agencies emerge as characters themselves, with distinct institutional personalities.

The CIA history says, “One of the continuing irritants on the CIA side was this apparent lack of appreciation for traditional [agency] clandestine operational procedures.”

The account bears the clear stamp of a record compiled by the CIA’s historical branch. But the document, which was completed around 2004, was drafted, according to CIA historians and a large degree on files and input from both agencies. The Post obtained access to the CIA history and a separate account drafted in 2008 by the German intelligence service, the BND, as part of a joint project with German broadcaster ZDF and the Swiss news channel SRF.

Current and former U.S. officials said many of the characteristics attributed to the two agencies still exist and that the institutional rivalry continues. But the often dashing spy services have had nearly 70 years to settle their distinct roles and manage ongoing frictions.

“There was not a lot of love lost between CIA and NSA over the years,” said Larry Pfeiffer, who held senior positions at both agencies. Pfeiffer, who is now director of the Hayden Center for Intelligence at George Mason University, said the frictions have subsided in the post-9/11 period that triggered a major restructuring of the intelligence community and required extensive cooperation against terrorist networks.

But the two agencies still have sharp disagreements over their respective roles in cyberspying and other issues, Pfeiffer said. “Their cultures can clash. The languages can be different.”

The CIA history describes the Crypto operation as “the intelligence coup of the century,” a program that enabled American spy agencies to read the messages of governments across the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Under CIA and BND control, Crypto also sold rugged devices to friendly governments including Spain and Italy as well as the Vatican. The communist world did not buy the machines, wary of doing business with a Western company.

The CIA controlled most aspects of the operation, though the agency’s role was known only to a handful of Crypto executives. It was up to the NSA to monitor messages being relayed around the world by Crypto’s far-flung customers, then decipher the coded messages so they could be shared with U.S. officials at the White House, Pentagon and State Department.

The CIA and the NSA declined to comment.

The operation’s peak years came after the CIA and BND purchase. But the files show that the deal was delayed for more than a decade by arguments between the U.S. spy services.

Crypto’s founder, Swedish engineer and entrepreneur Boris Hagelin, had cooperated with U.S. spy agencies starting in the early 1950s as part of a “gentleman’s agreement” in which he restricted sales of his most sophisticated encryption machines to keep them out of the hands of Western adversaries.

But Hagelin made clear early in that arrangement that he wished to retire and was open to selling his company to U.S. spy agencies. He began formal negotiations in 1957 with William Friedman, a pioneer of American cryptology, but Friedman “ran into immediate opposition from NSA” after presenting the proposal to top officials.

The NSA cast doubt on the need for such a deal, believing that it could crack Hagelin’s machines without company help, and regarding many of the countries buying the devices as “low priority.” NSA officials also warned that “there was a very high likelihood that the whole clandestine arrangement would be exposed, and the thing would unravel.”

Friedman advised the CIA to be far more enthusiastic and drafted a detailed plan designed to surround NSA objections. In one of the more pointed documents contained in the documents, the CIA history notes that Friedman’s case was so convincing that it temporarily “numbed even NSA into rational behavior.”

Friedman and the CIA thought they had found a clear path to buy out Hagelin in 1958 when the NSA “abruptly turned over all its files to CIA and got out of the negotiating loop.” But the NSA raised new objections months later, and the plans to buy Crypto were put off indefinitely.

The collaboration smoothed somewhat after that acquisition, a deal that NSA acquiesced to after a final flurry of protests, according to the documents.

Crypto became, in essence, a subsidiary of the CIA. But the two U.S. spy agencies continued to square off over primacy and a “dynamic quicksand” of control and responsibility.

The CIA and NSA also agreed over issues of espionage tradecraft, although both were prone to careless behavior that risked exposure of the operation. CIA and NSA officials visited Crypto’s factory in Switzerland several times in the 1970s, posing as consultants working on a contract with Motorola. They handed out business cards “printed up by the CIA cover staff” that carried the name of a phony front company. But the names on the cards were real, rather than aliases.

“They would sign the visitor register, sometimes in true names,” according to the CIA history, “and could be seen by factory hands” touring the Crypto compound. The cavalier approach enabled Crypto employees, and, later, journalists, to identify NSA employees including Nora Mackee, a senior cryptanalyst, directly involved in meetings at Crypto.

In the mid-1990s, the CIA launched an overhaul of the operation’s security, cutting back on agency interactions with company executives, requiring “all direct contacts ... to be from public telephones,” and scrapping company documents, presumably including visitor logs, of “incriminating information.”

The NSA also rescued the operation at a time when some at CIA began to raise doubts about its viability. A decade after acquiring Crypto, one of the agency’s top operatives in Germany warned headquarters of a “downward spiral” of risk and exposure as foreign governments became more technology-savvy.

The program’s significance faded in recent years, as the spread of strong encryption software online reduced the market for dedicated machines from a Swiss manufacturer.

The CIA essentially dissolved Crypto in 2018 in a series of transactions that divided up its assets. By then, the NSA had long since moved on to more important targets that focused on finding ways to exploit the global reach of U.S. technology giants including Microsoft and Google, according to the trove of agency files exposed by Edward Snowden.

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Susan Biddle/The Washington Post

Former CIA director Stansfield Turner.

Employees from Arlington Hall Station are seen during a visit to the site of the new National Security Agency during the 1950s.

NSA.gov

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Sunday, March 8, 2020

NATION
Simian standoff
No agreement on herpes-infected monkeys in Florida

By Hannah Knowles
The Washington Post

The monkeys — just six of them — arrived in the 1930s as tourist attractions, confined to an island in a Central Florida river.

The problem: They could swim.

The furry, pink-faced creatures native to Asia soon spread and multiplied in what is now Silver Springs State Park, captivating the hearts of visitors who traveled the lush river in glass-bottom boats — and confounding conservationists who want to rein them in.

They’re adorable but undeniably invasive. Experts worry their growing ranks will hurt other species. And to top it off, many of the monkeys carry a form of herpes virus.

The debate about whether and how to control the macaques has reignited in recent weeks after a spate of far-flung monkey sightings brought alarm and blaring headlines: “They’re here!” one news station declared after the animals showed up as far as 100 miles north in Jacksonville. But park officials are no longer trying to tamp the macaque population down.

“It’s a testament, researchers say, to the messy problem of managing an invasive species that has become a tourist highlight complete with its own urban legend (the monkeys didn’t escape from the set of a Tarzan movie).

People feel really emotionally connected to these animals,” said Jane Anderson, an assistant professor of research at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute who has studied the monkeys’ growth over the years. “And that makes it much harder to convey that we need to implement management population than [for] an animal that’s less cute and cuddly.”

Rhesus macaques have been known to wreak havoc on new habitats. In Puerto Rico, studies note, their introduction in the 1960s destroyed seabird populations as the monkeys devoured eggs. In the early 2000s, the island territory’s Department of Agriculture found that commercial farms were losing millions of dollars because of macaques and another monkey species.

Anderson estimates 550 to 600 macaques now living in North Central Florida and frets that more growth could bring serious consequences for area birds such as black bears to bobcats, that monkeys are just one of a host of local wild animals, from black bears to bobcats, that animals, from black bears to bobcats, that

A baby rhesus macaque peers from behind a tree trunk along the Silver River.

River’s monkeys have stopped. Instead of trying to manage the population, officials want to focus on ways to keep their distance.

“We tell people not to approach them, not to feed them, because we want people to stay safe,” said Craig Littauer, a park services specialist. He emphasized that the monkeys are just one of a host of local wild animals, from black bears to bobcats, that can act unpredictably.

The Florida Park Service posts signs and fliers reminding people to “keep a safe distance” from wildlife, and staff may temporarily close areas where they spot monkeys during morning “safety and maintenance checks,” said Weesam Khoury, a spokesperson for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

It wasn’t always illegal to feed the macaques. That policy came in 2018, as state authorities warned the monkey population was spilling beyond the park, just a 20-minute drive from the city of Ocala.

Monkey attacks — including one captured in a viral video — had raised concerns about aggression toward visitors. A study published in a journal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had also fueled worries about herpes B, describing a “public health concern” while concluding that up to 30% of Silver Springs State Park’s macaques shed the virus in their saliva, urine and feces.

People can get herpes B from an infected monkey via a scratch, bite or contact with the monkey’s eyes, nose and mouth, according to the CDC. The virus brings symptoms much like the flu’s but can escalate to brain damage or death if untreated. Experts caution that such human cases are rare, though.

Carli Segelson, a spokeswoman for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, told The Post in an email at the time of the new monkey feeding ban that the commission “supports active management” but did not give specifics.

While she said the macaques have “bitten or scratched multiple people in Florida,” authorities have yet to record an instance of the monkeys passing their herpes B to humans in the wild.

The commission is “working with our partners to explore possible options to remove the threat of free-roaming monkeys in Florida,” Segelson wrote back in 2018. But researchers say there has been no movement since, and Segelson referred questions about monkey removals to the state’s Department of Environmental Protection.

Still, the primates appear as alluring as ever to park patrons.

“First thing everyone asks about is the monkeys,” Nick Bozman, who transports tourists on the river, told the Ocala Star-Banner recently. “They are good for my business.”

He knows there are costs, too.

“They are not supposed to be here,” he told the paper. “It’s a double-edged sword.”

The trapping and selling drew its own backlash, however, from animal rights groups and others concerned for the monkeys’ welfare.

“It is a tragedy that wild monkeys are torn from their families and forest homes and sold to research and testing laboratories,” one animal rights organization’s spokesman said in 2013, calling on officials to catch and sterilize instead, as the Ocala Star-Banner reported.

But sterilization is expensive, researchers say, and budgets are tight. Steven Johnson, an academic who advocates cutting the monkey population, acknowledges there is no easy solution now that the macaques have made themselves at home.

“What do you do with the monkeys?” the University of Florida associate professor told The Washington Post. “If you bring them out alive, something has to be done with them.”

Other less lovable, invasive Florida species, such as the Burmese python, are far easier to cull without raising a public outcry, Johnson said.

And so, since 2012, efforts to thin Silver Springs State Park’s rhesus macaques shed the virus in their saliva, urine and feces.

Nick Bozman, owner of Slick Charters, often takes people on tours of the Silver River to see the rhesus macaques.
Divers seek a sunken Southern cemetery

An underwater black burial ground may have been found

BY PAUL GUZZO
Tampa Bay Times

ODESSA, Fla. — Archaeologists will soon start the search for Keystone Memorial Cemetery, believed to have been forgotten 70 years ago among grass and trees that today make up Bay Tree Farm.

But remnants of the all-black burial ground may already have been found.

Over the course of six hours, members of the team pulled three possible markers and pieces of three others from Lake Twitt in Odessa, near where the cemetery was established.

Shown photos of the square and rectangular concrete blocks, Curtiss Wilson, 91, who grew up near the cemetery and now lives in East Tampa, said she remembers objects just like them from the cemetery.

“They are cornerstones,” said Wilson, whose father Charlie Walker tended to the cemetery. “Those who could afford them put one in each corner of the grave.”

Wilson, the retired founder of Wilson Funeral Home, was certain that a long rectangular block was a cornerstone. Square blocks and pieces of concrete look like markers that would have been used but she could not be certain.

But divers shouldn’t have expected to find traditional headstones, Wilson said. Families who buried loved ones at Keystone cemetery couldn’t afford them and made do with what they had.

“Usually just those bricks of concrete,” Wilson said. “There were maybe a few permanent headstones.”

Typically, names and dates of birth and death were etched onto temporary markers.

Wilson was upset to see her fears confirmed — that someone would toss markers into the lake and perhaps leave the bodies in the ground as though they meant nothing.

“How can anyone do anything like that?” she said. “What type of person?”

Bay Tree Farm owner Carolyn Wilson, who is no relation to Curtiss Wilson, was not surprised to see divers emerge with the markers. She operates the farm for a dozen or so horses that have been put out to pasture there.

“I expected this,” said Carolyn Wilson, a developer and namesake of an art gallery at the University of South Florida.

She purchased the property in 1981 and later heard there might have been a burial ground somewhere on the property. She also heard that college fraternities used to bury their dead there.

Wilson was upset to see her fears confirmed.

“The cemetery search will be led by USF archaeologist Erin Kimmerle, who has gained notoriety for work including the discovery of graves at the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys — a state-run reform school in Marrianna that was shuttered in 2011.

The Keystone cemetery search will be conducted with ground-penetrating radar. Kimmerle has not yet announced when it will start. First, she needs to better pinpoint where the cemetery might have been.

Brian Boyle of Odessa, a history hobbyist, put Carolyn Wilson in contact with friends of his on the sheriff’s dive team.

The team is required to perform two training dives a month in bodies of water throughout Hillsborough County. January’s dive was conducted at Lake Twitt, owned by Carolyn Wilson, with the understanding that the team would also look for remnants of the forgotten cemetery.

This dive enabled them to practice techniques employed for searching for evidence.

They didn’t have to search long.

Within 15 minutes after entering the water, while standing in waist-deep water and shuffling their feet on the lake bottom, divers found two markers next to a crumbling wooden dock. The third was found the next day.

It appears someone tossed the markers from the dock, said Scott Jones, the master

deputy who leads the dive team.

Still, the three intact corner markers hardly seemed the type of find that warranted the body of water’s former reputation among fraternities. They called it “Suicide Lake.”

But dive team member deputy Andrew Lynch said the sea grass was nearly five feet high in some areas and their feet sunk six to seven inches into the earth in others.

So, other markers could have been too well hidden to locate.

They also limited their search to 10 feet around the dock located in the lake’s western area and near a clearing in the eastern portion. The markers were found near the dock.

The dive team is willing to return at a later date for another training exercise in a different area of the lake.

Archaeologist Kimmerle agreed the slabs of concrete resemble corner markers, but said it is also a possibility they were used for something else, though she could not say for what.

“We need to put together a land use record of the property to find out,” she said.

Such research, Kimmerle said, might also explain why the dive team recovered a handful of brick street pavers created by the Georgia-based Rockmarry company that closed shop in 1929.

“This land has a long history,” Kimmerle said. “We need to learn more.”

The Keystone cemetery was founded in the early 1900s by freed slave Tony Lewis. The next owner was David Allen — like Lewis, a member of nearby Mt. Pleasant AME Church. In 1924, Allen sold the property that included the cemetery to William Twitt, the county tax assessor and lake’s namesake.

In 1941, Twitt sold the land to Ernestine Woodard. She would later partner in the property with her brother Robert Woodard Sr., later the mayor of Temple Terrace.

Curtiss Wilson said Twitt allowed the church and community to continue using the land as a cemetery. The owners who followed, she said, put a stop to it.

Those with family buried at the cemetery could not afford to move the bodies, she said, and at some point in the 1950s the markers disappeared.

Curtiss Wilson believes as many as 75 bodies are still there.

“If they keep looking,” she said, “they’ll find more than the corner markers.”
Vatican suspends sex abuse fact-finding trip due to virus

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexico’s bishops said Friday the Vatican had suspended a clerical sex abuse fact-finding and assistance mission to Mexico due to the spreading coronavirus in Italy and now the Vatican.

The Mexican Episcopal Conference said in a statement the Holy See had suspended all foreign activities after registering its first positive test Thursday. The Vatican announced no such ban publicly, and the Vatican spokesman didn’t immediately return messages seeking comment.

The mission to Mexico, which was announced Monday, was known to have alarmed some in the Mexican hierarchy, and abuse survivors said they doubted the virus was the real reason it was scuttled. On Tuesday, the Vatican ambassador to Mexico, Archbishop Franco Coppola, revealed that the Vatican had been investigating four Mexican bishops since May for allegedly covering up mishandling abuse cases.

The Vatican’s two leading sex crimes investigators, Archbishop Charles Scicluna and Monsignor Jordi Bertomeu, were to have been in Mexico City from March 20-27 to meet with bishops, religious superiors and victims. No new date for their mission was announced.

The two prelates were the same Vatican officials who went to Chile in 2018 to investigate one case of abuse cover-up and returned to Rome with testimony from more than 60 victims that filled a 2,600-page dossier. Their investigation led to every active Chilean bishop to offer to resign for their roles in decades of covering up cases of priests who raped children.

After reading their report, Pope Francis asked for forgiveness for having misunderstood the scope of abuse and cover-up in the church, and he has since approved new measures to hold bishops accountable for covering up abuse.

In comments to The Associated Press on Friday, Coppola said the suspension was due to the “health emergency in Italy.”

“All those infected in Mexico recently traveled to Italy,” he noted.

But Italy’s coronavirus emergency has been underway for two weeks, and is focused on the northern Lombardy region, which has registered half of Italy’s 4,636 cases. The south-central Lazio region, where the Vatican city state is located, has registered 54 positive cases.

Malta, the Mediterranean island where Scicluna lives, hasn’t registered a single positive case. There have been five positive cases in Mexico.
BY AMY KAUFMAN
Los Angeles Times

Even here, in the stillness of the Berkshires forest, James Taylor grows anxious. He has to be conscious of how he enters his days, since he most often experiences stress during the first six hours of being awake.

“I was glad to get a chance to see my shrink. I haven’t seen her since before the break,” he says. “I think any attempt at mental health is an excellent idea. It’s a little bit self-centered and navel-gazing, to a certain extent, to focus on yourself to that degree. But some of us need to become conscious of what we’re doing that we need to stop doing.”

It’s early January, and the 71-year-old, who has just driven the mile of his maple-lined entry after visiting with his therapist, walks into TheBarn — his recording studio, a building just a few paces from where he sleeps — and takes off his coat. He keeps on his trademark newsboy cap while tending to the fire in the wood-burning stove.

It’s difficult to imagine a more tranquil environment. But in recent years, Taylor says, he has found his anxiety becoming “a bear.” From the inception of his career, the musician has been open about his mental health struggles. In his senior year of high school, he spent 10 months at Boston’s McLean Hospital during his first depressive episode. A couple of years later, he checked into another residential treatment center in an attempt to kick his heroin addiction. It was there that he composed the majority of his first hit record, 1970’s “Sweet Baby James” — a story he shared whenever he spoke about his songwriting.

Which is why, when Taylor has been asked by publishers over the years to write his memoirs, he has declined. Because he finds it redundant to talk about his music — “It should be listened to, and it either connects or it doesn’t” — he’s been more forthcoming about his personal struggles since he became famous 50 years ago.

Then, last summer, Audible approached Taylor about collaborating on a project. Because he was preparing to release an album of classic covers — “American Standard,” which was released Feb. 28 — his manager suggested that they team up with the audio company might help to promote the new music.

Initially, Taylor envisioned creating something for Audible that would focus on his songwriting. He planned on selecting six of his tunes and talking about the process of writing them, their meaning and reception.

But when he began talking to the project’s producer, Bill Flanagan — an author and television executive who oversaw VH1’s “Storytellers” and CMT’s “Crossroads” — a different idea emerged.

“We talked on the phone about the parameters — about 90 minutes of James talking about something — and the best idea that came up was his detailing the first 21 years of his life,” says Flanagan, who has known Taylor for 35 years. “In the years I was at VH1 and MTV, he never wanted to do a ‘Behind the Music’ special — he could never be talked into it. So it was interesting to me how fully committed and into this he was once we started going. He told me a lot of stuff I never knew. And he’s one of the only rock stars you’ll ever meet who speaks in full paragraphs.”

Taylor decided to call the audio memoir “Break Shot: My First 21 Years.” The title is a reference to the first shot of a billiards game, when the cue ball slams into the other balls, sending them off into various directions. For Taylor, that moment occurred when he left his Massachusetts boarding school, Milton Academy, and went to McLean. But “it had been building,” he says, “to a real discontinuity”: His father’s alcoholism had reached a critical point. His parents’ marriage was coming to an end. The Vietnam War was underway. John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. had been assassinated. The U.S. was living under the threat of nuclear annihilation amid the Cuban Missile Crisis.

He was on the precipice of adulthood, but he didn’t have any direction. Growing up, Taylor often felt crushed by the weight of his family’s unspoken expectations. His father was, as he puts it, “the ultimate academician” — a star student who went from Harvard Medical School to head resident at Massachusetts General Hospital. When Taylor and his four siblings were still kids, their father uprooted them from the Northeast to North Carolina, where he would later become dean of the University of North Carolina Medical School.

But as he remembers in “Break Shot,” Taylor wasn’t getting any clear instruction from his parents on how to achieve such success — about how to apply to college or pursue a career. He grapples with his relationship to his parents throughout the audio memoir, which he says he largely felt comfortable making at all because his parents are no longer around.

“I wanted to be careful not to drag other people’s business into the street — people who are my contemporaries and my siblings — anyone who’s still alive,” he explains.

Less than a month before the Jan. 31 release of the Audible project, Taylor is still uneasy about the prospect of sharing it with the world. Because the final touches had yet to be put on the audio version of the story, his representatives would allow The Times to review only the manuscript of “Break Shot” — and to read it on Taylor’s property.

The singer-songwriter says his hesitation came from a fear that someone might “furiously read it and mine it for its prurient or sensational aspects” before release. The abbreviated memoir does delve into his infamous drug use — he didn’t get sober until his mid-30s — and in one scene, he recalls how he accidentally gave John Lennon a dose of methadone “too big to be taken by a civilian. ... I am sure glad I...
Nashville finds a playful side
City known for country music now a hotbed of game soundtrack production

By KRISTIN M. HALL
Associated Press

N ashville is already known as Music City, but a new wave of music being recorded there for video games, TV shows and movies could earn it a new title as Soundtrack City.

The city has a reputation for high-quality studio musicians that can play just about any genre, including country, pop, rock, gospel and more. Nashville musicians have also been behind the soundtracks for some of the biggest video game franchises including Madden, FIFA, Call of Duty and Star Wars.

And more production companies have been bringing their film and TV soundtrack recordings to Nashville, including Netflix, Showtime, Sony and Focus Features, thanks in part to an incentive program enacted into law last year.

“Nashville has become one of the two or three major places to record in the world for film, game and television,” said Steve Schnur, president of music for Electronic Arts, the popular video game company.

This background includes working at MTV and record labels such as Arista and also working as a music supervisor on films prior to joining EA. He’s been a sort of Pied Piper for soundtrack recording in Nashville. “I’ve been preaching Nashville for quite some time and initially it was with the world’s musicism,” he said. “Nashville? Don’t they make country records there?”

For a long time, EA recorded soundtracks for its games with orchestras in Los Angeles, London and eastern Europe. That changed about seven years ago when Schnur came to Nashville to record for a trailer for a game called Dragon’s Age Inquisition.

Even more so, Nashville’s musicians were both fast and accurate, even on complicated scores written by acclaimed composers such as Hans Zimmer, Lorne Balfe, Jeff Russo and John Debney.

“Nashville has become one of the two or three big places to record in the world,” he said. “It’s a first-take town,” said Schnur. “You go to Prague, you’re doing six or seven takes.”

Now, Schnur estimates 90 to 95% of EA’s scores are being recorded in Nashville, with the rest recorded in London.

The music of video games often is integral to the gameplay in creating both emotion and attachment to the characters and storyline. Kris Bowers, the composer and pianist behind the Oscar-winning film “Green Book,” came to Ocean Way Nashville Recording Studios to record the soundtrack for Madden NFL 20.

Bowers said he can still recall exactly the music of the games he played as a child, such as GoldenEye 007 on Nintendo 64 or Super Smash Bros. and Zelda. “I think the music immediately connects you, especially when there are strong themes or these melodies that you can’t forget. It’s the same thing as hearing a John Williams score. You hear it and you’re immediately transported to your childhood,” Bowers said.

Bowers also explained that because video games are non-linear, meaning the player’s decisions can take the game in different directions, he had to compose music in a totally different way than he does for films or TV.

“For each of these different endings or different iterations of the storyline, or the way that it branches out, there will be a different piece of score,” Bowers said. “For myself, thinking as more of a film composer, how do I make each branch feel similar, like they are related, but obviously matching the emotional tone of the story at that moment?”

That also means a lot more music to record compared to a feature film. Schnur said video game scores can range between an hour to 300 minutes of recorded music.

Bob Raines, executive director of the Tennessee Entertainment Commission, said that when Tennessee has to compete with neighboring states like Georgia and Louisiana for film and TV production, music production was their competitive advantage.

Raines notes that Tennessee has the highest concentration of musicians in the country and is the second in the country for concentration of sound engineers. About five years ago, Raines said they started seeing growth in the scoring sector, so the state started working on an incentive program.

In just six months, they brought five new musical scoring projects to Tennessee that likely would have gone to eastern Europe, with companies such as Netflix, Showtime Networks, Focus Features, Sony and EA, Raines said.

“We have a legacy of music as a state brand so it was easy to promote,” said Raines.

Schnur said now the problem isn’t bringing projects to Nashville, it’s finding the studio space and time to record them.

“Nobody second guesses coming to Nashville,” said Schnur. “The only question now is there’s not enough space and we need more.”

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didn’t kill John Lennon that day,” he says. “By 11, he’d spent time in a mental institution, got into a motorcycle accident, got addicted to heroin, started playing music with the Beatles. I just felt there was so much good stuff that I was very, very happy with ending it there.”

Taylor has found himself reflecting more on his youth as he ages. “It seems to be a time of summing up,” he says, “when there’s a finite amount of time that remains.”

When he listens to music — which is, in fact, a rarity, because he prefers silence so he can “put something light on the piano that inspired an entire generation of jazz players. I’m not saying that I’m as capable as he, but the thing is, it’s worth doing if you bring something new to it or see it in a new light.”

In May, Taylor will embark on a 26-date U.S. tour with Jackson Browne to promote the new music. He is rarely at home for more than a month, but tries to balance his touring schedule just enough so that he doesn’t tire of it.

“In its season, there’s nothing like it,” he says of being on the road. “I don’t know if I’ve got another studio album in me of my own material. It’s hard to know what will happen in the next 10 years. I’m still writing. I feel as though I’ve done this all my life, and I just want to take it as far as I can go.”
Man sold guns, parts stolen from ATF facility

PA JOHNSTOWN — A Pennsylvania man awaits sentencing after pleading guilty to charges that he bought and sold guns and gun parts that had been stolen from a federal disposal facility.

Richard Adam Schreiber, 38, of Everett, pleaded guilty to five federal counts related to the thefts by a contract security guard at the National Firearms and Ammunition Destruction Branch in Martinsburg, WV.

The former guard, Christopher Lee Yates, is serving a lengthy federal sentence. Yates told investigators he would arrive at work early and take guns, gun parts and ammunition that had been seized during criminal investigations or were retired by federal agencies, authorities said.

Woman steals skeleton over offensive gesture

NM CUYAMUNQUE — A New Mexico woman is facing a larceny charge after authorities said she stole a neighbor’s anatomical skeleton model that allegedly was making an offensive gesture toward her.

Diana Hogrebe of Cuyamungue, N.M., told Santa Fe County Sheriff’s deputies she was offended by the way the skeleton’s hand was posed — with the middle finger pointed up.

Hogrebe told the Santa Fe New Mexican the episode was the culmination of a monthslong feud between her and neighbor Joseph Downs, who she said has harassed her family and other nearby residents.

The skeleton has not been located, authorities said.

Deputies: Boy left alone without water, food

FL PENSACOLA — A 39-year-old Florida woman is charged with child neglect after a boy was left alone in a dirty house without running water or electricity for nine days, deputies said.

Escambia County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Autumn Lee Ellis, 31, on Feb. 5, the Pensacola News Journal reported. A second home since Feb. 5, the Pensacola, an arrest report said.

A neighbor told deputies that the child had been alone in the home since Feb. 5, the Pensacola News Journal reported. A second person told authorities the child had asked him for water and he observed a home that wasn’t suitable for a child when he took bottles of water to the residence.

Couple plans to open 1st theater in 12 years

HI WAILuku — The Hawaiian island of Molokai could have its first movie theater in 12 years if the project is approved by local regulators.

The owners of the RWH Chen Building in Kaunakakai plan to open a 40-seat theater, The Maui News reported.

Brad and Grace Ellis recently renovated the space on the island in Maui County.

“We were thinking about it, researched and studied and decided maybe this would work and be a nice thing for the community to do,” he said.

Man charged in huge identity fraud scam

RI Pawtucket — A Rhode Island man has been charged with operating a large-scale identity fraud scam, according to state police.

Samuel Mate, 35, of Pawtucket, was charged with five counts of identity fraud and 22 counts of wrongfully obtaining telecommunications services.

State police began investigating a scam reported by the cable provider, Cox Communications, in 2018. Authorities said Mate stole several people’s identities and used them to open fraudulent accounts with Cox Communications throughout Rhode Island. Mate allegedly received about $28,600 through the scam.

Cops: Woman set fire to home with kids inside

LA Jennings — A Louisiana woman is in custody, accused of setting on fire the house she was renting with her three children inside.

The State Fire Marshal’s Office, in a news release, said agents arrested Mandy Rochelle, 31, on one count of aggravated arson.

The Jennings Fire Department responded to a call about a residential fire.

Investigators learned Rochelle and her estranged husband, William Rochelle Jr., 37, had argued prior to the fire, but the husband had left the home before the blaze began. Rochelle’s three children were in the home at the time of the fire, authorities said.

EX-mail carrier charged for selling pot on route

WV Huntington — A former U.S. Postal Service worker in West Virginia has been sentenced to six months in prison for selling marijuana along his mail route, officials said.

U.S. Attorney Mike Stuart said Michael Morton, 55, pleaded guilty to selling marijuana while working as a letter carrier in Huntington between 2015 and 2018.

Morton admitted to distributing around 175 pounds of marijuana during the time frame, Stuart said.

Stuart said Morton was caught after agents saw him delivering a roughly 16-pound package of marijuana using his postal delivery truck.

Police seize $1.5M worth of marijuana

NC Greensboro — Authorities in North Carolina have intercepted $1.5 million worth of marijuana that was passing through the state along an East Coast drug route.

The Guilford County Sheriff’s Office said it seized 331 pounds of marijuana and 30 pounds of a concentrated form of cannabis known as “wax.”

The sheriff’s office said that North Carolina was not the intended destination of the drugs. The office said that the seizure disrupted the supply of drugs along the East Coast.

Student mixes up pepper spray for body spray

FL Jacksonville — A Florida middle school student mistakenly released pepper spray after grabbing what he thought was a canister of body spray from another student, school district officials said.

The seventh-grade student has been issued a civil citation for the incident at Highlands Middle School in Jacksonville that sent 41 students to hospitals for treatment of minor injuries, Principal Evan Daniels said in pre-recorded messages sent to parents.

“Thinking it was body spray, the student who took the canister actually sprayed himself as if he were applying a body fragrance product,” Daniels said.

From wire reports

Sand dune drop

A visitor uses a saucer to slide down a sand dune in White Sands National Park at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.

The number of warnings for using hand-held cellphones while driving is up 17 percent so far this year, according to an AP analysis of data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The data shows that the number of warnings is up 17 percent so far this year, compared to the same time period last year.

The number of people killed in accidents involving drivers using hand-held cellphones is down 10 percent so far this year, compared to the same time period last year.

Experts say the increase in warnings is likely due to increased police enforcement and awareness campaigns.

The number of calls for service to police involving distracted driving increased 13 percent in the first quarter of this year, compared to the first quarter of last year, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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Opinion

BY DANIEL W. DREZNER
Special to The Washington Post

Recently I asked whether, late as it was, “The PartyDecides” hypothesis could still explain the 2020 Democratic primary. As it turns out, the results there have been pretty conclusive. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., won some states, including the largest prize of Super Tuesday, but at a low last. It was due to mail-in votes before the party caucuses around former Vice President Joe Biden, who is a middle-of-the-road, pragmatic Democrat. The Sanders still has an 8% chance of winning the nomination; Biden, however, has a better than 99% chance of winning.

One of the interesting data points from Super Tuesday is that, contrary to his campaign’s expectations, Sanders failed to generate a surge of new young voters. To be sure, Sanders crushed Biden with the under-30 demographic. As CNN’s Harry Enten points out, Sanders’ young vote was largely among younger, younger voters, and a lot more of them bothered to vote.

The second difference is that Biden stoked the need for work with democratic allies throughout the issue ranging from economic security: “Working cooperatively with nations that share our values and goals does not make the United States a weaker nation. It makes us stronger, more secure and more successful. We amplify our own strength, extend our presence around the globe, and magnify our impact while sharing the responsibilities with willing partners. We need to fortify our collective capabilities with the world’s democracies.”

Afghanistan had no input in deal that could seal their fate

BY REP. TOM MALINOWSKI
Special to The Washington Post

As a Polish American, I grew up hearing the phrase “nothing about us, without us.” For many veterans in small countries against World War II, placing them, against their will, under Soviet domination, an America and a Poland can be expected to do that a nation again, until saw the Trump administration’s peace deal. The deal could make Afghanistan’s fate, though the United States and government and people were given no say in its negotiation.

In short, there is nothing wrong with the United States negotiating directly with the Taliban. A limited deal committing all sides to reducing violence as the United States withdraw some troops and the Taliban began talks with the Afghan government and people were given no say in its negotiation.

On February 29, there is nothing wrong with the United States negotiating directly with the Taliban. A limited deal committing all sides to reducing violence as the United States withdraw some troops and the Taliban began talks with the Afghan government and people were given no say in its negotiation.

On February 15, during a meeting attended by more than a dozen members of Congress, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the deal would also commit the Afghan government to releasing Taliban prisoners — a huge white concession that the Afghan President Ashraf Ghani understandably did not want to make. Pompeo told us categorically that the deal would say nothing about that.

And yet the U.S.-Taliban deal released on Feb. 29 says that “up to” 5,000 Taliban fighters held by the Afghan government “will be released by March 10” — before the start of intra-Afghan negotiations. If Afghanistan had no say in such a deal, does not release these prisoners, the Trump administration will have given the Taliban a face-saving “victory” over the Afghan president is willing to “refuse to talk with him.”

One of the rest of the announced deal is no better. It is an open question whether to stop killing Afghan troops and civilians, only to stop shooting at Americans as we leave the country. The deal does not commit the Taliban to break fully with al-Qaeda, only to “stop shooting at Americans as we leave the country.”

The deal includes no verification measures or agreed penalties for noncompliance. The United States will withdraw all troops from Afghanistan within 14 months no matter what the Taliban does. If the Taliban refuses to negotiate in good faith with the Afghan government, we still leave. If it continues to murder Afghan civilians, we still leave.

For years the Trump administration has said that the Taliban will continue to kill. That’s just, not a peace agreement. It’s a formula to take America’s chump. It makes us more secure and more successful. We amplify our own strength, extend our presence around the globe, and magnify our impact while sharing the responsibilities with willing partners. We need to fortify our collective capabilities with the world’s democracies. For Sanders to come back, he’ll need to hope that voters either do not care about foreign policy or that his more progressive foreign policy platform starts to attract new voters, and right quick.

Daniel W. Drezner is a professor of international politics at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

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Daniel W. Drezner

Sunday, March 8, 2020
College hockey

Conference tournaments

If necessary

ATLANTIC HOCKEY

ASSOCIATION

Mens (East)

Biganzo, Kaaz-Bazerque; RHPs Joe Ratelle and

Brian Howard and Zach Lee to their minor

league camp.

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## College basketball scoreboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Scoring Leader</th>
<th>Team(s)</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 2</td>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Arizona 86, San Diego 82</td>
<td>books</td>
<td>Arizona vs. San Diego</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 3</td>
<td>Cal State Fullerton</td>
<td>Cal State Fullerton 68, Tulsa 71</td>
<td>MacArthur</td>
<td>Cal State Fullerton vs. Tulsa</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 4</td>
<td>Kansas State</td>
<td>Kansas State 76, Texas 59</td>
<td>Breece</td>
<td>Kansas State vs. Texas</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 5</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Wisconsin 81, Iowa 70</td>
<td>Khalil</td>
<td>Wisconsin vs. Iowa</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 6</td>
<td>Pacific Division</td>
<td>Southern California 76, Colorado 69</td>
<td>Amathus</td>
<td>Southern California vs. Colorado</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 7</td>
<td>Washington State</td>
<td>Washington State 69, Oregon 72</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Washington State vs. Oregon</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 9</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Minnesota 67, Michigan 53</td>
<td>Gaffney</td>
<td>Minnesota vs. Michigan</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 10</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Michigan 75, Iowa 70</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Michigan vs. Iowa</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Women's hockey worlds canceled due to virus

The women's world hockey championships in California were canceled Saturday because of the new coronavirus.

International Ice Hockey Federation President Rene Fasel told the Associated Press the decision was made by conference call. The two-week tournament was set to open March 31, with venues in Halfax and Truro, Nova Scotia.

Fasel said by phone that concerns were raised regarding the health of players and fans attending the tournament in light of the global spread of the virus. The Canadian Ice Hockey Canada was in the process of informing its officials and partners of the cancellation.

Fasel noted the difficulties some of the eight nations will encounter in simply making travel plans, such as Japan, where almost all sports events and large gatherings have been canceled.

### Norway's Kilde takes men's World Cup lead

KVITFJELL, Norway — Aleksander Aamodt Kilde sealed the lead in the overall Alpine World Cup standings by finishing second in Saturday's downhill won by Matthias Mayer.

Kilde picked up 80 World Cup points to take a lead of 54 over Alexi Pinturault, who was out there, as Boise State (20-12) knocked around early the last few weeks. It also has made a habit of absorbing the early blows, landing some solid counter-punches and ultimately scoring the knockout.

The No. 5 Aztecs followed that same script once again Friday night in the Mountain West Tournament semifinals against Boise State, overcoming a 16-point first-half deficit and cruising to an 81-68 victory. The Aztecs are in the title game for the third consecutive year, the sixth time in the last seven seasons and the 10th time in the last 12. More importantly, they took another step closer to locking down a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in school history.

San Diego State, which trailed at halftime in each of its previous four games, actually jumped to a quick 2-9 lead after sinking its first three-point shots. But the tide quickly turned from there, as Boise State (20-12) scored 26 of the next 31 points, which was part of 35-12 run that gave the Broncos a 37-21 lead with five minutes remaining in the half.

That’s when San Diego State woke up — on both ends of the court.
Extending the count
Spring training rosters rife with aging players looking for opportunity

BY WILL GRAVES
Associated Press

BRADENTON, Fla. — Infielder Jarrod Dyson kept waiting for the phone to ring. As December faded and the hot stove cooled, one thought kept running through the free agent outfielder’s mind.

“You mean to tell me I can’t help nobody win?” said Dyson, who stole 30 bases for Arizona in 2019 before hitting the open market last fall.

Dyson’s won plenty. He offers the World Series ring he earned while playing for the Kansas City Royals in 2015 as proof. He appeared in 130 games at age 34 last season for a Diamondbacks team that hung around the playoff picture until the final week of the season. He’s been part of rebuilding projects and raucous October celebrations. Now in the final innings of a decade-long career, he wouldn’t mind another shot at a playoff run.

Yet the only palatable job offer Dyson received came from Pittsburgh. The Pirates are in need of a stopgap in center field after dealing Gold Glove Starling Marte to Arizona last month. So Dyson signed for one year and $2 million. Sure he considered all possibilities, but the fact is he had to settle for being a guy on the back half of his 30s. For a player with a fancy résumé and the hot stove cooling, one that pays a healthy wage. Things could be worse. A lot worse.

Everybody wants to be with a winning team but at the same time, you’ve got to get in where you fit in,” Dyson said. “I can’t be sitting at home waiting on a playoff team to call me. The Pirates gave me an opportunity. I’m going to take advantage of it.”

Dyson is hardly alone. Scan down (way down in some cases) spring training rosters and you’ll find names that look out of place, All-Stars, postseason heroes and established veterans just trying to stay off the next phase of their lives on teams where expectations (and in most cases, payroll) are modest.

Matt Kemp in Miami. Cameron Maybin in Detroit. Hunter Pence and Pablo Sandoval back in San Francisco, where the Giants are in the midst of a massive youth overhaul and Marlin manager Don Mattingly, whose relationship with Kemp dates to when both were with the Los Angeles Dodgers. “Matt was second in the MVP (in 2011). A lot of us thought he should have won the MVP that year. He was one of the top players in the game, maybe a bag away from being a 40 (home run)-40 (stolen base) guy. Matt has done a lot of things in the game. That’s one of the things he brings to the table.”

None of that will matter, however, unless Kemp rakes this spring. For a player with 12 years service time who is financially set for the rest of his life, catching on with a team that struggles to bring fans to the ballpark and win in equal measure might seem like an unnecessary hassle. In a way, though, Kemp figures he’s just paying it forward.

“When he broke into the league in 2007, veterans like Juan Pierre, Marlon Anderson, Tori Hunter and Junior Spivey showed him the ropes. They shaped him into a star. He’s here to do the same.”

“It’s just you wanting to help younger guys be their best selves,” Kemp said.

“Thank’s going to be my job.”

One the well-traveled Maybin will be doing during his third stint with the Tigers. He’s played for eight teams across 13 seasons and seen just about everything. He was part of the now infamous Houston team that won it all in 2017. Four months ago, he was in the playoffs with the New York Yankees as they came within one game of a trip to the World Series. The near miss stoked the fire to keep pushing.

“Everybody wants to be with a winning team but at the same time, you’ve got to get in where you fit in,” Dyson said. “I can’t be sitting at home waiting on a playoff team to call me. The Pirates gave me an opportunity. I’m going to take advantage of it.”

And teach while they do it. Maybin understands what’s it’s like to be a rising prospect on a team spinning its wheels. He’s hopeful he can help this group of Tigers avoid the mistakes he made.

“I’ve realized that for me, in my situation, being a guy who’s had to work, the success comes from having to fail a little bit,” Maybin said. “Growing to go through it, it makes it a little bit sweeter. Hopefully, I can share some of that.”

And who knows? Maybe the old guys get a little bit sweeter. Maybe they stay healthy. Maybe their impact in the clubhouse they’re currently in helps set the stage for an improbable run. Or maybe they find themselves dealt to a contender over the summer.

“It’s kind of messed up, the direction it’s going,” Dyson said. “But you’ve got to wear it on the chin, bro, keep your head up, go out there and continue to play.”
Binnington with a forehand for his fifth goal in around defenseman Colton Parayko and beat 8:38 after the opening faceoff. He swooped players, they are hungry guys. We knew they to improve to 3-0-1 since returning. goal, stopped nine shots in the final 20 minutes hamton last month and got an assist on Mermis’ shot from the point at 17:58 that Binnington that found the top right corner of and wristed a shot past a seemingly screened shot. He got the puck backing up in the left circle last month, broke a 1-all tie with a remarkable nington from using his pads to stop a shot. have been a third second-period goal nullified the first time in seven starts. "We played some real good hockey," Blues coach Craig Berube said. "We won eight games in a row and just wound up not playing good enough tonight. You are not always going to have a bounce, right in and out and out. This tonight, I thought we were a lot better than us. So they deserved to win." Dunn also scored for the Blues and Jordan Binnington had 28 saves in losing for the first time in seven starts. The Devils won despite having what would have been a third straight-peroid goal nullified because Kevin Rooney’s skate prevented Binnington from using his pads to stop a shot. Medwetski, who was recalled from Binghamton last month, broke a 1-all tie with a remarkable shot. He got the puck backing up in the left circle and wristed a shot past a seemingly screened Binnington that found the top right corner of the net at 6:50. Playing in his 18th career game, he laughed about it on the bench. "It’s incredible, there’s so much adrenaline in that moment that you skate forever after that," Mermis said. “You start to enjoy it and it’s such a surreal moment but it’s really good to get that one," Carrick, who was playing in his 27th game this season, upped the lead to 3-1 with a wrist shot from the point at 17:58 that Binnington also didn’t see. Schneider, who was also recalled from Binghamton last month and got an assist on Mermis’ goal, stopped nine shots in the final 20 minutes to improve to 3-0-1 since returning. “They’ve got good players,” Blues defensemen Alex Pietrangelo said. “They have young players, they are hungry guys. We knew they were going to play us hard.” Jesper Bratt had given Devils the lead 8:38 after the opening faceoff. He swooped around defenseman Colton Parayko and beat Binnington with a forehand for his fifth goal in eight games. Dunn tied it with a power-play goal on a rebound.

DEVS STOP BLUES’ STREAK AT 8 GAMES

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — The St. Louis Blues’ eight-game winning streak came to an end at the hands of a team very few would have expected to beat them.

The New Jersey Devils ended more than six years of frustration against the Blues by stunning the defending Stanley Cup champions 4-2 on Friday night.

And it was a stunner in all aspects. Dakota Mermis scored his first NHL goal. Fellow defenseman Conn Carrick got his first of the season. Cast-aside goaltender Cory Schneider made 31 saves and added an assist in posting his first win at home in more than a year and helping New Jersey end a 12-game skid against the Blues, dating to January 2014. “They beat us pretty badly the last few years since I’ve been here, so it’s nice to take one from them and I thought we played well," said Schneider, who was banished to the AHL in November and got the start. "I don’t think we snuck one out or got lucky, but we matched them play for play and I thought we were with them right until the end.”

The Blues, who started their winning streak with a shutout of New Jersey on Feb. 18, didn’t go easy. They closed their deficit to 3-2 on a goal by Oskar Sundqvist with 3:11 remaining until Joey Anderson iced the game with an empty-net goal with 57 seconds to play. "It was a game we played some real good hockey," Blues coach Craig Berube said. "We won eight games in a row and just wound up just not playing good enough tonight. You are not always going to have a bounce, right in and out and out. This tonight, I thought we were a lot better than us. So they deserved to win." Dunn also scored for the Blues and Jordan Binnington had 28 saves in losing for the first time in seven starts. The Devils won despite having what would have been a third straight-period goal nullified because Kevin Rooney’s skate prevented Binnington from using his pads to stop a shot. "It’s incredible, there’s so much adrenaline in that moment that you skate forever after that," Mermis said. “You start to enjoy it and it’s such a surreal moment but it’s really good to get that one," Carrick, who was playing in his 27th game this season, upped the lead to 3-1 with a wrist shot from the point at 17:58 that Binnington also didn’t see. Schneider, who was also recalled from Binghamton last month and got an assist on Mermis’ goal, stopped nine shots in the final 20 minutes to improve to 3-0-1 since returning. “They’ve got good players,” Blues defensemen Alex Pietrangelo said. “They have young players, they are hungry guys. We knew they were going to play us hard.” Jesper Bratt had given Devils the lead 8:38 after the opening faceoff. He swooped around defenseman Colton Parayko and beat Binnington with a forehand for his fifth goal in eight games. Dunn tied it with a power-play goal on a rebound.

11-time Stanley Cup champion ‘Pocket Rocket’ Richard dead

Associated Press

MONTREAL — Henri Richard, the speedy and durable center who won a record 11 Stanley Cups with the Montreal Canadiens, has died.

The Canadiens announced the death of the Hall of Famer on Twitter, calling him “one of the organization’s greatest legends and ambassadors.” Richard had Alzheimer’s disease.

He was best known as the younger brother of Maurice “Rocket” Richard and was nicknamed the Rocket for his 5-foot-7, 160-pound frame. “Henri was a part of the true giants of the game,” NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said, lauding him as an “incomparable winner, leader, and ambassador.”

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also paid tribute to Richard on Twitter. “A legend on and off the ice, in Montreal and beyond,” Trudeau tweeted. Richard was known for his playmaking, and when asked which Canadiens player was best, he said “no one has matched. Rest in peace, Pocket Rocket,” Trudeau tweeted.

Richard was a member of the Canadiens’ Stanley Cup-winning teams from 1945 until his retirement in 1975. He succeeded the legendary Jean Beliveau, with whom he shared the record of playing 20 seasons for the NHL club.

Henri Richard played 1,256 regular-season games, 136 games and was a member of the Canadiens, and played well. He scored 358 goals and had 1,046 points, third in team history behind Guy Lafleur (1,381) and Beliveau (1,219). He added 129 penalty minutes in 867 games, including 126 points on overtime. He was one of the greatest players on the ice and in Montreal.

“Obviously, his record of 11 Stanley Cups will never be broken,” Hall of Famer Serge Savard said of his teammate of eight seasons. “Even though he played in the shadow of his brother and of the other big stars who played with their mark the Canadiens — who are all in the Hall of Fame, by the way — (Richard) found the way to leave his own mark.”

Richard twice led the NHL in assists, with 52 in 1957-58 and 50 in 1962-63. He had nine 20-goal seasons, including a high of 30 in 1959-60. He won the Bill Masterton Trophy for sportsmanship and perseverance in 1974 and was selected to four league All-Star teams.

The Canadiens retired his No. 16 on Dec. 10, 1975, and he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1979.

Maurice Richard, who was 15 years older, retired after the 1960 season. Henri stayed with the Canadiens for five more Cups over a five-year span from 1965 to 1969. A high-light was in 1966, when Richard’s only goal in the final was the Cup winner in overtime in Detroit.

In 1971, he did it again, scoring the se-cies-deciding goal in the third period of Game 7 in Chicago. Two years later, in 1973, Richard won his 11th Cup, his only one as captain of the Canadiens.
**Winnipeg shuts out Knights**

Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Connor Hellebuyck made 29 saves for his league-leading sixth shutout of the season, leading the Winnipeg Jets to a 4-0 victory over the Vegas Golden Knights on Friday night.

Patrick Laine and Nikolaj Ehlers each had a goal and an assist, Kyle Connor got his team-leading 36th goal and Mathieu Perreault also scored for the Jets. Hellebuyck was sharp, turning the Golden Knights away on several good chances while tiring his career high for shutouts, set during the 2017-18 season. He also was helped by three shots hitting posts.

“It’s a great milestone, but it’s a testament to the guys in front of me and how well we’ve been playing,” Hellebuyck said. “When we bring it, we know we can shut them down. I thought tonight was a good game.”

It was the second game of a three-game homestand for the Jets, who have won five straight to improve to 19-14-3 at Bell MTS Place this season.

“That felt like a typical Winnipeg game,” Hellebuyck said. “When our crowd gets into it like that, it’s so easy to get some momentum and really carry and push our pace on them. I’m just having a lot of fun and taking every moment in like it might not happen again. So, I’m enjoying it.”

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 20 shots in the loss.

“It’s hard to create desperation,” Vegas coach Peter DeBoer said. “That’s a desperate team over there. You look at the standings, they need every single point. I don’t know if we feel like we don’t, which would be a mistake on our part.”

**Struggling coaches stay positive**

By Joe Reed

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Sabres have shown signs of the most improvement, despite losing their last four. After winning 10 in a row to match a franchise record in Nov. 2018, Buffalo proceeded to win just 16 of its remaining 57 games (16-33-8), leading to Phil Housley being fired.

General manager Jason Botterill then went outside the box in hiring Krueger. The 60-year-old has extensive coaching experience in North America and abroad but had been out of hockey for five years, serving as a director and president of Southampton of the English Premier League.

Krueger has brought in a philosophy of wanting his team to “play connected,” meaning all five skaters working as one. It’s an attacking approach that emphasizes always moving the puck toward the opponent.

“It’s not like last year,” forward Jack Eichel said. “We’ve been through these times where we take a couple of hits at this time of year ... and then all of a sudden the wheels fall off. That’s not happening here.”

Eakins was promoted to Anaheim’s top bench spot after four seasons with its San Diego AHL affiliate. He has characterized the organization’s philosophy as transitioning instead of rebuilding, equating it to the process Boston went through a couple of years ago.

While Eakins has been pleased with his team’s effort and being more aggressive on the forecheck, the main thing he has been stressing the past couple weeks is trying to rush the net and getting more goals that might now show up in highlights.

“Don’t have to be a clean shot on the net. If you watch the highlights every night, there are a whole lot of dirty goals being scored everywhere,” he said.

“That’s how we’re going to have to keep committing to getting pucks into the zone in front of the net. The biggest thing is to not be frustrated by it, dig in and stay after it.”

McLellan has always had the toughest rebuilding job of all. The Kings are hampered by veterans with large contracts while trying to slowly work in younger players.

“Bigger picture,” McLeod said. “This is a story that is going to move the needle, as we talked about. Individually and collectively. It’s time to dig in,” he said. “The people that are in that locker room right now, the older players and veterans, we’ve addressed all of them and are aware what their roles could be and how hard they have to play in practice so everybody else can keep their eyes on them. Then there are the followers. The leaders and the followers have to do it all together.”

**Edmonton connection**

McLellan, Krueger and Eakins share one thing in common — they all coached Edmonton. Of the five teams with first-year coaches, the Oilers are the only one that may make the playoffs, as Dave Tippett has them second in the Pacific Division.

Joel Quenneville has had Florida in postseason contention for most of the season, but the Panthers are five points out of a wildcard spot.

Hockey writer John Wawrow contributed to this story.
James says he won’t play without the fans

BY BRIAN MAHONEY
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The NBA wants its teams to prepare to play games without fans if necessary because of the coronavirus crisis, but LeBron James already says he won’t play basketball in an empty arena.

The league circulated a memo to its teams Friday telling them to prepare in case it becomes necessary to play games without fans or media, as sports leagues in Europe have already done. The memo detailed potential actions that teams might need to take “if it were to become necessary to play a game with only essential staff present.”

But when James was asked about that possibility after he scored 37 points in his Los Angeles Lakers’ 113-103 win over the league-leading Milwaukee Bucks on Friday night, the NBA’s leading active scorer was definitive.

“We play games without the fans? Nah, that’s impossible,” James said. “I ain’t playing if I ain’t got the fans in the crowd. That’s who I play for. I play for my teammates, and I play for the fans. That’s what it’s all about. So if I show up to an arena and there ain’t no fans in there, I ain’t playing. They can do what they want to do.”

The memo, obtained by The Associated Press, says teams should identify which team and arena people would be necessary to conduct games, and be able to communicate quickly with non-essential staff, as well as ticket holders and corporate partners.

Teams should also be prepared “for the possibility of implementing temperature checks on players, team staff, referees, and anyone else who is essential to conducting such a game in the team’s arena.”

Contents of the memo were first reported by The Athletic.

The letter also says teams should plan for scenarios in which media could attend games under revised media policies.

The league had already sent a memo to teams this week offering 10 recommendations to players with hopes of decreasing risks of getting the virus — among them, not taking items such as pens, markers, balls and jerseys from autograph seekers.

An NCAA Division III men’s basketball tournament game on the campus of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore was played in an empty gym Friday in what was believed to be the first U.S. sports event held without fans because of the coronavirus, though an NCAA COVID-19 advisory panel said it is “not recommending cancellation or public spacing of athletic and related events scheduled to occur in public spaces across the United States.”

AP sports writer Greg Beacham in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

Jack Ancone uses a sanitizing station prior to a game between the Clippers and the Philadelphia 76ers on March 1 in Los Angeles.

Clash: Lakers wrap up playoff berth

FROM BACK PAGE

“We know who we are, and this is great competition,” James said. “To have the opportunity to compete at a high level, that’s fun and exciting. But we know what we’re capable of.”

The victory even had a symbolic meaning for James and the Lakers: They formally clinched their first playoff spot since 2013, ending the longest drought in franchise history.

“I came here to put this franchise back where it needed to be,” James said. “The league is not what it is if the Lakers are not winning.”

James has transformed himself into the NBA’s assists leader this season to get the most out of Davis, but he did it without losing any of his own scoring acumen. The Lakers depend on his steady excellence on both ends, and he has rarely been better this season than he was against the Bucks.

“What was more impressive to me was his defense on Giannis,” Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. “For him to take on that assignment and still do what he did offensively, just an incredible performance.”

Antetokounmpo had 32 points and 11 rebounds for the Bucks, who have lost two of three games for the first time since October. Donte DiVincenzo scored 17 points for Milwaukee, which has still won seven of nine overall.

“We definitely did not play smart,” Antetokounmpo said. “We put them at the line so easily. We’ve just got to do better. Obviously we’re going to learn a lot from this game.”

Antetokounmpo finished strong with a 12-point fourth quarter after two fairly quiet periods, but Milwaukee just couldn’t catch up to the Lakers in the waning minutes of one of the NBA’s marquee regular-season matchups.

“They were just better,” Milwaukee coach Mike Budenholzer said. “They’re a very good team.”

He’s OK

Antetokounmpo had a scary fall late in the game when he came down on a prone Avery Bradley. The MVP walked it off and stayed in the game, but appeared to be limping off the court late. Afterward, Giannis repeatedly insisted his knee is “good.”

Milestone bucket

The Lakers took the lead for good on James’ three-pointer with 8:39 left in the third quarter. James scored his 34,000th career point during the game, joining Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Karl Malone as the only players to hit the mark.

Shooting blanks

Khris Middleton scored 12 points on 5-for-19 shooting for the Bucks. The 21-points-per-game scorer went 2-for-10 on three-pointers and made three turnovers. “I just didn’t shoot the ball well, and I didn’t make the best decisions late in the ballgame,” he said. “Still got to shoot, no matter what the situation is. The next one’s not going to go in if you don’t shoot it.”
All-Star forward scores five points in final 62 seconds

NEW ORLEANS — Brandon Ingram overcame a poor shooting performance that included missing 15 of his first 17 shots by scoring five points in the final 62 seconds to help the New Orleans Pelicans hold off the Miami Heat 110-104 on Friday night.

Mired in perhaps the worst shooting night of his career, Ingram hit 21-foot jumpers then a three-pointer from the right wing in a 74-second span in the final three minutes.

“I feel like I went 0-for-20 and then I knocked down those two crucial shots,” said Ingram, who finished with 12 points, admitting it was a challenge to maintain his confidence. “At the same time, you know your teammates are counting on you coming down the stretch. You just got to figure out a way to make it happen.”

The Pelicans, who led by as many as 15 points in the fourth quarter, snapped a three-game losing streak. Miami had its four-game winning streak halted.

While Ingram finished 4-for-20 shooting, Jrue Holiday led the Pelicans with 20 points, and Josh Hart came off the bench to finish with 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Zion Williamson added 17 points and Lonzo Ball added 16, including four straight when the Pelicans’ fourth-quarter lead was slipping away. Ball also had nine rebounds and eight assists.

Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry said he had no hesitation going to Ingram in the closing minutes.

“He didn’t shoot a great percentage, but it doesn’t matter if you make the big shots down the stretch,” Gentry said. “He had a lot of shots that were questionable from a feel standpoint. He just continued to play, and when we needed him most, he came up with two big scores.”

Miami got a game-high 26 points from Jimmy Butler and 24 from rookie Duncan Robinson, who had eight three-pointers.

Butler kept the Heat within striking distance early in the game with 15 first-half points.

“We just clearly weren’t sharp,” Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said. “We were playing from a hole and then we weren’t able to get over the hump.”

Potential skirmishes: Alvin Gentry said he can understand why the NBA might be considering playing games with no spectators in the arena if the fallout from the coronavirus epidemic gets worse. “I’ll give you an example — I went five places today to buy hand sanitizer, and there’s none in the whole town,” he said. “I think people are scared. I wouldn’t be surprised if that did happen... it’s one of those situations where all we got to be careful.”

Pelicans forward Brandon Ingram, right, knocks the ball away from Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler Friday in New Orleans. The Pelicans won 110-104 to snap a three-game skid.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Heat rookie Duncan Robinson has made 233 three-pointers this season, the most by an undrafted player during a single season in NBA history.

SOURCE: Associated Press

### Rohingya

**Roundup**

**Dominant Sabonis helps Pacers hang on against Bulls**

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Domantas Sabonis dominated with 24 points and 12 rebounds, and the Indiana Pacers hung on to beat the Chicago Bulls 108-102 on Friday night.

The Pacers led by as much as 23 in the third quarter and withstood a big push in the fourth to win their ninth straight over the Bulls, who lost for the 12th time in 14 games despite rookie Coby White scoring 26 points and Shaquille Harrison setting a career high with 25.

**Mavericks 121, Grizzlies 96:** Kristaps Porzingis had 26 points and 11 rebounds and Luka Doncic added 21 points as host Dallas beat Memphis.

It was Porzingis’ fourth straight game with at least 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Mavericks, who quickly built on a 12-point halftime lead, dominated the third quarter 34-16 and improved to 14 games over .500 for the first time since Feb. 20, came off the first back-to-back 39-point road victory in NBA history.

**Suns 127, Trail Blazers 117:** Aron Baynes scored a career-high 37 points on a career-best nine three-pointers, Dario Saric added 24 points and Phoenix snapped a four-game skid by beating visiting Portland.

Baynes was 9-for-14 from long distance to tie a single-game franchise record, and was 12-for-23 overall. He also had 16 rebounds. Phoenix never trailed and made 19 three-pointers.

**Nets 139, Spurs 120:** Caris LeVert had 27 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists and host Brooklyn pounded San Antonio in Gregg Popovich’s return from a one-game absence.

LeVert, who had a career-high 51 points in a victory at Boston on Tuesday, recorded his first career triple-double.

**Magic 132, Timberwolves 118:** Nikola Vucevic had 28 points and 12 rebounds, and Markell Fultz added 24 points for visiting Orlando, which snapped a three-game skid by shooting a season-best 60.7% from the floor.

**Jazz 99, Celtics 94:** Mike Conley made six three-pointers and scored 25 points, Jordan Clarkson added 17 and Utah beat host Boston for its fourth consecutive victory.

**Thunder 126, Knicks 103:** Danilo Gallinari scored 22 points in 27 minutes and led five teammates in double figures as visiting Oklahoma City routed New York.

**Wizards 118, Hawks 112:** Bradley Beal scored 35 points and host Washington held off Atlanta, which was without scoring leader Trae Young because of flu-like symptoms.

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**NBA**

### Scoreboard

#### Eastern Conference

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**Friday’s games**

- Milwaukee at Denver
- Charlotte at Atlanta
- Detroit at New York
- Indiana at Dallas
- L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers

**Saturday’s games**

- Houston at Charlotte
- Utah at Detroit
- Denver at Atlanta
- Milwaukee at Golden State
- Sacramento at Portland

**Sunday’s games**

- Chicago at Brooklyn
- L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers
- New Orleans at Minnesota
- Milwaukee at Toronto
- Boston at Dallas
- Miami at Washington
- Orlando at Houston
- Detroit at New York
- San Antonio at Cleveland
- Utah at Sacramento

**Monday’s games**

- Charlotte at Atlanta
- Milwaukee at Denver
- Toronto at Utah

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**TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES, CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

The Pacers’ Domantas Sabonis matched Troy Murphy’s club record with his 49th double-double of the season in a 108-102 win over the Chicago Bulls on Friday.

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**RUSTY COSTANZA/REUTERS**

The Pelicans won 110-104 to snap a three-game skid.

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**Rusty Costanza/Reuters**

Ingram delivers late in Pelicans’ victory
LeBron, Lakers outduel Giannis, Bucks in clash of top two teams

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — LeBron James has repeatedly insisted he doesn’t care about winning another MVP award. He knows almost nobody outside the Los Angeles Lakers’ locker room thinks he’ll beat Giannis Antetokounmpo for the honor.

When the reigning MVP brought his Milwaukee Bucks to Staples Center on Friday night, James’ brilliant performance still demonstrated the debate shouldn’t be over just yet.

James had 37 points, eight rebounds and seven assists to win his showdown with his fellow All-Star Game captain, and the Lakers beat Milwaukee 113-103 in a clash of the NBA’s conference leaders.

Anthony Davis scored 14 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter as the Lakers (48-13) split their season series with the league-leading Bucks (53-10). Los Angeles was carried to its 10th win in 11 games overall by James, who scored 14 points in the third quarter and then kept LA ahead down the stretch.

James also frequently guarded Antetokounmpo during the middle quarters with consistent success.

James capped his night with a one-handed spinning dunk with 27 seconds left, sparking the last of many “M-V-P!” chants for him at Staples Center.

SEE CLASH ON PAGE 22