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STARS AND STRIPES®

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CONTINGENCY EDITION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021

Free to Deployed Areas

AFGHANISTAN

Suicide bombers assault mosque

BY SAMYA KULLAB
AND TAMEEM AKHGAR
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan—Suicide bombers attacked a Shiite mosque packed with worshippers attending Friday prayers in southern Afghanistan, killing at least 47 people and wounding 70, a Taliban official said. It was the deadliest day since the U.S. military withdrawal.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the carnage at the Fatimiya mosque in Kandahar province. The attack came a week after a bombing claimed by the local Islamic State affiliate killed 46 people at a Shiite mosque in northern Afghanistan.

The sectarian bloodletting has raised fears that ISIS — an enemy of both the Taliban and the West — is expanding its foothold in Afghanistan.

Hafiz Sayeed, the Taliban's chief for Kandahar's department of culture and information, said 47 people had been killed and at least 70 wounded in the attack.

Murtaza, who like many Afghans goes by one name, said he was inside the mosque during the attack and reported four explosions: two outside and two inside.

SEE ASSAULT ON PAGE 4

RELATED

Veteran-run groups help thousands leave Afghanistan
Page 4



ZACHARY MELVIN/U.S. Navy

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Troy Williams, assigned to USS Gerald R. Ford's medical department, gives a COVID-19 vaccination to a sailor in Ford's aft weapon handling area on Sept. 9.

VIRUS OUTBREAK

Shot clock

Navy announces discharge details for vaccine refusers

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Navy has established a special command to process separations for sailors who refuse the coronavirus vaccine after the upcoming deadline for inoculations, the service said in a statement Thursday.

Active-duty sailors who are not fully vaccinated against the coronavirus after Nov. 28 without a pending or approved exemption request will be forced out of the Navy for failing to obey a lawful order, according to the statement. For Navy Reserve sailors, the deadline is Dec. 28.

The Pentagon does not consider a person fully vaccinated until two weeks after the last shot in the series, meaning the final day to meet the deadline is Nov. 14. Two available vaccines — by Moderna and Pfizer — require two shots. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is administered in a single dose.

Sailors who continue refusing the shot after the deadline will have their case sent to the Navy's newly established COVID Consolidate Disposition Authority, which Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. John B. Nowell Jr. established to "ensure a fair and consistent process for separation determinations," according to the Navy.

"Those separated only for vaccine refusal will receive no lower

SEE VACCINE ON PAGE 5

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Wholesale prices rose record 8.6% over 12 months

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Inflation at the wholesale level rose 8.6% in September compared to a year ago, the largest advance since the 12-month change was first calculated in 2010.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that the monthly increase in its producer price index, which measures inflationary pressures before they reach consumers, was 0.5% for September compared to a 0.7% gain in August.

The 8.6% rise for the 12 months

ending in September compared to an 8.3% increase for the 12 months ending in August, which had been the previous record 12-month gain.

On Wednesday, the government reported that inflation at the retail level rose 0.4% in September with its consumer price index up 5.4% over the past 12 months, matching the fastest pace since 2008.

The jump in inflation this year reflects higher prices for food and energy and a number of other items from furniture to autos as the

pandemic has snarled supply chains and demand has outstripped supply.

The report on wholesale prices showed that core inflation at the wholesale level, excluding volatile energy and food, was up 0.2% in September from August and was 6.8% higher over the past 12 months.

Almost 80% of the overall increase in wholesale prices last month was attributed to a 1.3% rise in the price of goods, the largest increase since May.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		Commercial rates	
Euro costs (Oct. 18)	\$1.13	Bahrain(Dinar)	0.3769
Dollar buys (Oct. 18)	0.8403	Britain (Pound)	1.3758
British pound (Oct. 18)	\$1.34	Canada (Dollar)	1.2372
Japanese yen (Oct. 18)	111.00	China(Yuan)	6.4357
South Korean won (Oct. 18)	1154.00	Denmark (Krone)	6.4167
		Egypt (Pound)	15.7209
		Euro	0.8624
		Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7790
		Hungary (Forint)	310.22
		Israel (Shekel)	3.2231
		Japan (Yen)	114.36
		Kuwait(Dinar)	0.3016
		Norway (Krone)	8.4102
		Philippines (Peso)	50.77
		Poland (Zloty)	3.94
		Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7508
		Singapore (Dollar)	1.3485
		South Korea (Won)	1184.83
		Switzerland (Franc)	0.9249
		Thailand (Baht)	33.41
		Turkey (NewLira)	9.2092

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

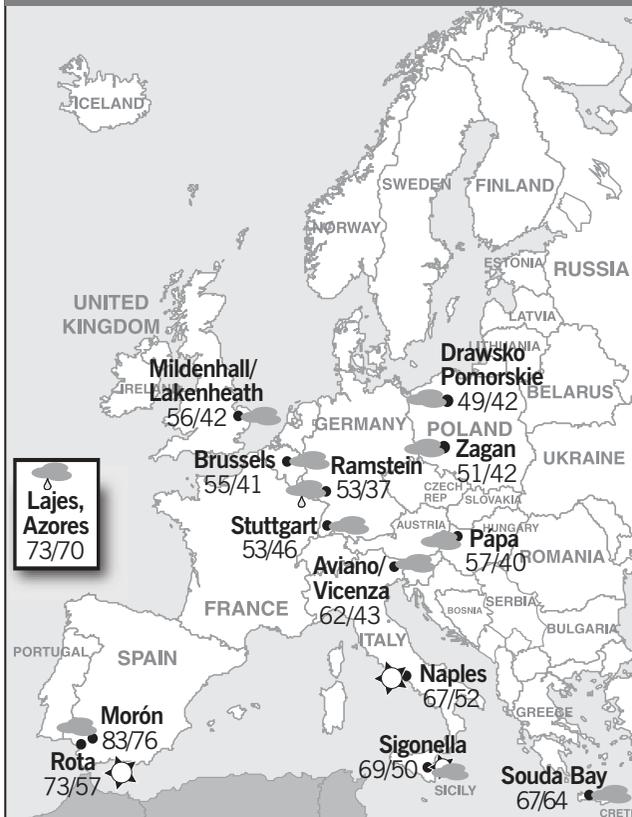
INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	3.25
Interest Rates Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	2.02

WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



SATURDAY IN EUROPE



SUNDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

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MILITARY

Marine pleads guilty for blasting officials

BY DAN LAMOTHE

The Washington Post

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — A Marine officer pleaded guilty on Thursday to several criminal charges in connection with viral videos he posted criticizing senior officials during the messy U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, saying that he knew he was being disrespectful and wanted to call out what he perceived as “incompetence.”

Lt. Col. Stuart Scheller, a combat veteran who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, testified that he knew he was defying orders and that his life began “spiraling” after he posted his first video in August. He said his wife left him, fellow Marine officers turned their backs on him and the Marine Corps opened an investigation into his actions.

Scheller said he continued posting after receiving positive feedback from backers, including elected officials.

“Many Gold Star families, junior enlisted Marines and members of Congress reached out to support my statements,” Scheller said, referring in part to the families of service members who died

in the line of duty.

Scheller pleaded guilty to charges that include disrespect toward superior commissioned officers, willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer, and dereliction in the performance of duties. An agreement reached between Scheller and the Marine Corps holds that a military judge, Col. Glen Hines, can sentence him to no more than a letter of reprimand and a seizure of two-thirds of his pay for up to 12 months, which would cost Scheller tens of thousands of dollars.

Scheller became a cause celebre among conservatives who faulted the Biden administration for the chaotic end to the 20-year war.

Among the witnesses called by Scheller’s defense team were Rep. Louie Gohmert, R-Tex., and Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., two of the most controversial members of Congress.

They questioned why Scheller has been prosecuted for his actions when senior U.S. officials such as President Biden, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and Gen. Mark A. Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, have not.

Greene, under oath, called for the impeachment of Biden for his handling of Afghanistan and said her office has been flooded with calls in support of Scheller. She also accused U.S. troops who carried out a drone strike that killed civilians in the closing days of the United States’ withdrawal of “war crimes.”



Scheller

But Scheller immediately ran afoul of numerous military regulations and laws. He agreed as part of his guilty plea that service members do not have the same freedom of speech to criticize senior U.S. officials as civilians, and he acknowledged that he disobeyed a direct order to stop posting his criticisms on social media.

Scheller’s first video was posted hours after an Aug. 26 suicide bombing by the Islamic State killed 13 U.S. troops and more than 170 Afghans at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul.

Appearing in a camouflage uniform in his office, he questioned why senior defense officials, in-

cluding Austin, had allowed Bagram air base to be turned over to Afghan forces in July before an evacuation of civilians was carried out.

In subsequent videos, Scheller also criticized Gen. David H. Berger, the commandant of the Marine Corps, and said that he was referring criminal charges against Marine Gen. Kenneth “Frank” McKenzie, the chief of U.S. Central Command, for making poor recommendations about the war.

In an 11-page stipulation of facts discussed in court, prosecutors laid out 27 instances in which Scheller disrespected senior officials and brought discredit to himself as a Marine Corps officer. Scheller signed the document as part of the plea deal.

After the first video posted, Scheller was fired as the commander of the Advanced Infantry Training Battalion at Camp Lejeune, a sprawling Marine Corps base that is home to tens of thousands of Marines in coastal North Carolina.

Aware of the possibility of more negative consequences, Scheller nonetheless posted a second video

on Aug. 29 in which he said he was resigning his commission and that if viewers followed him they could bring “the system down.”

Scheller posted two more videos, including a second in a khaki service uniform in which he solicited donations through a nonprofit called the Pipe Hitter Foundation. It was launched by the family of retired Chief Petty Officer Edward Gallagher, a Navy SEAL who was acquitted of murder in Iraq in 2019. Soliciting donations while in uniform went against Marine Corps policy, Scheller acknowledged under oath on Thursday.

After defying orders to stop posting on social media several times, Scheller was thrown in the brig in September.

He said on Thursday that he thinks he was “imprisoned illegally,” but acknowledged he had been warned several times by a commanding officer, Col. David Emmel.

“I understand that the chain of command did not want me to post on social media after the gag order,” Scheller said under questioning by Hines. “That much was clear.”

Airman convicted of kidnapping, murdering Mennonite teacher

BY FELICIA FONSECA

Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — Sasha Krause loved words. She loved learning and translating them into different languages. She loved reading them in nursery rhymes and assembling them into poetry.

She wrote about her purpose in life, her unwavering faith, the possibility of dying young and the glories of heaven — all of which have taken on new meaning to her family after her death last year, said her father, Bob Krause.

On Wednesday, a jury in Arizona found U.S. Air Force airman Mark Gooch guilty of kidnapping and first-degree murder in Krause’s killing. The two didn’t know each other and lived hundreds of miles apart but shared an upbringing in the Mennonite religion. Krause committed to the church, while Gooch did not.

Krause, 27, was last seen in January 2020 at the church in her tight-knit Mennonite community outside Farmington, in northwestern New Mexico, where women wear head coverings and long dresses and men don plain, button-up shirts. She had been gathering material for Sunday school.

Her body was found more than a month later in a forest clearing outside Flagstaff, Ariz., nearly 300 miles away. A camper collecting

firewood spotted Krause face-down among pine needles near a national monument. Krause’s wrists were bound, and she had been shot in the head.

Gooch was raised in a Mennonite community in Wisconsin, where he worked on his family’s dairy farm and went to school through eighth grade. He later rejected the religion and joined the U.S. Air Force.

During his trial, half the courtroom was filled at times with Krause’s parents and others who shared in the conservative Christian faith, including the general manager of the Farmington publishing ministry where Krause worked. Paul Kaufman said Wednesday his heart goes out to both families, and the community doesn’t want to be vindictive toward Gooch.

“We desire his complete repentance, that he would turn from darkness to light,” Kaufman said.

Gooch, 22, faces up to life in prison at his sentencing, set for Nov. 24. Coconino County Attorney William Ring said his office will seek swift justice and thanked the jury for its service.

“Through some hard work, the community will be a safer place tonight,” he said in a statement.

Jurors heard 10 days of testimony from those who knew Krause

and investigated her disappearance. They heard from ballistics experts who disagreed on whether the bullet taken from her skull was fired from a .22-caliber rifle Gooch owned. They heard from Gooch’s father, Jim, but they did not hear from the defendant.

Gooch showed no emotion when the verdict was announced. He stood in a military stance, with one hand resting over the other behind his back. As he left the courtroom, he looked at two family members who sat behind him. They declined to comment.

Coconino County Superior Court Judge Cathleen Brown Nichols separately convicted Gooch of a misdemeanor charge of theft, related to Krause’s belongings.

Gooch’s attorney, Bruce Griffen, tried to raise reasonable doubt among the jury by pointing to a lack of forensic evidence and to testimony about another car seen in the Mennonite community the day Krause went missing. He said Gooch was peaceful and volunteered information to a detective who interviewed him at Luke Air Force Base in metropolitan Phoenix, where he was stationed.

“The circumstantial evidence from my perspective was substantial, and the jury perhaps concluded that the circumstantial evi-



JAKE BACON, ARIZONA DAILY SUN/AP

Airman Mark Gooch, right, looks towards the empty jury box as he is led out of Coconino County Superior Court in Flagstaff, Ariz., on Wednesday, after being found guilty of first degree murder and kidnapping in the January 2020 death of Sasha Krause.

dence was enough to outweigh those problems,” Griffen said Wednesday.

Sean Clements, a spokesman for the air base, said proceedings would begin soon to discharge Gooch from the Air Force following his conviction.

Jim Gooch testified that his son left the Mennonite faith and joined the military because he lacked a converted heart — words that prosecutor Ammon Barker drew on during closing arguments.

“What the scripture says is you turn from darkness to light,” Jim

Gooch said. “What it says is you’ve decided to follow the lord with your entire heart and with the tenets of the scripture would call for.”

Coconino County Sheriff’s Detective Lauren Nagele said the hundreds of hours spent on the investigation and the jury’s decision brought justice for Krause and her family.

“The verdict unfortunately cannot bring Sasha back, but it does protect our society by preventing Mark Gooch from ever murdering another innocent person,” she said in a statement.

MILITARY

Russia says US tried to cross its 'sea border'

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's Defense Ministry said a Russian warship on Friday prevented a U.S. Navy destroyer from what it described as an attempt to intrude into Russia's territorial waters in the Sea of Japan.

The incident came as Russia and China conducted joint naval drills in the area, and follows other close encounters involving Russian and Western warships.

It appears to reflect Moscow's intention to raise the stakes in deterring the U.S. and its allies from sending their ships on missions near Russian waters, as relations between Russia and the West are at a post Cold War low.

There was no immediate response from Washington.

The ministry said that the Russian navy's Admiral Tributs destroyer closely approached the U.S. destroyer USS Chafee to chase it out of the area near Russian waters that was declared off limits to shipping due to the gunnery drills there as part of the Russia-China maneuvers.

It said the Russian vessel came close to the U.S. warship after it

had ignored repeated warnings to leave the area in the Peter the Great Gulf. The ministry charged that after making "an attempt to cross the Russian sea border," the U.S. warship changed course when the two ships were about 60 yards away from each other and sped away.

It denounced the U.S. destroyer's maneuvers as a "crude violation" of the international rules on averting ships' collision and a 1972 agreement between Moscow and Washington on preventing air and naval incidents and summoned the U.S. military attaché to protest what it described as its crew's "unprofessional action."

Russia, the U.S. and its NATO allies have frequently accused each other of dangerous and provocative maneuvers at sea and in the air as Russia-West ties have been hit by Moscow's annexation of Crimea, accusations of Russian interference with elections, hacking attacks and other tensions.

The Russian maneuver during Friday's incident appeared to indicate Moscow's readiness to raise the stakes to prevent similar intrusions in the future.

Assault: 3 attackers suspected

FROM PAGE 1

He said Friday prayers at the mosque typically draw hundreds of people.

Another witness, also named Murtaza, was in charge of security at the mosque and said he saw two bombers. He said one detonated explosives outside the gate, and the other was already among the worshippers inside the mosque.

He said the mosque's security personnel shot another suspected attacker outside.

Video footage showed bodies scattered across bloodstained carpets, with survivors walking around in a daze or crying out in anguish.

The Islamic State, which like Afghanistan's ruling Taliban is made up of Sunni Muslims, views Shiite Muslims as apostates deserving of death.

ISIS has claimed a number of deadly bombings across the country since the Taliban seized power in August amid the withdrawal of U.S. forces. The group has also targeted Taliban fighters in small-

er attacks.

If the attack was carried out by ISIS, it would be the first major assault by the extremist group in southern Afghanistan since the U.S. departure enabled the Taliban to consolidate control of the country.

Recent attacks in the north, the east and the Afghan capital have cast doubt on the Taliban's ability to counter the threat posed by ISIS.

The Taliban have pledged to restore peace and security after decades of war and have also given the U.S. assurances that they will not allow the country to be used as a base for launching extremist attacks on other countries.

The Taliban have pledged, too, to protect Afghanistan's Shiite minority, which was persecuted during the last period of Taliban rule, in the 1990s.

Both the Taliban and ISIS adhere to a rigid interpretation of Islamic law, but ISIS is far more radical. It has better-known branches in Iraq and Syria.



Courtesy Task Force Argo

Evacuees wait to board a flight chartered by private U.S. group Argo that will take them out of Afghanistan, weeks after the U.S. airlift of more than 124,000 people ended in August. Argo wants the U.S. government to help fund the evacuation efforts, which, as of mid-October, were supported by donations.

Groups run by veterans help thousands leave Afghanistan

By KARIN ZEITVOGEL
Stars and Stripes

Mohammad lost track of how long he'd been in the safe house in Afghanistan before the call came last week, telling him to gather his few belongings and be ready to leave the country at a moment's notice.

"I think it's 38, 39 days that I've been here," he said as he waited to be told to head to the airport. "But it's not just me. Newcomers arrive from Kabul and wait. A lot of people are stuck here like me."

Mohammad, who is not being identified by his real name for safety reasons, arrived last week in the United Arab Emirates, where he will wait while his application to be resettled in the U.S. is processed.

He is one of more than 2,200 people whom private groups have helped to shelter and get out of Afghanistan since the U.S. airlift that flew more than 124,000 people out of the country ended in August.

American veterans run many of the groups working to evacuate people, including U.S. citizens, legal residents and Special Immigrant Visa holders and applicants.

"We felt we needed to step in because the federal government has stepped away from its promise to take care of these people," said Jesse Jensen, who served four tours in Afghanistan.

Since the fall of Kabul in mid-

"This is something the U.S. government needs to pick up."

Jesse Jensen

who served four tours in Afghanistan

August, he has helped set up Task Force Argo, one of the groups still working to get allies out.

"Our mantra is that we have to honor the promise," he said.

Mohammad initially contacted Argo on behalf of a relative who was trapped in Kabul after the Taliban took control. After the relative was evacuated to the U.S., Argo stepped in to help Mohammad.

He wasn't in Kabul when the city fell, but someone called to tell him not to come home because the Taliban were at his house, Mohammad said.

He spent the night of Aug. 15 in his car. The following day he took on some passengers, "like a taxi driver," and left the capital, he said.

Argo put him in a safe house in a provincial town while they worked on getting him out of the country.

The group's operations are paid for entirely by donations, Jensen said.

"It costs around \$700,000 to get a flight out of Afghanistan and ... about \$30 a day to take care of

someone" while they are waiting to leave, he said.

"This is something the U.S. government needs to pick up," he said. "We've seen bipartisan support for that in the Senate and the House, and there are some really dedicated people at the State Department who have helped, but the institution itself has been slow to respond."

Mohammad continues to work with Argo to get his family out of Afghanistan.

His journey out of the country was difficult, he said. Taliban boarded the bus taking him and other evacuees to the airport, and held it up for several hours.

Check-in was painfully slow, with members of the Taliban randomly looking at people's documents.

They were also at the door of the plane, scrutinizing passengers as they boarded for signs of nervousness, Mohammad said.

When the doors of the aircraft were closed, Mohammad felt a mixture of calm, gratitude and sadness.

"Nobody wants to leave their country but I have to go," he said in a message posted on social media as the plane taxied. "Friends, take care of yourselves."

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VIRUS OUTBREAK

FDA panel endorses Moderna, J&J boosters

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
AND MATTHEW PERRONE
Associated Press

U.S. health advisers said Thursday that some Americans who received Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine at least six months ago should get a half-dose booster to rev up protection against the coronavirus.

The panel of outside advisers to the Food and Drug Administration voted unanimously to recommend a booster shot for seniors, as well as younger adults with other health problems, jobs or living situations that put them at increased risk from COVID-19.

On Friday, the panel also endorsed booster doses of Johnson & Johnson's single-shot COVID-19 vaccine, saying they should be offered at least two months after im-

munization.

J&J has asked the Food and Drug Administration for flexibility with its booster, arguing the extra dose adds important protection as early as two months after initial vaccination -- but that it might work better if people wait until six months later.

The FDA's advisory panel voted unanimously that a J&J booster should be offered without setting a firm time. The advisers cited growing worry that recipients of J&J's vaccination seem to be less protected than people who got two-dose Pfizer or Moderna options — and that most got that single dose many months ago.

The recommendation is non-binding but it's a key step toward expanding the U.S. booster campaign to millions more Americans.

Many people who got their initial Pfizer shots at least six months ago are already getting a booster after the FDA authorized their use last month — and those are the same high-risk groups that FDA's advisers said should get a Moderna booster.

But there's no evidence that it's time to open booster doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine to everybody, the panel stressed — despite initial Biden administration plans to eventually do that.

The coronavirus still is mostly a threat to unvaccinated people — while the vaccinated have strong protection against severe illness or death from COVID-19.

"I don't really see a need for a 'let it rip' campaign for everyone," said Dr. Michael Kurilla of the Na-

tional Institutes of Health.

As for the dose, initial Moderna vaccination consists of two 100-microgram shots. But Moderna says a single 50-microgram shot should be enough for a booster.

The agency convened its experts to weigh in on who should get boosters and when for those who received the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson shots earlier this year. The panel was expected to discuss J&J on Friday.

The FDA will use its advisers' recommendations in making final decisions for boosters from both companies. Assuming a positive decision, there's still another hurdle: Next week, a panel convened by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will offer more specifics on who should get one.

Many U.S. scientists remain di-

vided about exactly who needs boosters and their purpose — whether they're needed mostly for people at risk of severe disease or whether they should be used to try to reduce milder infections, too.

The FDA panel wrestled with whether Moderna presented enough evidence backing its low-dose booster.

As the delta variant surged in July and August, a Moderna study found people who were more recently vaccinated had a 36% lower rate of "breakthrough" infections compared with those vaccinated longer ago.

Another study of 344 people found a six-month booster shot restored antibodies to levels thought to be protective — and that included large jumps in antibodies able to target the delta variant.

Vaccine: Sailors who refuse vaccines to be counseled on safety, efficacy, need

FROM PAGE 1

than a general discharge under honorable conditions," the service said in its statement. "This type of discharge could result in the loss of some veterans' benefits."

About 94% of active-duty sailors have been fully immunized and 99% have received at least one dose, according to the Navy's weekly coronavirus update on Wednesday.

The service said the vaccine helps sailors "execute their mission at all times, in places throughout the world, including where vaccination rates are low and disease transmission is high."

The CCDA has the authority to remove a refusing sailor's warfare qualifications, additional qualification designations and Navy enlisted classifications or sub-specialties, according to the statement.

"The CCDA may also seek recoupment of applicable bonuses, special and incentive pays, and the cost of training and education for service members refusing the vaccine," the service said in the

statement.

In August the Pentagon mandated the vaccine for all troops. The service branches were each given authority to establish their own deadlines and processes for removal, and the Navy is the first of the five to release its detailed separation process.

The Navy's separation process will not wait for the vaccination deadline. Administrative actions may begin as soon as a sailor meets the service's definition of "refusing the vaccine," which is one who "received a lawful order to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, is not or will not be fully vaccinated on the date required by the order and does not have a pending or approved exemption request," according to the Navy.

"Effective immediately ... commands shall not allow sailors refusing the vaccine to promote or advance, reenlist or execute orders, with the exception of separation orders, until the CCDA has completed disposition of their case," the Navy said in the statement. "Transfer orders may be

canceled by Navy Personnel Command."

Further, beginning Thursday, officers and enlisted sailors in senior leadership who refuse the vaccine will be "notified immediately in writing that they have five days to either begin a vaccination series or request an exemption before being relieved and have detachment for cause initiated," according to the Navy.

Senior leadership roles are those that are "members of command triads and those key staff positions, including any flag officer or flag officer select," according to the statement.

Additionally, commanding officers and officers in charge are now allowed to temporarily reassign sailors who refuse the vaccine, "regardless of exemption status, based on operational readiness or mission requirements."

However, sailors who refuse must first receive counseling on the vaccine to ensure they know the facts about its safety, efficacy and need. Should they still refuse, the service member's supervisor



ZACHARY MELVIN/U.S. Navy

Hospital Corpsman Sabrina Moncada, assigned to the USS John F. Kennedy, administers a COVID-19 vaccination to a sailor in the USS Gerald R. Ford's aft weapon handling area, Sept. 9.

must submit a "special evaluation or fitness report" and document their failure to comply with the order to receive the shot, the Navy said.

Commands must then report the sailor refusing the vaccine to Navy Personnel Command, which oversees the coronavirus disposition authority, according to the statement.

There is still time to apply for a vaccine exemption for religious or medical reasons. Additionally, sailors who start terminal leave on or before the vaccine deadlines "are administratively exempted

from vaccine requirements," according to the statement.

Since the start of the pandemic, 164 sailors, Navy personnel and other "members of the Navy family" have died from the coronavirus — "far exceeding the combined total of all other health or mishap related injuries and deaths over the same time period," according to the statement. At least 144 were unvaccinated and the vaccination status of the 20 others was unknown.

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Seattle police fear further staffing woes as vaccination deadline looms

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Seattle's police department is sending detectives and non-patrol officers to respond to emergency calls because of a shortage of patrol officers.

The department Wednesday moved to the emergency dispatching scenario because of the staffing crunch. The police union leader said he fears things will get worse because of COVID-19 vac-

cine mandates but the city's mayor urged the small percentage of holdouts to get the shot, noting officers are already required to show proof of other vaccines.

KOMO reports the department has lost more than 300 officers over the past year. Nearly 300 more could face termination if they do not comply with an Oct. 18 deadline to be vaccinated against the coronavirus.

"We can't afford to lose one, that's how desperate we are to hold onto to people," said police union president Mike Solan. "If we lose more officers, the public safety situation will become that much more untenable here."

According to figures from the Seattle mayor's office, 782 officers have submitted proof of COVID-19 vaccination, while 98 officers are seeking exemptions and

186 have not turned in paperwork.

Officials hope more will submit the required paperwork as the deadline approaches.

Mayor Jenny Durkan's office said Seattle Police, first responders and health care workers across the state are required by Gov. Jay Inslee to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

"The definition of a police officer's job is to maintain public safe-

ty and protect the communities they serve — 88% of our Seattle Police Department staff have been vaccinated, so they can continue to do their heroic work to save lives," Durkan's spokesman, Anthony Derrick, said in a statement.

The statement said COVID-19 was the number one cause of death for the first responders during the pandemic.

NATION

Biden addressing economic effects of climate change

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration is taking steps to address the economic risks from climate change, issuing a 40-page report Friday on government-wide plans to protect the financial, insurance and housing markets and the savings of American families.

The report lays out steps that could potentially alter the mortgage process, stock market disclosures, retirement plans, federal procurement and government budgeting.

It's a follow-up to a May executive order by President Joe Biden that essentially calls on the government to analyze how the world's largest economy could be affected by extreme heat, flooding, storms, wildfires and the broader adjustments needed to address climate change.

"If this year has shown us anything, it's that climate change poses an ongoing urgent and systemic risk to our economy and to the lives and livelihoods of everyday Americans, and we must act now," Gina McCarthy, the White House national climate adviser, told reporters.

A February storm in Texas led to widespread power outages, 210 deaths and severe property damage. Wildfires raged in Western states. The heat dome in the Pacific Northwest caused record temperatures in Seattle and Portland, Ore. Hurricane Ida struck Louisiana in August and caused deadly flooding in the Northeast.

The actions being recommended by the Biden administration reflect a significant shift in the broader discussion about climate change, suggesting that the nation

must prepare for the costs that families, investors and governments will bear.

The report is also an effort to showcase to the world how serious the U.S. government is about tackling climate change ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference running from Oct. 31 to Nov. 12 in Glasgow, Scotland.

Among the steps outlined is the government's Financial Stability Oversight Council developing the tools to identify and lessen climate-related risks to the economy. The Treasury Department plans to address the risks to the insurance sector and availability of coverage. The Securities and Exchange Commission is looking at mandatory disclosure rules about the opportunities and risks generated by climate change.

The Labor Department on Wednesday proposed a rule for investment managers to factor environmental decisions into the choices made for pensions and retirement savings. The Office of Management and Budget announced the government will begin the process of asking federal agencies to consider greenhouse gas emissions from the companies providing supplies. Biden's budget proposal for fiscal 2023 will feature an assessment of climate risks.

Federal agencies involved in lending and mortgages for homes are looking for the impact on the housing market, with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and its partners developing disclosures for homebuyers on flood and climate-related risks. The Department of Veterans Affairs will also look at climate risks for its home lending program.



REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

A group of boys and young men hold baby-related items and anti-abortion pamphlets they hope to give to people leaving or arriving at Hope Medical Group for Women, Oct. 9 in Shreveport, La.

Court again allows Texas abortion ban to continue

BY PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas can continue banning most abortions after a federal appeals court on Thursday rejected the Biden administration's latest attempt to stop a novel law that has become the nation's biggest curb to abortion in nearly 50 years.

The decision could push the law closer to returning to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has already once allowed the restrictions to take effect without ruling on its constitutionality. The Texas law bans abortions once cardiac activity is detected, usually around six weeks and before some women know they are pregnant.

Since the law took effect in early September, Texas women have sought out abortion clinics in neighboring states, some driving hours through the middle of the night and including patients as young as 12 years old. The law makes no excep-

tion in cases of rape or incest.

"We hope the Department of Justice urgently appeals this order to the Supreme Court to restore Texans' ability to obtain abortion care after six weeks in pregnancy," said Brigitte Amiri, deputy director of the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project.

The Justice Department did not immediately react to the decision and a spokesperson had no comment late Thursday.

In a 2-1 decision, a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted Texas' request to keep the law in place as the court case proceeds. It marks the third time the conservative-leaning appeals court has sided with Texas and let the restrictions stand.

The panel said it would expedite the appeal and schedule oral arguments, but did not say when.

The Texas Attorney General's Office called the decision a "testament that we are on the right side of

the law and life."

It marks another setback for the Justice Department and Texas abortion providers in their efforts to derail the law, which has thus far prevailed because of a unique structure that leaves enforcement up to private citizens. Anyone who brings a successful lawsuit against an abortion provider for violating the law is entitled to claim at least \$10,000 in damages, which the Biden administration says amounts to a bounty.

Despite numerous legal challenges both before and after the law took effect Sept. 1, only once has a court moved to put the restriction on hold — and that order only stood for 48 hours.

During that brief window, some Texas clinics rushed to perform abortions on patients past six weeks, but many more appointments were canceled after the 5th Circuit moved to swiftly reinstate the law last week.

Biden signs debt limit hike, but December standoff looms

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Thursday signed into law a bill raising the nation's debt limit until early December, delaying the prospect of an unprecedented federal default that would cause economic disaster.

The House passed the \$480 billion increase in the country's borrowing ceiling on Tuesday, after the Senate approved it on a party-line vote last week.

The eventual approval came after a protracted standoff with Senate Republicans, who derailed initial Democratic efforts with fil-

ibusters, delays that require 60 votes to halt.

Ultimately, a handful of Senate Republicans agreed to join Democrats and voted to end GOP delays and move to a final vote on the legislation, but Minority Leader Mitch McConnell has said Republicans will offer no support for another increase in December.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen had warned that the U.S. would hit its borrowing limit Monday, an unprecedented situation that she and others cautioned could lead to economic catastrophe for a nation still reeling from a

global pandemic. Routine government payments to Social Security beneficiaries, disabled veterans and active-duty military personnel would potentially be delayed, and the economic fallout in the U.S. could ripple through global markets.

The passage of the short-term debt ceiling increase ensures that, for now, the U.S. will continue to meet its obligations. But it sets up another potential cliff at the end of the year — at a time when lawmakers will also be working to pass a federal funding bill to avert a government shutdown.

Republicans have said Democrats should use a budgetary maneuver to pass an increase in the debt limit without Republican support, like the process Democrats are using for Biden's massive climate change and social safety net plan. But Democrats have resisted that option. The clash between the two parties leaves Congress without a clear solution to avert the next default deadline in December, but the White House has emphasized it is still pursuing a bipartisan increase.

Lawmakers from both parties

have used the debt ceiling votes as leverage for other priorities. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi threatened to vote against raising the debt ceiling when President Donald Trump was in office, saying she had no intention of supporting lifting the debt ceiling to enable Republicans to give another tax break to the rich. And Republicans in 2011 managed to coerce President Barack Obama into accepting about \$2 trillion in deficit cuts as a condition for increasing the debt limit — though lawmakers later rolled back some of those cuts.

NATION

Suspect in Capitol attack later able to enlist

By ALEX HORTON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A man who was arrested last week for allegedly spraying chemical agents at police during the Jan. 6 Capitol riot was able to enlist in the Army months later, officials said, highlighting questions over the military's efforts to weed out recruits with extremist ties and behavior.

Spec. James Phillip Mault, 29, was taken into custody at Fort Bragg in North Carolina last week, said Col. Joe Buccino, a spokesman for the installation. Mault had enlisted in May, Buccino said, months after videos of his involvement in the riot were shared with the FBI, which interviewed Mault and his family.

It was Mault's second time joining the active-duty Army. Currently a combat engineer, he also served from 2012 to 2016, includ-

ing a deployment to Kuwait, and then served in the Army National Guard before leaving last year, Army officials said.

Mault's charges include assaulting, resisting or impeding certain officers using a dangerous weapon or inflicting bodily injury, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and civil disorder, according to court documents.

Interviewed by the FBI in January, according to court papers, Mault admitted being outside when a violent mob breached the U.S. Capitol in an effort to overturn the election certification for President Joe Biden but denied entering the building.

After Mault enlisted and passed various screening checks, he was assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 82nd Airborne Division. At some point, while undergoing further security checks,

his alleged involvement in the riot "was flagged by our investigators," said Lt. Col. Uriah Orland, a Pentagon spokesman. Orland said he did not yet have information about when the Defense Department became aware of that information.

Mault is at least the sixth person arrested on federal charges in connection with the riot while serving in the military, though his circumstance of enlisting afterward is unusual. The others are an active-duty Marine Corps officer and two part-time soldiers in the Army Reserve and two in the National Guard.

The riot prompted Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in April to implement changes to how the military screens for problematic behavior in recruits and disciplines them if they hid such actions and affiliations.

Pentagon officials said at a news briefing Oct. 5 that it had implemented measures to continuously monitor personnel for security concerns, rather than screening only at specific intervals such as security clearance applications and renewals.

The monitoring is done using public records, criminal databases and financial records, and at some point will include screening social media posts, William Lietzau, the director of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, said at the briefing.

"The efforts at finding extremist behaviors are very much related to continuous vetting," Lietzau said. That vetting, he said, uncovered someone "under active investigation" for potential terrorist activities in January.

The process has been used for two years and reached "full en-

rollment" this month, Lietzau said, and is reserved for service members after they officially join the military. Recruits who are screened before enlistment undergo different vetting.

In a statement, the Army said enlistees are subject to screening measures that include criminal background checks, sex offender databases and collection of fingerprints submitted to the FBI.

"The Army was unaware of any involvement Spc. Mault may have had in the incidents on January 6 or of any information disqualifying him at the time of his enlistment," said Lt. Col. Gabriel Ramirez, an Army spokesman. "The Army will continue to work with the FBI and other entities with inputs into the pre-screening process to obtain relevant information to inform Army enlistment decisions."

Riot committee sets vote on contempt for Bannon

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol riot has moved aggressively against close Trump adviser Steve Bannon, swiftly scheduling a vote to recommend criminal contempt charges against the former White House aide after he defied a subpoena.

The chairman of the special committee, Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., said the panel will vote Tuesday to recommend charges against Bannon, an adviser to Donald Trump for years who was in touch with the president ahead of the most serious assault on Congress in two centuries.

"The Select Committee will not tolerate defiance of our subpoenas," Thompson said in a statement Thursday. Bannon, he said, is "hiding behind the former president's insufficient, blanket and vague statements regarding privileges he has purported to invoke. We reject his position entirely."

If approved by the Democratic-majority committee, the recommendation of criminal charges would go to the full House. Approval there would send them to the Justice Department, which has final say on prosecution.

The showdown with Bannon is just one facet of a broad and escalating congressional inquiry, with 19 subpoenas issued so far and thousands of pages of documents flow-

ing to the committee and its staff. Challenging Bannon's defiance is a crucial step for the panel, whose members are vowing to restore the force of congressional subpoenas after they were routinely flouted during Trump's time in office.

The committee had scheduled a Thursday deposition with Bannon, but his lawyer said that Trump had directed him not to comply, citing information that was potentially protected by executive privileges afforded to a president. Bannon, who was not a White House staffer on Jan. 6, also failed to provide documents to the panel by a deadline last week.

Still, the committee could end up stymied again after years of Trump administration officials refusing to cooperate with Congress. The longtime Trump adviser similarly defied a subpoena during a GOP-led investigation into Trump's Russia ties in 2018, but the House did not move to hold him into contempt.

Even though President Joe Biden has been supportive of the committee's work, it is uncertain whether the Justice Department would choose to prosecute the criminal contempt charges against Bannon or any other witnesses who might defy the panel. Even if it the department does prosecute, the process could take months, if not years. And such contempt cases are noto-



STEVE HELBER/AP

Political strategist Steve Bannon gestures during a speech during an election rally in Richmond, Va., Wednesday. Conservative radio host John Fredericks, a former Trump campaign chairman in Virginia, organized the "Take Back Virginia Rally" in which former President Donald Trump called in.

riously difficult to win.

Members of the committee are pressuring the department to take their side.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, who also sits on the Jan. 6 panel, said he expects the Justice Department to prosecute the cases.

"The last four years have given people like Steve Bannon the impression they're above the law," Schiff said during an interview for C-SPAN's Book TV that airs next weekend. "But they're going to find out oth-

erwise."

Schiff said efforts to hold Bannon and others in contempt during the Russia investigation were blocked by Republicans and the Trump administration's Department of Justice.

"But now we have Merrick Garland, we have an independent Justice Department, we have an attorney general who believes in the rule of law — and so this is why I have confidence that we will get the answers," Schiff said.

US to restore full pension of FBI official fired under Trump

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe has won back his full pension as part of a settlement of his lawsuit arising from his firing during the Trump administration more than three years ago, his lawyers announced Thursday.

McCabe, a frequent target of then-President Donald Trump's ire, was fired in March 2018 after the Justice Department's inspector general



McCabe

concluded he had authorized the release of information to a newspaper reporter and then misled internal investigators about his role in the leak. The termination by Jeff Sessions, the attorney general at the time, came hours before McCabe was due to retire, denying the FBI official his pen-

sion.

The settlement agreement vacates that decision, expunges from his personnel folder references to having been fired and entitles McCabe, who joined the FBI in 1996, to his full pension.

"Politics should never play a role in the fair administration of

justice and civil service personnel decisions," McCabe said in a statement. He added that he hopes "this result encourages the men and women of the FBI to continue to protect the American people by standing up for the truth and doing their jobs without fear of political retaliation."

NATION

US to reinstate 'Remain in Mexico' policy

By **ELLIOT SPAGAT**
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Biden administration said it plans to reinstate a Trump-era border policy next month to make asylum-seekers wait in Mexico for hearings in U.S. immigration court, complying with a judge's order.

It hinges on approval of the Mexican government, which has raised concerns that U.S. officials are working to address, the Justice Department said in a court filing late Thursday. Mexico wants cases to generally conclude within six months and ensure that asylum-seekers have timely and accurate information about hearing dates and times and better access to legal counsel.

Mexico also wants exemptions for "particularly vulnerable populations" and better coordination on locations and times of day that asylum-seekers are returned to Mexico.

About 70,000 asylum-seekers have been subject to the "Remain in Mexico" policy, known official-



GREGORY BULL/AP

Asylum seekers receive food as they wait for news of policy changes, in Tijuana, Mexico, on Feb. 19.

ly as "Migrant Protection Protocols," which President Donald Trump introduced in January 2019 and Biden suspended on his first day in office. A federal judge sided with the states of Texas and

Missouri by ordering the Biden administration in August to reinstate the policy "in good faith." The court filing says it should be in effect around mid-November.

U.S. District Judge Matthew

Kacsmaryk in Amarillo, Texas, a Trump appointee, left open the possibility that the administration could try again to end the policy, and officials say they will release a plan soon that they hope will sur-

vive legal scrutiny.

U.S. Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas ended the policy in June after an internal review, saying it achieved "mixed effectiveness."

Illegal border crossings fell sharply after Mexico, facing Trump's threat of higher tariffs, acquiesced in 2019 to the policy's rapid expansion. Asylum-seekers were victims of major violence while waiting in Mexico and faced a slew of legal obstacles, such as access to attorneys and case information.

The administration will rebuild tent courts in Texas border cities of Laredo and Brownsville at a monthly cost of \$24.6 million to operate, according to the court filing, and is working to ensure there is capacity in a system that is backlogged with 1.4 million cases.

Mexico's Foreign Relations Department said Thursday that it has concerns about asylum-seekers getting fair treatment in court under the policy, having access to legal counsel and being safe.

Cruz to plead guilty to Parkland school attack

By **TERRY SPENCER**
Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The gunman who killed 14 students and three staff members at a Parkland, Fla., high school will plead guilty to their murders, his attorneys said Friday, bringing some closure to a community more than three years after an attack that sparked a nationwide movement for gun control.

The guilty plea would set up a penalty phase where Nikolas Cruz, 23, would be fighting against the death penalty and hoping for life without parole.

Attorneys for Cruz told Circuit Judge Elizabeth Scherer that he will plead guilty Wednesday to 17

counts of first-degree murder in the February 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The pleas will come with no conditions and prosecutors still plan to seek the death penalty.

That will be decided by a jury, with the judge hoping to start the trial in January.

Cruz will also plead guilty to 17 counts of attempted first-degree murder. He was not initially present during the hearing, but later entered the Broward County courtroom to plead guilty to attacking a



Cruz

jail guard nine months after the shooting.

The trial has been delayed by the pandemic and arguments between the prosecution and defense over what evidence and testimony could be presented to the jury. Some victims' families had expressed frustration over the delays, but the president of the group they formed expressed relief that the case now seems closer to resolution.

Attorney Alex Arreaza represents Anthony Borges, a Parkland student who was 15 when he was gravely wounded during the shooting. Arreaza said the news of the guilty pleas was an unexpected development that brings the

family some relief.

"It all came down as a surprise to us," Arreaza said. "Anthony and his family are glad this is finally coming to an end, and he can move on."

In the aftermath of the shooting, Parkland student activists formed March for Our Lives, a group that rallied hundreds of thousands around the country for tighter gun laws.

The decision by Cruz and his attorneys to plead guilty came unexpectedly. Preparations were being made to begin jury selection within the next few months. He had been set to go on trial next week for the attack on the Broward County jail guard.

2 dead from flash floods after Texas hurricane

Associated Press

ST. HEDWIG, Texas — A flash flood from the remnants of Hurricane Pamela swept a woman and a young girl to their deaths in a Texas creek as they were heading to a school and officials worked Friday to recover the woman's body, authorities said.

The 52-year-old woman and a 5-year-old girl died when the separate vehicles they were in were swept from a bridge Thursday morning into the flood-swollen Martinez Creek in St. Hedwig on the outskirts of San Antonio, according to Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar.

A diver confirmed the woman's body was in the vehicle, but the vehicle moved into deeper water in the rapid current and was more than 10 feet underwater, according to Salazar.

Emergency officials returned to the creek Friday and planned to remove the vehicle containing the woman's body.

Four other children and a man were rescued from the two vehicles that were headed to a nearby elementary school, Salazar said. The seven were part of the same family, he said, but he did not elaborate and no names have been released.

Ex-Boeing pilot involved in Max testing indicted

Associated Press

DALLAS — A former Boeing pilot was indicted Thursday by a federal grand jury on charges of deceiving safety regulators about the 737 Max jetliner, which was later involved in two deadly crashes.

The indictment charges Mark A. Forkner with giving the Federal Aviation Administration false and incomplete information about an automated flight-control system that played a role in the crashes, which killed 346 people.

Prosecutors said that because of Forkner's alleged deception, the system was not mentioned in pilot manuals or training materials.

An attorney for Forkner did not

immediately respond for comment. Boeing and the FAA declined to comment.

Forkner, 49, was charged with two counts of fraud involving aircraft parts in interstate commerce and four counts of wire fraud. Federal prosecutors said he is expected to make his first appearance in court on Friday in Fort Worth, Texas. If convicted on all counts, he could face a sentence of up to 100 years in prison.

The indictment charges that he hid information about a flight-control system that activated erroneously and pushed down the noses of Max jets that crashed in 2018 in Indonesia, and 2019 in Ethiopia. The

pilots tried unsuccessfully to regain control, but both planes went into nosedives minutes after taking off.

Forkner was Boeing's chief technical pilot on the Max program. Prosecutors said that Forkner learned about an important change to the Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System flight-control system in 2016, but withheld the information from the FAA. That led the agency to delete reference to MCAS from a technical report and, in turn, it didn't appear in pilot manuals. Most pilots didn't know about MCAS until after the first crash.

Prosecutors suggested that

Forkner downplayed the power of the system to avoid a requirement that pilots undergo extensive and expensive retraining, which would increase training costs for airlines. Congressional investigators suggested additional training would have added \$1 million to the price of each plane.

Forkner told another Boeing employee in 2016 that MCAS was "egregious" and "running rampant" when he tested it in a flight simulator, but he didn't tell that to the FAA.

"So I basically lied to the regulators (unknowingly)," Forkner wrote in a message that became public in 2019.

WORLD



HUZHONG WU/AP

A charred building sits empty after a major fire in Kaohsiung, southern Taiwan, on Friday.

Officials search cause of Taiwan building fire that killed 46 people

Associated Press

KAOHSIUNG, Taiwan — Taiwanese officials set up an independent commission Friday to investigate the conditions at a run-down building in the port city of Kaohsiung where a fire killed 46 people, while authorities scoured the blackened ruins for the cause of the blaze.

Prosecutor Hong Ruei-fen told reporters at the scene she would seek to determine the cause of Thursday's fire as soon as possible, before donning a hard hat and walking into the cordoned-off building in the morning.

Outside, a Taoist priest in traditional robes chanted a prayer for those who died, many of whom were elderly or infirm residents unable to get out of the 13-story building after the fire broke out on the ground floor.

In the capital, Taipei, lawmakers held a moment of silence during a regular session of parliament to pay tribute to the victims.

Kaohsiung's city administration said the building had been required to follow fire codes and submit to inspections, but that inspectors had not been able to access the premises recently because the doors were always locked and they were unable to coordinate visits with the property owners.

Mayor Chen Chi-mai announced that he had ordered his deputy to set up an independent team to investigate whether negligence contributed to the tragedy, in which another 41 people were injured.

Of the 46 dead, Chen said that 21 still had not been identified. He said experts hoped to use fingerprint analysis to determine who the other 19 dead were, but for two others they would have to rely on other methods.

The building had commercial facilities on lower floors, a closed movie theatre, restaurants and a karaoke bar — most out of busi-

ness — and some 120 housing units above.

The building once even boasted a skating rink in the basement and a department store, but has grown increasingly derelict in recent years as other parts of the city started developing and drew people away, local media reported.

The fire broke out in the lower area at about 3 a.m. Thursday, and witnesses reported hearing a loud sound like an explosion. It took firefighters until after 7 a.m. to fully extinguish the blaze.

Local media say police were questioning a female resident of the building who allegedly discarded a burning incense coil in a trash can inside an apartment where she had also stored small gas canisters. A man who carelessly discarded a cigarette outside the building and the possibility of a fire in the electrical system were also being investigated, the reports said.

British lawmaker killed while he talks to voters

Associated Press

LEIGH-ON-SEA, England — A member of Parliament was stabbed to death Friday during a meeting with constituents at a church in England, an attack that united Britain's fractious politicians in shock and sorrow. A 25-year-old man was arrested at the scene.

Police gave no immediate details on the motive for the killing of 69-year-old Conservative lawmaker David Amess and did not identify the suspect, who was held on suspicion of murder.

The attack came five years after another lawmaker, Jo Cox, was murdered in her small-town constituency, and it renewed concern about the risks politicians run as they go about their work representing voters. British politicians generally are not given police protection when they meet with their constituents.

Essex Police said officers were called to reports of a stabbing in the seaside town of Leigh-on-Sea just after noon and arrested a man and recovered a knife.

"We are not looking for anyone else in connection with the incident and do not believe there is an ongoing threat to the wider public," police said.

Sky News and other media said Amess was attacked during a regular meeting with constituents at a Methodist church in a residential

section of Leigh-on-Sea, about 40 miles east of London. Paramedics worked at the scene without success to save his life.

Amess had been a member of Parliament for Southend West, which includes Leigh-on-Sea, since 1997, and had been a lawmaker since 1983, making him one of the longest-serving politicians in the House of Commons.

A traditional Conservative on the right of his party, he was a well-liked figure with a reputation for working hard for his constituents and was well known for his ceaseless campaign to have Southend declared a city.

He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2015 for his service, becoming Sir David.

Politicians from across the political spectrum expressed shock and sorrow at the death of Amess, who leaves a wife and five children. Flags at Parliament in London were lowered to half-staff.

"This is an incident that will send shockwaves across the parliamentary community and the whole country," House of Commons Speaker Lindsay Hoyle said. "In the coming days we will need to discuss and examine MPs' security and any measures to be taken, but for now, our thoughts and prayers are with David's family, friends and colleagues."

Conservative lawmaker Tracey Crouch tweeted: "Heartbroken. I could write reams on how Sir David was one of the kindest, most compassionate, well liked colleagues in Parliament. But I can't. I feel sick. I am lost."



Amess

Norwegian town absorbs horror of bow-and-arrow attack

Associated Press

KONGSBERG, Norway — Residents of a Norwegian town with a proud legacy of producing coins, weapons and silver grappled Friday with the horrible knowledge that someone living in their community used a bow and arrow to attack people doing their grocery shopping or other evening activities — and succeeded in killing five of them.

On a central square in Kongsberg, a former mining town of 26,000 people surrounded by mountains and located southwest of Norway's capital, people laid flowers and lit candles in honor of the four women and a man who died in Wednesday's attack. The victims ranged in age from 50 to 70, police have said.

"This a small community so almost everybody knows each other, so it's a very

strange and very sad experience for us," Ingeborg Spangelo, a teacher who brought her students to the impromptu memorial, said. "It is almost surreal or unreal."

Officers arrested a Kongsberg resident identified as Espen Andersen Braathen, a 37-year-old Danish citizen. He was detained about a half-hour after he allegedly began firing arrows in a supermarket where police tried to confront him but lost sight of him when he fired at them and they had to take cover, law enforcement authorities have said.

Andersen Braathen proceeded from the supermarket into a quiet downtown neighborhood of wooden houses and birch trees, where he fired at people on the street and inside some apartments, police said. Along with the five people killed, three were injured.

Senior police officer Per Thomas Omholt said Friday that three weapons in all were used in the attack, but declined to identify the types or to reveal how the five victims were killed, saying investigators need to interview more witnesses and don't want their accounts tainted by what they read in the news.

Officers who responded to the first alert, at 6:13 p.m., encountered the perpetrator in the supermarket. That is where an off-duty police officer who was shopping was injured, reportedly hit by an arrow in the shoulder. Police were shot at twice with arrows, and as they sought shelter and called for reinforcement the suspect managed to escape. Investigators believe the five victims were killed afterwards.

The regional prosecutor leading the in-

vestigation has said that Andersen Braathen confessed to the killings after his arrest, and police said they think he acted alone. Norway's domestic intelligence agency said Thursday that the case appeared to be "an act of terrorism" but cautioned that the investigation was ongoing.

During an initial hearing Friday, a court in Kongsberg ordered Andersen Braathen held in custody for four weeks, including two weeks in isolation, and banned him from communicating with others.

He was being held on five counts of preliminary murder and three counts of preliminary attempted murder. Preliminary charges are a step short of formal charges, and a terror-related charge could be brought later if the evidence supports it, Omholt said.

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY

Spacecraft set to visit record 8 asteroids

By **MARCIA DUNN**
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Attention asteroid aficionados: NASA is set to launch a series of spacecraft to visit and even bash some of the solar system's most enticing space rocks.

The robotic trailblazer named Lucy is up first, blasting off this weekend on a 12-year cruise to swarms of asteroids out near Jupiter — unexplored time capsules from the dawn of the solar system. And yes, there will be diamonds in the sky with Lucy, on one of its science instruments, as well as lyrics from other Beatles' songs.

NASA is targeting the predawn hours of Saturday for liftoff.

Barely a month later, an impactor spacecraft named Dart will give chase to a double-asteroid closer to home. The mission will end with Dart ramming the main asteroid's moonlet to change its orbit, a test that could one day save Earth from an incoming rock.

Next summer, a spacecraft will launch to a rare metal world — an nickel and iron asteroid that might be the exposed core of a once-upon-a-time planet. A pair of smaller companion craft — the



This image provided by the Southwest Research Institute depicts the Lucy spacecraft approaching an asteroid.

size of suitcases — will peel away to another set of double asteroids.

And in 2023, a space capsule will parachute into the Utah desert with NASA's first samples of an asteroid, collected last year by the excavating robot Osiris-Rex. The samples are from Bennu, a rubble and boulder-strewn rock that could endanger Earth a couple centuries from now.

"Each one of those asteroids we're visiting tells our story ... the story of us, the story of the solar

system," said NASA's chief of science missions, Thomas Zurbuchen.

There's nothing better for understanding how our solar system formed 4.6 billion years ago, said Lucy's principal scientist, Hal Levison of Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. "They're the fossils of planet formation."

China and Russia are teaming up for an asteroid mission later this decade. The United Arab

Emirates is also planning an asteroid stop in the coming years.

Advances in tech and design are behind this flurry of asteroid missions, as well as the growing interest in asteroids and the danger they pose to Earth. All it takes is looking at the moon and the impact craters created by asteroids and meteorites to realize the threat, Zurbuchen said.

The asteroid-smacking Dart spacecraft — set to launch Nov. 24 — promises to be a dramatic exercise in planetary defense. If all goes well, the high-speed smash-up will occur next fall just 7 million miles away, within full view of ground telescopes.

The much longer \$981 million Lucy mission — the first to Jupiter's so-called Trojan entourage — is targeting an unprecedented eight asteroids.

Lucy aims to sweep past seven of the countless Trojan asteroids that precede and trail Jupiter in the giant gas planet's path around the sun. Thousands of these dark reddish or gray rocks have been detected, with many thousands more likely lurking in the two clusters. Trapped in place by the gravitational forces of Jupiter and the sun, the Trojans are believed

to be the cosmic leftovers from when the outer planets were forming.

"That's what makes the Trojans special. If these ideas of ours are right, they formed throughout the outer solar system and are now at one location where we can go and study them," Levison said.

Before encountering the Trojans, Lucy will zip past a smaller, more ordinary object in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Scientists consider this 2025 flyby a dress rehearsal.

Three flybys of Earth will be needed as gravity slingshots in order for Lucy to reach both of Jupiter's Trojan swarms by the time the mission is set to end in 2033.

The spacecraft will be so far from the sun — as much as 530 million miles distant — that massive solar panels are needed to provide enough power. Each of Lucy's twin circular wings stretches 24 feet (7 meters) across, dwarfing the spacecraft tucked in the middle like the body of a moth.

Lucy intends to pass within 600 miles of each targeted asteroid.

"Every one of those flybys needs to be near-perfection," Zurbuchen said.

With latest mission, China renews space cooperation pledge

Associated Press

BEIJING — Shortly ahead of sending a new three-person crew to its space station, China on Friday renewed its commitment to international cooperation in the peaceful use of space.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said sending humans into space was a "common cause of mankind," and China would "continue to extend the depth and breadth of international cooperation and exchanges" in crewed spaceflight and "make positive contributions to the exploration of the mysteries of the universe."

China is to send two men and one woman to spend six months aboard the Tianhe core module of its space station, with liftoff from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on the edge of the Gobi Desert in northwestern China scheduled for shortly after midnight Saturday.

It will be China's longest crewed space mission, a new milestone for a program that has advanced rapidly in recent years.

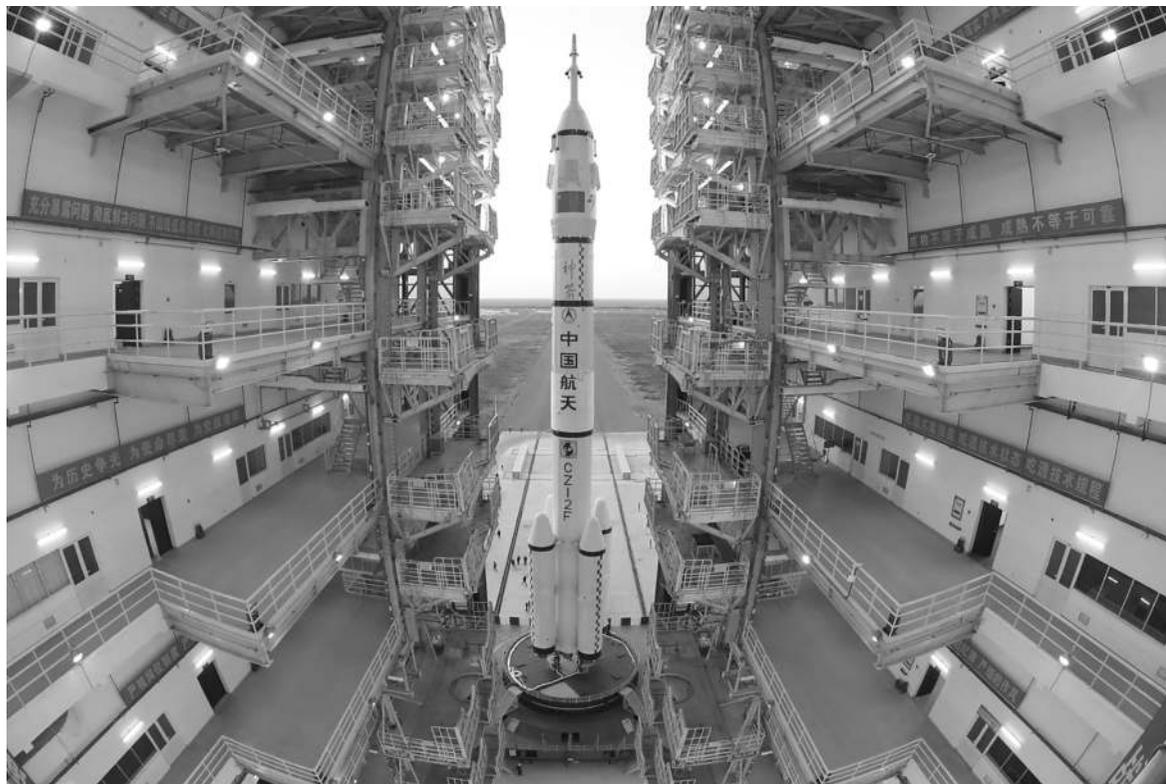
China was excluded from the International Space Station largely due to U.S. objections over the

Chinese program's secretive nature and close military ties, prompting it to launch two experimental modules before starting on the permanent station.

U.S. law requires congressional approval for contact between the American and Chinese space programs, but China is cooperating with space experts from countries including France, Sweden, Russia and Italy. Chinese officials say they look forward to hosting astronauts from other countries aboard the space station once it becomes fully functional.

The Shenzhou-13 spaceship carrying the three astronauts will be launched by a Long March-2F rocket. Hours later, it is expected to dock with the Tianhe module, beginning the mission that will continue the work of the initial crew, who conducted two spacewalks and deployed a 33-foot mechanical arm before returning from their 90-day stay in mid-September.

The new crew has two veterans of space travel. Pilot Zhai Zhigang, 55, performed China's first spacewalk. Wang Yaping, 41, and the only woman on the mission,



The Shenzhou-13 manned spaceship onto a Long March-2F carrier rocket prepares to be transferred to the launching area of Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwestern China on Oct. 7.

carried out experiments and led a science class in real-time while traveling on one of China's earlier experimental space stations. The third, Ye Guangfu, 41, has undergone training with the European Space Agency and will be traveling into space for the first time.

The crew's scheduled activities include up to three spacewalks to install equipment in preparation for expanding the station, assess-

ing living conditions in the module and conducting experiments in space medicine and other fields.

China's military-run space program plans to send multiple crews to the station over the next two years to make it fully functional. Shenzhou-13 will be the fifth mission, including trips without crews to deliver supplies.

When completed with the addi-

tion of two more modules — named Mengtian and Wentian — the station will weigh about 66 tons, a fraction of the size of the International Space Station, which launched its first module in 1998 and will weigh around 450 tons when completed. The two additional modules are due to be launched before the end of next year during the stay of the yet-to-be-named Shenzhou-14 crew.

WANG JIANGBO/AP

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Large African cat escapes owner, prowls suburb

MI ROYAL OAK — A large cat native to Africa that escaped from its suburban Detroit home was captured after spending several hours on the lam, according to an animal recovery group.

“He was located in a partially fenced back yard where we were able to drop the trap,” said a post by the South Lyon Murphy Lost Animal Recovery posted a video online of the animal, The Detroit News reported.

Caracals are classified in a category of animal that isn't regulated by the state. They prey on rodents, other small mammals and birds. They also are native to the Middle East, Central Asia, and India.

Closed photo business working with customers

ND BISMARCK — An attorney for a North Dakota photography business that abruptly went out of business and left many wedding couples in limbo said Wednesday the company is working to release photos and images, It's unclear whether customers who paid in advance for uncompleted work will be refunded.

Two state agencies are investigating the shutdown of Glasser Images and the business owner is facing several lawsuits. The attorney general has received more than 450 complaints from customers and photographers who worked as contractors for the company. The Department of Labor and Human Rights has received claims from Glasser employees seeking unpaid wages.

Fargo attorney Tim O'Keeffe said the photos and videos are being secured and “kept safely” on hard drives, but it's a “logistical challenge” to get them to customers and it could take weeks. He declined to comment on the status of any potential refunds.

Woman charged with leaving girl at hospital

FL MIAMI — A woman who told authorities she left her toddler with a stranger at a Miami hospital to keep her off the streets has been arrested on a child abandonment charge, police said Wednesday.

The 33-year-old woman asked a man to watch the girl while she went to a restroom, and never came back. The man — who happened to be an off-duty Miami police officer — called for help, police said.

“She hands off the child to this unknown man,” police spokeswoman Kaina Fallat told news outlets. “Luckily he was a police officer and what was going through his mind was he went into police mode.”

Carolina Vizcarra was booked into jail on Wednesday after telling investigators “It's not like I just left her,” according to an ar-



GILLIAN JONES, THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE/AP

Loving the leaves

A woman photographs the foliage from the Whitcomb Summit on the Mohawk Trail in Florida, Mass., on Wednesday as sunny skies and unseasonably warm temperatures made the conditions favorable to leaf viewing.

rest report. “It's a hospital and I was worried for her. I was thinking about sleeping on the streets, but not her.”

Zoo's eagle owl dies of injuries after escaping

MN APPLE VALLEY — A Eurasian owl that escaped from the Minnesota Zoo earlier this month is dead.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune reported Thursday that a neighbor found Gladys the owl injured by the side of the road near the zoo. She died by the time the zoo's medical team reached her.

The cause of death has yet to be determined.

Gladys escaped during a flying exercise in the zoo's amphitheater, where she starred in the bird show for the last five years, on Oct. 1.

Police: Driver was going 152 mph on highway

VA LEXINGTON — A drunk driver was going 152 mph when he was pulled over in Rockbridge County over the weekend, Virginia State Police said.

The 29-year-old man was stopped on Interstate 81 on Sunday and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, according to a tweet Tuesday from state police.

The tweet shows a photo of the officer's ticket, which said the man was driving 152 mph in a 70

THE CENSUS

2 The number of teachers that will be inducted into the Governor Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame next month. The new inductees are the late Evelyn Douglas of Shepherdsville, who taught math at Bullitt Central High School for most of her four decades at the school, and Sharon Coomer Mattingly of Glasgow, who is in her 27th year as a Spanish teacher at Barren County High School. The induction will be Nov. 19 at Western Kentucky University, the school said in a news release.

mph zone.

“Speeding & DUI = Too many lives at risk = Arrest,” the tweet said.

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles lists reckless driving as 20 mph over the speed limit, or going more than 85 mph in any situation.

No indictments in two deaths after dispute

MO PARKVILLE — A grand jury has declined to indict a man who shot and killed two other men after a dispute involving about \$200 in firewood, Platte County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Zahnd said Wednesday.

Kalob Lawson, 34, of Kimberling City, and Jonathan Lutz, 44, of Kansas City, were shot on Feb. 10 in Parkville.

Lawson and Lutz were paid \$200 to deliver a cord of firewood to a Platte County home. As they and another man were unloading the wood, the homeowner left. The men then left without delivering the full cord of wood, Zahnd said.

The homeowner's 22-year-old

son called his father and then chased Lawson and Lutz in his vehicle. Witnesses said Lawson and Lutz eventually stopped and got out of the vehicle, and Lawson was armed with a 9mm handgun, Zahnd said.

After Lawson threatened the son with the gun, the son retrieved a gun from his car and fired several times, Zahnd said. Lawson died at the scene and Lutz died later at a hospital.

The son returned home, called 911 and voluntarily surrendered.

Zahnd said Missouri's “stand your ground” law allows people to use deadly force if they reasonably believe it is necessary to protect themselves against death or serious physical injury.

\$1M grant will help expand children's center

ME AUGUSTA — A Maine foundation has pledged a \$1 million grant to help expand a children's center in the state's capital city.

The grant from the Harold Alford Foundation is slated to provide the money to Children's Cen-

ter, which is an early childhood intervention and family support services organization in Augusta. The foundation said the grant is a matching grant given in honor of David and Kaye Flanagan, who are longtime supporters of the center.

The foundation said it is matching up to \$1 million in donations that support the expansion of the center. The center is in the midst of a \$5 million fundraising campaign to finance its expansion and said the gift brings the total amount raised to \$4.1 million.

2-headed baby turtle thrives at animal refuge

MA BARNSTABLE — A rare two-headed diamondback terrapin turtle is alive and kicking — with all six of its legs — at the Birdsey Cape Wildlife Center in Massachusetts after hatching two weeks ago.

A threatened species in the state, this turtle is feeding well on blood worms and food pellets, staff at the center say. The two heads operate independently, coming up for air at different times, and inside its shell are two gastrointestinal systems to feed both sides of its body.

The turtle originally came from a nest in West Barnstable that researchers determined was in a hazardous location and needed to be moved.

MOVIES

BY KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service

We're well into October, which has been collectively recognized as spooky season for years. The weather is changing and it's time to curl up and get cozy with some scary streaming movies. However, horror is very much mood and taste-based. Some people enjoy ghost movies over slashers, zombie flicks instead of sci-fi. So here are a few new and off-the-beaten path suggestions for whatever you might prefer, across Netflix, Hulu and HBO Max.

For some creepy kid scares, toss aside that Chucky doll and try out David Cronenberg's 1979 film "The Brood" instead. This terrifying family horror film has all the hallmarks of early Cronenberg work, set in snowy Canada and filled with twisted psychological themes and truly stomach-churning body horror. Stream it on HBO Max.

Vampire movies are a dime a dozen, as are sexy vampire movies. But none are as cool or sexy as Tony Scott's arresting 1983 directorial debut, "The Hunger" on HBO Max, starring Catherine Deneuve, David Bowie and Susan Sarandon in an existential vampire love triangle. The vibes in this are unmatched.

Cannibal movies can be a tough watch, but in Julia Ducournau's 2016 directorial debut, "Raw," she somehow manages to make cannibalism cute. This French-language horror film about a pair of sisters developing a taste for blood at veterinary school is one of the most intoxicating debut films, possibly, ever. Stream it on Netflix, then head to the theater to check out Ducournau's mind-blowing sophomore feature "Titane," which won the Palme D'Or at Cannes and is currently revving its way through movie houses across America.

Some bow down to religious horror, and if you've finished Mike Flanagan's "Midnight Mass" series on Netflix, head over to Hulu to take your pick of two excellent 2021 horror films that explore the ancient, dark rituals of Christianity ("Saint Maud") and Judaism ("The Vigil").

Perhaps it's the horror of isolation in the wilderness that scares the most. For an excellent horror film set in the American West that utilizes the tropes of the Western movie, check out "The Wind" (2018) on Netflix. On Hulu, Ben Wheatley's folk-horror tinged pandemic movie "In the Earth" (2021) is unforgettable, as is the



WARNER BROS. PICTURES/TNS

Annabelle Wallis stars as Madison, a woman haunted by a mysterious figure, in "Malignant," which can be streamed on HBO Max.

Suggestions for spooky streaming

Netflix, Hulu and HBO Max have something for every horror movie-watcher's mood, taste

folk horror film, "The Other Lamb" (2021), directed by Malgorzata Szumowska.

Horror isn't always on land: It can also be under the sea. Check out the queasy Irish deep sea horror thriller "Sea Fever" (2020) on Hulu, directed by Neasa Hardiman.

It wouldn't be a horror marathon without a final girl, and Sophia Takal's 2019 remake of "Black Christmas" on HBO Max delivers girl power in spades. Also on HBO Max, the incredibly clever and gory body-swap slasher riff "Freaky" (2020), directed by Christopher Landon, playfully toys with the final girl trope, tasking Vince Vaughn the role.

Other horror flicks that play with the trope of the final girl are the terrifying cello prodigy flick "The Perfection" (2018) on Netflix, starring Alison Williams and Logan Browning and directed by Richard Shepherd. Also on Netflix, "Cam" takes the final girl into the world of technology and sex work, as Madeline Brewer tears into the role of a cam girl performing violent fantasies. In the vein of "Rosemary's Baby," Ilana Glazer takes on pregnancy horror in "False Positive," on Hulu.

Of course, there are also the cult horror movies that make you say, "what the hell did I just watch?" James Wan's "Malignant" (2021) became an instant cult classic upon its release on HBO Max. Catch it as



Netflix

From left: Crystal Balint (Dolly Scarborough), Annarah Cymone (Leeza Scarborough), Michael Trucco (Wade Scarborough) and Samantha Sloyan (Bev Keane) appear in a scene from Mike Flanagan's religious horror series "Midnight Mass" on Netflix.

soon as you can. Or check out the utterly bizarre and weirdly charming 1977 Japanese film "House," (or "Hausu") currently streaming on HBO Max. Directed by Nobuhiko Obayashi, it's unlike anything you've ever seen.

Right, Lucy (Ilana Glazer) and Adrian (Justin Theroux) appear in a scene from pregnancy horror flick "False Positive" on Hulu.

Hulu/TNS



TELEVISION

Fall's best and worst new shows

By **INKOO KANG**

Special to *The Washington Post*

Fall keeps giving us latter-day traditions: the return of pumpkin spice lattes, annual debates over the role of sexiness on Halloween and, for TV viewers, fewer and fewer original stories debuting on broadcast television.

If you're a fan of one of the many iterations of "FBI," "NCIS," "Law & Order" or the apparently endless tragedies to befall the Windy City — requiring the services of "Chicago Fire," "Chicago Med" or "Chicago P.D." — the networks have got you covered. But if you're looking for newer stories this autumn, well, you might need to dig around a bit.

To aid in that search, here are our recommendations — and rejections — of some of fall TV's best and buzziest, from both broadcast and streaming.

Best network drama: 'The Big Leap' (Fox)

Fox has gone all-in on gimmicky reality shows like "The Masked Singer" and its new hologram-based singing competition "Alter Ego," but fall TV's most promising original series is a somewhat gooey take on such programs. "Unreal" meets "So You Think You Can Dance" in "The Big Leap," a behind-the-scenes drama about the making of a dance reality series in which the participants will take part in a live production of "Swan Lake."

OK, so the premise doesn't make a whole lot of sense, but the lively assemblage of characters — the amateur dancers who see their time on the show-within-the-show as a long-shot second chance, as well as the reality TV producers and judges who have their own reasons for being there — more than make up for the fanciful concept.

The scenery must be delicious, because Scott Foley won't stop chewing it while playing the Machiavellian mastermind of the "Swan Lake" series. His co-stars include Piper Perabo and Teri Polo, but it's winsome newcomer Simone Recasner who steals every scene as a single mom and heavier dancer who grounds the tartly sweet drama with her hope against hope that America can finally see someone who looks like her as a star.

Best network comedy: 'The Wonder Years' (ABC)

Laughs aren't the *raison d'être* of "The Wonder Years" reboot, but the Alabama-set series is the best of a small batch of new fall comedies, especially when Don Cheadle's heard in voice-over as the grown-up Dean. His 12-year-old self, played by Elisha "EJ" Williams, is caught between the relative innocence of coming of age in the middle-class suburbs as a Black preteen, and the larger backdrop of the civil rights movement and more radical liberation struggles on the verge of attracting recruits from Main Street America.

Gentle but probing, the show captures the historical mundanities of Dean's life, like wondering if his white teacher is prejudiced, often to point out that many of the



NETFLIX

Margaret Qualley stars in "Maid," an unfairly underrated limited series on Netflix about a 20-something single mother trying to make ends meet while her mentally ill mother watches her toddler. The show also stars Andie MacDowell, Qualley's real-life mom.



NBC

"Ordinary Joe" featuring James Wolk, a college graduate who has to decide among three careers, is a big waste of time.

dilemmas he faces are with us today. If it doesn't sound laugh-out-loud funny, well, it seldom strives to be. But this nuanced reconsideration of Americana from the perspective of a Black family that's destined to have conflicting ideas about what constitutes progress, equality and acceptable risk in the fight thereof certainly feels urgent and relatable.

Best overall series: 'Maid' (Netflix)

If the ultraviolence of the South Korean high-concept drama "Squid Game" isn't for you — or you're just looking for the next thing to watch — try the unfairly underrated limited series "Maid," adapted from Stephanie Land's memoir. Margaret Qualley stars as the title character Alex, a 20-something single mother of a toddler struggling to make ends meet while re-examining her last relationship, which ended when her ex (Nick Robinson) punched a hole by her head in their trailer. Forced to rely on her mentally ill moth-



ABC

Elisha "EJ" Williams stars in "The Wonder Years," a historical comedy that doesn't strive for laugh-out-loud funny.

er (Andie MacDowell, Qualley's real-life mom) for child care, Alex must also reckon with the traumas of her nomadic and unstable childhood, as well as the psychological wounds her mother has been hiding for decades.

It's an exquisitely sensitive series, but perhaps its greatest achievement is how matter-of-fact and slice-of-life it feels, despite its heavy subject matter and trenchant social criticisms. The unfolding characterizations are achingly familiar, and I hope Qualley and MacDowell work together again.

Best docuseries: 'The Way Down' (HBO Max)

"The Way Down: God, Greed, and the Cult of Gwen Shamblin" would be shocking enough as an exposé if it exclusively focused on the first part of its critique: the intersection of the evangelical church and diet culture. Gwen Shamblin Lara, who died earlier this year when her private jet crashed, began her working life as a diet-

itian before becoming a preacher and a bestselling author of religion-themed diet books. (Thinness was a reflection of holiness, Shamblin's congregation was allegedly told.) But director Marina Zenovich structures her three-part documentary — two more installments are to arrive in 2022, with reportedly more of Shamblin's followers willing to speak out after her death — like Dante's visit to the circles of hell; the deeper we wade in, the more grotesque the cruelties.

Most well-intentioned dreck: 'Dopesick' (Hulu)

No documentary will yield more information than a comprehensive magazine story on the same topic, groused a print friend to me once. I've generally found that rule of thumb to be true, and I'd like to add a corollary: Few fictional treatments of urgent issues will be more illuminating than filmed or written reportage on the same topic.

That's certainly the case with the too-sprawling limited series "Dopesick," a star-studded retelling of the origins of the opioid crisis from within the boardrooms of Purdue Pharma that also encompasses OxyContin's pivotal role in the unraveling of communities across the country and the many obstacles that stood in law enforcement's way in combating the epidemic.

Performances by Michael Keaton as a West Virginia physician, Kaitlyn Dever as an injured miner who develops an addiction and Michael Stuhlbarg as former Purdue president Richard Sackler can't distract from the clumsy manipulations and confusing time-hopping. Luckily there's no shortage of books, podcasts, documentaries and other material about the opioid crisis; a good place to start is HBO's "The Crime of the Century."

Biggest waste of time: 'Ordinary Joe' (NBC)

Perhaps the highest-profile new fall show, "Ordinary Joe" is angling to replace "This Is Us" as the one household-name network drama that isn't about cops, detectives, lawyers or doctors. But this "Sliding Doors" for the world's most boring guy keeps adding up to less than the sum of its parts.

James Wolk stars as a blank slate named Joe who, depending on a fateful decision he makes on the night of his college graduation, ends up a cop, a nurse or a rock star. (Presumably born the year "We Didn't Start the Fire" came out, Joe aspired to become "the next Billy Joel" and apparently accomplished exactly that.)

The drama is mildly clever in how it re-utilizes its supporting characters in different roles — as a cop, Joe saves a politician from an assassin's bullet; as a nurse, he treats the legislator — but the show ultimately has nothing to say other than "bad things and good things happen no matter what career you choose." It doesn't help that there's no real core to the main character to care about or root for; Joe ends up feeling rather remarkable, as no ordinary person is so unsettlingly vacant.

VIDEO GAMES

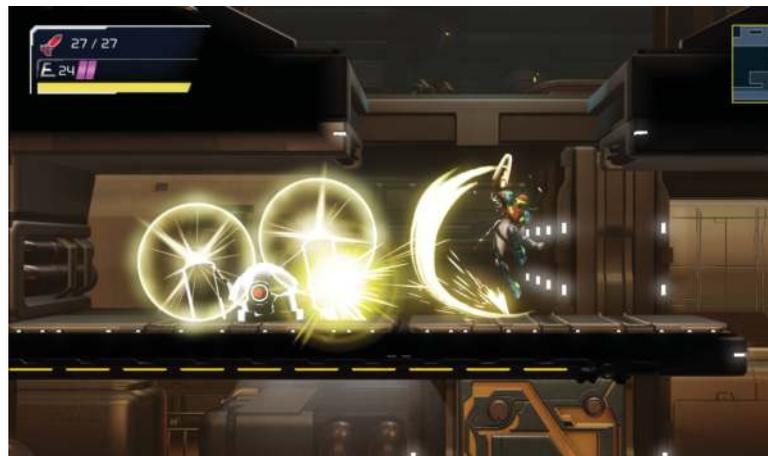


Nintendo photos

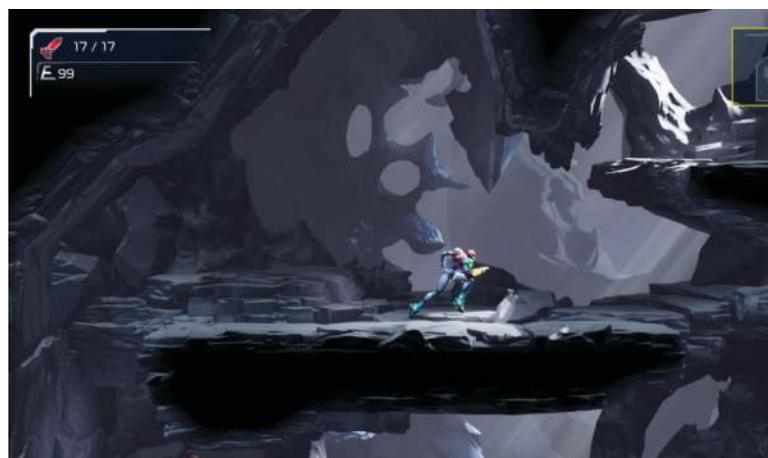
Metroid Dread has its issues, but for Metroid fans, it's a must-play, if only to see a story that is mindful of every previous game in the series. The end of the game also packs some stunning story reveals.

Compelling confusion

Metroid Dread is a great story wrapped in a frustrating grind



Metroid Dread contains tricky choke points at which players need to figure out what to do next or how to beat a difficult enemy.



The deeper that players waded into Metroid Dread, the more compelling the gameplay and environments become.

BY GENE PARK

The Washington Post

It's the rare work of art that births an entire genre, but Metroid accomplished this in 1986. In a world in which running to the right of a screen was the default action in a video game, Metroid dared you to run left, up, down and all over an entire planet.

The genre is now commonly referred to as Metroidvania, which acknowledges the Castlevania series as the next franchise that meaningfully moved the genre forward. Today, it is among the most popular genres with independent studios, and its influence is felt in games as diverse as Dark Souls to the Batman: Arkham series.

Metroid Dread is the first new game in the series since 2017. It has to balance reintroducing the series — one that has struggled in the sales department relative to Nintendo's other notable franchises — to a new generation of players and recapture what made the series so influential in the first place. And the challenge comes at a time when we've seen high-quality, Metroid-like games (like Ori and the Blind Forest) that understand why the original Metroid was such a compelling, unforgettable work.

Metroid Dread and Spain-based developer Mercury Steam very nearly accomplish all of these goals, except for one key component: Its world design is hard to commit to memory. Players of Metroid games are required to remember inaccessible locations they discover early on

so when they do find the tool or powerup required to access that location, they know to revisit the area and find a reward.

Planet ZDR of Metroid Dread makes a noble attempt at this. The backgrounds, for example, are often stunning, particularly when protagonist Samus Aran stumbles upon the palatial

grounds of ancient Chozo civilizations, a race with which she's had a long history. Unfortunately, backgrounds don't do enough to

make navigating ZDR easier or more memorable. It's the gameplay situations that matter more. While the planet has eight different regions, more than any other Metroid game to date, that expanse seems to work against the game's strengths.

For example, the Cataris region is supposed to represent the classic "fire and brimstone" trope. However, there are at least two other regions with significant area also caked in lava and fire. This makes navigating the map a pain, since your mind has to keep track of multiple lava-infested regions to revisit.

The result is a Metroid game that feels like it is designed by gridwork and less about creating a convincing world.

That's not to say Dread doesn't

have its saving graces. For Metroid fans, this is going to be a must-play, if only to see a story that is mindful of every previous game in the series. While many believed Dread would be a true sequel to the excellent, horror-tinged Metroid Fusion, it's more accurate to say that it's a continuation of that story, as well as the ones found from Super Metroid and even the original Game Boy release, Metroid 2: Return of Samus.

The end of Metroid Dread left me stunned in its story reveals, and these moments ultimately justified this new entry in the series. Dread raises huge questions for Samus and the series. I can tell it's a tale that series writer Yoshio Sakamoto has been wanting to tell for years, and it's a victory for him and for the fans that it saw the light of day.

And the game got better, both in gameplay and in its environments the deeper I plumbed through my 10-hour journey. Later locations like Ferenia and the aforementioned palatial grounds may stay in my memory longer than others. And as Samus tears through the planet, older locations will be reshaped and redesigned to keep backtracking feeling fresh and ever so confounding. As you regain your powers (yes, Dread follows the classic Metroidvania trope of stripping her of all her abilities at the start), the act of exploring and finding more items finds a comfortable groove.

But that groove is sometimes threatened by ZDR's world design. There will be certain choke

points in the planet where the player won't be able to proceed unless they figure out what to do next or how to beat the next enemy. This may be an issue for some players, because this game is difficult. Metroid Dread requires you to hold the L shoulder button to aim, the R shoulder button to select missiles, Y to shoot, sometimes B to dodge, and the R trigger to use a grappling hook. All of these buttons and abilities must be pressed, sometimes all at the same time, while you dodge screen-filling attacks.

The melee counter from Mercury Steam's first outing, its Metroid 2 remake on the Nintendo 3DS, adds another feature that requires constant monitoring. While I appreciate the melee counter adding to the appeal of Samus Aran as an untouchable bounty hunter, it also adds an unnecessary layer of combat that's trying to balance so many things at once.

The new enemy encounter of Dread are the nigh-invincible EMMI robots, seven of which stalk you in predetermined, locked-off areas of the planet. These sequences are great and far more varied than you might expect. Each one escalates when it comes to tension, pressure and even speed. The Metroid series has always had a strange balance between its heavily inspired H.R. Giger aesthetic (as seen in "Alien") with the rough-and-tumble, space-faring Flash Gordon tales, complete with ray guns. With the EMMI machines, Dread is able to fully lean into its horror roots to great effect, as

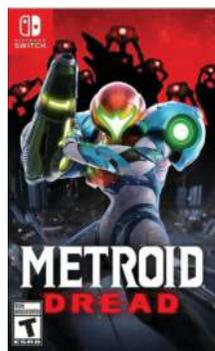
some of these machines will throw new twists and turns at you to keep you on your toes.

Once again, these EMMI encounters are difficult. There's only one kind of weapon that can kill them, and it's only given to Samus as a reward for surviving the EMMI and the planet long enough. Once Samus expends this weapon, it's done until she finds another one. The EMMI segments almost become a different game, as this weapon also requires a new control scheme, and a new perspective, to wield.

I have to stress that this game's battles with its bosses and EMMI robots left my hands cramped. Metroid Dread is a game that requires not just a working, instinctual knowledge of every single one of Samus' tools, but the dexterity to pull them off. While every attack in the game is avoidable, you're likely going to see a "Game Over" screen several times in a row until you memorize these enemy patterns. The game has a generous number of checkpoints, especially outside boss rooms, but this only underscores how Metroid Dread will funnel you into choke points until you and your fingers are able to wriggle yourself free, back into the rest of the world.

As the game industry has proven throughout the years, the Metroid formula is worth iterating and reiterating upon. Now that the formula is back home in the original series that created it, here's hoping Nintendo remembers this too.

Platform: Nintendo Switch
Online: metroid.nintendo.com



HEALTH & FITNESS

BY PAM MOORE

Special to The Washington Post

You might think of pullups as an upper-body exercise you'd never have the strength to tackle, but your first one might be closer than you think. While you need full-body strength, tenacity and patience to master the move, according to Angela Gargano — a certified personal trainer, four-time “American Ninja Warrior” contestant and founder of Strong Feels Good — it's worth it.

“Being able to lift yourself above a bar is invigorating,” she says.

The benefits of pullups

Pullups, which require you to hang onto a bar using an overhand grip, and, drawing your elbows in toward your rib cage, raise your chin over the bar, are simple — but not easy.

A challenging exercise that incorporates multiple muscle groups, pullups offer a lot of bang for your buck.

Stanton Ward, an exercise physiologist and a personal training manager at Equinox gym in Dallas, says the latissimus dorsi (back) muscle does most of the work, and you are also engaging your shoulder stabilizers, biceps, forearms, core, glutes and quadriceps.

The move helps develop the core stability that enables you to lift heavy loads safely. Ward notes that they have “tremendous carryover to other exercises,” like dead lifts in the gym or heaving a Costco-size bag of dog food into your shopping cart.

Pullups also improve grip strength, says Meghan Wieser, an Ellicott City, Md., physical therapist and strength coach. Good grip strength doesn't just help you open jars and carry grocery bags — it's also an important biomarker associated with good health and longevity.

In addition, the exercise flexes muscles we tend to ignore.

“So much of life is in front of us,” such as typing and driving, and if those activities aren't balanced by ones that engage the back of your body, Wieser says, it can become a problem. By engaging the posterior chain — the muscles along the back of the body, including your rotator cuff, erector spinae, lats, glutes and hamstrings — pullups help create tissue resilience, making us “better movers” and preventing injuries, Wieser adds.

And those are just the physical benefits.

“Once you get it, you feel like a badass,” Wieser says. That confidence doesn't just serve you in the gym. Gargano says that when “impossible things become possible,” your entire outlook on life can change.

Pullups aren't for everyone, but your gender shouldn't stand in your way. Just keep in mind that the move generally comes easier to men than to women because men's back muscles develop more quickly with less relative effort, Gargano says. Avoid them if you're recovering from a rotator cuff injury, have limited shoulder mobility or experience pain with the movement, Wieser suggests, and wait until you get a green light from your doctor or physical therapist.

What you need

Your gym should have a pullup bar. If it's too high, stand on something stable, such as a plyometric box or a step aerobics bench, to reach it.

No gym membership? No problem. The just-right tree branch or the monkey bars at your local playground can stand in as a



Raising the bar

Pullups are difficult but not impossible with the right foundation, a few modifications and consistent practice

pullup bar. Or, if you have one nearby, head to an “outdoor gym,” where you should find a bar designed just for pullups.

If you're installing a pullup bar at home, it should be high enough to allow your arms to extend fully, Gargano says. She suggests finding one that hooks securely to the top of a door frame. If you're too tall to use a door frame and you have the space, a free-standing pullup bar (available for under \$200) or a wall-mounted one (available for under \$100) are “secure and safe” alternatives, she says.

Foundational exercises

You won't even need a bar at first. Gargano's clients start with foundational moves requiring limited or no equipment. They might be boring, but she says nailing the fundamentals is a game-changer.

Y's: These simple drills promote shoulder mobility and stability. To do a Y, lie on the floor facedown with your arms out-

stretched so your body is in the shape of the letter Y. With your thumbs facing the ceiling, lift your arms up and down, squeezing your shoulder blades together. Gargano suggests aiming for three to five sets of 10 to 20 reps, two to three times a week.

Hollow holds: Ward agrees that “unsexy” moves are a vital part of mastering the pullup. To increase your ability to maintain full-body tension during the movement, he suggests adding hollow holds to your routine: Lie on your back and lift your straightened legs about six inches off the ground. Then, raise your arms overhead, keeping them about six inches off the ground. Hold this position, focusing on driving your lower back into the floor.

“Think about doing a plank but laying on your back,” he says. Do five 10-to-20-second holds, and repeat for three sets, two or three times a week.

Dumbbell or kettle bell carries: These will help improve grip strength. Start with

two or three 30- to 60-second carries, two times a week, Ward says.

Pulling exercises: Wieser suggests these at least three times a week. You can do dumbbell rows or TRX suspension cable rows, or just hang on the bar with an overhand grip. You can also perform inverted rows if you have access to a squat rack and a barbell; increase the difficulty by lowering the bar or elevating your feet. Shoot for three to five sets of 10 to 12 reps, at least twice a week.

Modifications

How long it takes to get your first pullup depends on a variety of factors, including your fitness level and how often you train. In the meantime, you can progress by doing pullup variations.

Negative exercises: Wieser recommends negative, or eccentric, training, which involves using assistance (such as jumping or standing on an elevated surface) to help get your chin above the bar, then slowly lowering your body. But proceed with caution.

“The soreness that comes with that is insane,” she says. She advises doing no more than 20 in one workout.

Banded pullups: By securing one end of a heavy-duty loop band to the bar and stepping into the other end with one or both feet, you get a boost at the bottom of the move. If you do these, Gargano says, make sure your band tension is light enough that “you're actually able to feel your muscles activate.” Otherwise, the band does too much of the work for you.

Chin-ups: These work many of the same muscles but are a bit easier, Ward says. By using an underhand grip (palms facing you) rather than overhand, you get slightly more biceps engagement while still working your lats.

Do's and don'ts

Do start from an active position and not a dead hang, Wieser says. Then, with your hands gripping the bar in an overhand position and your elbows extended, retract your shoulder blades by engaging them and aiming them down toward your back pockets. It can also be helpful to imagine trying to bring the bar toward you.

Do make sure your core, glutes and quads are engaged and your feet are together before your body moves an inch above the floor. Squeezing your glutes helps with lat engagement, Gargano says. Then, maintain full-body tension as you bring your elbows toward your rib cage to get your chin over the bar.

Don't make the mistake of looking up at the bar and tucking your feet behind you. Both movements cause your back to arch. This precludes core engagement, an important but often overlooked component of the move.

Don't favor one side of the body, says Gargano. “One side's normally a little stronger than the other.” She suggests having someone film you from behind so you can see any asymmetry for yourself.

No matter where you are in your pullup journey, consistent practice is the only way to move forward. How often you should train depends on your goals; she recommends at least three to four sessions per week and varying your exercises.

Like most goals worth achieving, getting your first pullup requires dedication and patience.

“You're going to have good days. You're going to have bad days,” Gargano says. “Nothing happens overnight.”

STARS AND STRIPES.

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Use treatments, vaccines in COVID-19 strategy

BY LEANA S. WEN

Special to The Washington Post

Drug manufacturer Merck on Monday requested emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration for its antiviral medication, molnupiravir. While many have heralded this first-ever oral treatment for COVID-19 as a game-changer, others are raising the concern that an easy-to-access treatment could further deter the unvaccinated from getting their shots.

I do not believe this is a reason to withhold treatment, though it is true that some prominent figures already tout treatments in place of vaccines. Texas gubernatorial candidate Allen West was recently hospitalized with the coronavirus after refusing the vaccine. "I can attest that, after this experience, I am even more dedicated to fighting against vaccine mandates," he tweeted Sunday. "Instead of enriching the pockets of Big Pharma and corrupt bureaucrats and politicians, we should be advocating the monoclonal antibody infusion therapy."

Put aside for a moment that monoclonal antibodies, a COVID-19 therapy delivered as an intravenous infusion or series of shots, are developed and manufactured by major pharmaceutical companies. There is clearly a certain segment of the population who, like West, would rather wait to fall ill than take preventive measures. Having better, more convenient treatments for the coronavirus could further deter such individuals from getting vaccinated.

Nevertheless, the possibility that some people would see these treatments as an excuse to remain unvaccinated is not a reason to hold back on effective treatment. Such logic would be unacceptable for any other aspect of medicine. If someone had severe heart disease with multiple blocked coronary arteries, we

wouldn't think to deny them a quadruple bypass surgery that could save their life. It would have been better to catch their coronary artery disease earlier — and, in fact, there are many medications and less invasive therapies to treat hypertension, diabetes and early heart disease. But if a patient gets to the point of needing specialized, intensive care, our health care system must provide it.

Wouldn't it be best to avoid heart disease altogether through a healthier diet, regular exercise and smoking cessation? Absolutely. But many people are unable to change their lifestyles, and still others may have done everything right but still end up ill. Our medical system needs to intervene at every stage and treat the patient, no matter the cause of someone's ailment.

Some might say the coronavirus is different because it's a communicable disease. Still, the same argument holds: We can't incentivize prevention through denying treatment. Despite our best efforts, there will still be millions of Americans who remain unvaccinated. It's unethical to deny them care, and there's also a societal benefit to getting them early treatment should they become infected because fewer sick patients means less strain on the health care system. In addition, there will be vaccinated individuals who develop breakthrough infections. Everyone who contracts COVID-19 should be able to access treatments that reduce the likelihood of progression to more severe disease — and death.

At the same time, it's important to clarify that oral antivirals and monoclonal antibodies are treatments, not cures. Merck said in a news release that molnupiravir reduces the risk of hospitalization and death by 50% when taken early in the course of illness. Monoclonal antibodies appear to have similar efficacy in preventing mild, early symptoms from spiraling into severe illness. These treatments

can make someone less sick, but they do not magically cure COVID-19.

These treatments, too, are not without potential side effects. Some experts have expressed concern that molnupiravir could have an effect on human DNA, like chemotherapy agents. Though Merck denies this possibility, it is something that needs to be investigated further. Monoclonal antibodies can cause a whole host of symptoms, including severe allergic reactions and low blood pressure. Anyone refusing a coronavirus vaccine because it is "experimental" should be reminded that the vaccines have been given to hundreds of millions of people and that there is much more known about them than these treatments.

That brings us back to the key point: Although treatment shouldn't be denied in the name of prevention, treatment does not take the place of prevention. The COVID-19 vaccines are remarkably effective at warding off infection in the first place. They stop people from contracting the disease and therefore passing it on to others. Every effort must be made to increase vaccine uptake, including, as I've advocated for months, through vaccination requirements.

But just because prevention is paramount does not mean that treatment doesn't have its place, too. As the United States moves on to the next stage of the pandemic, in which we learn to live with the virus, we need to accept that we can and must do both: focus on vaccination, masking and testing to prevent COVID-19, while also making treatments available for those who are infected. As with all other aspects of medicine, prevention and treatment must go hand in hand.

Washington Post contributing columnist Leana S. Wen is a visiting professor at George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health and author of "Lifelines: A Doctor's Journey in the Fight for the Public's Health."

Vet entrepreneurs have mindset, skill set to succeed

BY JAKE HARE

Special to Stars and Stripes

As of this year, there are 19 million military veterans in the United States, spanning history from World War II to the 21st-century missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. But for many of those brave men and women, coming home didn't mean finding their way back into the workforce, which is highlighted by the fact that the veteran unemployment rate rose last year to 6.5%.

I was one of the lucky ones. Even before I joined the Army, I knew I was an entrepreneur, and when I transitioned back into civilian life, I took that drive and combined it with everything the military taught me to build a successful company. But my story shouldn't be unique.

There are thousands of veterans out there with the same grit, accountability and sense of purpose that I had who have the potential to fundamentally change the business world. We need their contributions to entrepreneurship, now more than ever before, to emerge stronger, more united and more innovative in the years to come.

It's not a secret that starting — and maintaining — a small business is difficult, and that's without an uncontrollable public health crisis to contend with. According to statistics from the Small Business Administration, roughly 20% of businesses fail within the first year, and about half throw in the towel within

five. But the failure rate skyrocketed during the coronavirus pandemic, with an estimated 22% of businesses closing.

The drive to succeed will be essential as businesses pick themselves back up, and there are none that embody that grit and determination more than veterans. It's in our training that we must get the job done, no matter the odds, and failure is not an option. Even once the stakes are no longer life and death, so many of those who have served retain that sense of determination and commitment to seeing a project through.

Many businesses that closed over the past year suffered from a lack of adaptability, whether to the technology or new marketing strategies that were necessary to virtually engage with customers. Those that survived — or even thrived — were the ones that tackled the challenge of moving their customer experience online and optimizing it for modern consumers.

There is no doubt that the 6% of businesses that are veteran-owned are adaptable and approach every challenge as an opportunity to do better. It's likely that our economy will never look quite how it did before the pandemic, and we need businesses, and business owners, that are capable of evolving based on changing needs. Veterans are ideal entrepreneurs because of this innate desire to work the problem and come up with solutions in spite of the odds.

That desire is buoyed by something deeper, an intangible quality that makes them well

suited to an entrepreneurial lifestyle. Veterans live and breathe the American ideal of opportunity for all, and this deeply held belief is what gives them the courage to go out and fight for their country. That same conviction, harnessed for the purpose of building a business, could be the force we need to rebuild after the damage wreaked by the pandemic.

Even with so many businesses failing over the past year, there were many success stories, as people who never considered owning a business took the risk and watched it pay off. The most successful entrepreneurs in this category were the ones who were mission driven and devoted to their cause, and no group is more capable of devoting themselves to a cause than those who have served our country.

There is no road map for what lies ahead, but what is abundantly clear is that the economy is shifting, making it the ideal time to encourage more Americans to get out there and change the face of business in this country. Veterans, in particular, deserve our support and could be the key to building the economy stronger than it was before the pandemic. Their grit, accountability and sense of purpose are unparalleled, and those criteria, essential to any entrepreneur, will enable them to have a powerful impact and bring us closer to the next generation of innovation.

Jake Hare is the founder and CEO of the Launchpeer incubator and an Army veteran.

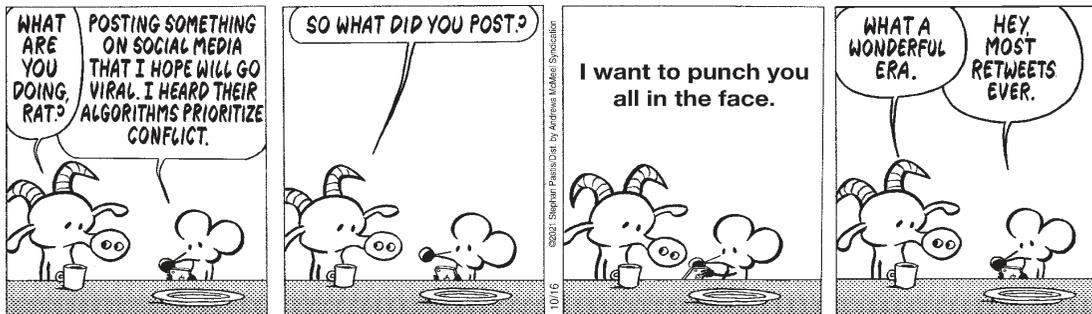
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



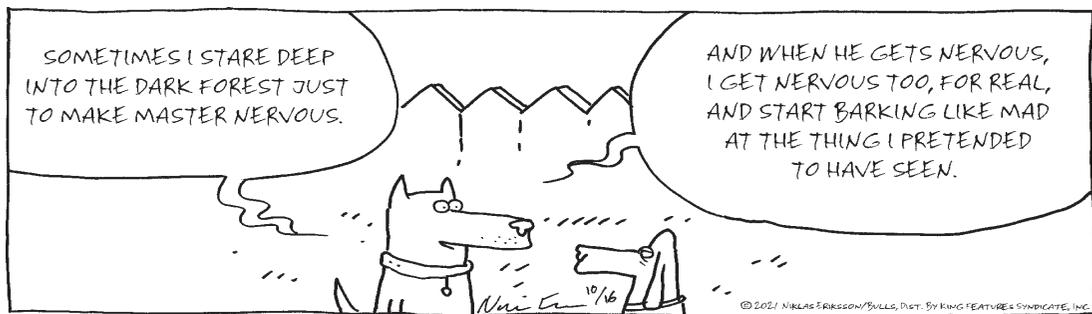
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

Grid for Eugene Sheffer Crossword with numbered squares.

ACROSS

- 1 Efron of "Parkland"
4 Jason's ship
8 Asset
12 Business mag
13 Enlist again
14 Pop's sister
15 Compass dir.
16 Tide type
17 Wine valley
18 Set of department standards
21 Gore and Pacino
22 "Chandelier" singer
23 Billy goat feature
26 Wager
27 Cagers' gp.
30 Journey
31 Hake's relative
32 Naturalist John
33 Blue
34 Cudgel
35 Gossip
36 Supporting
37 River blocker
38 Chuck Norris film
45 "When I Was —"
46 Play opener
47 Sound of surprise
48 Exceptional
49 Assess
50 Tom Collins liquor
51 Bobcat cousin

- 52 Eve's grandson
53 Rds.

DOWN

- 1 Galvanizing metal
2 Part of A.D.
3 Sent a dupe to
4 Golf's Palmer
5 Coral formations
6 Avocado dip, for short
7 Went up against
8 Bamboo eater
9 Maui meal
10 Potentially offensive, for short
11 Sports figure?
19 Lawman Wyatt
20 Little louse
23 "Mic Drop" K-pop band
24 Historic period
25 Help
26 Droid
27 Convent resident
28 Iota
29 Coach Parseghian
31 Commuter's cash
32 Viral video, e.g.
34 Ghostly greeting
35 Elis
36 UPS rival
37 "Same here"
38 Sagan or Sandburg
39 Skin care brand
40 "Phooey!"
41 Read quickly
42 Eggy drinks
43 Voucher
44 Eternities

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Answer grid for previous puzzle with words like BFF, MCS, FUSES, RIA, OOH, ULTRA, IOU, WHIP, SMART, ENC, SORES, FAIR, RKO, FILL, EST, NURSES, REACT, NORAD, ENGULF, AID, SOAR, ISM, OWLS, ALTOS, EAT, JEANS, SMART, ASA, OPRAH, BAA, VET, BATHE, SLY, ERE.

10-16

CRYPTOQUIP

WKZJMA - WIMKVE WVO GP
WOVKW QIZXI AVMEW KVGKAV
SK OG M QZAEAF PST KMJOF:
M QZTDEZTD WOMZJXMWV.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN MY PSYCHIC PREDICTION ABOUT ACTRESS SHIRE CAME TRUE, I PROCLAIMED "WHAT DID I TALIA!"
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals P

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Thursday's scores

SOUTH

Memphis 35, Navy 17
South Alabama 41, Georgia Southern 14
SOUTHWEST
S. Nazarene 30, SW Oklahoma 22

Schedule

Saturday's games

EAST

William & Mary (4-1) at Maine (1-4)
Merrimack (3-3) at LIU Brooklyn (0-4)
St. Francis (Pa.) (3-3) at Bryant (3-3)
Ohio (1-5) at Buffalo (2-4)
Yale (2-2) at Uconn (0-7)
Princeton (4-0) at Brown (1-3)
Dartmouth (4-0) at New Hampshire (3-2)
CCSU (1-4) at Sacred Heart (3-3)
Lafayette (2-4) at Harvard (4-0)
Bucknell (1-4) at Fordham (3-3)
Georgetown (1-3) at Holy Cross (3-2)
Penn (2-2) at Columbia (3-1)
Villanova (4-1) at Albany (NY) (0-5)
Delaware (3-2) at Stony Brook (1-5)
Rhode Island (5-0) at Towson (2-3)
NC State (4-1) at Boston College (4-1)

SOUTH

Tulsa (2-4) at South Florida (1-4)
Florida (4-2) at LSU (3-3)
Duke (3-3) at Virginia (4-2)
St. Thomas (Minn.) (3-2) at Stetson (2-3)
Monmouth (NJ) (3-3) at Campbell (3-2)
Prairie View (4-1) at Bethune-Cookman (0-6)
Samford (2-3) at Wofford (1-4)
ETSU (6-0) at Chattanooga (2-3)
Florida A&M (3-2) at Alabama A&M (3-2)
James Madison (4-1) at Richmond (2-3)
Va. Lynchburg (0-2) at Norfolk St. (3-2)
Butler (2-4) at Morehead St. (3-2)
Texas Southern (2-3) at Grambling St. (2-4)

Tennessee Tech (2-4) at Tennessee St. (2-3)
Alabama St. (3-2) at Jackson St. (4-1)
Miami (2-3) at North Carolina (3-3)
Morgan St. (0-5) at SC State (1-4)
Kentucky (6-0) at Georgia (6-0)
W. Kentucky (1-4) at Old Dominion (1-5)
UAB (4-2) at Southern Miss. (1-5)
Pittsburgh (4-1) at Virginia Tech (3-2)
McNeese St. (1-4) at Northwestern St. (1-4)

Vanderbilt (2-4) at South Carolina (3-3)
Alcorn St. (3-2) at MVSU (2-3)
VMI (4-2) at Mercer (4-1)
NC A&T (3-2) at Kennesaw St. (4-1)
Houston Baptist (0-5) at SE Louisiana (4-1)
The Citadel (2-3) at Furman (3-2)
Hampton (2-3) at Charleston Southern (1-3)
Liberty (5-1) at Louisiana-Monroe (2-3)
Presbyterian (2-3) at Davidson (3-1)
Robert Morris (2-2) at North Alabama (0-6)

Alabama (5-1) at Mississippi St. (3-2)
Mississippi (4-1) at Tennessee (4-2)

MIDWEST

Texas A&M (4-2) at Missouri (3-3)
Michigan St. (6-0) at Indiana (2-3)
Rutgers (3-3) at Northwestern (2-3)
Nebraska (3-4) at Minnesota (3-2)
Marist (2-2) at Dayton (3-2)
UCF (3-2) at Cincinnati (5-0)
S. Dakota St. (4-1) at W. Illinois (1-5)
Ball St. (3-3) at E. Michigan (4-2)
Akron (2-4) at Miami (Ohio) (2-4)
North Dakota (2-3) at S. Illinois (5-1)
N. Dakota St. (5-0) at Illinois St. (2-3)
Murray St. (2-3) at SE Missouri (2-4)
Indiana St. (3-3) at Missouri St. (3-2)
UT Martin (4-1) at E. Illinois (1-5)
Bowling Green (2-4) at N. Illinois (4-2)
Purdue (3-2) at Iowa (6-0)
Toledo (3-3) at Cent. Michigan (3-3)
Kent St. (3-3) at W. Michigan (4-2)
Texas Tech (4-2) at Kansas (1-4)
South Dakota (4-2) at N. Iowa (3-2)
Iowa St. (3-2) at Kansas St. (3-2)
Iowa (4-1) at Wisconsin (2-3)

SOUTHWEST

Auburn (4-2) at Arkansas (4-2)
Nicholls (2-3) at Incarnate Word (4-1)
Oklahoma St. (5-0) at Texas (4-2)
Troy (3-3) at Texas State (2-3)
Southern U. (2-3) at Ark.-Pine Bluff (1-4)
BYU (5-1) at Baylor (5-1)
Lamar (2-3) at Abilene Christian (3-3)
E. Kentucky (4-2) at Cent. Arkansas (2-3)
Rice (2-3) at UTSA (6-0)
TCU (3-2) at Oklahoma (6-0)
Louisiana Tech (2-3) at UTEP (5-1)

FAR WEST

Idaho (2-3) at E. Washington (6-0)
Sacramento St. (3-2) at Montana (4-1)
Fresno St. (4-2) at Wyoming (4-1)
Arizona (0-5) at Colorado (1-4)
S. Utah (1-5) at N. Arizona (2-3)
Drake (2-4) at San Diego (2-4)
Idaho St. (1-4) at Portland St. (2-4)
Colorado St. (2-3) at New Mexico (2-4)
Utah St. (3-2) at UNLV (0-5)
Stanford (3-3) at Washington St. (3-3)
N. Colorado (2-4) at UC Davis (5-1)
UCLA (4-2) at Washington (2-3)
Tarleton St. (2-3) at Dixie St. (0-5)
Air Force (5-1) at Boise St. (3-3)
Arizona St. (5-1) at Utah (3-2)
Hawaii (3-3) at Nevada (4-1)

AP SPORTLIGHT

Oct. 16

1897 — Michigan beats Ohio State 34-0 at Ann Arbor, the first meeting between these storied rivals.
1932 — After a 0-0 tie earlier in the season, the Green Bay Packers beat the Chicago Bears 2-0.
1946 — Detroit's Gordie Howe scores a goal and gets into two fights in his first NHL game. The Red Wings tie the Toronto Maple Leafs 3-3.
1964 — Babe Parilli of the Boston Patriots passes for 422 yards and four touchdowns in a 43-43 tie with the Oakland Raiders.

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL injury report

NEW YORK — The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league (DNP: did not practice; LIMITED: limited participation; FULL: Full participation):

SUNDAY

ARIZONA CARDINALS AT CLEVELAND BROWNS — **ARIZONA:** DNP: LB Jordan Hicks (toe), WR DeAndre Hopkins (illness), C Rodney Hudson (ribs, shoulder), LB Tanner Vallejo (hand). **LIMITED:** T Kelvin Beachum (ribs), TE Darrell Daniels (illness), RB Chase Edmonds (shoulder), CB Byron Murphy (ribs), QB Kyler Murray (right shoulder), CB Marco Wilson (ribs). **FULL:** LB Dennis Gardeck (hand). **CLEVELAND:** DNP: RB Nick Chubb (calf), T Jack Conklin (knee), RB Kareem Hunt (wrist, knee), LB Malcolm Smith (abdomen), C J.C. Tretter (knee), T Jedrick Willis (ankle). **LIMITED:** DE Jadeveon Clowney (elbow, knee), DE Myles Garrett (knee, ankle), CB A.J. Green (shoulder, knee), DT Malik Jackson (knee), DT Malik McDowell (elbow, foot), DE Takkarist McKinley (ankle, knee), CB Greg Newsome (calf), TE David Njoku (knee), CB Denzel Ward (neck), CB Greedy Williams (shoulder, knee). **FULL:** LB Elijah Lee (hip).

CINCINNATI BENGALS AT DETROIT LIONS — **CINCINNATI:** DNP: HB Joe Mixon (ankle), G D'Ante Smith (knee). **LIMITED:** C Trey Hopkins (knee), WR Mike Thomas (ankle). **FULL:** QB Joe Burrow (throat), CB Darius Phillips (illness), G Quinton Sapin (NIR-personal). **DETROIT:** DNP: CB Corey Ballentine (hamstring), RB Jamaal Williams (hip). **LIMITED:** OLB Tyr Flowers (knee), TE T.J. Hockenson (knee), G Jonah Jackson (shoulder), CB Amari Ouwariye (hip), RB D'Andre Swift (groin).

DALLAS COWBOYS AT NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — **DALLAS:** DNP: DE Dorance Armstrong (ankle), CB Trevon Diggs (ankle), S Damontae Kazee (hip). **LIMITED:** RB Ezekiel Elliott (ribs), DE Randy Gregory (knee), OT Tyrone Smith (neck), S Donovan Wilson (groin). **FULL:** OT Ty Nsekhe (illness). **NEW ENGLAND:** DNP: OL Justin Herron (back), CB Shaun Wane (concussion). **LIMITED:** LB Ja'Whaun Bentley (shoulder), DB Cody Davis (knee), S Kyle Dugger (hamstring), K Nick Folk (left knee), RB Damien Harris (ribs), CB Jonathan Jones (ankle), G Shaq Mason (abdomen), DB Jalyn Mills (hamstring), LB Ronnie Perkins (ankle), LB Kyle Van Noy (groin).

GREEN BAY PACKERS AT CHICAGO BEARS — **GREEN BAY:** DNP: T Dennis Kelly (back), CB Kevin King (shoulder), TE Marcedes Lewis (not injury related - resting player). **LIMITED:** WR Davante Adams (not injury related - resting player), G Elgton Jenkins (ankle), RB Aaron Jones (ankle), TE Robert Tonyan (knee). **FULL:** WR Randall Cobb (not injury related - resting player), DT Jack Heflin (ankle), C Josh Myers (finger), S Vernon Scott (knee). **CHICAGO:** DNP: DL Akeem Hicks (groin), TE J.P. Holtz (quadricep), LB Caleb Johnson (knee), LB Khalil Mack (foot), WR Allen Robinson (ankle). **LIMITED:** LB Christian Jones (back), WR Darnell Mooney (groin), WR Jakeem Grant (groin). **FULL:** DB Xavier Crawford (back), DB Duke Shelley (ankle), QB Justin Fields (rib/knee), LB Joel Iyiegbuniwe (hamstring), LB Danny Trevathan (knee), RB Ryan Nall (ankle).

HOUSTON TEXANS AT INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — **HOUSTON:** DNP: C Justin Britt (knee), RB Rex Burkhead (hip, knee), RB Mark Ingram (not injury related - resting player), T Laremy Tunsil (thumb), QB Deshaun Watson (not injury related - personal matter). **LIMITED:** WR Danny Amendola (thigh), TE Pharaoh Brown (shoulder), LB Kamu Grugier-Hill (hip), CB Desmond King (hip). **INDIANAPOLIS:** DNP: K Rodrigo Blankenship (right hip), S Andrew Sendjo (concussion), T Braden Smith (foot, thumb), DE Kemoko Turay (groin), RB Jordan Wilkins (non-football illness). **LIMITED:** LB Darius Leonard (ankle, shoulder), CB Xavier Rhodes (concussion), CB Rock Ya-Sin (ankle). **FULL:** DE Kwity Paye (hamstring), DE Isaac Rochell (illness).

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS AT WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM — **KANSAS CITY:** DNP: DB Charvarius Ward (quadricep), TE Blake Bell (back), WR Tyreek Hill (quadricep), DT Chris Jones (wrist), OL Joe Thuney (hand). **LIMITED:** LB Anthony Hitchens (knee). **FULL:** CB Chris Lammons (shin), OL Lucas Niang (hamstring). **WASHINGTON:** DNP: T Samuel Cosmi (ankle), LB Jared Norris (shoulder), TE Sammis Reyes (back), WR Curtis Samuel (groin), G Brandon Scherff (knee), WR Cam Sims (hamstring). **LIMITED:** DT Jonathan Allen (knee), WR Dyami Brown (knee), RB Antonio Gibson (shin), LB Cole Holcomb (shoulder), DE James Smith-Williams (toe).

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS AT DENVER BRONCOS

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA playoffs

x-if necessary
Finals
(Best-of-five)

No. 6 Chicago 1, No. 5 Phoenix 1

Chicago 91, Phoenix 77
Phoenix 91, Chicago 86, OT
Friday: at Chicago
Sunday: at Chicago
x-Tuesday: at Phoenix

NBA preseason

Wednesday's games

Phoenix 119, Portland 74
Dallas 127, Charlotte 59
Orlando 103, Boston 102
Indiana 109, Memphis 107
New York 108, Detroit 100
Oklahoma City 108, Denver 99

COS — LAS VEGAS: DNP: DT Johnathan Hankins (hip), DT Quinton Jefferson (back), RB Josh Jacobs (illness). **LIMITED:** S Johnathan Abram (shoulder/calf), DB Brandon Facyon (hip), S Dallin Leavitt (knee), DE Yannich Ngakoue (not injury related - rest/knee), S Roderic Teamer (ankle). **FULL:** RB Peyton Barber (toe), CB Casey Hayward (knee), CB Nate Hobbs (shoulder), FB Alec Ingold (shoulder), LB Cory Littleton (shoulder), T Kolton Miller (pectoral), DE Carl Nassib (not injury related - personal/ribs), T Brandon Parker (ribs), LB Denzel Perryman (toe), TE Darren Waller (not injury related - rest/knee). **DENVER:** DNP: CB Mike Ford (knee). **LIMITED:** RB Melvin Gordon (hip), S Kareem Jackson (back), OLB Aaron Patrick (ankle). **FULL:** DL Mike Purcell (back), CB Ronald Darby (hamstring), DE Shelby Harris (wrist), S Justin Simmons (hand), WR Courtland Sutton (ankle).

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS AT BALTIMORE RAVENS — **LOS ANGELES:** DNP: S Nasir Adnerley (hip), LB Drue Tranquill (shest), WR Mike Williams (knee). **LIMITED:** RB Justin Jackson (groin). **BALTIMORE:** DNP: QB Lamar Jackson (illness), T Ronnie Stanley (ankle), T Alejandro Villanueva (knee), WR Sammy Watkins (thigh), NT Brandon Williams (not injury related - rest). **LIMITED:** S DeShon Elliott (quadricep), S Geno Stone (thigh).

LOS ANGELES RAMS AT NEW YORK GIANTS — **LOS ANGELES:** LIMITED: DL Aaron Donald (knee). **FULL:** OL Andrew Whitworth (rest), OLB Terrell Lewis (rest), RB Jake Funk (hamstring), K Matt Gay (ankle). **NEW YORK GIANTS:** DNP: RB Saquon Barkley (ankle), WR Kenny Golladay (knee), DB Rodarius Williams (knee). **LIMITED:** OL Ben Bredeson (hand), DB Nate Ebner (quadricep), LB Justin Hilliard (ankle), QB Daniel Jones (concussion/non-contact), DB Jabrill Peppers (hamstring), DB Logan Ryan (hip), WR Sterling Shepard (hamstring), OL Matt Skura (knee), WR Darius Slayton (hamstring), OL Andrew Thomas (foot), WR Kadarius Toney (ankle).

MIAMI DOLPHINS AT JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — **MIAMI:** DNP: CB Xavien Howard (shoulder/groin), WR DeVante Parker (shoulder/hamstring). **LIMITED:** QB Jacoby Brissett (hamstring), CB Byron Jones (achilles), TE Adam Shaheen (knee), WR Preston Williams (groin). **FULL:** S Brandon Jones (ankle). **JACKSONVILLE:** DNP: OL Rashaad Coward (ankle), DL Adam Gotsis (NIR-resting player), LB Myles Jack (back). **LIMITED:** OL Ben Barch (groin), CB Tyson Campbell (toe), DL Roy Robertson-Harris (ankle), OL Tyler Shatley (groin). **FULL:** LB Dakota Allen (shoulder), DE/OLB Lereatee McCray (hamstring), WR Marvin Jones Jr. (NIR-personal).

MINNESOTA VIKINGS AT CAROLINA PANTHERS — **MINNESOTA:** DNP: TE Ben Elleson (knee), WR Justin Jefferson (ankle), DT Michael Pierce (elbow), WR Adam Thielen (foot). **LIMITED:** RB Dalvin Cook (ankle), WR Ihmir Smith-Marsette (toe), LB Nick Vigil (ankle). **CAROLINA:** DNP: LB Kamal Martin (concussion), RB Christian McCaffrey (hamstring), LB Shaq Thompson (foot). **LIMITED:** CB C.J. Henderson (shoulder). **FULL:** T Cameron Erving (neck).

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS — **SEATTLE:** DNP: RB Chris Carson (neck), WR DK Metcalf (foot). **LIMITED:** G Damien Lewis (illness), LB Bobby Wagner (knee), QB Russell Wilson (right finger), WR Penny Hart (knee), DE Darrell Taylor (ankle), T Cedric Ogbuehl (biceps). **FULL:** C/G Kyle Fuller (illness). **PITTSBURGH:** DNP: WR Juju Smith-Schuster (shoulder), CB Ahkello Witherspoon (not injury related - personal matter). **LIMITED:** WR Chase Claypool (hamstring), DT Carlos Davis (knee), WR James Washington (groin). **FULL:** LB Devin Bush (groin), DT Cameron Heyward (neck), LB Melvin Ingram (not injury related - resting player), QB Ben Roethlisberger (pectoral, hip), CB Cameron Sutton (groin), G Trai Turner (not injury related - resting player).

MONDAY

BUFFALO BILLS AT TENNESSEE TITAN — **BUFFALO:** DNP: DE Mario Addison (not injury related - resting player), RB Taiwan Jones (hamstring). **LIMITED:** C Ryan Bates (ankle), LB Matt Milano (hamstring). **FULL:** G Jon Feliciano (elbow). **TENNESSEE:** DNP: CB Caleb Farley (illness), CB Kristian Fulton (hamstring), RB Derrick Henry (not injury related - resting player), LB Monty Rice (groin), G Rodger Saffold (shoulder), DT Teair Tart (toe). **LIMITED:** RB Khari Blasingame (shoulder), T Taylor Lewan (toe), RB Jeremy McNichols (ankle), WR Chester Rogers (groin). **FULL:** WR A.J. Brown (hamstring), LB Bud Dupree (knee), WR Julio Jones (hamstring), WR Nick Westbrook-Ikhine (hamstring).

DEALS

Thursday's transactions

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Assigned RHP Travis Lakins, Sr. to Norfolk (Triple-A East) after clearing waivers.

National League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Claimed RHP Zack Burdi off waivers from Baltimore.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Terminated the contract of manager Mike Shildt.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association
CHARLOTTE HORNETS — Waived G Jalen Crutcher and F Cameron McGriff.

CHICAGO BULLS — Waived G Bryce Alford.

HOUSTON ROCKETS — Re-signed G Armoni Brooks. Waived F Tyler Bey.

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS — Waived Fs George King and Moses Wright.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS — Waived G Frank Mason.

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Waived Fs Sean McDermott and Rumeo Weems.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS — Waived Gs Elijah Bryant and Rayjon Weems.

NEW YORK KNICKS — Waived Gs Dwayne Bacon and Myles Powell.

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER — Waived G Melvin Frazier Jr.

SACRAMENTO KINGS — Waived G Ade Murkey and F Damien Jefferson.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS — Waived Gs Jordan Burns and Damyean Dotson.

UTAH JAZZ — Waived F Derrick Alston Jr., C Marques Bolden and G MacCio Teague.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

NHL — Suspended Colorado F Gabriel Ladeskog two games without pay for boarding Chicago F Kirby Dach during Wednesday's game.

CAROLINA PANTHERS — Placed P Joseph Charlton on injured reserve. Promoted S Kenny Robinson from the practice squad to the active roster. Signed P Ryan Winslow and S Sheldrick Redwine to the practice squad. Released S Doug Middleton from the practice squad.

CHICAGO BEARS — Placed RB Damien Williams on the reserve/COVID-19 list.

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Claimed CB Tre Flowers off waivers from Seattle.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed K Michael Badgley to the practice squad. Released C Joey Hunt from the practice squad.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Re-signed WR Daurice Fountain to the practice squad.

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS — Signed OT Foster Sarell and DL Andrew Brown to the practice squad. Released LB Nate Hall from the practice squad.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Activated CB Cameron Dantzier from the reserve/COVID-19 list.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Activated G Michael Onwenu from the reserve/COVID-19 list.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Placed CB Rodarius Williams on injured reserve.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Promoted OT Le'Raven Clark and TE Noah Togai from the practice squad to the active roster.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed CB Davontae Harris to the practice squad.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Promoted TE Deon Yelder from the practice squad to the active roster.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Assigned D Alec Regula to Rockford (AHL).

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Signed D Ryan Pulock to an eight-year contract extension.

OTTAWA SENATORS — Recalled G Filip Gustavsson from Belleville (AHL). Assigned D Erik Brannstrom to Belleville. Re-signed LW Brady Tkachuk to a seven-year contract.

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Recalled F Max Willman from Reading (ECHL). Recalled D Nick Seeler and C Jackson Cates from Lehigh Valley (AHL). Placed RW Zack MacEwen on injured reserve (visa issues). Placed RW Patrick Brown on Covid-19 injured reserve.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled D Andrej Sustr from Syracuse (AHL).

WASHINGTON CAPS — Claimed D Dennis Cholowski off waivers from Seattle.

WINNIPEG JETS — Returned C Mark Scheifele from suspension.

GOLF

The CJ Cup at Summit

PGA Tour Thursday
At The Summit Club Las Vegas

Purse: \$9.75 Million
Yardage: 7,431; Par: 72

First Round

Robert Streb	29-32—61	-11
Keith Mitchell	30-32—62	-10
Harry Higgs	31-33—64	-8
Hudson Swafford	32-33—65	-7
Sergio Garcia	33-32—65	-7
Viktor Hovland	32-33—65	-7
Aaron Wise	33-33—66	-6
Jhonattan Vegas	34-32—66	-6
Cameron Smith	32-34—66	-6
Hideki Matsuyama	34-32—66	-6
Scottie Scheffler	33-33—66	-6
Ian Poulter	33-33—66	-6
Rickie Fowler	32-34—66	-6
Jordan Spieth	34-32—66	-6
Max Homa	34-33—67	-5
K.H. Lee	33-34—67	-5
Collin Morikawa	35-32—67	-5

TENNIS

BNP Paribas Open

Thursday

At Indian Wells Tennis Garden Indian Wells, Calif.
Purse: \$8,359,455
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

Men's Singles

Quarterfinals

Cameron Norrie (21), Britain, def. Diego Schwartzman (11), Argentina, 6-0, 6-2.
Grigor Dimitrov (23), Bulgaria, def. Hubert Hurkacz (8), Poland, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2).

Women's Singles

Quarterfinals

Ons Jabeur (12), Tunisia, def. Anett Kontaveit (18), Estonia, 7-5, 6-3.
Paula Badosa (21), Spain, def. Angelique Kerber (10), Germany, 6-4, 7-5.

Men's Doubles

Quarterfinals

Aslan Karatsev and Andrey Rublev, Russia, def. Rohan Bopanna, India, and Denis Shapovalov, Canada, 6-4, 6-4.
Marcelo Melo, Brazil, and Ivan Dodig (8), Croatia, def. Fabio Fognini and Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, 6-3, 4-6, 10-8.

Women's Doubles

Semifinals

Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, and Elise Mertens (2), Belgium, def. Shuko Aoyama and Ena Shibahara (3), Japan, 6-2, 6-0.
Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, and Elena Rybakina, Kazakhstan, def. Lyudmyla Kichenok, Ukraine, and Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 6-4, 6-3.

PRO SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New England	20	4	5	65	57	34
Nashville	11	3	14	47	46	26
Philadelphia	12	7	9	45	38	27
Orlando City	11	8	9	42	41	41
D.C. United	12	12	4	40	49	41
NYCFC	11	10	7	40	44	32

NBA

International big men leading way

Centers honing fundamental skills while developing abilities overseas

BY CHARLES ODUM
Associated Press

Atanta Hawks coach Nate McMillan believes big men entering the league from other countries thrive because they were taught the fundamentals of the game at a young age.

That grasp of the all-around game has helped international big men dominate the NBA.

Last season's MVP voting confirmed the return to prominence of big men in the NBA. The voting also highlighted the dominance of big men from other countries.

Denver's Nikola Jokic of Serbia was the MVP winner, followed by Philadelphia's Joel Embiid from Cameroon. Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo from Greece finished fourth in the voting and was the NBA Finals MVP. Golden State's Stephen Curry was third as the only guard in the top four.

Meanwhile, Utah's Rudy Gobert from France won his third defensive player of the year award. Atlanta's Clint Capela from Switzerland was the NBA's top rebounder.

McMillan says some U.S. players are missing the lessons of the "triple threat" skills of shoot, pass and dribble toward the basket that were learned by the players in other nations.

"I just think they come in with the basic fundamentals, more so than our players do," McMillan said Tuesday.

"It used to be a lot of that, but now our guys are not spending as much time in those types of programs. ... You don't spend four years in college anymore where coaches can develop those basic fundamentals of the triple threat."

McMillan then paused before asking, "You know the triple threat? You say that to one of our guys and it's like 'Give me the ball and let me just ...'"

McMillan didn't have to finish the sentence. He could have said "Let me just dunk" or "let me just score."

Jokic, who averaged 8.3 assists while also posting big scoring and rebounding numbers, flourished while also making his teammates better.

Jokic isn't motivated to dominate the spotlight on the court. That's also the way he lives.

"I don't want to raise my celebrity status," Jokic said. "You can control that in some way. I don't have social media. ... I would rather nobody knows me than everybody knows me, you know. So, it's much better if nobody knows me."

Embiid couldn't escape the spotlight while averaging 28.5 points last season. He added 2.8 assists per game and wants to be known for his play on the other end of the court.

"I have aspirations to be the defensive player of the year," Embiid said at the 76ers preseason media day. "I think I have to be more active and it's hard to do because offensively I'm also asked to do a lot. I don't mind. I love it. I love carrying a team on both ends. I think that's what probably makes me special, because I do it on both ends."

Capela led the league with 14.3 rebounds while making almost 60% of his shots from the field and adding two blocks per game. Capela's rebounding and defense were big reasons the Hawks beat Embiid's 76ers to reach the Eastern Conference finals.

The wave of international big men also includes such players as Phoenix's Deandre Ayton from the Bahamas, Chicago's two-time All-Star Nikola Vucevic from Switzerland and Dallas center and power forward Kristaps Porzingis, who is from Latvia.

Capela said international big men "embrace our role."

Capela said his role is, "Make sure that I do my work. Make sure I finish whenever I get the ball inside. ... You rebound, you create extra possessions. You erase mistakes with blocks. I take pride in that."

The international big men also support each other.

"I've know Jokic since I was in high



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, of Serbia, was selected Most Valuable Player of the NBA last season. Besides big scoring numbers, Jokic averaged 8.3 assists.



MATT SLOCUM/AP

The Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid, left, of Cameroon, is as proud of his defensive skills as he is of his scoring ability, saying he wants to win defensive player of the year.



JOE MAHONEY/AP

Atlanta Hawks center Clint Capela, from Switzerland led the league with 14.3 rebounds last season while making almost 60% of his shots from the field.

AP sports writers Dan Gelston and Arnie Stapleton contributed to this report.

SPORTS BRIEFS/NHL

BRIEFLY

Tkachuk signs 7-year, \$57.5M deal with Sens

OTTAWA, Ontario — Brady Tkachuk and the Ottawa Senators agreed to a seven-year, \$57.5 million contract Thursday.

The 22-year-old Tkachuk was a restricted free agent. He missed the preseason and was not available to play Thursday night, with coach D.J. Smith saying earlier it would take Tkachuk at least a week to 10 days to play.

The contract has an average annual value of \$8.214 million. Tkachuk will be paid \$4 million this season, \$6.5 million in 2022-23, \$10.5 million in 2023-24, \$10.5 million in 2024-25, \$10.5 million in 2025-26, \$8.5 million in 2026-27 and \$7 million in 2027-28.

In other NHL news:

■ The Boston Bruins signed Charlie McAvoy to a contract extension on Friday, securing their No. 1 defenseman for eight more years at a cost of \$76 million.

The 23-year-old McAvoy was fifth in Norris Trophy voting last year. He had five goals and 25 assists in 51 games last season and led all Bruins defensemen with a plus-22 rating. In the playoffs, he had 12 points in 11 games.

Cardinals acquire TE Ertz in trade with Eagles

The Arizona Cardinals acquired tight end Zach Ertz in a trade with the Philadelphia Eagles on Friday.

The undefeated Cardinals sent cornerback Tay Gowan and a 2022 fifth-round pick to the Eagles for the 30-year-old Ertz, a three-time Pro Bowler.

Ertz was selected by Philadelphia in the second round of the 2013 draft. He has 579 receptions for 6,267 yards and 38 touchdowns in 123 career regular-season games.

Astros leave McCullers off ALCS roster

HOUSTON — Astros ace Lance McCullers Jr. has been left off the team's roster for the AL Championship Series against Boston, a huge blow to a team looking to advance to the World Series for the second time in three seasons.

McCullers was great in a Game 1 win against the Chicago White Sox in the Division Series, pitching scoreless ball into the seventh. But the right-hander left Game 4 after four innings because of forearm tightness, and general manager James Click said Thursday that he was being evaluated as they made final decisions on their roster.

No announcement has been made on the severity of his injury, so there is a possibility he could return if the Astros advance to the World Series. He is listed as being part of Houston's taxi squad for the ALCS.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference						
Atlantic Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Buffalo	1	1	0	0	2	5 1
Ottawa	1	1	0	0	2	3 2
Florida	1	1	0	0	2	5 4
Toronto	2	1	1	0	2	4 4
Montreal	2	0	2	0	0	2 7
Tampa Bay	2	1	1	0	2	9 12
Detroit	1	0	0	1	1	6 7
Boston	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Metropolitan Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Pittsburgh	2	1	0	1	3	10 7
Columbus	1	1	0	0	2	8 2
Washington	1	1	0	0	2	5 1
Carolina	1	1	0	0	2	6 3
N.Y. Rangers	2	0	1	1	1	3 8
N.Y. Islanders	1	0	1	0	0	3 6
New Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Philadelphia	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Western Conference						
Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Colorado	1	1	0	0	2	4 2
Dallas	1	1	0	0	2	3 2
Nashville	1	0	1	0	0	3 4
Chicago	1	0	1	0	0	2 4
Winnipeg	1	0	1	0	0	1 4
Arizona	1	0	1	0	0	2 8
St. Louis	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Pacific Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Los Angeles	1	1	0	0	2	6 2
Anaheim	1	1	0	0	2	4 1
Edmonton	1	1	0	0	2	3 2
Vancouver	1	0	0	1	1	2 3
Seattle	2	1	1	0	2	7 7
Vegas	2	1	1	0	2	6 9
San Jose	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Calgary	0	0	0	0	0	0 0

Wednesday's games

Toronto 2, Montreal 1
Washington 5, N.Y. Rangers 1
Anaheim 4, Winnipeg 1
Colorado 4, Chicago 2
Edmonton 3, Vancouver 2, SO

Thursday's games

Buffalo 5, Montreal 1
Ottawa 3, Toronto 2
Columbus 8, Arizona 2
Florida 5, Pittsburgh 4, OT
Dallas 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT
Carolina 6, N.Y. Islanders 3
Tampa Bay 7, Detroit 6, OT
Seattle 4, Nashville 3
Los Angeles 6, Vegas 2

Friday's games

Chicago at New Jersey
Vancouver at Philadelphia
Minnesota at Anaheim

Saturday's games

Arizona at Buffalo
N.Y. Islanders at Florida
Chicago at Pittsburgh
Dallas at Boston
N.Y. Rangers at Montreal
Ottawa at Toronto
Seattle at Columbus
Tampa Bay at Washington
Vancouver at Detroit
Carolina at Nashville
St. Louis at Colorado
Calgary at Edmonton
Winnipeg at San Jose
Minnesota at Los Angeles

Sunday's game

Dallas at Ottawa



Kings forward Anze Kopitar celebrates his third goal against the Vegas Golden Knights on Thursday in Los Angeles.



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Seattle Kraken left wing Brandon Tanev celebrates after scoring against the Predators during the first period of Thursday's game in Nashville, Tenn. The Kraken won 4-3 for the franchise's first-ever victory.

NHL ROUNDUP

Kraken down Predators for franchise's first win

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Brandon Tanev scored his second goal into an empty net with 1:21 left and the Seattle Kraken beat the Nashville Predators 4-3 on Thursday night for the first victory in the expansion franchise's second game.

The Kraken became the latest expansion franchise to win its first game with the Predators, improving that mark to 3-1-1. They joined Columbus (Nov. 16, 2000) and Vegas (Dec. 8, 2017) in that group.

Alex Wennberg and Jared McCann each had a goal and an assist for Seattle.

Tanev's second goal on Seattle's lone shot in the third period was the winner. Mikael Granlund scored with 39.9 seconds left to pull Nashville to 4-3. The Predators couldn't beat goalie Philipp Grubauer again, even with goalie Juuse Saros still out for the extra attacker.

Lightning 7, Red Wings 6 (OT): Ondrej Palat scored at 2:43 of overtime, lifting visiting Tampa Bay past Detroit.

Tyler Bertuzzi scored a career-high four goals, including three in the second period, to help the Red Wings take a three-goal lead three times.

Tampa Bay came back each time, including late in the third period when Ross Colton, Nikita Kucherov and Alex Killorn scored in a four-minute span to make it 6-all.

Stars 3, Rangers 2 (OT): Miro Heiskanen scored 1:38 into over-

time and Dallas beat New York to spoil coach Gerard Gallant's home debut.

Heiskanen took a pass from Jamie Benn, swooped in on goalie Igor Shesterkin and buried a high shot to give the Stars a victory in their first game of the season.

Sabres 5, Canadiens 1: Victor Olofsson and Anders Bjork scored 2:01 apart in the second period and host Buffalo beat injury-depleted Montreal.

Forty-year-old Craig Anderson stopped 30 shots in his debut with his sixth NHL team. The Sabres converted three of six power-play opportunities, with Tage Thompson pushing Buffalo's lead to 5-1 early in the third period.

Hurricanes 6, Islanders 3: Andrei Svechnikov had two goals and an assist to help host Carolina beat New York in the opener for both teams.

Teuvo Teravainen added a goal and an assist for Carolina, which featured a new-look roster in a matchup of Eastern Conference playoff contenders. Returnees Jesper Fast, Jordan Martinook and Nino Niederreiter also scored.

Blue Jackets 8, Coyotes 2: Oliver Bjorkstrand had two goals and two assists, Max Domi added a goal and two assists and host Columbus routed Arizona to make Brad Larsen a winner in his coaching debut.

Alexandre Texier, Boone Jenner, Jake Bean, Zach Werenski and Gus Nyquist also scored for

Columbus. Vladislav Gavrikov, Jakub Voracek and Jack Roslevic had two assists apiece as 13 Columbus players earned points in the opener.

Panthers 5, Penguins 4 (OT): Carter Verhaeghe scored his second goal of the night 1:37 into overtime and host Florida overcame a late two-goal deficit to beat Pittsburgh.

Aaron Ekblad scored the two late goals to get Florida into overtime, and Verhaeghe finished it off moments after Sergei Bobrovsky stoned Evan Rodrigues on a breakaway.

Senators 3, Maple Leafs 2: Anton Forsberg made a career-high 46 saves and host Ottawa scored three times in the first period in a season-opening victory over Toronto.

Playing hours after the Senators signed Brady Tkachuk to a seven-year contract extension, Tyler Ennis had a goal and an assist and Chris Tierney and Alex Formenton also scored.

Kings 6, Golden Knights 2: Anze Kopitar had the franchise's third hat trick in an opener and two assists, Drew Doughty added a goal and three assists, and host Los Angeles opened its season with a win over Vegas.

Kopitar set a franchise record with five points in an opener. The last time Los Angeles had a hat trick in its first game was Jari Kurri in 1991. Luc Robitaille had the first in 1988.

MLB PLAYOFFS



JED JACOBSON/AP

Los Angeles' Mookie Betts singles off Giants starter Logan Webb in front of catcher Buster Posey during the fourth inning Thursday in San Francisco. Betts went 4-for-4, becoming the first player in Dodgers history with four hits in a winner-take-all postseason game.

Turning: Betts big in decisive Game 5

FROM PAGE 24

Mookie Betts had a postseason career-high four hits and will lead the next step in the Dodgers' title defense at Atlanta for Game 1 of the best-of-seven NLCS on Saturday night. Roberts expects Scherzer to be ready to start, saying, "that's the plan."

Los Angeles came back from a 3-1 series deficit to beat the Braves in last year's NLCS, taking Game 7 by a 4-3 score on the way to its first championship since 1988.

"It's going to be another good one. It's not going to be easy," Bellinger said. "We played each other a few times the last few years. So we kind of know what each other's got, and really looking forward to it."

Camilo Doval plunked Justin Turner with one out in the ninth and Gavin Lux singled before Bellinger came through with his most meaningful hit in a difficult season.

Before that single, he was 5-for-62 (.080) against the Giants in 2021.

"You really do want to be in that moment," Bellinger said.

Scherzer, who lost his Game 3 start 1-0, came over from Washington at the July 30 trade deadline. He pitched a hitless ninth Thursday on two days' rest to close out a best-of-five series certain to go down among the classics these franchises have played — right up there with the three-game tiebreakers won by the Giants to take NL pennants in 1951 and 1962.

"That was crazy. That's nuts," Scherzer said. "So to be in that moment, with everything on the line, with the way we've been playing this whole series, to get the ball in that situation, man, that was a rush."

The 37-year-old right-hander is the oldest pitcher to save a winner-take-all game since saves became an official stat in 1969.

In the final meeting between

these so evenly matched rivals who knew everything about each other by this stage, it was only fitting they split at 12 apiece. The 107-win Giants edged the Dodgers for the NL West title on the final day, Los Angeles winding up a game back with 106 victories.

Both teams went into this game with 109 wins, including the playoffs.

"Best record in all of baseball and it was just great every time we played those guys, just bringing that rivalry back to life, really playing for relevance," Roberts said.

The Dodgers already won once when facing elimination, topping the Cardinals last week in the wild-card game 3-1. And Roberts' bold Game 5 gamble paid off: 20-game winner Julio Urías pitched out of the bullpen instead of starting as originally planned. Urías entered in the third inning and gave LA four innings of relief with five strikeouts.

"I think that you can't do a job for fear of failure or potential criticism," Roberts noted before the

game. "I think that you have to do your job given whatever you feel is the best way to win the game."

Betts had the Dodgers' initial three hits with singles at the top of the lineup before Corey Seager's RBI double in the sixth as the Dodgers finally got to Game 1 winner Logan Webb.

"He's one of the best players in baseball for a reason," Webb said.

Darin Ruf's first hit of the series for San Francisco after starting 0-for-9 was a tying home run in the bottom half. The 452-foot drive was the longest of this postseason.

Webb was done after seven more brilliant innings, allowing one run on four hits, striking out seven and walking one as he once more delighted a sellout crowd of 42,275.

Right-handed reliever Corey Knebel opened for the Dodgers and gave up Buster Posey's two-out double in the first, then pumped his fist striking out Brandon Crawford in a seven-pitch at-bat.

The Dodgers made all the winning moves this time.

Scoreboard

Playoffs	
x-if necessary	WILD CARD
American League	Boston 6, New York 2
National League	Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 1
DIVISION SERIES (Best-of-five)	American League
Boston 3, Tampa Bay 1	Tampa Bay 5, Boston 0
National League	Boston 14, Tampa Bay 6
Los Angeles 3, San Francisco 0	Boston 6, Tampa Bay 4, 13 innings
Boston 6, Tampa Bay 5	Boston 6, Tampa Bay 5
Houston 3, Chicago 1	Houston 6, Chicago 1
Houston 9, Chicago 4	Chicago 12, Houston 6
Houston 10, Chicago 1	Houston 10, Chicago 1
National League	Los Angeles 3, San Francisco 3
San Francisco 4, Los Angeles 0	Los Angeles 9, San Francisco 2
San Francisco 1, Los Angeles 0	Los Angeles 7, San Francisco 2
Thursday: Los Angeles 2, San Francisco 1	
American League	Atlanta 3, Milwaukee 1
National League	Milwaukee 2, Atlanta 1
Atlanta 3, Milwaukee 0	

Atlanta 3, Milwaukee 0	Atlanta 5, Milwaukee 4
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Best-of-seven)	
American League	
Boston vs. Houston	
Friday: at Houston	Saturday: at Houston AFN-Sports, 10 p.m. Saturday CET; 5 a.m. Sunday JKT
Monday: at Boston AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Tuesday CET; 9 a.m. Tuesday JKT	Tuesday, Oct. 19: at Boston AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Wednesday CET; 9 a.m. Wednesday JKT
x-Wednesday, Oct. 20: at Boston	x-Friday, Oct. 22: at Houston
x-Saturday, Oct. 23: at Houston	National League
Los Angeles vs. Atlanta	
Saturday: at Atlanta AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Sunday CET; 9 a.m. Sunday JKT	Sunday: at Atlanta AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Monday CET; 9 a.m. Monday JKT
Tuesday, Oct. 19: at Los Angeles AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m. Tuesday CET; 5:30 a.m. Wednesday JKT	Wednesday, Oct. 20: at Los Angeles AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. Thursday CET; 9 a.m. Thursday JKT
x-Thursday, Oct. 21: at Los Angeles	x-Saturday, Oct. 23: at Atlanta
x-Sunday, Oct. 24: at Atlanta	

NLCS capsule
Season Series: Dodgers won 4-2.
Los Angeles Dodgers
Record: 106-56.
Manager: Dave Roberts (sixth season).
Projected rotation: RHP Max Scherzer (15-4, 2.46 ERA, 236 Ks in 179 1/3 IP; 7-0, 1.98, 89 Ks with Dodgers and 8-4, 2.76, 147 Ks with Washington), RHP Walker Buehler (16-4, 2.47, 212 Ks, 207 1/3 IP), LHP Julio Urías (20-3, 2.96, 195 Ks, 185 1/3 IP).
Top hitters: 2B Trea Turner (.338, 9 HRs, 24 RBIs with Dodgers; .322, 18, 49 with Washington. Had MLB-leading 195 hits, 32 SBs, 319 total bases). SS Corey Seager (.306, 16, 57), LF AJ Pollock (.297, 21, 69), RF Mookie Betts (.264, 23, 58, 93 runs, .854 OPS).
Top relievers: RHP Kenley Jansen (4-4, 2.22 ERA, 38/43 saves), RHP Blake Treinen (6-5, 1.99, 7 saves), RHP Joe Kelly (2-0, 2.86, 2 saves), RHP Corey Knebel (4-0, 2.45, 3 saves), RHP Brusdar Graterol (3-0, 4.59).
October glance: Dodgers are in playoffs for ninth straight year and are defending their first World Series title since 1988. Looking to become first repeat champion since New York Yankees won three in a row from 1998-2000. ... Even though Los Angeles won 18 more regular-season games than Atlanta, the NL East champion Braves have home-field advantage in the best-of-seven series because they won their division and the Dodgers are a wild card. ... Los Angeles rallied from 3-1 series deficit to beat Braves in last year's NLCS, winning 4-3 in Game 7. ... Defeated the Cardinals 3-1 in NL wild-card game on two-run homer by Chris Taylor in bottom of ninth inning. Then beat Giants in Division Series, winning 2-1 in deciding Game 5 at San Francisco as Betts got four hits. The 37-year-old Scherzer came out of bullpen on two days' rest to earn his first professional save. He's expected to be ready to start NLCS opener. ... Dodgers were an MLB-best 58-23 at home, ending regular season on franchise-record 15-game winning streak at Dodger Stadium. ... LA was 48-33 on the road. ... Urías became first Dodgers pitcher to win 20 games since LHP Clayton Kershaw won 21 in 2014. ... Dodgers pulled off a blockbuster deal at the July 30 trade deadline, getting Scherzer and Turner from Washington for prospects. Scherzer is a strong candidate for NL Cy Young Award and Turner made case for NL MVP by winning his first batting title. ... Kershaw is expected to miss entire postseason with left forearm inflammation. ... 3B Justin Turner has a club-record 13 postseason homers, including one in wild-card game. He went 1-for-20 in NLDS. ... OF Cody Bellinger spent time on injured list and was mired in a season-long slump that cost him his starting spot. The 2019 NL MVP batted .165 with 10 HRs and 36 RBIs. But he singled, walked twice and stole two bases in wild-card game, then delivered tiebreaking single in ninth inning of Game 5 against Giants. ... Bellinger, Matt Beatty and Albert Pujols have been filling in at first base after Max Muncy injured his left elbow in regular-season finale. Pujols has been a valuable backup for LA after being cast aside by Angels this season.

Atlanta Braves
Record: 88-73.
Manager: Brian Snitker (sixth season).
Projected rotation: LHP Max Fried (14-7, 3.04 ERA, 158 Ks in 165 2/3 IP), RHP Ian Anderson (9-5, 3.58, 124 Ks in 128 1/3 IP), RHP Charlie Morton (14-6, 3.34, 216 Ks in 185 2/3 IP), RHP Huascar Ynoa (4-6, 4.05) or LHP Drew Smyly (11-4, 4.48).
Top hitters: 1B Freddie Freeman (.300, 31 HRs, 83 RBIs, .896 OPS), 3B Austin Riley (.303, 33, 107, .898 OPS), 2B Ozzie Albies (.259, 30, 106, 40 doubles, 20 SBs), CF Adam Duvall (.228, 38, 113 with Miami and Atlanta), RF Jorge Soler (.223, 27, 70 with Kansas City and Atlanta).
Top relievers: LHP Will Smith (3-7, 3.44 ERA, 37/43 saves, 87 Ks, 67 IP), RHP Luke Jackson (2-2, 1.98), LHP Tyler Matzek (0-4, 2.57).
October glance: Atlanta is back in NLCS after squandering 3-1 series lead last year and losing to Dodgers 4-3 in Game 7. ... Braves won fourth consecutive division title and 21st overall, most in majors. Atlanta took 14 straight division crowns in completed seasons from 1991-2005, including first three during that run in NL West. ... Braves shut down NL Central champion Brewers for 3-1 series victory in NLDS. Pitched consecutive shutouts and held Milwaukee without a run for 22 innings. Freeman hit tiebreaking homer in eighth inning of Game 4 clincher at home. ... Morton is 7-4 with 3.44 ERA in 15 postseason games, 14 starts, for Pittsburgh, Houston, Tampa Bay and Atlanta. ... Morton and Fried earned wins as Braves took two of three from LA at home in early June. Atlanta was swept in well-pitched three-game series at Dodger Stadium that ended Sept. 1. Urías beat Braves twice this season. ... Braves had a losing record most of first half and for the last time on Aug. 3, at 53-54. ... The 88 wins matched Braves' fewest in a season they won a division title (2001). ... Atlanta threw 18 shutouts, second in majors to Brewers (19). ... Atlanta remade its outfield at midseason after losing Ronald Acuña Jr. to a season-ending knee injury and Marcell Ozuna to legal troubles. GM Alex Anthopoulos acquired outfielders Joc Pederson, Eddie Rosario, Duvall and Soler near the July 30 trade deadline. ... Braves were unsure whether Soler would be available for NLCS. He tested positive for COVID-19 and didn't play in clincher vs. Milwaukee. Rookie outfielder Cristian Pacheco took Soler's spot on the 26-man roster. Soler has been vaccinated but might not be cleared to return until after the NLCS. ... Freeman led NL with career-high 120 runs. Duvall topped league with 113 RBIs. Riley was second with 107 and Albies tied for third with 106.

— Associated Press

Cardinals fire Shildt in sudden decision

By DAVE SKRETTA
 Associated Press

The Cardinals fired former National League manager of the year Mike Shildt over organizational differences Thursday, just one week after St. Louis lost to the Los Angeles Dodgers on a walk-off homer in the wild-card game.

Cardinals president John Mozeliak said the firing was "something that popped up recently," but he refused to expand on what he called "philosophical differences" between Shildt, the coaching staff and the front office.



Shildt

"All I can say is where we felt the team was going, we were struggling to get on the same page," Mozeliak said. "With him having one year remaining on his contract, we could have gone into 2022 having that over him and we just decided that internally it would be best to separate now and take a fresh look as we head into a new season."

It is exceptionally rare for clubs to fire managers the same day as a playoff game — the Dodgers and San Francisco Giants played the decisive game in their divisional series late Thursday. But Mozeliak and Cardinals owner Bill DeWitt Jr. decided that it was important enough to seek permission from Major League Baseball to make the move immediately.

Mozeliak declined to discuss possible replacements, but he did say there are plenty of internal candidates. He said the coaches who remain under contract are expected to return next season.

"As I said before, 2021 was a real success and something that for all of us that were part of the organization, we take tremendous pride in," Mozeliak said. "Any time you go on a 17-game winning streak and actually create history for your organization, it's something you take enormous pride in. A lot of times these decisions aren't based just on the season, more ... where we want to go."

Mozeliak met with Shildt and the rest of the coaching staff Friday, but the two did not meet again until Mozeliak informed Shildt of his firing. When asked about the manager's response, Mozeliak replied: "He was very shocked."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

WEEKEND PREVIEW

UGA looks to avoid another upset of No. 1

By RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

No. 1 has been a particularly secure position during the College Football Playoff era.

Last week's Alabama loss as the No. 1 team in the country to Texas A&M was just the fourth outside of the playoff for the top-ranked team in the AP poll during the eight-year history (2014-present) of the CFP.

The last time No. 1 was beaten twice in a regular season was 2012, which was also the last time No. 1 went down in consecutive weeks.

That November, Texas A&M and eventual Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel went to top-ranked Alabama and beat the Tide. The next week, Stanford knocked off No. 1 Oregon in overtime.

The Aggies have set the stage again with a victory against Alabama. No. 11 Kentucky will try to play the role of Stanford to Georgia's Oregon on Saturday.

The Wildcats have not beaten a No. 1 since 2007, when they were the 17th-ranked team in the nation and beat LSU at home in triple overtime.

Kentucky goes to Georgia on Saturday, one of two games matching ranked teams during Week 7 of the season.

Best game

No. 12 Oklahoma State at No. 25 Texas: Wildcats-Bulldogs has the better ranking in combined record (12-0), but Georgia is a huge favorite so whether that game will be competitive for four quarters is questionable.

The unbeaten Cowboys are po-

sitioned to be the Big 12's surprise contender if they can hand Texas a second straight loss.

The Longhorns are coming off a crushing collapse against No. 4 Oklahoma in the Red River Rivalry and another setback would put them in a deep hole in the Big 12 race.

The Cowboys' calling card has been defense so far, especially against the run. Oklahoma State is 10th in the nation, allowing 2.76 yards per carry.

Can they contain Texas' Bijan Robinson? The Longhorns' sophomore is averaging 132 yards per game and 6.81 per carry.

Heisman watch

Chris Rodriguez, RB, Kentucky: Speaking of good running backs facing stingy defenses, if Rodriguez (fifth in the nation in rushing at 128 yards per game) can penetrate the Bulldogs' great wall of NFL prospects he would vault toward the top of most Heisman hype lists.

Here's another idea. The Heisman contenders are generally the best players on the best teams. So how about Iowa center Tyler Linderbaum, clearly the best player at his position and maybe the best offensive linemen regardless of position?

The second-ranked Hawkeyes host Purdue.

By the numbers

5 — Number of consecutive victories for Auburn over Arkansas, but the 17th-ranked Razorbacks closed the gap last year. The first four victories in the streak were by an average of 39 points. Last



BUTCH DILL/AP

Georgia running back James Cook carries the ball against Auburn on Oct. 9 in Auburn, Ala. The top-ranked Bulldogs will look to avert an upset when they host No. 11 Kentucky on Saturday.

season, the Tigers extended the streak in a two-point game that featured a questionable non-called fumble by Auburn.

7.29 — Yards per play Baylor is averaging this season under first-year offensive coordinator Jeff Grimes. The Bears were one of the worst offenses in the country last season at 4.44 per play, but turned it around by hiring Grimes away from BYU. The Bears host the 19th-ranked Cougars on Saturday.

14 — No. 4 Oklahoma's winning

streak, now the longest in the nation after Alabama lost last week. The Sooners host TCU.

28 — Tennessee has scored 28 points in the first quarter of back-to-back games for the first time in modern program history. The Vols welcome former coach Lane Kiffin and No. 13 Ole Miss on Saturday.

47-9 — Total No. 19 Arizona State has outscored opponents this season in the fourth quarter. The Sun Devils visit Utah in a key Pac-12 South matchup.

Under the radar

Iowa State at Kansas State: The Cyclones (3-2) were expected to be in the middle of the Big 12 and maybe even the College Football Playoff race, but they have been bumped to the side by their in-state rivals from Iowa City.

There is still time for Iowa State to climb back into Big 12 contention. Farmageddon rival Kansas State comes in off an open date and on a two-game losing streak, having dropped games to Oklahoma State and Oklahoma.

Memphis bolts past Navy

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Seth Henigan completed eight of 11 passes for 215 yards and two touchdowns as Memphis scored on five of its first six drives to halt a three-game slide and defeat Navy 35-17 on Thursday.

Four of the five touchdown drives included at least one big play to burn the Navy defense. Henigan competed a 49-yard pass to Javon Ivory on the first play of the game, a 74-yard TD pass to Eddie Lewis and a 51-yard gainer to Koby Drake in the third quarter. The Tigers (4-3, 1-2 American Athletic Conference) also scored on a 69-yard reverse.

Calvin Austin III sprinted 69 yards to score on a reverse, staking Memphis to a 14-7 lead it didn't relinquish, one play after Navy ground 21 plays to tie the game at 7. It was the most plays for any drive by any team at the FBS level this season.

Austin's reverse was all speed, looping out of the backfield and slipping through a knot of three would-be tacklers converging

on him just beyond the line of scrimmage.

Navy (1-5, 1-3) took over after Memphis' game-opening touchdown and ground up the rest of the first quarter with a nearly 12-minute, 75-yard monster of a drive taking 21 plays. James Harris II punched the ball over from the 2 — scoring his first career touchdown — as Navy advanced on 17 plays of 5 yards or less.

The 21-play drive was Navy's longest since a 26-play drive in the 2004 Emerald Bowl.

Tai Lavatai left the game after a sack early in the fourth quarter. He passed for 27 yards and rushed for a net of 28. The Midshipmen had 10 rushers for 198 yards on the ground.

Navy had two apparent scoring plays nullified by penalties just minutes apart in the second quarter and wound up with a Bijan Nichols 39-yard field goal, trailing 14-10.

The Tigers are 9-0 in Thursday night games, 21-1 in regular-season games not played on Saturday.



PATRICK LANTRIP/AP

Navy quarterback Tai Lavatai, center, gets sacked during the team's 35-17 loss to the Tigers on Thursday in Memphis, Tenn.

NFL

Scoreboard

American Conference

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	1	0	.800	172	130
New England	2	3	0	.400	96	92
Miami	1	4	0	.200	79	154
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0	.200	67	121

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	3	2	0	.600	132	130
Houston	1	4	0	.200	89	141
Indianapolis	1	4	0	.200	108	128
Jacksonville	0	5	0	.000	93	152

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	4	1	0	.800	136	117
Cincinnati	3	2	0	.600	114	100
Cleveland	3	2	0	.600	142	114
Pittsburgh	2	3	0	.400	94	112

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
L.A. Chargers	4	1	0	.800	142	116
Denver	3	2	0	.600	102	76
Las Vegas	3	2	0	.600	113	120
Kansas City	2	3	0	.400	154	163

National Conference

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	4	1	0	.800	170	117
Washington	2	3	0	.400	123	155
Philadelphia	2	4	0	.333	137	152
N.Y. Giants	1	4	0	.200	103	139

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	5	1	0	.833	195	144
Carolina	3	2	0	.600	115	87
New Orleans	3	2	0	.600	127	91
Atlanta	2	3	0	.400	105	148

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	4	1	0	.800	120	122
Chicago	3	2	0	.600	84	100
Minnesota	2	3	0	.400	113	109
Detroit	0	5	0	.000	98	138

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	5	0	0	1.000	157	95
L.A. Rams	4	1	0	.800	141	116
San Francisco	2	3	0	.400	117	119
Seattle	2	3	0	.400	120	126

Thursday's game

Tampa Bay 28, Philadelphia 22

Sunday's games

Miami vs. Jacksonville at London
 Cincinnati at Detroit
 Green Bay at Chicago
 Houston at Indianapolis
 Kansas City at Washington
 L.A. Chargers at Baltimore
 L.A. Rams at N.Y. Giants
 Minnesota at Carolina
 Arizona at Cleveland
 Dallas at New England
 Las Vegas at Denver
 Seattle at Pittsburgh
Open: N.Y. Jets, Atlanta, New Orleans, San Francisco

Monday's game

Buffalo at Tennessee



RICH SCHULTZ/AP

Eagles tight end Zach Ertz jumps and spikes the ball after scoring during the first half.



MATT ROURKE/AP

Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver Antonio Brown scores during the first half of Thursday's game against the Eagles in Philadelphia.

Brady, Bucs hold off Eagles

Tampa Bay survives impressive second-half rally by Philadelphia

By ROB MAADDI
 Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Tampa Bay Buccaneers keep losing key players and stockpiling victories.

Tom Brady threw two touchdown passes, Leonard Fournette ran for two scores and the Buccaneers beat the Philadelphia Eagles 28-22 on Thursday night.

The defending Super Bowl champion Buccaneers (5-1) lost another cornerback when three-time All-Pro Richard Sherman left in the first quarter with a hamstring injury, but their depleted defense held on after Jalen Hurts rallied the Eagles from a 28-7 deficit. "It's tough to win on the road," Brady said. "Obviously, we didn't play our best so we have to get back to work ... We got to get better."

Playing with an injured thumb, Brady came out firing. The 44-year-old, seven-time Super Bowl champion tossed TD passes on Tampa Bay's first two drives while going 11-for-12 for 121 yards.

His best play came after Hurts' second TD run and a two-point conversion pulled Philadelphia within six points with 3:05 left in the fourth quarter.

Facing a third-and-7 from Philadelphia's 45, Brady rolled away from pressure and threw a perfect pass to Antonio Brown for a 27-yard gain to extend the drive and the Bucs ran out the clock.

"It was a great route, hell of a throw as Tom got out of the pocket," Buccaneers coach Bruce Arians said. "Couple times this year he slipped out of the pocket to the right and made a big play down the field."

Brady finished 34-for-42 for 297 yards and an interception. He insisted his thumb, which was taped, is fine.

"I feel great, awesome," he said. "It's football season. I feel good. Really do."

The Eagles (2-4) are winless in three home games under rookie coach Nick Sirianni. They heard boos at halftime but fought back to make it close.

"We were bad in the first half. Put that one on me," Sirianni said. "There's no doubt our offense needs to be better to give ourselves a chance to win."

Brady's 2-yard TD pass to O.J. Howard gave the Buccaneers a 7-0 lead. The Eagles answered on Hurts' 5-yard scoring pass to Zach Ertz. Brady then hit Brown for a



RICH SCHULTZ/AP

Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady taps running back Leonard Fournette on the head during the closing seconds of their 28-22 win.

23-yard TD pass to make it 14-7.

After two straight three-and-out series, Brady led the Bucs on another scoring drive with Fournette running in from the 2 to extend the lead to 21-7. Tampa increased its lead to 28-7 when Fournette walked in from the 1 in the third quarter.

Fournette ran for 81 yards and caught six passes for 46 yards.

"Having that year under my belt makes a big difference understanding it," said Fournette, who signed with Tampa Bay shortly before last season after he was cut by Jacksonville. "The sky's the limit for me."

Brady was 19-for-22 before missing three straight passes late in the second quarter, including a deep ball intercepted by Anthony Harris that ended his streak of 227 passes without a pick.

The Buccaneers were already missing cornerbacks Carlton Davis and Sean Murphy-Bunting and safety Antoine Winfield before Sherman went down on Philadelphia's first drive. Sherman was quickly ruled out. Arians wasn't certain the severity of the injury.

"We just have to keep playing with the guys we have and see how long the injury is. Next man up," Arians said.

SPORTS



Kraken unleashed

Seattle tops Predators for first win in franchise history » **NHL, Page 20**

The Dodgers' Cody Bellinger gestures after hitting an RBI single against the Giants during the ninth inning on Thursday in San Francisco.

JED JACOBSON/AP

MLB PLAYOFFS

Turning the page

Dodgers knock off rival Giants to set up NLCS rematch with Braves

BY JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

Cody Bellinger pointed at the dugout and pounded his chest in triumph after delivering the biggest hit this season for the defending World Series champions.

Of course, it took until the ninth inning of the 24th-and-final meeting to finally separate the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Francisco Giants.

They couldn't have been any closer.

Bellinger hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth and prized midseason acquisition Max Scherzer came out of the bullpen for his first career save, sending the Dodgers past the Giants 2-1 in a thrilling winner-take-all Game 5 on Thursday in San Francisco, and into the NL Championship Series.

Bellinger's line drive up the middle decided a scintillating Division Series between the top two teams in baseball with a combined 213 regular-season wins, adding a new chapter to this storied, century-old rivalry.

"We poured everything we could into this series and it took everything we had to beat these guys," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said.

The dramatic finish came with a disputed call: With a runner aboard, Scherzer fanned Wilmer Flores on a check-swing for the final out. Plate umpire Doug Eddings checked with first base ump Gabe Morales, who ruled Flores swung. But on television replays, it certainly appeared he held up.

"We poured everything we could into this series and it took everything we had to beat these guys."

Dave Roberts
Dodgers manager

"The umpire said it was a swing, so it was a swing," Bellinger said.

The Dodgers rushed out of their dugout to celebrate on the Giants' home field. Fans began throwing beer cans and debris onto the diamond in disgust.

"Super tough. Obviously, you don't want a game to end that way," San Francisco manager Gabe Kapler said. "There's no need to be angry about that. I just think it's a disappointing way to end. There are other reasons we didn't win today's baseball game, so that was just the last call of the game."

Morales told a pool reporter that check-swings are one of the most difficult calls umpires have.

"I don't have the benefit of multiple camera angles when I'm watching it live," Morales said. "When it happened live I thought he went, so that's why I called it a swing."

SEE TURNING ON PAGE 21



JOHN HEFTI/AP

The Giants' Evan Longoria reacts after striking out against the Los Angeles Dodgers during the seventh inning of Thursday's 2-1 NLDS Game 5 loss in San Francisco.

Brady, Buccaneers fend off Eagles' second-half rally » **NFL, Page 23**