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# STARS AND STRIPES.®

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CONTINGENCY EDITION

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stripes.com

Free to Deployed Areas

## New purpose

Unmanned aircraft that saw heavy combat are now headed to sea

By SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

Hunter-killer drones that have been a go-to weapon for troops battling insurgents in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa are being repurposed for maritime operations, according to U.S. military officials.

Three MQ-9 Reaper drones are supporting the Navy and Marine Corps during

Agile Reaper, an exercise off the California coast that began Sept. 3 and wraps up Tuesday, said Lt. Col. Brian Davis, commander of the 29th Attack Squadron at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.

"Our primary focus has been on counter-insurgency," Davis said during a Monday telephone interview. "That's no longer the limit of what we can do."

The drones, which carry long-range radar

and can provide commanders with full-motion video of the sea below, have been doing close air support, search and rescue, maritime interdiction, strike coordination and reconnaissance and surveillance during the exercise, he said.

The drones, made by General Atomics, of San Diego, can carry 3,000 pounds of ordinance and first saw combat in Afghanistan

SEE PURPOSE ON PAGE 3

Maintainers from the 9th Aircraft Maintenance Unit and an operator from the 29th Attack Squadron work to recover a MQ-9 Reaper during Exercise Agile Reaper at Naval Air Station Point Mugu, Calif., on Sept. 12.

COLLETTE BROOKS  
U.S. Air Force

## Afghan war sees longest span without US combat death

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Sunday is set to mark the longest span between U.S. combat deaths of the nearly 19-year war in Afghanistan, even while fighting continues between the Taliban and U.S.-allied Afghan government forces.

Enemy fire last killed U.S. troops

# 232

The number of days since enemy fire last killed U.S. troops in Afghanistan prior to Sunday — the longest span of the nearly 19-year war.

in the country on Feb. 8 — 232 days prior to Sunday. Previously, the longest period between combat deaths was in 2016, according to Defense Manpower Data Center figures.

The break in U.S. combat deaths follows the signing of a U.S.-Taliban deal in late February, in which both sides said they would refrain from attacking each other.

"The Taliban have adhered to the

commitment largely not to attack U.S. personnel and U.S. forces," Zalmay Khalilzad, the U.S.'s top negotiator with the Taliban, told a House hearing Tuesday.

The absence of combat deaths indicates the U.S.-Taliban deal is benefiting U.S. interests, and will likely be seen by the Trump administration as an achievement, said Michael Kugelman, deputy director

of the Asia program at the Wilson Center in Washington.

"Still, at the end of the day, it would be a disservice for U.S. officials to focus on this milestone," Kugelman said. "There's a bigger picture at play, and it's grim: The war remains intense and deadly for Afghans, and a long and fraught

SEE SPAN ON PAGE 4

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## China opens auto show with restrictions

Associated Press

BEIJING — Ford, Nissan and BMW unveiled new electric models for the Chinese market Saturday as the Beijing auto show opened under anti-virus controls that included holding news conferences by international video link.

Automakers are looking to China, the first major economy to start recovering from the coronavirus pandemic, to drive sales growth and reverse multibillion-dollar losses.

Auto China 2020, postponed from March, is the first major trade show for any industry since the pandemic began. The ruling Communist Party's decision to go ahead with it reflects official confidence China, where the pandemic began in December, has the disease under control.

"The 2020 Beijing motor show is a symbol of hope," BMW AG's China CEO, Jochen Goller, told reporters.

Authorities ordered limits on crowds at the event, which at-

tracted 820,000 visitors at its last installment in 2018.

China's auto market, the world's biggest, has already rebounded with sales above pre-pandemic levels. Purchases rose 6% in August compared with a year earlier, while U.S. sales were down 9.5%.

Global and Chinese automakers displayed dozens of electric models, reflecting a race by the industry to meet Chinese government sales quotas imposed to promote the technology.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Sept. 26)	\$1.14
Dollar buys (Sept. 26)	60.8369
British pound (Sept. 26)	\$1.24
Japanese yen (Sept. 26)	103.00
South Korean won (Sept. 26)	1,140.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3767
British pound	\$1.2730
Canada (Dollar)	1.3395
China (Yuan)	6.8238
Denmark (Krone)	6.4662
Egypt (Pound)	15.7760
Euro	\$1.1625/0.8603
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7502
Hungary (Forint)	312.84
Israel (Shekel)	3.4809
Japan (Yen)	105.60
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3064
Norway (Krone)	5.9535
Poland (Zloty)	3.92
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	2.3506
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3782
South Korea (Won)	1,175.71
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9287
Thailand (Baht)	31.62
Turkey (Lira)	7.6648

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

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.10
30-year bond	1.40

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## MILITARY

# Parris Island proposal stuns local officials

By LANA FERGUSON  
AND KATHERINE KOKAL  
The (S.C.) Island Packet

**HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C.** — Even officials close to Parris Island seemed just as blindsided as the rest of the community when news broke Friday that the U.S. Marine Corps is considering closing its Port Royal recruiting depot as it moves toward gender-integrated facilities across the country.

They joined the thousands of Parris Island graduates and families affected by the news, which came down from Marine Corps commandant Gen. David H. Berger on Thursday.

A report says the military branch is considering closing its only two boot camps, Parris Island and San Diego, to create a third, new co-educational depot.

Port Royal Mayor Joe DeVito said he found out about the announcement through reading the newspaper Friday morning.

"I'm obviously a little bit surprised that the announcement came out in that way," he said, adding that news like this can "get a lot of people concerned."

"This is a big part of Port Royal's history," he said, explaining that the depot is located within town limits. "We're engaged all the time with the base and we're ready to work with them in any way we can to keep them here."

"All the local officials in Beaufort and Port Royal are actively engaged in what's happening here and we are going to be on top of it," DeVito said. "We're ready



U.S. Marine Corps

**Marine Corps recruits gather at Recruit Depot Parris Island in South Carolina.**

to join in on this conversation to help them make the decision to keep the base here."

When reached Friday morning, Beaufort Mayor Billy Keyserling was unaware of the news. He asked to take a moment to read about the details and call the reporter back.

"I'm interested," Keyserling said after a long pause. "I don't see it as a decision. I see it as a consideration." He called it a "heads up" of sorts.

"But until after the election

I tend to be skeptical of any rumors, innuendos, suggestions that come out of Washington (D.C.) by either party and believe that we should be diligent," he said.

He said nothing will happen overnight, but if the time comes the community will rally around Parris Island.

"(The recruiting depot) is extraordinarily important to us. It's part of our history," he said. "It's been more than 100 years of a fabulous relationship between the Beaufort community and the

Marine Corps and we would not want to see that change."

As a Beaufortian and local leader, Keyserling knows how closely interlaced the community and Parris Island are. He says it's a major asset for the surrounding area, an economic driver, and a historic monument "that needs to be preserved, not just the physical but the operational side as well."

A reporter was also the first one to tell Beaufort County Administrator Ashley Jacobs about the possible closure on Friday

morning.

"It's a bit of a surprise," she said. "It would be a real blow to Beaufort County's economy, so obviously we're very concerned about it."

State representatives were also surprised by the news.

Republican S.C. Sen. Tom Davis learned of it from a reporter Friday morning. He said he was surprised to hear of the Corps' plans.

Still, he was skeptical of the immediacy of any moves on Parris Island.

"I would question how far along or how serious that actually is," he said. "Parris Island is an institution in Beaufort County and is integral to making Marines. It has been for generations."

A spokesperson for Rep. Joe Cunningham said Friday he did not know about the potential closure before it was reported in the Military Times.

"(Cunningham) is keenly aware of how important our Lowcountry military installations are — especially Parris Island — to the Lowcountry's culture, economy, and national security," spokesperson Rebecca Drago told The Island Packet.

In 2019, Cunningham led an amendment in the House that will protect Lowcountry installations from closing by prohibiting funds from being used for a base realignment and closure, she said.

Cunningham and his team are working on next steps, but Drago said he "will do whatever he can to protect Parris Island."

## Purpose: US military boasts Reapers' capability to withstand any environment

### FROM FRONT PAGE

in 2007 and Iraq the following year. They've conducted numerous missions there and in other parts of the Middle East and Africa.

Reapers have made some high-profile kills.

A missile fired by one of the drones killed the commander of Iran's Quds Force, Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, when it struck his convoy near Baghdad International Airport, the New York Times reported Jan. 2.

Even as they continue counterinsurgency operations, the Reapers' mission is changing in line with the military's preparation for conflict with a near-peer adversary such as China or Russia.

Agile Reaper is designed to test the aircraft's ability to rapidly mobilize with minimal logistics and fuel, according to Davis.

"We've only scratched the surface of the MQ-9's capability," he said. "We are transitioning to an ability to generate combat airpower anywhere to include the maritime domain and we are tactically quite good at it."

The Reapers can operate beyond a potential enemy's targeting capabilities, Davis said.

"I can provide maritime domain awareness out to incredibly long ranges especially compared to other aircraft and without the need for tanker support," he said. "We can do this in any environment including the most highly contested environments."

The Reapers flew 2,000 miles to California and still had plenty of fuel left to operate, Davis said.

The number of personnel required to operate the drones is confidential, he said, but added that it's a fraction of the number required to fly manned aircraft. And the drones require less support than they did a few years back, he said.

"No longer is the MQ-9 tied down to large forward operating bases or bases in the continental United States," he said.

The Reapers' capabilities could come in handy in a place such as the South China Sea, he said.

China's territorial expansion in

the region has spurred push back from the U.S. Navy, which has conducted frequent freedom-of-navigation patrols there in recent years. Experts have warned that an incident in the contested waterway could spark conflict.

Airmen can rapidly deploy, launch and recover the Reapers and move to another location, Davis said.

At sea the drones are armed with the same missiles they use on land, he said. He didn't specify the drones' armament, but reports have noted their employment of Hellfire missiles.

"We are just as capable (at sea) without changing our weapons in any way," Davis said.

He wouldn't comment on whether a Reaper could sink an aircraft carrier.

"I think you are going to see the MQ-9 utilized in other locations," he said. "California is a great step off point to some other locations further to the west."

Meanwhile, the Marines already have drones training for conflict with a conventional force



ISAIAH J. SOLIZ/U.S. Air Force

**A pair of MQ-9 Reapers from the 46th Expeditionary Attack Squadron are parked on the flightline at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait, on June 9.**

as part of Marine Rotational Force-Darwin.

Unmanned aerial reconnaissance RQ-21 Blackjacks have been zooming overhead as the Marines train alongside Australian allies, who plan to acquire their own Reapers.

Over summer the troops have honed the sort of skills they'd need to battle a conventional force, according to Capt. Harrison Zhu, 27, of Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., an unmanned aerial system commander with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 3.

"We might start out doing counterinsurgency that develops into a peer-on-peer conflict," during training, Zhu said.

The Blackjack is made by In-

situ, a Boeing Inc. subsidiary in Washington. A "small, tactical" aircraft, it can carry payloads of 39 pounds maximum and stay aloft more than 16 hours, depending on how it's configured. It has a line-of-sight range of 64 miles, according to Boeing's website.

The Marines have five drones and a launch and recovery system Down Under, Zhu said.

The Marines, who deployed out of Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, are enjoying the flying conditions in Australia, where there are hardly any other aircraft, Zhu said.

"If possible, we hope to have more of my squadron here next year," he said.

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## MIDEAST

# US begins new review of Houthi rebels in Yemen

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is considering new steps to intensify pressure on Yemen's Houthi rebels, including a potential foreign terrorist organization designation, according to several officials, in a bid to further isolate the group's patron, Iran.

The officials cautioned that no decision has been made but said the administration was discussing several possible moves, which could also include naming individual Houthi leaders as "global terrorists." Like others, they spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

The terrorist organization designation would make it illegal to provide support to the Houthis, ban members from traveling to the United States and freeze the group's financial assets. Those actions would have a largely symbolic effect because of the rebels' already isolated status but could make it more difficult for aid organizations to provide relief in the country.

The discussions come as pros-

pects for a swift negotiated settlement appear to be receding in the increasingly fractured conflict, which has spawned the world's worst humanitarian crisis and allowed Iran to increase its influence on the Arabian peninsula.

The war has pitted the Houthi movement, which comes from a minority Shiite sect and now controls much of the country, against Yemen's internationally recognized government and an allied Saudi-led military coalition that includes the United Arab Emirates.

The Trump administration previously considered designating the Houthi organization, officially known as Ansar Allah, a terrorist group in 2018. But the plan was shelved, in part because of concerns that it could complicate aid deliveries and endanger Westerners operating in Houthi-controlled areas of Yemen.

But now, with the administration seeking to extend its "maximum pressure" campaign against the Iranian government, a designation appears more likely. In recent days, senior officials announced new steps to block



HANI MOHAMMED/AP

**Tribesmen loyal to Houthi rebels hold their weapons as they ride in a vehicle during a gathering against the agreement to establish diplomatic relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, in Sanaa, Yemen, on Aug. 22.**

Iran's access to ballistic missiles and other conventional arms, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo declared that international sanctions against Iran were back in place, a position that few other countries support.

A possible decision to label the Houthis terrorists sets the Trump administration's most aggressive Iran hawks against officials who view the move as inconsistent with the U.S. goal of an inclusive peace settlement for Yemen that includes a role for the Houthis in the government.

A senior U.S. official said officials were preparing to conduct

a legal and intelligence review to determine whether the Houthi organization now meets the criteria for a terrorism designation or new sanctions in a way it previously did not.

"I think the facts have changed since the last time they did the review, that there probably is more compelling intelligence that might support a designation," the official said.

That is the same review process that resulted in a 2019 decision to designate Iran's powerful Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist group, despite the objections of officials in some

agencies, including the Defense Department.

Western officials say Iran has steadily increased its support to the Houthis, providing more missiles, drones and on-the-ground assistance.

Any designation could add a new element of controversy to the war, in which the Saudi-led coalition has been criticized for repeatedly striking civilians from the air. Facing unusual bipartisan pushback in Congress, the Trump administration has limited its military involvement in the conflict despite a robust military partnership with Saudi Arabia.



Iraqi Foreign Minister Fuad Hussein

## Iraq's foreign minister makes first visit to Iran

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iraq's foreign minister arrived Saturday in Tehran for bilateral talks with senior Iranian officials, according to the state-run news agency.

IRNA reported that Fuad Hussein planned to meet his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif and President Hassan Rouhani, in what marked his first visit to the Iranian capital.

Zarif visited Baghdad in mid-

July, when he met with Hussein and Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi. It was Zarif's first visit to Iraq since a U.S. airstrike in January killed a top Iranian general, Qassem Soleimani, outside Baghdad's international airport. The strike catapulted Iraq to the brink of a U.S.-Iran proxy war that could have destabilized the Middle East.

After Zarif's trip, the Iraqi premier visited Iran in July.

The report did not elaborate on the main reasons behind the top Iraqi diplomat's two-day trip to Tehran.

Iran sees neighboring Iraq as a possible route to bypass U.S. sanctions that President Donald Trump re-imposed in 2018 after pulling the U.S. out of the 2015 nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers.

Last year, Iran's exports to Iraq amounted to nearly \$9 billion, the

official IRNA news agency reported on Tuesday. It said the two nations will discuss increasing the amount to \$20 billion.

Before the current global pandemic, some 5 million Iranian pilgrims annually brought in nearly \$5 billion visiting Iraq's Shiite holy sites.

Iran has seen the worst outbreak in the region, with more than 443,000 thousand confirmed cases and at least 25,300 deaths.

## Span: Expert warns low US military death rate doesn't justify Afghan exit

FROM FRONT PAGE

peace process won't likely bring relief for quite some time."

Despite curtailing violence against foreign troops, the Taliban initiated at least 7,000 attacks on Afghan targets over the past six months, according to Afghan government figures.

The violence has grown since Sept. 12, when Taliban and Afghan government representatives began long-delayed peace talks in Qatar. Both sides have accused each other of ramping up attacks in a bid to gain leverage.

"Virtually all the fighting with the Taliban today is being conducted by Afghan security forces, not America — and that is

appropriate," said Daniel Davis, a senior fellow at Defense Priorities, a Washington-based think tank that promotes military restraint.

It remains in the U.S.'s interest to fully withdraw from Afghanistan, Davis said, and an extended period free of American combat fatalities doesn't change that.

"This period is nothing to celebrate, because the objective of the war isn't to keep our deployed troops from being killed," Davis said.

The U.S. remains on course to reduce its troop strength in Afghanistan to between 4,000 and 5,000 by the end of November, with the Defense Department saying that will be sufficient to carry out its counterterrorism and training missions.

Under the U.S.-Taliban deal, all remaining troops could be withdrawn by mid-2021 if the Taliban severs ties with groups like al-Qaida and meets other conditions.

However, some analysts and lawmakers have decried a lack of clear mechanisms to measure Taliban compliance.

Taliban promises and a low U.S. death toll resulting from Afghan forces leading the fight are not enough to justify a precipitous withdrawal, said Seth Jones, a senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"Taliban leaders remain committed to an extreme religious ideology, and authoritarian political system and the continuation of relations with groups like al-Qaida," Jones said.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Javier Jaguar Gutierrez and Army Sgt. 1st Class Antonio Rey Rodriguez were the last Americans to die in combat in Afghanistan when they came under enemy fire in eastern Nangarhar province in February.

Since then, four soldiers — Spc. Brandon Tyne Kimball, 1st Lt. Trevarius Ravon Bowman, Spc. Vincent Sebastian Barria and 1st Lt. Joseph Trent Allbaugh — have died in noncombat incidents in the country.

More than 2,300 U.S. troops have been killed in Afghanistan since the war began, according to Pentagon figures.

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## NATION

# Trump readies debate hit; Biden allies worry

The Washington Post

President Donald Trump is gearing up to launch blistering personal attacks on Joe Biden and his family in the first presidential debate on Tuesday, while Biden is bracing for an onslaught and worried allies are warning the Democratic nominee not to lose his temper and lash out, according to people with knowledge of the strategies in both camps.

Trump has told associates he wants to talk specifically about his opponent's son Hunter Biden and mused that the debates are when "people will finally realize Biden is just not there," according to one adviser. The president is so eager to lay into his rival that he has called aides to test out various attacks, focusing on attacks that cast Biden as a longtime Washington insider with a limited record of accomplishment, said another adviser, who like many interviewed for this story spoke on the condition of anonymity to candidly describe private talks.

Biden and his advisers are anticipating a venomous barrage, according to a person with knowledge of their thinking, and they are preparing to counter with an affirmative case for a Biden presidency. The Democrat wants to stay focused on how he would address the coronavirus pandemic and the country's economic problems, which he blames Trump for worsening.

The prospect of a cage match between a president for whom no subject is off-limits and a challenger who can be openly emotional is making some Biden advisers nervous. They see a fine line between Biden's passion and empathy, which can appeal to voters, and the raw anger that sometimes gets him in trouble and could undercut his pitch as a



CAROLYN KASTER/AP

**Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden is preparing for an onslaught from Trump at the presidential debate.**

calming alternative to a president who thrives on chaos.

"When you go at his family, he becomes hotter than hell, which is part of the thing I worry about," said John Morgan, a Florida trial lawyer and major Biden donor. "I think what Biden has to be careful about is not letting his Irish temper blow when that happens."

Biden's emotion, especially when it comes to his family, has often been a strong suit. But he has also shown a tendency to lose his composure when his record, and especially his decency, are questioned — such as when he declared in an interview with "The Breakfast Club" that African Americans considering voting for Trump "ain't black," or when he snapped, "Why, why, why, why, why?" at a reporter who asked during the primary why he had attacked a rival.

Trump's deficit in the polls arguably means there is more pressure on him than Biden to score a big win, and his supporters are voicing their own worries. The president's repeated mocking of Biden as incoherent could make it easy for the challenger to exceed expectations, Trump's allies say, and they concede the president is always capable of sabotaging his own message.

Trump has shown little interest in studious preparation, but he is expected to meet with advisers this weekend to talk about the debate. "The president's view is: He's been president for four years, he's been in training every day," one ally said. "He thinks he doesn't need any prep."

Still, there are reasons for Democrats' apprehension about their 77-year-old nominee, who last ran for office in 2012. In re-



STEVE HELBER/AP

**President Donald Trump says he plans on launching attacks against Biden and his family during Tuesday's debate.**

cent months, Biden has largely been cloistered away from hostile settings, and some supporters fret that he might be rusty when he confronts what could be some of the most vicious criticism he's ever faced in person.

"It's like training for a knife fight and somebody is getting an Uzi," lamented one Democratic congressional aide.

Biden's friends and advisers are urging him not to get dragged into ugly exchanges. "There is an old saying in debate circles: When you get down in the mud and wrestle with a pig, the pig has fun and you get covered in mud," said Sen. Christopher Coons, D-Del., a close Biden confidant. "And the word that is typically used is not 'mud.'"

Biden himself has expressed a similar concern. "I hope I don't get baited into getting into a brawl

with this guy," he said at a virtual fundraiser this month. He added, "It's going to be hard, because I predict he's going to be shouting" and interrupting.

Biden will try to speak directly to the voters, the person with knowledge of his team's thinking said, and will correct Trump when merited. But Biden's advisers believe strongly that he should not get bogged down in fact-checking the president, leaving that mostly to moderator Chris Wallace.

Biden and his aides are expected to hunker down in preparation for the debate in coming days, according to a person with knowledge of the plans.

Former White House counsel Bob Bauer is standing in for Trump, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. Bauer did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

## President shifts focus to Pennsylvania to shore up reelection

Associated Press

HARRISBURG, Pa. — President Donald Trump's campaign has grown increasingly focused on making inroads in Pennsylvania to offset potential vulnerabilities in other battlegrounds.

The president was traveling to the state for the second time in a week Saturday, hoping to attract the same rural and white working-class voters who delivered him a narrow victory here in 2016. The in-person touch, in what may be the most important battleground on the map, complements an aggressive get-out-the-vote operation that has been working for four years to find new voters by knocking on doors in competitive neighborhoods.

Trump narrowly flipped three Great Lakes states — Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin — from blue to red in 2016. He has virtually no path to reelection without keeping at least one

**‘With Pennsylvania, I don't have to make a play, we've got Pennsylvania.’**

**President Donald Trump**  
at Pittsburgh rally

of those states in his column. His campaign has long viewed Wisconsin as his best option, but aides who requested anonymity to discuss strategy said their thinking has begun to shift.

There are growing concerns inside the campaign, the aides said, about Trump's ability to retain Wisconsin. Even winning that upper Midwest battleground wouldn't provide the needed votes if Trump's Democratic challenger, Joe Biden, claims Arizona.

But Pennsylvania would be enough.

"With Pennsylvania, I don't have to make a play, we've got Pennsylvania," boasted Trump at

a rally Tuesday night just outside Pittsburgh.

That may be harder than Trump suggests.

Despite fervent Republican efforts, no GOP nominee since George H.W. Bush in 1988 had captured the state until Trump did four years ago, winning by just 44,000 votes out of nearly 5.9 million cast. And as someone born in Scranton, Joe Biden is also heavily focused on the state.

Recent Pennsylvania polls disagree over the state of the race: Some show Trump and Biden in a competitive race, while others have Biden slightly ahead of Trump.

And just as "Florida, Florida, Florida" became the moniker in 2000 for the electoral delays and controversies in the state that decided the election that year, Pennsylvania, which may be 2020's tipping point state, may have its own drama looming.

With 3 million or more voters expected to cast ballots by mail, lawmakers, party officials and election officials are warning that the conditions are ripe for a presidential election result to be left hanging in limbo on a drawn-out vote. A partisan stalemate and lawsuits have held up fixes to glitches in the state's fledgling mail-in voting law, and Democrats are warning that as many as 100,000 or more mail-in ballots — dubbed "naked ballots" — could be invalidated if they aren't put in the proper envelope by people unaccustomed to voting by mail.

Pennsylvania also is where a federal prosecutor's announcement that nine mailed-in mili-

tary ballots had been found in the trash at a local election office was seized upon by Trump and his supporters. But there was little explanation of what had happened or whether investigators believed a criminal act had occurred in a county controlled by Republicans.

Pennsylvania is anchored by large cities — Philadelphia to the east, Pittsburgh to the west — on opposite ends, each with sprawling suburbs. But the rest of the state is largely rural, comprised of small cities and towns where Trump ran up the score four years ago.

He will likely need to again, as his prospects have slipped since 2016 in vote-rich suburban Philadelphia, where he underperformed by past Republican measures. This raises the stakes for his campaign's more aggressive outreach to new rural and small-town voters across the industrial north.

## NATION

## TikTok judge schedules Sunday hearing on US ban

Bloomberg.

A federal judge scheduled a rare Sunday morning hearing to decide whether the U.S. can go through with its ban on the popular video-sharing app TikTok.

ByteDance Ltd., TikTok's Chinese owner, has asked the court to block the ban, set to begin on Sunday night, even as it pursues approvals from the government for the sale of a stake in its U.S. operations to Oracle Corp. and Walmart Inc. under pressure from President Donald Trump. It argued in court filings Friday that the ban would trample constitutional free-speech protections.

Trump cited national security risks in August, when he announced a ban on the widely-used network from U.S. app stores. The president, who's also barred WeChat, owned by China's Tencent Holdings Ltd., has told ByteDance its only alternative is to sell its American TikTok business. The U.S. Justice Department argues the apps potentially give China's government access to millions of Americans' personal data.

The government emphasized those concerns in a filing on Friday, urging U.S. District Judge Carl Nichols not to grant the tem-



NG HAN GUAN/AP

**Women pass the headquarters of ByteDance, owners of TikTok, in Beijing, China. In the U.S., a federal hearing was scheduled to be held Sunday to decide whether it can still ban the video-sharing app.**

porary block. U.S. lawyers cited FBI Director Christopher Wray's assessment that China poses the "greatest long-term threat to our

nation's information and intellectual property" as a reason for the ban.

"One of the tools that the PRC

uses to further its goals is bulk data collection," the U.S. government said, referring to the People's Republic of China.

ByteDance, founded in 2012 by Zhang Yiming, has close ties to the Chinese Communist Party and must abide by laws that require it to cooperate with China's government, the U.S. said.

"In April 2018, the CCP forced ByteDance to shut down one of its other platforms, and Mr. Yiming issued a public apology in which he pledged to cooperate with and elevate official CCP media," the U.S. said. "Following this public atonement, ByteDance underwent organizational restructuring with CCP infrastructure now built into it."

The ban, announced in an Aug. 6 executive order, is part of a wider effort by the administration to take a hard line against Beijing, which Trump bets will help him win re-election.

Starting at 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 27, it would remove TikTok from the app stores run by Apple and Google's Android, the most widely used marketplaces for downloadable apps. People who don't yet have the app wouldn't be able to get it, and those who already

have it wouldn't have access to updates needed to ensure its safe and smooth operation. TikTok is used regularly by 19 million Americans.

In Friday's filing, TikTok's lawyers argued that Trump is exceeding his authority with the proposed ban and acting in an "unreasonable and capricious manner" by seeking to cut off all transactions on the service.

The law being invoked "states the President's authority does not extend to the direct or indirect regulation or prohibition of 'personal communication' and the international flow of 'information or informational materials,' such as film, photographs, and artwork, regardless of the format or medium of transmission," the Chinese company's lawyers argued.

Such a ban also would trample free-speech rights of U.S. users of the Chinese company's platform, TikTok's lawyers added. Millions of Americans "engage in core protected speech on TikTok in pursuit of a wide variety of political, social, and cultural ends," according to the brief. "The Prohibitions unlawfully restrict this speech in violation of the First Amendment."

## Ore. governor sends state troopers, deputies to help at Portland rally

By SARA CLINE

Associated Press/Report for America

SALEM, Ore. — Oregon Gov. Kate Brown declared a state of emergency Friday as she announced that state troopers and sheriff's deputies would be sent to Portland through the weekend to help police, in the state's largest city, monitor a weekend rally by the right-wing group Proud Boys and counter protests by liberal groups.

Portland has been roiled by often violent protests for more than three months following the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Demonstrations that went into a lull during Oregon's recent wildfires resumed this week, fueled by a Kentucky grand jury's decision to not indict officers in the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor.

Brown told reporters she is exercising her gubernatorial authority to place Multnomah County Sheriff Mike Reese and Oregon State Police Superintendent Travis Hampton in charge of Portland's public safety on Saturday and Sunday. Brown said that Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler supports the plan.

"This is our entire community coming together to protect our community," Brown said. "We want the highest level of coordination and the strongest leadership possible."

After the state of emergency declaration, Oregon State Police



MARK GRAVES, THE OREGONIAN/AP

**Protesters demanding the end of police violence against Black people are sprayed by police during a demonstration in Portland, Ore., last week.**

and the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office will have the authority to set curfews and close roads.

In addition, Hampton said officers sent to Portland could use tear gas and less-lethal ammunition to disperse crowds if the protest and counter protests become violent or if people's lives are in danger.

"Certainly with the use of any tool or option, we are always going to be proportional in our response," Hampton said. "We want to do everything we can to intercede early, so we don't have to get to a higher level of force if it's required to keep the peace."

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler has banned local police from using tear gas.

Hampton said that the change in command "is in no way an in-

dictment of our colleagues at the Portland Police Bureau for the job that they have done or would have done this weekend."

"The Portland Police Bureau, their officers have endured some incredibly mentally and physically taxing situations for over 100 days, while they have done the best they can to keep Portland streets safe," Hampton said.

Ahead of the planned Proud Boys rally set for Saturday, Brown said she "is incredibly concerned about the increased risk of violence in Portland this weekend and the safety of all Oregonians."

Organizers have said that the Proud Boys rally will support President Donald Trump and the police and condemn anti-fascists that the group accuses of "domestic terrorism."

## 1963 church bombing victim seeks apology, restitution

By KIM CHANDLER

Associated Press

More than a dozen sticks of dynamite planted by Ku Klux Klansmen exploded at a Birmingham church in 1963, killing four Black girls.

The "fifth little girl," Sarah Collins Rudolph, survived but still has shards of glass in her body from the blast that took her sister, her right eye and her dreams of becoming a nurse. Rudolph, 69, is now seeking an apology from the state and compensation for what she says has been a lifetime of trauma.

A law firm working for free on Rudolph's behalf sent a letter to Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey arguing that the words of state leaders, including Gov. George Wallace, at the time encouraged the racial violence that led to one of the most infamous acts of the civil rights era. Attorney Ishan K. Bhabha said Rudolph's story "cries out for justice."

"Her life was put on a fundamentally different track in an instant as a little girl," said Bhabha.

The state has yet to respond to Rudolph.

The five girls were gathered in a downstairs washroom at Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church on the morning of Sept. 15, 1963, when a timed bomb planted by KKK members went off outside under a set of stairs. The blast killed Denise McNair, 11, and three 14-year-olds: Carole Robertson, Cynthia Wesley, and Addie Mae Collins, who was Rudolph's sister.

The bombing followed months of racial unrest in the state. Birmingham's public schools were going through racial desegregation at the time, and Wallace had vowed "segregation forever" at his first inauguration earlier that year, urging whites to "send a message to Washington."

Rudolph's attorneys contend the bombing amounted to state-incited violence, arguing it was inspired and motivated by Wallace's racist rhetoric.

"While the State of Alabama did not place the bomb next to the church, its Governor and other leaders at the time played an undisputed role in encouraging its citizens to engage in racial violence, including the violence that stole the lives of four little girls, and irreparably injured a fifth, the morning of September 15, 1963," her attorneys wrote in the letter to Ivey on the eve of the 57th anniversary of the bombing.

Gina Maiola, a spokeswoman for Ivey, said that Rudolph's request is being reviewed. It came about after a then-partner in the law firm of Jenner & Block saw Rudolph speak in South Carolina. Touched by her story, he asked the firm to help her without charge.

Despite her injuries, Rudolph provided testimony that helped lead to the convictions of the men accused of planting the bomb. A series of trials that began in 1977 resulted in three Ku Klux Klansmen being convicted of murder in the bombing; all died in prison; a suspected accomplice died without ever being charged.



## NATION

# Taylor's family calls for release of case evidence

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Breonna Taylor's family demanded Friday that Kentucky authorities release all body camera footage, police files and the transcripts of the grand jury proceedings that led to no charges being brought against police officers who killed the Black woman during a raid at her apartment.

The decision disappointed and angered those who have been calling for justice for Taylor for six months, and protesters vowed to stay in the streets until all the officers involved are fired or someone is charged with her killing.

A diverse group, including Taylor's mother, marched through Louisville on Friday evening. The protests were peaceful, though at one point, police in riot gear fired flash bang devices to turn back a crowd on a street. Two were arrested, authorities said.

About a dozen people who were out past the city's 9 p.m. curfew were arrested later.

Earlier, Taylor's lawyers and family expressed dismay that no one has been held accountable for her death.

"I am an angry Black woman. I am not angry for the reasons that you would like me to be. But angry because our Black women keep dying at the hands of police officers — and Black men," Taylor's mother, Tamika Palmer, wrote in a statement read by a relative. She stood close by wearing a shirt that said, "I (heart) Louisville Police" with bullet holes in the heart emoji.

Palmer's statement said the criminal justice system had failed her, and state Attorney General Daniel Cameron was the final person in the chain, following the officer who sought a no-knock warrant as part of a drug investigation, the judge who signed it and police who burst into Taylor's apartment. The warrant was connected to a suspect who did not live there, and no drugs were found inside.

Taylor was shot multiple times by white officers after her boyfriend fired at them, authorities said. He said he didn't know who was coming in and fired in self-defense, wounding one officer. Cameron, Kentucky's first Black attorney general, said the officers were not charged with Taylor's



DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Tamika Palmer, the mother of Breonna Taylor, right, listens to a news conference Friday, in Louisville, Ky.

killing because they acted to protect themselves.

The grand jury indicted one officer on endangerment charges, saying he fired gunshots into a neighboring home that didn't strike anyone. He has been fired.

"I hope you never know the pain of your child being murdered 191 days in a row," said Bianca Austin, wearing her niece's emergency medical technician jacket as she read Palmer's statement.

Family attorney Sam Aguiar said all the videos should be released because Cameron's investigation is over, noting that he's seen dozens of them, most of which are not public.

Cameron "got so much wrong. We've seen so much piecemeal stuff come out throughout the case," he said without giving specifics.

Gov. Andy Beshear, a Democrat, also has called on the Republican attorney general to release what evidence he can.

Cameron said through a spokeswoman that he understood the family's pain.

"Everyone is entitled to their opinion, but prosecutors and Grand Jury members are bound by the facts and by the law," spokeswoman Elizabeth Kuhn said in a statement.

As Taylor's family decreed how

the case was handled, a man accused of shooting and wounding two officers during protests Wednesday appeared in court. They're expected to recover.

A not-guilty plea was entered for Larynzo D. Johnson, 26, and bond was set at \$1 million. Attorney Zac Meihaus called the streets "a war zone" when the shooting happened and said it's difficult to "pinpoint" if Johnson fired the shots in question. A prosecutor replied that a gun was recovered from Johnson, and there are video and witness accounts of the shooting.

## Calif. braces for shutoffs and hot, windy weekend

By DAISY NGUYEN  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Firefighters in northern and central California were bracing Saturday for hot, dry and windy weather that may fan the flames of several major wildfires or ignite new ones.

Efforts to corral more than two dozen wildfires across the state have benefited recently from low winds and with moist air flowing inland from the Pacific. But forecasters said that weather pattern will reverse during the weekend as a ridge of high pressure boosts temperatures and generates gusts flowing from the interior to the coast.

In northern and central areas of the state, the strongest winds are forecast to occur from Saturday night into Sunday morning, followed by another burst Sunday night into Monday.

The Pacific Gas & Electric utility was tracking the forecasts to determine if it would be necessary to shut off power to areas where gusts could damage the company's equipment or hurl debris into lines that can ignite flammable vegetation.

The shutoffs could potentially affect 97,000 customers in 16 counties starting Saturday evening through Monday.

PG&E equipment has sparked large wildfires, including the deadly 2018 fire that destroyed much of the Sierra foothills town of Paradise and killed 85 people.



Kent Porter, The (Santa Rosa, Calif.) Press Democrat/AP  
Cal Fire's Bogg's helicopter crew from Cobb Mountain, Calif., assist in putting out a 12 acre brush fire in Larkfield, Calif., on Thursday.

Numerous studies in recent years have linked bigger U.S. wildfires to global warming from the burning of coal, oil and gas, especially because climate change has made California much drier. A drier California means plants are more flammable.

The U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region announced Friday that it is extending the closure of all nine national forests in California because of concerns including fire conditions and critical limitations on firefighting resources.

## Attorney general: NYPD should quit traffic stops

By MICHAEL R. SISAK  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York's attorney general on Friday recommended the New York Police Department get out of the business of routine traffic enforcement, a radical change she said would prevent encounters like one last year in the Bronx that escalated quickly and ended with an officer fatally shooting a motorist.

Attorney General Letitia James, who acts as a special prosecutor appointed to investigate certain police killings, argued that traffic stops for minor infractions often end in violence and that Allan Feliz's death last October after he was pulled over for a seat belt violation "further underscores the need for this change."

James' office concluded that the NYPD's use of deadly force was justified but that the sequence of events leading to Feliz's death would never have happened if police hadn't stopped him in the first place. Police further heightened tensions by attempting to arrest Feliz on outstanding warrants for low-level offenses such

as spitting, littering and disorderly conduct, James' office said.

The NYPD declined to comment.

Feliz initially complied when an officer asked him to get out of his car, but then jumped back in and tried to flee, James' office said in a report on his death that included the recommendation about police yielding traffic stop duties.

Sgt. Jonathan Rivera then fired a stun gun at Feliz and climbed into the car, warning, "Yo, boss, I am going to (expletive) shoot you," as Feliz shifted the vehicle into gear and began moving. Rivera shot Feliz once in the chest, killing him.

James' office concluded Rivera was justified in shooting Feliz in part because he feared the vehicle's movement was endangering another officer standing nearby, the report said.

"The officer's alleged justification is a fairy tale," said Robert Vilensky, a lawyer for the Feliz family, which is suing the NYPD. "The car which they say was moving was at best moving 2 mph. That wouldn't knock over a fly."

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

## Cases rise in mask-resistant US heartland

Associated Press

MISSION, Kan. — It began with devastation in the New York City area, followed by a summertime crisis in the Sun Belt. Now the coronavirus outbreak is heating up fast in smaller cities in the heartland, often in conservative corners of America where anti-mask sentiment runs high.

Elsewhere around the country, Florida's Republican governor lifted all restrictions on restaurants and other businesses Friday and all but set aside local mask ordinances in the political battleground state, in a move attacked by Democrats as hasty.

Meanwhile, confirmed cases of the virus in the U.S. hit another milestone — 7 million — according to the count kept by Johns Hopkins University, though the real number of infections is believed to be much higher.

The spike across the Midwest as well as parts of the West has set off alarms at hospitals, schools and colleges.

Wisconsin is averaging more than 2,000 new cases a day over the last week, compared with 675 three weeks earlier. Hospitalizations in the state are at their highest level since the outbreak took hold in the U.S. in March.

Utah has seen its average daily case count more than double from three weeks earlier. Oklahoma and Missouri are regularly recording 1,000 new cases a day, and Missouri Gov. Mike Parson, a staunch opponent of mask rules, tested positive this week. Kansas and Iowa are also witnessing a spike in cases. And South Dakota and Idaho are seeing sky-high rates of tests coming back positive.

"What we're seeing is the newer hot spots rise over the course of the last sev-



OLIVIA SUN, THE DES MOINES REGISTER/AP

**Des Moines Public School students and supporters march from Roosevelt High School to the Governor's Mansion at Terrace Hill on Sept. 7 to protest the cancellation of fall and winter extracurriculars in Des Moines, Iowa.**

eral weeks, predominantly in the Upper Midwest," said Thomas Tsai, a professor at Harvard's Chan School of Public Health.

Harvard's tracking dashboard global epidemics.org has shown an increasing number of states turning red, indicating over 25 new cases per 100,000 population. With experts expecting a surge in coronavirus cases and the flu as cold weather sets in and people move indoors, Tsai warned: "It's important to not take our foot off the brakes."

The U.S. is averaging more than 40,000

new confirmed cases a day. While that number is dramatically lower than the peak of nearly 70,000 over the summer, the numbers are worrisome nonetheless. The nation's death toll eclipsed 200,000 this week, the highest in the world.

In the Midwest, the virus is now landing squarely in places where there is strong resistance to masks and governors have been reluctant to require face coverings.

Mike Cooper, a 59-year-old and sign shop owner from the Branson, Mo., area, is among those who have grown weary of

virus restrictions that he sees as out-of-control government overreach. He says the financial toll of the pandemic response creates its own set of health problems, such as alcoholism, suicide and depression.

"Financial ruin kills people too," he said.

"To me, flatten the curve means extend the plague. Flatten the curve means you are just going to kill the same number of people over a longer period of time, so they are going to extend the plague," Cooper said.

In Joplin, Mo., a mask ordinance was allowed to expire in mid-August as virus fatigue grew. Since then, the number of positive cases there and in surrounding Jasper County — a deeply conservative county that Trump won by more than 50 percentage points over Hillary Clinton in 2016 — has risen about 80%.

"I am getting sick and tired of telling people to wear their masks, and I know they are sick and tired of me saying it," said Tony Moehr, chief of the Jasper County Health Department. "And it just seems like people have heard it so many times, I'm not sure if they really even hear it anymore when we say it."

At the home of the University of Oklahoma, the Norman City Council voted 5-3 this week to require that masks be worn indoors at house parties if more than 25 people are present. The ordinance passed over objections from members of the public.

"You can make any law that you want to. You come into my house telling me that I got to wear this stupid thing and you're going to have a firefight on your hands," said Josh Danforth, holding a mask, who identified himself as an Iraq war veteran.

## Australian state's health minister resigns amid quarantine probe

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — The health minister in Australia's Victoria state resigned in the fall-out from an inquiry into why security guards were used instead of police or the military at quarantine hotels. Lapses in security at the hotels were given as the major reason for a second wave of COVID-19 cases.

Victoria reported just one more coronavirus death as Melbourne's new case average continued to fall. The death took the state toll to 782 and the national figure to 870. There were 12 new cases, while Melbourne's 14-day average fell again on Saturday to 23.6.

Melburnians, who have been in lockdown for more than a month, are waiting for the easing of restrictions on Monday. It's expected to include a staged return to school for some students and outdoor gatherings of five people from two households.

Health Minister Jenny Mikakos on Saturday issued a statement confirming her resignation, just a day after Victoria Premier Daniel Andrews gave evidence to the inquiry and pointed partial blame at Mikakos for her role in the bungled quarantine program. "I am disappointed that my



AARON FAVILA/AP

**Men wearing protective masks push their bicycles at an overpass in Quezon city, Philippines. Confirmed virus cases in the Philippines soared past 300,000 on Saturday.**

integrity has sought to be undermined," she wrote in a one-page statement. "I have never shirked my responsibility." She said she also plans to resign from Victoria Parliament.

Mikakos appears to be taking the blame when no one else would. After six weeks of hearings into the hotel inquiry, it was still not known who made the decision to use security guards instead of police or soldiers, which were used in other Australian states.

In another development around the Asia-Pacific region:

■ Confirmed coronavirus infections in the Philippines soared past 300,000 Saturday in the latest bleak milestone in a country that has gradually reopened its battered economy despite having the most cases in Southeast Asia. The Department of Health reported 2,747 new and recent infections, bringing the total number of cases to 301,256, with 5,284 deaths. Officials have tried to ease alarm by highlighting the massive number of COVID-19 recoveries, but critics say the outbreaks remain uncontrolled.

## 2 charged over handling of outbreak at veterans home

Associated Press

BOSTON — Two former administrators of a Massachusetts veterans home where nearly 80 people sickened by the coronavirus died have been charged over their handling of the outbreak, the state attorney general said Friday.

It's believed to be the first criminal case in the country brought against nursing home officials for actions during the pandemic, Attorney General Healey said.

Former Holyoke Soldiers' Home Superintendent Benner Walsh and former Medical Director Dr. David Clinton were indicted by a grand jury on charges stemming from their decision in March to combine two dementia units, packing residents who were positive for the coronavirus into the same space as those with no symptoms, Healey said.

The veterans "risked their lives from the beaches of Normandy, to some the jungles of Vietnam, and to know that they died under the most horrific circumstances is truly shocking," Healey told reporters.

They could each face prison time if convicted of causing or permitting serious bodily injury or neglect of an elder, Healey

said.

Relatives of veterans who died at the home said they hope "justice will prevail."

"We now want our state to move forward and do the right thing to ensure this never happens again to any other veteran," the family members said in an statement emailed by the Holyoke Soldiers' Home Coalition, a group advocating for improvements.

The charges come three months after a scathing independent report said "utterly baffling" decisions made by Walsh and other administrators allowed the virus to spread unchecked. The "worst decision" was to combine the two locked dementia units, both of which already housed some residents with the virus, said investigators led by former federal prosecutor Mark Pearlstein.

More than 40 veterans were packed into a single unit that usually had 25 beds, and space was so limited that nine veterans — some with symptoms and some without — were sleeping in the dining room, Healey said.

Walsh has defended his response, saying state officials initially refused in March to send National Guard aid even as the home was dealing with dire staffing shortages.



# VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

## Officials report Oregon's largest daily case count

Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. — The Oregon Health Authority reported 457 new confirmed COVID-19 cases on Friday, the state's largest daily total since the start of the pandemic.

Officials attributed the rise in cases to Labor Day gatherings, the return of college students to campus and the interruption of testing during recent wildfires in Oregon.

"Today we find ourselves at another crossroads," Oregon Health Authority Director Patrick Allen said. "After weeks of steady decline in COVID-19, cases have begun rising."

Currently more than 32,300 people have tested positive for COVID-19 in Oregon. The death toll is 542.

For six weeks, Oregon's COVID-19 cases and rate of transmission were heading down.

However, Allen said that the most recent data provided by the Oregon Health Authority shows that the percentage of positive tests has increased from 5.6% to 6.2% and hospitalizations increased by 28%, revealing "how fragile our progress against the virus is."

### Utah

SALT LAKE CITY — An outbreak at a Utah homeless shelter has resulted in 72 confirmed cases of the coronavirus, officials reported.

The rapid increase in cases at the Galt Miller Resource Center in Salt Lake City coincides with a rise in cases in the state as a whole. Utah reported 1,404 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus on Thursday, up from 306 new confirmed cases on Sept. 8.

There are currently 93 confirmed cases in Salt Lake City-area homeless shelters, officials said.

Homeless people are thought to be more vulnerable to contracting the coronavirus than the general population because those who live in encampments typically have limited access to hygiene services and find themselves in cramped rooms packed with dozens of others, the Salt Lake Tribune reported.

The number of infections is thought to be far higher overall because many people have not been tested, and studies suggest positive tests can be detected with the virus without feeling sick.

### Arizona

PHOENIX — New coronavirus cases in Arizona are remaining fairly stable as the state continues to see no big rise in cases after the Labor Day holiday.

The state Health Services Department reported 518 new virus cases Friday, bringing the total since the pandemic began hitting the state in March to 216,367. The state also reported 28 new deaths, which the total to 5,587.

The 7-day rolling average of daily new cases in Arizona has risen over the past two weeks from 436 new cases per day on Sept. 10 to 599 new cases per day on Sept. 24, according to data from The COVID Tracking Project. But the past week has seen no continuation of that increase.

Hospital use is way down from the mid-July peak that saw more than 3,500 people being treated. The state reported just 521 people hospitalized for the virus as of Thursday, with just 119 in intensive care and only 65 needing ventilators to help them breathe.

### Texas

AUSTIN — Texas health officials reported 3,306 new cases Friday of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, along with 97 new deaths from the illness.

The newly reported cases raised the total number of cases since tracking of the virus started in March to 728,552, with an estimated 67,045 cases now active and 3,221 of those requiring hospitalization, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported.

Meanwhile, the Texas death toll for the outbreak rose to 15,364.

### Iowa

DES MOINES — Iowa reported a jump of 1,086 new coronavirus cases on Friday, the second consecutive day of new cases exceeding 1,000.

Four more people died, pushing the state's death toll from the virus to 1,303.

Gov. Kim Reynolds signed on Friday a new emergency proclamation that continues bar closures in Johnson and Story counties, where the University of Iowa and Iowa State University are located at least for another week.

Data from state health and education departments indicate the virus is circulating in schools and nursing homes.

East Sac County Superintendent Jeff Kruse said in a note posted on the district's website that more than 80 students are in quarantine and 15 more students and staff are awaiting test results.

"The impact of not having sufficient numbers of staff to cover all vacancies is impacting learning and the social emotional needs for students and staff," he said. The district will begin expecting students to use masks on Monday.

Other districts also have reported hundreds of students in quarantine after positive test results were found among students or staff.

State health data shows 6,917 children under age 17 in Iowa have tested positive for the virus, an increase of more than 800 in a week. It also shows 3,372 educators testing positive. The state also reports 50 nursing homes in Iowa have an out-



GEOFF CRIMMINS, THE MOSCOW-PULLMAN (IDAHO) DAILY NEWS/AP

**Members of Christ Church sing a hymn over the noise from counter-protesters playing drums during "psalm sing" on Friday outside city hall in Moscow, Idaho. Church members were protesting against a city public-health order that requires people to either socially distance or wear a face mask in public.**

break of the virus with more than 1,000 residents testing positive currently.

The 69 people admitted to a hospital in the past 24 hours is the second highest number since virus spread began in Iowa in March and the 330 people in the hospital with COVID-19 is the highest since the end of May.

### Kentucky

FRANKFORT — Gov. Andy Beshear reported 930 new cases of coronavirus in Kentucky on Friday and 12 additional deaths.

"We cannot continue to have days where we have 900-plus cases," Beshear said. "Please put on your mask. Please engage in social distancing. The lives and the health of the Kentuckians around us depend on it."

The new cases brought the state's total to 65,066. The deaths increased the total to 1,149.

The positivity rate fell again to 4.48% with more than 1.3 million coronavirus tests performed in Kentucky. The positivity rate is a rolling figure that reflects the average number of tests coming back positive for COVID-19.

### South Carolina

COLUMBIA — For the second time this week, South Carolina health officials said a lab failed to report thousands of COVID-19 tests over several months.

Urgent care clinic chain Doctors Care reported the results of more than 7,000 COVID-19 tests from July through this week. About 400 of them were positive, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control said in a news release Friday.

The delay in testing both prevents the agency from tracing any contacts that a person testing positive had and prevents DHEC from getting an accurate picture of the spread of a virus on a particular day, the agency said.

The health agency reminded labs that they are required to report both positive and negative COVID-19 tests to the state with-

in 24 hours or face punishment if they repeatedly delay results.

On Tuesday, state officials announced that the Augusta University Healthcare system in Georgia failed to report the results of 15,000 coronavirus tests — 2,000 of them positive — that were conducted on South Carolina residents from May to September.

More than 140,000 people have now been infected with COVID-19 in South Carolina and the state has reported more than 3,100 deaths since the pandemic began in March.

South Carolina continues to rank in the top 10 in the nation in new COVID-19 cases adjusted by population and a monthlong decline in new cases stopped in late August.

### Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE — Providence College said Friday that a remote-only learning plan put in place because of a coronavirus outbreak that has affected more than 200 students has been extended an additional week, until Oct. 3.

Although the number of cases among students has been on the rise, the private Roman Catholic school has been aggressively testing students and staff and said its positivity rate has been on the decline since the outbreak was reported Sept. 16.

Most of the students who have tested positive live off campus. A statewide surge in cases that led New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to add Rhode Island to a travel quarantine list was blamed this week by Gov. Gina Raimondo on the Providence College outbreak.

"We apologize sincerely for our part in exacerbating COVID-19 positivity rates in the state, and for putting the health of residents at risk," the college said in a statement.

Off-campus students have been told not to leave their apartments, while on-campus students are not allowed off campus. The school has about 4,800 students.

Failure to comply "may result in permanent separation from the college," the statement said.

The Rhode Island Department of Health reported 119 more confirmed cases of the coronavirus and one more death on Friday, but also removed 249 cases from previous days' totals.

A spokesman for the department said some of the previously reported cases were in people who had tested positive more than once.

"As a part of regular data quality improvement work, a number of duplicative records were removed from Rhode Island's cumulative case count," Joseph Wendelken told The Providence Journal. "We did some deduplication work to remove people who tested positive more than once."

Because they were spread out evenly over several months, no trends have changed, he said.

There have now been almost 24,200 known cases and 1,107 deaths in the state. The day's positive rate was about 1.5%.

### Wisconsin

MADISON — Wisconsin's newly reported COVID-19 cases grew again Friday, just shy of the highest daily total since the pandemic broke out.

The State Department of Health Services reported 2,504 new cases, short of the record set exactly one week ago of 2,533 new cases. On Thursday, there were 2,392 new cases.

In total, Wisconsin has had nearly 111,000 people test positive and 1,274 deaths.

Over the past two weeks, the rolling average number of daily new cases in Wisconsin has increased by 936, an increase of 93%. There were 403 new cases per 100,000 people in Wisconsin over the past two weeks, which ranks fourth in the country for new cases per capita.

People hospitalized with the virus is at an all-time high, with 528 patients with 151 in intensive care as of Thursday, according to the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

## WORLD

# 7 in custody after stabbings in France

Associated Press

PARIS — Seven people were in custody Saturday after a stabbing outside the former Paris offices of satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, including the suspected assailant, authorities said.

Counterterrorism authorities are investigating what authorities called an Islamic extremist attack linked to Charlie Hebdo, which lost 12 employees in an al-Qaida attack in 2015. The weekly, which routinely mocks religious and other prominent figures, re-

cently republished caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad that outraged many Muslims.

The suspected assailant in Friday's stabbing had been arrested a month ago for carrying a screwdriver but was not on police radar for Islamic radicalization, Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said. He said the screwdriver was considered a weapon but did not explain why.

The suspect arrived in France three years ago as an unaccompanied minor, apparently from

Pakistan, but his identity was still being verified, the minister said.

Seven others were detained in the aftermath of Friday's attack, but one has been released, according to judicial officials. Five of those in custody were detained in the Paris suburb of Pantin in a residence where the suspect is believed to have lived, a police official said.

Two people were wounded in Friday's attack, a woman and a man working at a documentary production company who

had stepped outside for a smoke break.

The interior minister conceded that security was lacking on the street where Charlie Hebdo was once headquartered, and ordered special protection for all "symbolic sites," noting in particular Jewish sites around the Yom Kippur holiday this weekend. A Jewish grocery store was targeted days after the Charlie Hebdo newsroom massacre, in what authorities say were coordinated attacks.

## Canada charges man for false terrorist claims

TORONTO — Canada's national police force arrested and charged a Canadian man with falsely claiming to have committed terrorist acts.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police said Friday that the criminal charge against Shehroze Chaudhry, 25, stems from numerous media interviews in which he described traveling to Syria in 2010 to join the extremist Islamic State movement and committing acts of extremism.

Chaudhry is charged with a criminal code offense of perpetrating a hoax related to terrorist activity. He is to appear in court on Nov. 16.

The RCMP said the Burlington, Ontario, man's interviews were published in multiple media outlets.

## Alps surprised by early snowfall; new record

BERLIN — Parts of Austria and Switzerland were surprised by unseasonably early snowfall overnight, after a sharp drop in temperatures and heavy precipitation.

The Swiss meteorological agency said Saturday that the town of Montana, in the southern canton (state) of Valais, experienced almost 10 inches of snowfall — a new record for this time of year.

Authorities were out in force across mountainous regions in the two Alpine nations to clear roads blocked by snow and ice.

## Mass whale stranding in Australia still mystery

HOBBART, Australia — The reason for Australia's biggest mass whale stranding will probably remain a mystery but the social nature of the species involved may have played a part, a marine mammal specialist said Saturday.

Officials said 108 of some 470 long-finned pilot whales had been rescued from sandbars at Macquarie Harbour on the island state of Tasmania's west coast. There are no living whales remaining in the harbor, the Parks and Wildlife Service said.

The pod got into trouble earlier this week, with efforts now turning to the task of disposing 350 carcasses at sea.

## Rat wins hero award for sniffing out landmines

LONDON — A rat has for the first time won a British charity's top civilian award for animal bravery, receiving the honor for searching out unexploded landmines in Cambodia.

Magawa, a giant African pouched rat, was awarded the PDSA's Gold Medal for his "life-saving bravery and devotion" after discovering 39 landmines and 28 items of unexploded ordnance in the past seven years, according to the charity.

Magawa was trained by a Belgian organization that has taught rats to find landmines for more than 20 years.

From The Associated Press

# Ukrainian military airplane crashes

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Searchers combing the area where a Ukrainian military aircraft crashed found two more bodies Saturday, bringing the death toll to 26. One person survived.

The plane, a twin-turboprop Antonov-26 belonging to the Ukrainian air force, was carrying a crew of seven and 20 cadets of a military aviation school when it crashed and burst into flames Friday night while coming in for landing at the airport in Chuhuiv, about 250 miles east of the capital Kyiv.

Two people initially survived the crash, but one later died in a hospital. No cause for the crash has been determined.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy declared Saturday to be a day of mourning for the crash victims and ordered AN-26 flights be halted pending investigation into the cause of the crash.

Zelenskyy, who visited the crash



EMERGENCY SITUATION MINISTRY/AP

An AN-26 military plane bursts into flames after it crashed in the town of Chuhuiv close to Kharkiv, Ukraine, on Friday.

area Saturday, called for a full assessment of the condition of the country's military equipment. Prime Minister Denis Shmyhal called for an official report on the crash by Oct. 25.

"Yesterday we lost young cadets and experienced military men, who had their whole lives and, I am sure, more than one military feat ahead of them," Zelenskyy said in a statement released by his office. "The whole country will mourn today with their families."

Deputy Defense Minister Igor Starobinsky said the families of the dead would each be paid compensation of about \$56,000.

The AN-26 is a transport plane used by both military and civilian operators. Nearly 1,400 of the planes were manufactured from 1969 to 1986, according to the company's website. Defense Minister Andrei Taran said the plane that crashed was built in 1977.

An AN-26 chartered by a contractor for the World Food Program crashed on Aug. 22 while

taking off from Juba in South Sudan, killing seven people.

The crash was the second large air disaster to afflict Ukraine this year. In January, a Boeing 737 belonging to Ukraine International Airlines was shot down shortly after takeoff from the airport in Tehran, Iran, killing all 176 people aboard.

The plane was shot down by Iran's Revolutionary Guards amid high tensions after the United States killed a top general in a drone strike.

# Acting Lebanese PM steps down causing setbacks

By STEVE HENDRIX

The Washington Post

BEIRUT — Lebanon's prime minister-designate stepped down Saturday, a setback for efforts to form a new government in the crisis-torn country and possibly imperiling a conditional promise of financial assistance from France.

Mustapha Adib told reporters he was departing the job following a meeting with Lebanese President Michel Aoun. It remained unclear who would take over the complex challenge of negotiating with the country's many political factions to create a new cabinet.

Lebanon is reeling from an ongoing economic collapse that was made worse by a disastrous port explosion in August.

**"I present my honest apologies to the Lebanese people, who have suffered and are suffering."**

Mustapha Adib

Lebanon's former prime minister-designate

The blast, caused by improperly stored ammonium nitrate, killed almost 200 people and brought about the collapse of the previous government.

In the aftermath, French President Emmanuel Macron backed Adib, then Lebanon's ambassador to Germany, as interim prime minister and promised French aid if he could form a government of reform-minded ministers.

But efforts by the relatively

unknown Adib to broker an agreement over the distribution of ministerial portfolio stalled amid factional fighting. Among the sticking points, the country's leading Shiite Muslim groups, Amal and the armed militant group Hezbollah, insisted on controlling the Finance Ministry.

Adib, who had tried to persuade political leaders to rally around a slate of independent experts to tackle the country's economic

crisis, said he was unable to broker the impasse.

"I present my honest apologies to the Lebanese people, who have suffered and are suffering," Adib said.

Adib, a Sunni Muslim and former university teacher, implored the country's leaders to continue pursuing compromise to secure crucial French backing.

The failure to form a government only exacerbated a series of crises that have staggered the country. Lebanon's economic crisis has been building for years, sparking months of anti-government protests. The coronavirus pandemic is also worsening, putting further strain on a health system that lost multiple hospitals in the August blast.

## ENTERTAINMENT



Netflix

Sarah Paulson (Mildred Ratched) and Alice Englert (Nurse Dolly) star in Netflix's "Ratched." The series is a prequel to the "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" book and movie and explores how Nurse Ratched developed her villainous reputation.

# Questionable bedside manner

Actress says TV show an attempt to 'reverse engineer' Nurse Ratched story

By KATE FELDMAN  
New York Daily News

**S**arah Paulson started with a simple question: Who broke Nurse Ratched?

Screenwriter Ryan Murphy's longtime favorite actress was getting ready to take on fiction's most infamous nurse, but first had to figure out how she got there.

Paulson and Murphy are collaborating once again in Netflix's "Ratched," a prequel series about Mildred Ratched, the unbending villain of Ken Kesey's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," set in 1947 — more than 15 years before the book and subsequent movie.

"God knows, Louise Fletcher couldn't have been more brilliant in that movie," Paulson told the Daily News of the actress who won an Oscar and Golden Globe for her portrayal of Nurse Ratched. "It felt like the respectful and proper thing to do was to keep her performance as close to my heart and in my mind as often as possible, so I did, but it was also a great opportunity to reverse engineer this story."

The Netflix series, which premiered Sept. 18, starts with Ratched's hiring at Lucia State Hospital, where she insists she belongs, regardless of the opinions of Dr. Richard Hanover (Jon Jon Briones) or head nurse Betsy Buckert (Judy Davis).

Ratched's motivation becomes clearer as the cast is revealed: prisoner Edmund Tolleson (Finn Wittrock), accused of killing priests; Gwendolyn Briggs (Cynthia Nixon), the press secretary to the California governor; the mysterious relationship between a neighbor (Corey Stoll); and a billionaire down the coast (Sharon Stone). Everything Ratched does appears to be with singular purpose.

**'She's driven by a very, very strong motivation to rectify a years-old wrong, and so therefore she is going to do anything she needs to do to do right by the most important person in her life and, subsequently, she may kill a person. Maybe. I don't know. She may not. She might be a murderer; she might not be. It depends on your interpretation of murder.'**

**Sarah Paulson**  
Mildred Ratched in "Ratched"

"She's driven by a very, very strong motivation to rectify a years-old wrong, and so therefore she is going to do anything she needs to do to do right by the most important person in her life and, subsequently, she may kill a person," Paulson told The News.

"Maybe. I don't know. She may not. She might be a murderer; she might not be. It depends on your interpretation of murder."

"Ratched" feels reminiscent of "Asylum," Murphy's previous "American Horror Story" season about a psychiatric hospital in which Paulson played a gay journalist committed to Briarcliff against her will.

But where "Asylum" focused on the church's influence on the mental health industry, "Ratched" is purely about, well, Ratched.

"It's not to say I didn't see the correlation, but

I needed not to play it," Paulson told The News.

"At least, for me, 'Asylum' was solely about Lana's homosexuality being used against her or criminalized in a way. This story is different to me. The mental health concern we have, for me, anyway, is Ratched's state of mind and being inside of that."

"Ratched" was announced with a two-season order at Netflix, but Paulson said Murphy has talked about a four-season plan that gets them to the timeline of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." But first they have to film "American Crime Story: Impeachment," in which Paulson plays Linda Tripp alongside Clive Owen's Bill Clinton and Beanie Feldstein's Monica Lewinsky. Production was about a week away from starting when the coronavirus pandemic shut down Hollywood.

For now, the mysteries of "Ratched" revolve around the woman herself. Paulson doesn't have many answers.

"Is it possible that we have to come up against our own expectations of what we want from a woman in a position of power? We still want her to be soft, and we still want her to be cuddly, and we still want her to be gentle and we want her to be maternal," Paulson told The News. "The fact that she wasn't any of those things, we then, collectively as an audience, decided she was cruel when in fact she may have been a person who was adhering to a patriarchal structure within that hospital that she didn't want to contest. Bringing your humanity into it was considered unprofessional, so maybe she was doing the best she could with the tools she had and was maybe just not a natural activist in terms of rejecting what she had been taught."

"Or maybe she had been so traumatized as a child, as we suggest in our show, that what in the world could you expect?"



## MUSIC

Q&amp;A

SEEKING  
KINDRED  
SPIRITSKeith Urban finds musical  
connections across genresBy KRISTIN M. HALL  
Associated Press

**T**his year was poised to be a busy one for Keith Urban, with a full year of touring as well as a Las Vegas residency. He wasn't sure when he'd have time to finish his next album, "Speed of Now Part 1," when the coronavirus pandemic halted live performances in March.

"It ended up being the time I needed, not the way in which I wished I'd gotten the time," said the globe-trotting country star, who is nominated for three CMA Awards in November.

The downtime forced him back into the studio, where he connected with a kindred spirit in singer-songwriter Breland, whose urban-rural fusion "My Truck" was blowing up online. The pair co-wrote two songs for Urban's album, which was released Sept. 18, including "Out the Cage" featuring Breland's vocals and Nile Rodgers' rhythmic guitar.

"Breland was a man after my own heart musically, and I was just dying to get in the studio with him to see what happened," Urban said.

Urban talked to *The Associated Press* recently from Australia, where he was staying with his kids and wife-actor Nicole Kidman, about how he finds creative partners in the studio and learning how to talk about his feelings. Remarks had been edited for clarity and brevity.

**AP: You're so focused on the collaborative approach to music, and this album includes artists with lots of different styles like Breland, Pink and Eric Church. Are you drawn to the experimental part of collaboration?**

**Urban:** I never think of it in terms of experimental. I think of it in terms of all these different styles that have a connection to one another. What is that connection? And can we find what that is and see if we can harness it? And in the process, have people hear it and go, "Wow, that really, that does connect



to that. I see that now." ... And that's what drives me: the commonality in people, in music and everything in life, the commonality. It's what drives me far more than what separates us, because there's plenty of that. We're drowning in it right now.

**In that vein, one song called "Tumbleweed" includes a sample of a didgeridoo, an instrument that originated in Australia. Not sure I've ever heard a didgeridoo on a country song, but it works.**

After the guitar solo, there was about four seconds

of a breakdown, and I was like, "I need something here. We've heard everything." And I went "Didgeridoo! Fantastic." My engineer is like, "Didgeri-what?" He goes, "I've never heard one." We jump online and I find a guy playing the didgeridoo. And it turns out to be this guy, Lewis Burns. And I was just sort of using him as, "See? Like that. It sounds like that." And then in the midst of it, I went, "Actually, can we use that?"

**You've got a song on the album called "Say Something," about the power of words that seems to reflect the collective consciousness of this year's protests. What did you want to say with that song?**

If anyone wants to know what my beliefs are, my views are, listen to my music or look at my life. It's all there. It's in plain sight. So I've never felt the need to go at sort of soapbox-type things probably because of the way my dad raised me. But there also is a need for that. And I thought the other thing there is a need for is to speak up in your family sometimes. I thought about people that I wished I'd said sorry to and didn't get a chance to and they drifted out of my life. People that I wished that I said 'I love you' to before they passed away, including my father, and lots of things I wished I had said, wished that I said something. So I wrote the second verse predominantly touching upon all of that, the struggle with intimacy and learning to speak up and say intimate things, which is helping my family now, my family of creation, to be very different to the way I was raised.

**I'm sure that's a good example to show your children.**

I'm learning. I'm learning. But Nic (Nicole) is incredible at it. She's very expressive. Doesn't bottle stuff up, you know, just very expressive. Really helpful. It's a much better way to be. We don't walk around on eggshells in our house, ever. We get stuff out. And I wasn't raised like that. It's a much better way.

Mark Seliger photos

## MUSIC REVIEWS



# The Flaming Lips' new album isn't just provocative — it's really good

BY STEVE KLINGE  
*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

For the last decade or so of their 35-year career, Oklahoma's Flaming Lips have doubled down on their love of extremes, from the abrasive "The Terror" to full-album covers of "Dark Side of the Moon" and "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" to numerous collaborations with Miley Cyrus. They've been fascinating, but inconsistent.

In its open-heartedness, love of melody and Dave Fridmann's expansive production, "American Head" recalls their mid-period heyday of 1999's exuberant "The Soft Bulletin."

Leader Wayne Coyne wrote a set of semi-autobiographical songs inspired by imagining his drug-dealing older brother encountering Tom Petty's early band Mudcrutch when they passed through in Tulsa in the early '70s.

The Lips have always been a trippy, psychedelic band, but this album is explicit in its drug references, often detailing problematic consequences. The chorus of the lovely "Mother I've Taken LSD" is "And now I see the sadness in the world."

"At the Movies on Qualudes" is similar: "As we destroy our brains I'll believe we're dead."

The tone is often wistful and haunted, anchored in Steven Drozd's stately melodies and Coyne's thin, high vocals. But the songs often open up and soar.

The band, now a septet, slides easily from the ethereal, orchestral "Flowers of Neptune 6" (one of three tracks with Kacey Musgraves) to the more electronic "You'r Me Sellin' Weed" to the contemplative guitar ballad "My Religion is You."

American Head reveals a Flaming Lips that is surprisingly tempered and grounded, but still impressively adventurous.



## The Flaming Lips

"American Head" (Warner Records)

Photo by George Salisbury

## Elizabeth Cook

Aftermath (Agent Love/Thirty Tigers)

As an outlaw country disc jockey, fast-talking, y'all-ing Elizabeth Cook has a way with words, and so it goes on her new album, "Aftermath."

The title is a reference to regrowth, and the set is heavily autobiographical, which may be why Cook is dressed like Evel Knievel's sister on the cover. She sings about marrying badly, tequila without regret, and Southern pride and pain, or as one lyric puts it, "stories that'll hurt ya."

The album lacks the high hilarity of her Sirius XM show, but there are flashes of wit, such as when she rhymes watchin' with debauchin'. And the record might set a record for references to other musicians, from George Jones and Elton

John to Carole King and Kevn Kinney.

Alas, Cook's vocals are often double-tracked or digitized in ways that distract from the words. The album was produced by Butch Walker (Fall Out Boy, Weezer, Avril Lavigne), and he guides Cook over pop terrain, with synth washes instead of steel guitar. It's an uncomfortable fit, and as the album progresses Cook's twang takes over.

Her most exposed vocal is the most endearing performance. Accompanying herself on guitar on the closing cut, "Mary, The Submitting Years," Cook masterfully pays tribute to the late John Prine as she looks at the greatest story ever told from the mother's point of view — an outlaw honoring outlaws.

— Steven Wine  
Associated Press



## Suzanne Vega

An Evening of New York Songs and Stories (Amanuensis/Cooking Vinyl)

Suzanne Vega has had a symbiotic relationship with New York City since moving there as a toddler, and the metropolis is a recurring presence in her tunes.

Her new live album, "An Evening of New York Songs and Stories," was recorded last year at Manhattan's Cafe Carlyle with a small combo, and its 16 tunes, plus some between-songs chatter, form an intimate appreciation of the city and some of its many roles and identities.

Backed by guitarist Gerry Leonard, bassist Jeff Allen and Jamie Edwards on keyboards, the arrangements are usually stripped-down versions of the originals and take advantage of Vega's at-ease stage manner, the results of decades of touring.

Including hits like "Luka" and "Tom's Diner," the album also shines a light on lesser-known songs that fit the NYC theme in some way.

Some are obvious, like "New York Is A Woman," who'll "make you cry / And to her you are just another guy."

Others are illuminated by her comments, like the yearning "Gypsy," inspired by her stint as the "folk-singing and disco dance counselor" at a camp in the Adirondacks, "two great skills every girl needs."

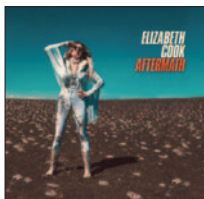
Vega leans heavily on "Beauty & Crime," with five songs coming from that remarkable 2007 album, which isn't surprising as it's her most directly New York-centric release, as well as her groundbreaking, self-titled 1985 debut (four songs) and its smash follow-up, "Solitude Standing" (three).

There's also a cover of Lou Reed's "Walk on the Wild Side," which gets a very personal introduction as Vega recounts the first time she saw him perform, at Columbia University, and how it affected her own budding career.

You can abandon the album with a smile after "Tom's Diner," but it's worth staying for the encores. After "Anniversary" (about the city after 9/11) and "Tombstone," Vega makes a comment about "not wanting to leave you too sad" and proceeds to close with the slinky "Thin Man," some "exit music" about the Grim Reaper. Music and comedy all in one.

With its outstanding performances, "An Evening of New York Songs and Stories" also serves as an excellent Vega primer, an artist who still merits being on your radar no matter where your hometown may be.

— Pablo Garondi  
Associated Press



# CROSSWORD AND COMICS

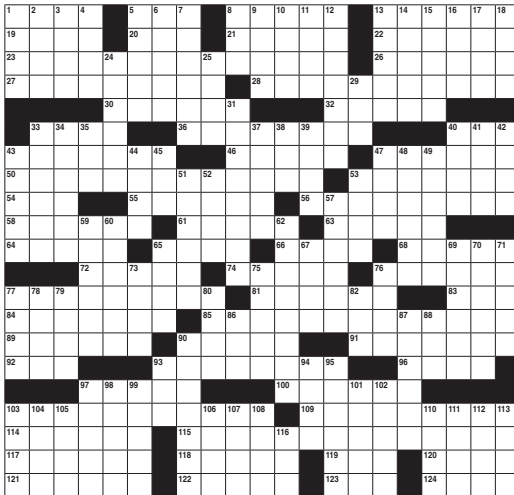
## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

### FINAL OFFER

BY MARYELLEN UTHLAUT / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

MaryEllen Uthlaut is a writer and homemaker in Charleston, S.C. Some years ago she was at her local library doing research for an article when she stumbled across a book about crosswords that had been mishelved. She checked it out, read it and started constructing. Her first-ever puzzle appeared in The Times in 2010. This is her third crossword for the paper and her first Sunday — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Curse  
5 Unit of current  
8 Developer of 1982's E.T., a video game so bad that hundreds of thousands of unsold cartridges were secretly buried in a New Mexico landfill  
13 Scaling attempts on the diamond?  
19 Look extremely stylish, slangily  
20 "People's" Democratic Republic  
21 Classic actress Sophia  
22 Lacking freshness  
23 Always glad to be seated in the back of the boat?  
26 Printed cotton fabric  
27 Think of together  
28 Perfectly placed "Batman" punch?  
30 Behind the line of scrimmage  
32 Pried, with "in"  
33 Look ahead  
36 Unfilled spaces  
40 Part of New York City's Museum Mile, with "the"  
43 Charlatans  
46 "Catch you later!"  
47 Buddhist temple structure  
50 Penny going through the wash once again?  
53 Subject of Walter Lord's "A Night to Remember"  
54 Epson product  
55 Facebook profile feature  
56 Soup served at the church social?  
58 Persuade by force  
61 Sheep's kin  
63 Commencement  
64 Church officer  
65 Grape-Nuts maker  
66 Ark groupings  
68 Feudal workers  
72 In a lively manner  
74 What a pointless meeting probably should have been handled by  
76 California in San Francisco, e.g.  
77 Afternoon gatherings of Mensa?  
81 Force at sea  
83 Monk's title  
84 Withdrew  
85 Having no feeling in one's texting hand?  
89 Assumed name  
90 One of the so-called "Three Crowns of Florence," along with Petrarch and Boccaccio  
91 Source of the idioms "fat of the land" and "fire and brimstone"  
92 As we speak  
93 Small anatomical opening, as in a bone  
96 These can go for a lot of bucks  
97 Check for mistakes
- 100 Party tray meat  
103 Ad for heartburn medication?  
109 Puts forward  
114 State you'll never get to  
115 "Quit your snickering, Dumont!"  
117 Hitting the floppy disk icon, say  
118 Islamic rulers  
119 Hill resident  
120 Soup pod  
121 Dangerous fly  
122 Dividing membranes  
123 \_\_\_\_\_ flour  
124 "No man hath \_\_\_\_\_ God ..."
- DOWN**
- 1 Labor-regulating org.  
2 "Such a pity!"  
3 Bugs  
4 Doc's needle  
5 Without reserve  
6 Yucatán natives  
7 Fancifully worded  
8 Drink rarely drunk with a straw  
9 \_\_\_\_\_ Bora, area of Afghanistan  
10 \_\_\_\_\_ American Heritage Month (April)  
11 Foul rulers  
12 Says without feeling  
13 Start of a magician's phrase  
14 Send over the moon  
15 Waited at a red light, say  
16 FedEx, maybe  
17 Order by the border
- 18 "Please \_\_\_\_\_ your trays/tables" (plane request)  
24 World-renowned  
25 Sanskrit scripture  
29 Part of many California place names  
31 Get out of Dodge, so to speak  
33 Caustic compound  
34 Needing a passcode, maybe  
35 Even one  
37 Latin clarifier  
38 Easy-to-bend metal  
39 Greek vowel  
40 Lead-in to rail  
41 Computer menu with Undo and Redo  
42 Dash gauge  
43 Word with freeze or fixing  
44 Choice word  
45 "Don't just \_\_\_\_\_ there!"  
47 Digital pascoes  
48 Viewed optimistically  
49 \_\_\_\_\_ snake  
51 Japanese city where Lexus is headquartered  
52 Classic muscle cars  
53 Cards with the most pips  
57 Bread  
59 Map section  
60 Irascible  
62 Some Hollywood up-and-comers  
65 Responded in court  
67 Cowardly sort  
69 Turn down
- 70 Units of distance in physics  
71 Sticks a fork in  
73 Piece of news  
75 Drinks usually drunk with straws  
76 Compos mentis  
77 Stark who was crowned king in the "Game of Thrones," finale  
78 Eight-year member of Clinton's cabinet  
79 State
- 80 Glance at, as headlines  
82 Animal for which the Canary Islands are named  
86 Opposite of WSW  
87 -s or -ed  
88 Modern prefix  
90 Practices lexicography  
93 One vain about his looks  
94 "You \_\_\_\_\_?"
- 95 Greetings to some mainlanders  
97 Ground-dwelling songbird  
98 Bit attachments  
99 Old enough  
101 Kind of acid  
102 Like most moushushes  
103 Brownish shade  
104 Greek vowels  
105 Classic pop-art sculpture with a slanted "O"  
106 "Personally ..."  
107 Cut out  
108 Male deer  
110 Singer/songwriter Lee  
111 Appropriate  
112 "Suis" is part of its conjugation  
113 Comic book publisher Lee  
116 Where to find MA and PA



## GUNSTON STREET



"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and online at gunstonstreet.com.

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## GADGETS &amp; TECHNOLOGY



KARL MERTON FERRON, THE BALTIMORE SUN/TNS

Jennifer Berg Gaither, the librarian at Baltimore City College, uses TikTok in her teaching. She poses with one of her former students, Melia Scott.

# The clock is ticking

## Teens rally around popular app TikTok amid criticism

By JEFF BARKER  
The Baltimore Sun

In candid moments, teens may concede they spend too many hours scrolling on TikTok, and acknowledge that the wildly popular app can feel frivolous.

But TikTok — a video sharing app for a generation that keeps little to itself — is inspiring ardent loyalty from users who say its dance videos and candid expressions of teen reality help them feel connected during the socially limiting coronavirus pandemic.

President Donald Trump's recent move to ban the app set off what Melia Scott, 18, of Baltimore, calls "a rebellion" among her age group.

"They are definitely fighting it," said Scott, who attends Baltimore City Community College.

There are "Save TikTok" and "Ban Trump" hashtags on the app, along with plenty of users showing off unfattering Trump impressions. Tens of thousands of people have signed any of a half-dozen online petitions to preserve TikTok, and some users say they would explore loopholes or hacks to try to get around a ban.

"TikTok is the language they use," Jennifer Berg Gaither, the librarian at Baltimore City College high school, said of her students. She makes TikTok videos — including some in which she dances with students — to heighten their interest in education. "I don't think anyone wants TikTok to go away," she said.

"We use TikTok during the pandemic to literally express how we feel," said Nakiyan Johnson, 18, who graduated this year from City College. "I want to still be able to communicate with people."

The app invites users to share videos up to 60 seconds. People lip-synch popular songs, dance, pull pranks on friends, show off stunts or athletic skills, provide cooking tips or open up about deeply personal issues such as depression or sexual orientation.

Millennials and post-millennials talk about body-image insecurities, breakups and the general awkwardness and tribulations of being a teenager or young adult. Analysts say the app is particularly good at finding users' comfort zones and feeding them videos of interest by theme or location.

TikTok says on its website that it collects "information contained in the messages you send through our platform and information from your

phone book, if you grant us access to your phone book on your mobile device."

TikTok claims 100 million American users. It has been downloaded more than 2 billion times globally, according to Sensor Tower, an analytics firm.

Trump's executive order last month would bar Americans from "any transaction" with ByteDance Ltd., TikTok's China-based parent company. The order said TikTok's ability to capture information about users — including online activity, location data and search histories — "threatens to allow the Chinese Communist Party access to Americans' personal and proprietary information." ByteDance says the order would "destroy an online community" and has challenged the ban's legality with a lawsuit in federal court in California.

TikTok is also home to political action. Users learned on TikTok about making fake ticket requests for a Trump campaign rally in Oklahoma in June, seeking to inflate expected attendance estimates with a goal of embarrassing the president.

Like an infinity pool, TikTok — with its videos endlessly looping, one displaying after the next — creates the sensation of going on forever. Many have a goofy, irreverent quality.

In addition to the volume of time young people spend on TikTok, some parents worry the app creates a sexualized environment for kids, particularly girls.

"Parents are a little bit wary because they think about kids shaking their booty in crop tops," said Leticia Barr, a Montgomery County middle school teacher who blogs about technology, education and parenting.

"Like any social platform, we need to be mindful of what our kids are using," Barr said. "We can talk to our kids about being safe, but we're never sure of what other kids who use that platform are putting out in the world."

TikTok says users must be at least 13. It offers a scaled-down experience for kids under 13 that doesn't permit sharing personal information.

In its lawsuit against Trump, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and the Commerce Department, ByteDance said the administration was "impermissibly banning TikTok." The company said it stores user data outside China and its security measures are "more than sufficient to address any conceivable U.S. government privacy or national security concerns."

## GADGET WATCH

### A sleek smart frame for sharing your best photos

By GREGG ELLMAN  
Tribune News Service

Earlier this year, Nixplay came out with an all-new lineup of their industry-leading Wi-Fi smart photo frames. Now with better resolution, bigger screen sizes, and advanced functionality, they made a great product even better.

If you're not familiar with Nixplay frames, you need to be, especially with the holiday shopping season upon us (hint!). With a private username and password, the modern-looking Nixplay frames have Wi-Fi connectivity, displaying digital images and videos that you or anyone can remotely upload to the frame.

Setup is simple. All you need is Wi-Fi and a secure account login with the Nixplay companion app (iOS and Android). Once the account and frame are set up, it's up to you to share the login information and invite others to stock family memories.

With the app, it's as easy as turning it on, selecting photos, hitting the upload button, choosing the playlist and hitting send. The playlist is just like a music playlist; you can divide it by family, event or just keep all the images in one. From the app, you have controls to turn the frame on or off, invite friends to share images, view and delete the playlists.

Frame size options range between 9.7 and 15.6 inches. All frames have a pair of 2-watt speakers to allow audio to accompany videos.

Each frame has Nixplay's patented stand, which is built into the power cord and is now designed to reveal a hidden wall mount.

Inside is 8GB of storage, which is a ton of space. The frame is built with an integrated Hu-Motion Sensor so the frame turns on and automatically when motion is near.

The Nixplay app also has a tab for the Nixplay print shop to order prints, cards, and even picture smartphone cases. All this can be ordered directly from the images loaded on the frame or from your smartphone's camera roll. Subscriptions are available to Nixplay Plus for up to 80% off the products. Yearly membership is \$49.99, or month to month for \$4.99. The frames have gotten smarter, working with Amazon Alexa,

Google Assistant and Google Photos. A magnetic remote is included. Stored social media albums in Dropbox, Facebook, Google Photos, Instagram and Verizon Cloud can be uploaded to the frame for viewing.

Online: Nixplay.com; Smart Photo Frames start at \$179.99 and go up to \$319.99 (15.6-inch). Wall hardware is included.

**EarFun Air True Wireless Earbuds** are great, affordable choice with great sound and every added feature you'd want.

Instead of testing the sound with music, I used the EarFun Air Trues for a few NFL games. With the noise constantly coming in along with the announcers, I felt like they gave me a great audio experience. After the game, I switched to my playlist and, just as promised, the crystal-clear sound was delivered along with a nice touch of distortion-free bass. Every type of music I switched to had sound with great consistency without needing adjustments.

The ergonomic fit is a big deal, especially since many earbuds I've tried were uncomfortable for long-term use. The EarFuns stayed in place for hours comfortably. Having a single earbud mode allows for just a single ear to play at a time. When you take both earbuds out, the audio will pause and then resume when they are back in place.

Included is Bluetooth 5.0, a 35-hour battery life with the wireless and USB-C charging case. On a full charge, you should get 7 hours of playtime and an additional 28 hours with the case. Fast charging for 10 minutes will produce about two hours of playtime.

Touch-sensitive controls on the outside of the earbuds were responsive for controlling music selections and calls.

Online: myearfun.com; \$59.99 or \$49.99 at Amazon, available in black or white



EarFun Air True Wireless Earbuds



NIXPLAY/TNS

Nixplay frames have 8GB of storage.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## 2 injured after butane causes house explosion

**MI** COMMERCE TOWNSHIP — A house exploded in suburban Detroit, a blast so loud and powerful that it injured two men and triggered car alarms in the neighborhood.

Firefighters found at least six butane tanks at the home in Oakland County's Commerce Township, Fire Chief Jim Dundas said.

"Butane is a very flammable, potentially explosive gas, and it lends itself to the idea that they could have been processing marijuana," Dundas said.

The house was destroyed. Dundas said the entire fire department was called out to extinguish the fire.

A man in his 20s was in serious condition at a hospital, the county sheriff's office said. Another man in his 20s had minor injuries.

## Grizzly kills man in 1st deadly attack at park

**AK** COPPER CENTER — The hunter killed by a grizzly bear in a remote part of Alaska's Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve was identified by park officials as a man from Ohio.

The death of Austin Pfeiffer, 22, was the first recorded fatal bear attack in the park since it was established in 1980, the park said in a statement.

Pfeiffer was hunting with a friend and they were salvaging meat from a moose they killed a day earlier when the attack occurred, the statement said.

National Park Service investigators determined it was a surprise attack and that Pfeiffer did not have ready access to a gun or deterrent, like bear-repellent spray, at the time.

Pfeiffer's hunting partner was later evacuated safely from the site, the statement said. No other visitors were known to have been in that area of park that is larger than the states of New Hampshire and Vermont combined.

## 4 former eBay employees charged with conspiracy

**MA** BOSTON — Four former eBay Inc. employees agreed to plead guilty to their roles in a campaign of intimidation that included sending live spiders and cockroaches to the home of a Massachusetts couple who ran an online newsletter critical of the auction site, federal prosecutors said.

The four expected to plead guilty are Brian Gilbert, 51; Stephanie Popp, 32; Stephanie Stockwell, 26; and Veronica Zea, 26, according to The Boston Globe. All live in San Jose, Calif., except for Stockwell, who lives in Redwood City, Calif.

They are among seven former eBay employees charged in the case, in which the Massachusetts couple had other disturbing items sent to their home, including a funeral wreath and a bloody pig Halloween mask. They are all charged with conspiracy to commit cyberstalking and conspiracy to tamper with a witness.



KRISTOPHER KADDER, BRATTLEBORO REFORMER/AT

## Cider

**Jack Maples, a cider maker at Green Mountain Orchards in Putney, Vt., puts apples into a bushel that he will dump into a grinder to make apple cider.**

## Feds announce charges for 17 drug traffickers

**SC** COLUMBIA — Federal authorities announced charges against 17 people accused of being a part of a drug trafficking organization in South Carolina.

The announcement was made after a two-year investigation in the Lexington area resulted in the seizure of approximately 77 pounds of meth, more than 100 guns and various amounts of heroin and fentanyl, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of South Carolina said in a news release.

Federal authorities said the case identified Alecia Youngblood and Matthew Ward of Lexington as "key methamphetamine suppliers" in the area. Prosecutors said Ward, 36, was found to be the leader of the trafficking organization, which is accused of moving drugs across state lines and dealing unlicensed firearms.

## Headstones desecrated at Buddhist cemetery

**HI** HONOLULU — Police in Hawaii opened an investigation following the desecration of headstones at an Oahu cemetery.

Headstones were toppled at the Wai'anae cemetery on the western side of the island, The Honolulu

## THE CENSUS

# 60

The depth in feet of a ravine that a horse named Lola, 8, fell down in Caspers Regional Park in San Juan Capistrano, Calif., KABC-TV reported. The horse's rider said that she jumped off after Lola began to buck. After being sedated by a veterinarian, authorities said that an Orange County Fire Authority technical rescue team hoisted the horse to safety via its helicopter because the rough terrain prevented it from being walked out. Lola was then reunited with her owner. No injuries were reported.

Star-Advertiser reported.

The Honolulu Police Department said a family submitted a report of vandalism and the department started a desecration investigation at the cemetery.

Desecration is a misdemeanor, but the law was amended in 2002 to increase the penalty to one year in jail, a fine of up to \$10,000 or both.

Wai'anae Hongwanji Temple owns the cemetery but no longer has weekly services or a priest assigned.

## TSA: Guns found at every airport in state

**TN** MEMPHIS — Loaded guns were found at security checkpoints at every major Tennessee airport during a seven-day period, officials said.

From Sept. 13 through Sept. 20, eight guns were found in carry-on bags by agents at Nashville International Airport, Memphis International Airport, Chat-

tanooga Metropolitan Airport, Tri-Cities Airport in Blountville and McGhee Tyson Airport near Knoxville, the Transportation Security Administration said in a news release.

Despite a drop in passengers due to the coronavirus pandemic, TSA officers have found 106 firearms at Tennessee airports this year. A total of 139 were detected in 2019, the agency said.

## 2 charged with stealing 17 guns from gun store

**MA** BOSTON — Two Connecticut men were charged with stealing 17 guns during a break-in last month at a Massachusetts gun store, federal prosecutors said in a statement.

Fernando Rivera, 24, and Christian Castro, 29, were each charged with stealing guns from a federal firearms licensee, according to the office of the U.S. attorney for Massachusetts, Andrew Lelling.

Rivera and Castro were among several people in two cars who drove from Connecticut through Massachusetts to Vermont and New Hampshire stealing or trying to steal from ATMs along the way, prosecutors said.

On their way back to Connecticut on Aug. 29, they stopped at a West Springfield gun store. Three men got out of the cars and broke into the store by using a crowbar to smash the door, authorities said.

## Bank manager finds diamond at state park

**AR** LITTLE ROCK — A bank manager discovered a 9.07-carat diamond at a state park in southwestern Arkansas after thinking the precious gem was a piece of glass.

Kevin Kinard of Maumelle found the second-largest diamond in the 48-year history of Crater of Diamonds State Park on Labor Day, according to a news release from Arkansas State Parks.

Kinard said he and his friends hauled sifting equipment to the state park in Murfreesboro. Kinard noted that he's been visiting Crater of Diamonds regularly since he was a kid but had never stumbled upon a diamond until Sept. 7. On average, people find one or two diamonds there daily.

From wire reports

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# OPINION

## Cleaning up warrant process would make all safer

By **CHRISTY E. LOPEZ**

Special to The Washington Post

People are understandably angry that the only charges in the death of Breonna Taylor are against one officer for wantonly endangering Taylor's neighbors. Alongside this reaction, it is worth keeping in mind that there is little evidence that criminal prosecutions of individual officers will do much to protect people from unnecessary police violence. To eliminate the types of police searches and uses of force that led to Taylor's killing, we need to look beyond such prosecutions.

Police shootings like the one that killed Taylor occur in part because our legal system has, for far too long, tolerated inaccurate statements by police officers seeking warrants to search homes and excused unnecessary police violence in executing those search warrants, especially in cases involving alleged drug trafficking. Judges, prosecutors and legislators, alongside police, bear responsibility for Taylor's death because of the need for each of those actors to take ownership for fixing this deadly problem.

The search warrant that resulted in the forced entry into Breonna Taylor's home might never have been issued if judges were in the habit of more stringently probing the statements to secure the warrants. A Louisville detective stated in a sworn affidavit that he was told by a postal inspector that the primary suspect in the drug case they were investigating had been receiving packages at Taylor's home.

The inspector says he was not consulted by officers and did not have any information in the packages delivered to Taylor's home. We may never know the truth, but we do know that the law gives judges little

incentive to probe the accuracy of officers' sworn statements in affidavits.

The Constitution requires that to obtain a search warrant, police must first set out facts in an affidavit demonstrating "probable cause." But around the time the war on drugs started, the Supreme Court started to water down this requirement. Now, even if an officer commits perjury or includes facts in an affidavit with "reckless disregard" to whether they are true, the warrant is still valid as long as the information in the affidavit is enough to establish probable cause. This hardly encourages officers to be sure of their facts, or judges to review closely officer affidavits.

Further, judges generally consider challenges to search warrants only when raised by a criminal defendant. A judge can be hard-pressed to find a search warrant invalid in these circumstances, no matter how many falsehoods the affidavit contained. After all, the officer found drugs, lending after-the-fact credence to what would otherwise be a shaky claim.

Nor do judges often have occasion to consider challenges to searches where officers found nothing. It can be easy for judges to fall into thinking that officers always have their facts right or, at least, right enough. Unsurprisingly, studies have found that warrant affidavits often include extensive boilerplate passages regarding how trustworthy the information is, or the facts giving rise to probable cause.

Many judges nonetheless diligently probe affidavits. But it is hard to have confidence in the accuracy of warrants generally, or in the particular warrant issued to search Taylor's home, given this lack of legal constraints.

Officers had little legal incentive even to consider giving Taylor a genuine opportunity to let them into her home before they

forced their way in, even though that was theoretically her constitutional right. The Supreme Court confirmed 25 years ago that the Constitution generally requires that police "knock and announce" before entering homes, even with a warrant. But the court has since rendered this requirement largely ineffectual. In 2006, the Supreme Court held that the exclusionary rule — which limits the use of illegally obtained evidence — does not apply to violations of the knock-and-announce rule. This decision removed the primary legal restraint on constitutional overreach by officers during searches of homes.

Finally, there has long been insufficient constitutional incentive for the Louisville Police Department, or any law enforcement agency, to require and train its officers to use the knock-and-announce rule where deadly force is likely to be required. This is because the constitutional reasonableness of an officer's force is based on whether it was reasonable at the moment it was used, rather than considering also whether the officer could have avoided a situation involving deadly force by using safer tactics.

The laxity of the constitutional case law regarding search warrants and police use of force underscores the need for state legislatures to fill in the gap by updating antiquated statutes or drafting new ones. To do this, we need to push for prosecutors and judges to redouble their efforts to ensure that police are diligent in justifying the need to destroy peoples' homes and endanger their lives when executing search warrants. It is better to prevent crimes by police officers than to prosecute them after the fact.

Christy E. Lopez is a Professor from Practice at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington.

## A 'color revolution'? Democrats are not planning one

By **ELI LAKE**

Bloomberg Opinion

Donald Trump is the first American president to threaten not to abide by the results of an election. That's what he did Wednesday, when he declined to say whether he would commit to the peaceful transition of power no matter the outcome at the ballot, and what he did in 2016, during a debate with Hillary Clinton, when he said, "Every American should be horrified by this kind of talk. For the president's biggest fans, however, the real danger is that Democrats are planning to overturn a legitimate Trump victory."

The case was first made in a series of posts by former Trump speechwriter Darren Beattie. Trump's own partners say he is planning to wage a "color revolution" to deprive the president of his imminent victory. He cites the work of the Transition Integrity Project, a group of journalists and academics that convened over the summer to simulate four outcomes of a contested Trump re-election. The ousted-replaying officials on both campaigns.

This group of Democrats and Never-Trumpers is not simply analyzing how various scenarios might play out, Beattie argues. It is trying to mobilize mass protests to challenge the results if Trump wins. The plan, Beattie says, is to emulate the post-Communist movements that ousted tyrants such as Serbia's Slobodan Milosevic and Ukraine's Viktor Yanukovich. The same national security establishment that pushed this strategy abroad, Beattie says, is now applying it at home.

It's fair to point out that some Democrats have seeded the ground for contesting a Trump victory. In August, Hillary Clin-

ton urged Biden not to accept results on election night if it was close because she feared Trump would attack the legitimacy of absentee ballots. It's also fair to note that many U.S. progressives have wrapped themselves in the rhetoric and symbolism of historic dissident movements.

At the same time, Beattie doesn't understand the color revolutions he is warning about, movements that helped bring down autocrats in Ukraine, Georgia and elsewhere in the early aughts. He insults the people who led the historic democratic transitions by asserting that the revolutions were orchestrated in Washington and not Kyiv or Tbilisi. And he is parroting a long-standing dictator talking point.

While it's true that the U.S. has invested billions of dollars to support civil society groups through grants, independent media or workshops on human-rights law, actual U.S. funding for so-called color revolutions is scant. In 2000, for example, the U.S. State Department funded a training session in nonviolent conflict for the Serbian opposition group known as Otpor. But those workshops were not responsible for the actual 2000 election.

Srdja Popovic, a founder of Otpor, told me his movement already had 20,000 members by the time the training sessions began. "This was not pivotal in building the movement," he said. Saying otherwise "assumes that the Serbian people were sheep," he said. Indeed, it was Otpor to take to the streets after Milosevic claimed a fraudulent victory in the 2000 elections were made entirely by Serbs.

What Otpor and other color revolutionaries have in common is that they put into practice the theories of the late political scientist Sidney Sharp. In three-volume "The Politics of Nonviolent Action," he

argues that grass-roots movements must persuade the public to deprive the dictator of their consent needed to rule. The key to a movement's success is to get the military, police and security forces to disobey orders to use force against the protesters.

And while outside powers can sanction government officials, express solidarity and offer an opposition movement diplomatic recognition — as Trump did in Venezuela — there is little outside governments can do to persuade a local cop or loyal soldier to use force against the protesters. Ultimately, this calculation hinges on whether the henchmen believe they will survive a democratic transition.

And this brings things back to the theory that a color revolution is being planned in the U.S. That argument concedes more about the primary goal of the Trump opponents. Sharp's thesis applies when citizens have no meaningful avenue for participation in the political process. That is not the case in America, whatever one wants to say about mail-in voting.

Indeed, Trump's opposition has thrived during his presidency. Democrats won back control of the House of Representatives in 2018. Trump's own Justice Department appointed a special counsel to investigate whether he colluded with Russia in the 2016 election. Newspapers and magazines that have warned of Trump's authoritarianism have seen their subscriptions rise. Republican pundits who oppose the president broadcast their opinions on cable news stations 24/7.

In other words, Trump is not an American Milosevic, and the Democratic Party is not an American Otpor. It's a slander to the republic to pretend otherwise.

Eli Lake is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering national security and foreign policy.



## SCOREBOARD

## Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. [myafn.net](http://myafn.net)

## Tennis

## Hamburg European Open

**Friday**  
At **Am Rothenbaum Hamburg, Germany**  
Purse: \$1,065,250  
Surface: Red clay  
Men's singles  
Quarterfinals  
Andrey Rublev (5, Russia), def. Roberto Bautista Agut (4, Spain), 6-2, 7-5  
Stefanos Tsitsipas (2, Greece), def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, 7-6 (5), 6-3  
Casper Ruud, Norway, def. Ugo Humbert, France, 7-5, 3-6, 6-1  
Cristian Garin (1), Chile, vs. Alexander Bublik, Kazakhstan, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4

**Seminifinals**  
Ivan Dodig and Mate Pavic, Croatia, def. Nikola Pietrangeli and Wesley Koolhof, Netherlands, 6-4, 6-4

## Internationaux de Strasbourg

**Friday**  
At **Strasbourg Tennis Club Strasbourg, France**  
Purse: \$225,500  
Surface: Hard  
Women's singles  
Seminifinals  
Elena Rybakina (5, Kazakhstan), def. Naia Hibiino, Japan, 6-3, 6-4  
Ana Svitolina (2), Ukraine, vs. Aryna Sabalenka (4), Belarus, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

**Women's doubles**  
Seminifinals  
Nicola Pietrangeli, United States, and Demi Schuurs (1), Netherlands, def. Shuko Aoyama and Ena Shibahara (3, Japan), 6-2, 7-5 (3)

## Pro soccer

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA			
Columbus	7	2	4	25	15	11			
Orlando City	7	2	4	25	15	11			
Philadelphia	7	2	4	25	15	11			
Toronto FC	7	2	4	25	15	11			
Portland Timbers	7	2	4	25	15	11			
New York	5	6	2	17	10	15			
New York City FC	5	6	2	17	10	15			
LA Galaxy	5	6	2	17	10	15			
Nashville SC	4	5	3	15	13	10			
LA Galaxy	4	5	3	15	13	10			
Cincinnati	3	6	4	13	17	17			
Atlanta United	2	6	5	11	18	19			
D.C. United	2	6	5	11	18	19			
Inter Miami	2	6	5	11	18	19			

WESTERN CONFERENCE					
	W	L	T	Pts	GF
Seattle	6	3	3	21	26
Portland	6	4	3	21	26
Sporting KC	6	5	2	20	24
FC Dallas	5	5	3	19	19
Colorado	5	4	4	19	25
Los Angeles FC	5	5	3	18	31
Minnesota United	5	5	3	18	24
Real Salt Lake	4	4	5	17	19
Vancouver	5	8	0	15	17
LA Galaxy	4	5	2	15	16

## SCOREBOARD/STANLEY CUP FINAL/SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 18

## College football

**Friday's score**  
**SOUTHWEST**  
 UTSA 37, Middle Tennessee 35

## Deals

## Friday's transactions

**BASEBALL**  
**Major League Baseball American League**  
**SEATTLE SOX** — Placed RHP Domingo Tapia on the 10-day IL. Recalled RHP Austin Brice from the 10-day IL.  
**CHICAGO WHITE SOX** — Options RHP Jose Ruiz to alternate training site. Activated RHP Evan Marshall from the 10-day IL.

**CLEVELAND INDIANS** — Options SS Yu Chang to alternate training site. Recalled LHP Logan Allen from alternate training site.

**DETROIT TIGERS** — Placed 3B Jeimer Candelario on the 10-day IL. Recalled OF Christian Stewart from alternate training site. Recalled LF Christian Stewart from alternate training site.

**HOUSTON ASTROS** — Placed RHP Josh Janssen on the 10-day IL. Recalled RHP Chase De Jong from alternate training site.

**KANSAS CITY ROYALS** — Recalled 1B Ryan McBroom from alternate training site. Activated RHP Ian Kennedy from the 10-day IL. Placed RF Jorge Soler and RHP Greg Holland on the 10-day IL.

**MINNESOTA TWINS** — Selected the callup RHP Edgar Collina from alternate training site. Designated RHP Hommer Bailey for assignment.

**NEW YORK YANKEES** — Sent LHP Tyler Lyons outright to alternate training site. Recalled RHP Miguel Yajure from alternate training site.

**ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Claimed RHP Ian Hamilton off waivers from Chicago Cubs. Recalled RHP Ian Hamilton to alternate training site.

**National League**  
**ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS** — Activated RHP Nivino Bracho from the 60-day IL. Recalled RHP Miguel Valbuena from the 10-day IL to the 60-day IL.

**ATLANTA BRAVES** — Selected the callup 1B Patrick Wisdom from alternate training site. Options 1B Jose Martinez to alternate training site.

**CHICAGO CUBS** — Released RHP Manny Rodriguez on the 45-day IL.

**PHILADELPHIA FLYERS** — Released RHP Nate Jones.

**LOS ANGELES ROCKIES** — Recalled RHP Jesus Tinoco from alternate training site. Recalled RHP Jose Juicita from alternate training site.

**MILWAUKEE BREWERS** — Recalled RHP J.P. Feyereisen and 3B Ryan Healy from alternate training site. Placed RF Corbin Burnes on the 10-day IL.

**ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Recalled RHPs Daniel Ponce de Leon and Nabil Crismatt from alternate training site. Placed RHP John Gant on the 10-day IL.

**SAN DIEGO PADRES** — Recalled RHP Luis Patino from alternate training site.

**SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS** — Activated RHP Jeff Samardzija from the 10-day IL.

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**ATLANTA FALCONS** — Signed CB Tyler Hall to practice squad. Released DE Austin Edwards.

**CAROLINA PANTHERS** — Released CB Trumaine Johnson from practice squad. Re-signed K Cal Forbath to practice squad.

**DENVER BRONCOS** — Activated QB Brett Ryypien and DL DeShawn Williams to practice squad.

**PHILADELPHIA EAGLES** — Signed TE Dallas Goedert to practice squad.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS** — Signed DE Calvin Pryor to practice squad. Released DT Javon Hargrett.

**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** — Placed DE Rashawn Green on injured reserve. Waived DE El Mercur from injured reserve.

**Hockey**  
**National Hockey League**  
**ARIZONA COYOTES** — Signed Brian Dacosta as special assistant to the general manager/director of goaltending operations.

**SOCCER**  
**Major League Soccer**  
**MILS** — Issued an undisciplined fine to Atlanta FC M for a foul during a simulation/embellishment in match against Inter Miami on Sept. 19. Issued an undisciplined fine to Real Salt Lake M for a foul during a simulation/embellishment in match against Seattle Sounders FC on Sept. 19.

**PHILADELPHIA** — Issued an undisciplined fine to Philadelphia FC for a foul during a simulation/embellishment in match against San Jose on Sept. 19. Issued an undisciplined fine to FC Dallas M for a foul during a simulation/embellishment in match against Houston on Sept. 19.

**PORTLAND** — Issued an undisciplined fine to Portland FC for a foul during a simulation/embellishment in match against Portland on Sept. 19.

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## Lightning down Stars in overtime

BY STEPHEN WHYNO  
 Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — Kevin Shattenkirk will never forget having his contract bought out in the summer of 2019 and joining the Tampa Bay Lightning because he felt their core players had a similar chip on their shoulders after a shocking first-round exit.

More than a year later, he created a moment to remember to put the Lightning on the verge of making good on years of unfulfilled potential.

Shattenkirk scored a power-play goal in overtime after a questionable penalty, and the Lightning beat the Dallas Stars 5-4 Friday night to take a 3-lead in the final and move a victory away from lifting the Stanley Cup. With Game 5 on Saturday night, Tampa Bay was potentially 24 hours away from its second championship in franchise history after winning it in 2004.

"Looking forward to tomorrow night because then it could all come really full circle," Shattenkirk said. "We've got a job to do here. It's still not finished."

It almost is for a core group that has so far been unable to get over the hump despite being one of the best teams in the NHL for much of the past decade. Shattenkirk came over after the New York Rangers let him go, but guys like Nikita Kucherov, Victor Hedman, Ondrej Palat, Tyler Johnson and



Tampa Bay Lightning left wing Yannick Goude, left, and Pat Maroon, right, react to a goal by Kevin Shattenkirk against Dallas Stars goaltender Anton Khudobin, center, during overtime of Game 4 of the Stanley Cup Final on Friday in Edmonton, Alberta.

Andrei Vasilevsky and coach Jon Cooper have been around a while and are focused on finishing this. "They came here to do something," Cooper said. "They're on their way, but we've said all along, we haven't won anything yet. We still have to win one more and we're not taking anything for granted."

It was another dominant performance by top players who looked exactly like they wouldn't be denied after getting this far. Point, the Lightning's top center, scored consecutive goals at the

end of the first period and start of the second, creating and sustaining the kind of momentum that has been so important in the playoffs.

The Lightning got the winning power play when Dallas captain Jamie Benn was called for tripping Tyler Johnson on a play where Benn's skates never made contact with Johnson's as trailing referee Francis Charron called it.

"I don't have a ton of time for a play where Tyler Johnson steps in front where Jamie Benn and it has no

## NHL scoreboard

**Stanley Cup Final**  
**(Best-of-seven; x=if necessary)**  
**At Edmonton, Alberta**  
**Tampa Bay 3, Dallas 1**  
 Dallas 4, Tampa Bay 1  
 Tampa Bay 3, Dallas 2  
 Tampa Bay 5, Dallas 2  
**Friday:** Tampa Bay 5, Dallas 4, OT  
**Saturday:** Game 3  
**x-Monday:** Game 6 (APN-Sports 2, 2 a.m. Tuesday CFT 9 a.m. Tuesday JTK)  
**x-Wednesday:** Game 7

**Friday**  
**Lightning 5, Stars 4 (OT)**  
**Tampa Bay** 1 2 1 1-5  
**Dallas** 2 1 0-4  
**First Period**—1, Dallas, Klingberg 4 (Lindell), 7:17; 2, Dallas, Pavelskii 11 (Benn, Rodolov), 16:28; 3, Tampa Bay, Point 12 (Palat, Shattenkirk), 19:27.  
**Second Period**—4, Tampa Bay, Point 13 (Kucherov, Killorn), 2:08 (opt.); 5, Dallas, Perry 3 (Seguin, Janmark), 8:26; 6, Tampa Bay, Goude 7 (Kucherov, Sergachev), 18:54 (opt.).  
**Third Period**—7, Tampa Bay, Killorn 5 (Sergachev, Cirelli), 6:41; 8, Dallas, Pavelskii 12 (Seguin, Heiskanen), 11:35.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Tampa Bay 3 of 4; Dallas 0 of 3.  
**Goalies**—Tampa Bay, Vasilevsky 17-5; 1 (30 shots; 26 saves). Dallas, Khudobin 13-8 (31-35).  
**T=301.**

real effect in the play, and Jamie breathes on him and the guy falls over," said Stars veteran Joe Pavelski, who scored twice. "Whether that's the case or not, there's a little battle going on there, but it's playoffs, it's overtime. We expect 5-on-5. We expect to battle it out."

## Briefly

## Mullens to start at QB for injured Garoppolo

Associated Press

Nick Mullens will start at quarterback on Sunday for the San Francisco 49ers in place of the injured Jimmy Garoppolo but won't have All-Pro tight end George Kittle as an option.

Garoppolo didn't practice all week because of a high ankle sprain suffered last week but wasn't officially ruled out for this week's game against the New York Giants until Friday.

Coach Kyle Shanahan also said Friday that Kittle will miss a second straight game after spraining his knee the season opener. Kittle practiced on a limited basis this week but wasn't healthy enough to go.

"I thought it was a lot safer to leave him out," Shanahan said. "We didn't need to wait another day because of how he sounded today."

The 49ers will be without injured running backs Raheem Mostert and Tevin Coleman, linebacker Dre Greenlaw (quadriceps) and edge rusher Dee Ford (back). Defensive linemen Nick Bosa and Solomon Thomas were placed on injured reserve last week with season-ending knee injuries.

Garoppolo's injury sets the stage for Mullens to make his first start for the 49ers in nearly 21 months. The former undrafted free agent from Southern Mississippi showed flashes during an eight-game stint at the end of the 2018 season after Garoppolo was sidelined with a season-ending knee injury.

Mullens won three of his eight starts for a struggling Niners team that season, completing 64.2% of his passes for 284.6 yards passing per game with 13 TDs, 10 interceptions and a 90.8 rating. His 8.2 yards per attempt rank

fourth best among the 50 quarterbacks with at least five starts the past three seasons.

He said he's spent the time since then trying to build more arm strength.

"That's the thing everybody's going to criticize, but it's one thing that I've attacked," he said. "Just playing with the full field, that's huge to me and I'm excited to show that on Sunday."

Mullens got on the field for one game last season without throwing a pass in mop-up duty against Carolina. He got his first real game action of any kind since the 2019 exhibition season last week when he played the second half against the Jets.

In other NFL news:  
 ■ **Both the Green Bay Packers and New Orleans Saints** likely will be missing their star receivers for their Sunday night matchup.

The Saints ruled out 2019 Offensive Player of the Year Michael Thomas. He will miss a second straight game with an ankle injury. Packers coach Matt LaFleur says it's "probably doubtful" that Davante Adams will play Sunday night at New Orleans due to a hamstring injury.

Adams hasn't practiced this week since leaving the Packers' 42-21 victory over the Detroit Lions in the second half. LaFleur has said there's a possibility Adams could play even without practicing all week.

## Nats, Martinez agree to extension

WASHINGTON — Manager Dave Martinez and the Washington Nationals agreed to

a multiyear contract extension that the team announced Saturday.

Martinez led the Nationals to the franchise's first World Series championship in 2019, his second season as the team's skipper.

When he initially was hired, Martinez signed a three-year deal with a club option for 2021 that had not yet been picked up by the Nationals.

"I can't say enough about Dave's leadership qualities and the poise he shows under pressure," said Nationals president and general manager Mike Rizzo, who recently was given a three-year extension by the club. "The players, coaches and staff have the utmost respect for him as a manager and a person. There is no one else our team would rather have as the helm."

## Hill advances in Trucks playoffs

LAS VEGAS — Austin Hill, the regular-season Truck Series champion, rebounded from a poor opening race of the playoffs with a victory Friday night at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Hill had dropped from first in the standings — where he'd been ranked since the second race of the season — to eighth in points after he finished 25th last week in the playoff opener at Bristol.

He held just an eight-point lead over ninth place before Las Vegas and two drivers will be out from the 10-driver field next week.

Hill is the only driver locked into the second round of the playoffs.

# ALB SCOREBOARD

## American League

	East	West	Pct	GB
x-Tampa Bay	38	20	.655	—
Baltimore	31	27	.534	7
Baltimore	24	34	.414	14
New York	21	41	.340	21

Central Division				
x-Minnesota	33	24	.583	—
x-Chicago	34	24	.586	1
St. Louis	28	30	.483	7
Kansas City	25	33	.431	10
Detroit	25	34	.393	12

West Division				
x-Oakland	35	22	.614	.50
Los Angeles	26	32	.448	.95
Los Angeles	21	39	.349	16
Texas	20	38	.345	15½

## National League

	East	West	Pct	GB
x-Atlanta	38	20	.655	—
x-Miami	28	30	.483	7
Philadelphia	28	30	.483	7
New York	21	34	.385	14
Washington	22	34	.344	11½

Central Division				
x-Chicago	33	25	.569	—
St. Louis	28	30	.483	7
St. Louis	28	30	.483	7
St. Louis	28	30	.483	7
St. Louis	28	30	.483	7

West Division				
x-Los Angeles	35	22	.614	.50
x-San Diego	35	22	.614	.50
San Francisco	29	29	.500	1.00
Colorado	24	34	.414	17

Pitching				
Cleveland's playoff berth	33	25	.569	—
Los Angeles' playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
San Diego's playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
St. Louis' playoff berth	33	25	.569	—

Pitching				
Cleveland's playoff berth	33	25	.569	—
Los Angeles' playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
San Diego's playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
St. Louis' playoff berth	33	25	.569	—

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Los Angeles' playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
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Pitching				
Cleveland's playoff berth	33	25	.569	—
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Los Angeles' playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
San Diego's playoff berth	35	22	.614	.50
St. Louis' playoff berth	33	25	.569	—

## Athletics 3, Mariners 1 (10)

	Seattle	Oakland	Seattle	Oakland
Crawford ss	4	0	2	0
Lewis c	4	0	2	0
Seanez lf	4	0	2	0
Francis 2b	4	0	2	0
Stanton 3b	4	0	2	0
Marmios dh	3	0	2	0
Torres lf	3	0	2	0
White lb	3	0	2	0
Belles 1b	3	0	2	0
Logan 1b	3	0	2	0
Odum c	3	0	2	0

Totals				
Seattle	34	15	0	0
Oakland	0	0	0	0
Seattle	0	0	0	0
Oakland	0	0	0	0

Pitching				
E. Francisco (1), DP—Seattle 2, Oakland 2	IP	H	R	BB
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

## Cubs 10, White Sox 0

	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago
Happ cf	5	1	0	0
Rizzo lb	3	0	1	0
Altoia 2b	3	0	1	0
Contreras dh	3	0	1	0
Altoia 2b	3	0	1	0
Baez 3b	3	0	1	0
Hamil pr	3	0	1	0
Baez 3b	3	0	1	0
Hamill pr	3	0	1	0
Hamill pr	3	0	1	0
Hamill pr	3	0	1	0
Hamill pr	3	0	1	0

Totals				
Chicago	30	10	0	0
White Sox	0	0	0	0
Chicago	0	0	0	0
White Sox	0	0	0	0

Pitching				
E. Francisco (1), DP—Seattle 2, Oakland 2	IP	H	R	BB
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
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(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

Pitching				
1, LOB—Seattle 5, Oakland 9, 2B—Davis	IP	H	R	BB
(5), Seanez (1), Canha (1), Lamb (4),	IP	H	R	BB
Laureano 2 (8), HR—Canha (5).	IP	H	R	BB

First game									
Milwaukee					St. Louis				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Garcia cf	3	0	1	0	Wong 2b	3	0	1	0
Yelich lf	3	1	1	1	Edman 3b-lf	3	0	0	0



## MLB



JOHN AMIS/AP

The Braves' Freddie Freeman celebrates at home plate after hitting a winning two-run home run during the 11th inning against Boston on Friday.

## Scoreboard

FROM PAGE 20

## Braves 8, Red Sox 7 (11)

Miami	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Verduzgo Jr.	5	0	1	0	Altuve c-f	4	3	1	1
Arroyo ss	6	0	0	0	Albies dh	5	1	1	1
Marínez dh	4	1	1	0	Ozuna dh	4	0	3	2
Bradley Jr. cf	4	1	1	1	Duvall lf	5	0	0	0
Plawecki c	4	1	1	1	Swanson ss	6	0	1	1
Dalbey Jr. lf	3	0	2	0	Riley 1b-ph	3	0	1	1
Linif	2	0	0	0	Markski f	4	1	1	0
Devers ph-bf	1	0	2	0	Indarte c	4	1	1	0
Chavis 1b-f	3	0	0	0	Flatters c	3	0	1	0
Bogaerts ph	0	0	0	0	Fran ph-bf	1	1	1	1
Swanson c	4	0	0	0	Hernández 3b	4	1	0	0
Aráuz 2b	4	0	0	0	d'Arnaud ph-c	0	0	0	0
Belt	38	7	6	6					
Boston									
Atlanta									

Boston	ab	r	h	bi	Atlanta	ab	r	h	bi
Hernández	5	4	1	2	6	2	2	3	4
Weber, H. 5	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Wain lb	5	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Barnes	5	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Spring, L.B. 2, B. 5, 0-1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Atlanta									
Smith	6	2	2	3	4	2	2	3	4
O'Day	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wheeler, B.S. 11-13	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martin	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Green	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
—3-59.									

## Dodgers 9, Angels 5

Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi	Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi
Fletcher ss	5	1	2	0	Betts rf	4	1	1	0
Wain lb	5	1	2	1	Turner 3b	3	2	2	2
Trotter cf	4	1	1	3	Munoz 1b	3	2	2	2
Rendon 2b	4	0	2	0	Munoz 1b	2	1	2	0
Pujols dh	4	0	1	0	Lucif 2b	2	0	1	0
Upton lf	4	1	1	1	Bellinger c	3	0	0	0
Stassi c	4	0	1	0	Smith dh	2	2	2	2
Ward rf	4	0	1	0	Lux 3b	3	0	0	0
Hongo 2b	4	0	1	0	Smith dh	2	2	2	2
Soto pr-2b	0	0	0	0	Pérez ph-bf	1	0	1	0
Ohtani ph	1	0	0	0	Vernia 2b	1	0	0	0
Totals	38	12	5	5	A.Barnes c	4	0	0	0
Los Angeles (A)									

Los Angeles (A)	ab	r	h	bi	Los Angeles (A)	ab	r	h	bi
Heaney	4	8	5	2	3	10	13	12	5
Melanson L. 2-4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bredonian	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pena	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Buttrey	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	2	1
Mayers	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles (N)	ab	r	h	bi	Los Angeles (N)	ab	r	h	bi
Kershaw	4	8	4	1	0	3	10	13	12
Gratzer W-L 2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Melanson R. 4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kolarik R. 4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flore H. 4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
González H. 2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finley	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Heaney pitched to 2 batters in the 5th, Bredonian pitched to 2 batters in the 7th, Buttrey pitched to 2 batters in the 8th, T. 3-42.

## Roundup

## Marlins, Reds, Astros lock up spots

Miami caps coronavirus-decimated season with first playoff berth since 2003

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Marlins clinched an improbable playoff berth in their coronavirus-decimated season, beating the New York Yankees 4-3 in 10 innings Friday night to seal a postseason trip.

Miami earned its first postseason trip since 2003 when it won the World Series as the Florida Marlins, capped by a Game 6 victory in the Bronx over Miami owner Derek Jeter and his New York teammates at the previous version of Yankee Stadium.

The Marlins had the worst record in the NL last year at 57-105, then were beset by a virus outbreak early this season that prevented them from playing for more than a week.

After Jesus Aguilar hit a sacrifice fly in the top of the 10th, Marlins reliever Brandon Kintzler got major league batting leader DJ LeMahieu to ground into a game-ending double play with the bases loaded.

Miami players ran onto the field, formed a line and exchanged non-socially-distant hugs.

Miami is second in the NL East at 32-83 and improved to 19-13 on the road. The Marlins will play 34 road games due to the schedule disruption caused by the coronavirus.

The Yankees are assured of playing the first round of the playoffs on the road.

**Reds 7, Twins 2:** Mike Moustakas homered twice, Freddy Graust hit a solo shot and visiting Cincinnati clinched its first playoff spot since 2013, beating AL Central-leading Minnesota.

The Reds (30-28), who can finish as high as the fifth seed in the eight-team NL field, leaned on their bullpen and raised their record to two games above .500 for the first time since May 13, 2017.

The Twins failed to secure home-field advantage for the wild-card games, when Cleveland rallied to beat Pittsburgh and forge a second-place tie with Chicago in the division race. Minnesota defeated the White Sox and Indians by one game, with two to play.

**Rangers 5, Astros 4 (10):** Houston clinched the final spot in the NL playoffs, despite a 10-inning loss at Texas, after the Angels lost to the Dodgers.

The Astros were a strike away from clinching a franchise-best fourth straight postseason berth themselves when Ronald Guzman hit a tying solo home run in the bottom of the ninth inning for the last-place Rangers, who stopped a four-game losing streak.

**Dodgers 9, Angels 5:** Justin Turner homered twice and AJ Pollock, Will Smith and Edwin Rios also went deep as the Dodgers rallied to beat the Angels.

The loss mathematically eliminated the Angels from postseason contention, and gave the final



COREY SUPPIN/AP

The Miami Marlins celebrate clinching a playoff berth after their win in the 10th inning Friday against New York at Yankee Stadium.

AL playoff spot to the Houston Astros.

The Angels' hopes had rested on sweeping the Dodgers in the Freeway Series and Houston losing its final three games.

**Braves 8, Red Sox 7 (11):** Freddie Freeman hit a two-run homer to lead off the 11th inning and host Atlanta beat Boston to clinch the No. 2 seed in the National League playoffs.

Freeman's homer off Jeffrey Springs (0-2) drove in Ender Incarte, who started the inning on second base, and bolstered the Braves slugger's case for the NL MVP Award.

Ronald Acuna Jr. hit the longest homer in the majors this season — 495 feet to the top of the left-field seats — to lead off the game.

**Indians 4, Pirates 3:** Cesar Hernandez ripped an RBI double into the right-field corner with two outs in the ninth inning as Cleveland rallied for its third win in the playoffs.

Tyler Naquin drew a leadoff walk off Chris Stratton (2-1) and pinch-hitter Jordan Lupow hit an RBI double high off the wall in left. Delino DeShields — who broke up Pittsburgh's no-hit bid with a bunt single in the seventh — hit an RBI single one out later. After Francisco Lindor lined out, it was Hernandez's turn to be a hero, and after he delivered, he was chased around the infield by his celebrating teammates.

**Rays 6, Phillies 4:** Joey Wendle had a go-ahead, two-run single in the eighth inning and AL East champion Tampa Bay rallied to hurt visiting Philadelphia's playoff hopes.

The Rays are looking to finish with the AL's best record for the second time, after topping the league in 2010.

Bryce Harper had a triple and drove in two runs for Philadelphia, which fell two games behind second-place Miami in the NL East and also trailed in the wild-card race.

**Athletics 3, Mariners 1:** Mark

Canha hit a two-out, two-run home run in the 10th inning, lifting host Oakland over Seattle.

The A's (35-22) moved past the Minnesota Twins (35-23) in the race for the second seed in the AL Oakland had lost three of four and five of 11.

**Giants 5-5, Padres 4-6:** Trent Grisham hit a game-ending, three-run homer with one out in the seventh inning, lifting San Diego to a doubleheader split with host San Francisco after ace DiNelson Lamet left the game with an apparent injury.

Projected No. 1 playoff starter Lamet became the second Padres pitcher to go down injured in three games. No update was given before the game ended.

Fernando Tatis Jr. homered for the first time since Sept. 6 with a two-run drive in the third, but Lamet's injury in the top of the fourth left the Padres bench looking dejected.

The Giants (29-29) dropped back after Cincinnati (30-28) clinched its first playoff berth since 2013 with a victory at Minnesota. The Marlins (30-28) also secured a postseason spot.

**Diamondbacks 4-11, Rockies 0-5:** Josh VanMeter hit a three-run homer, David Peralta and Tim Lincecum both had three hits and host Arizona earned a doubleheader sweep over Colorado.

The Diamondbacks have won four straight games on their homestand. Zac Gallen struck out a career-high 10 in six innings to lead Arizona in the opener.

Colorado's loss in the first game, coupled with other results Friday, eliminated the Rockies from playoff contention.

**Blue Jays 10, Orioles 5:** Randall Grichuk and Travis Shaw homered, Nate Pearson returned from an elbow injury to pitch 1½ scoreless innings and play-off-bound Toronto beat visiting Baltimore.

Shaw narrowly missed a multi-homer game, hitting a double in the wild-card race and struck the top of the wall in right field and bounced

back into play.

The Blue Jays are assured of at least a wild card and could still edge out New York for second place in the AL East.

**Brewers 3-1, Cardinals 0-9:** Daniel Ponce de Leon pitched one hit ball for six innings, Tommy Edman hit a two-run homer and St. Louis earned a doubleheader split against Milwaukee.

In the opener, Christian Yelich homered and Brent Suter combined with Devin Williams and Josh Hader on a five-hitter for the Brewers in a 3-0 win.

Both teams are among the seven NL clubs still vying for three available postseason spots. Milwaukee is two games behind St. Louis, which opened the day in second place in the NL Central.

The top two teams in each division advance to the playoffs. The Brewers and Cardinals are also in contention for the two NL wild-card spots up for grabs as they finish the season with this five-game series.

**Royals 3, Tigers 2:** Brad Keller threw six scoreless innings, Adalberto Mondesi had three hits and an RBI as host Kansas City held off Detroit.

Keller (5-3) gave up four singles and struck out five in six innings. The eighth-round draft pick in 2013 closed out the season allowing one run in 33 innings pitched at home.

**Cubs 10, White Sox 0:** Yu Darvish pitched seven strong innings for his NL-leading eighth win, Willson Contreras homered twice and the Cubs moved to the brink of clinching the NL Central title by pounding the crosstown White Sox.

Victor Caratini, Kyle Schwarber and Javier Baez also went deep as the Cubs used the long ball to break out of an offensive funk and end a three-game losing streak. They reduced their magic number for securing the division crown to one game after St. Louis split a doubleheader with Milwaukee.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL/FRENCH OPEN



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Miami of Ohio wide receiver Jack Sorenson, right, attempts to catch a pass as Central Michigan defensive lineman LaQuan Johnson defends during the first half of the Mid-American Conference championship game on Dec. 7 in Detroit. The Mid-American Conference announced Friday that it will have a six-game football season, meaning all 10 major conferences will play this fall.

# MAC returns with 6-game season beginning Nov. 4

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
Associated Press

The Mid-American Conference, the first major college football league to postpone its season because of the pandemic, became the final one to jump back in, making it 10 out of 10 conferences that will play in the fall.

As university presidents in the Big Ten, Pac-12 and Mountain West have done over the past 10 days, MAC leaders on Friday voted unanimously to reverse their August decision to push football to spring. The MAC will instead open its season Nov. 4.

Just like the other conferences returning to fall ball, the MAC cited advancements in COVID-19 antigen testing as key to the change of direction. The conference will begin testing athletes four times per week, starting Oct. 5.

If all goes well, by the first weekend of November, there will be college football from coast to coast. That seemed highly unlikely throughout much of the summer as the United States struggled to contain a virus that has killed more than 200,000 people across the country.

The pandemic is still not under control in many states, but college football will go on in front of empty stadiums or limited attendance.

"The risk of college football spreading the virus is much less than the risk of fraternity parties or off-campus parties or concerts that are happening," said Dr. Amesh Adajia, an infectious

**'The risk of college football spreading the virus is much less than the risk of fraternity parties or off-campus parties or concerts that are happening.'**

Dr. Amesh Adajia

Infectious disease expert at Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security

disease expert and senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security. "The risk is much more for coronavirus off the field than it is on the field."

The MACtion will start on a Wednesday, of course, and the championship game will be played Dec. 18 or 19. A full schedule will be released later, along with the conference's full medical protocols.

"Our decisions, in August and again today, have been guided by an overriding concern for the well-being of the student athletes, institutions, and the community at large," Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher said. "Our medical advisory group, presidents, directors of athletics, and others, have worked hard to develop a plan that provides the opportunity for student athletes to compete."

Northern Illinois athletic director Sean Frazier, who along with NIU's president pushed hard for the postponement, said he felt good about the MAC's new protocols.

"No one was more hesitant than me," he said. But, he added, the MAC's doctors and experts

"made me a believer."

The MAC, a 12-school league of mostly Midwestern schools with relatively small athletic budgets, postponed all fall sports on Aug. 8. Within a few days, the Mountain West, Big Ten and Pac-12 had done the same.

Six conferences, including the Southeastern, Atlantic Coast and Big 12, held firm but the major college football season started Labor Day weekend with 40% of the teams that play at the highest level of Division I having announced they would sit it out. There have already been plenty of disruptions to the schedule, but the SEC started Saturday, the Big Ten is set to kickoff Oct. 24 and the Pac-12 on Nov. 7.

Even independent Massachusetts sets said earlier this week it would attempt to play a small schedule this fall. Of 130 Bowl Subdivision programs, only UConn, New Mexico State and Old Dominion remain on the sideline.

The Mountain West plans to start football on Oct. 24 and play an eight-game season. It announced a deal with Quest Diagnostics to provide antigen testing capabilities to its schools.

# History: Nadal admits conditions are 'difficult'

FROM BACK PAGE

He spoke Friday in Paris about what "probably are the most difficult conditions for me ever in Roland Garros" — a lack of matches in 2020, a new brand of tennis balls ("super slow, heavy"), cooler weather and plenty of rain in the forecast.

"But you know what?" Nadal said. "I am here to fight and to play with the highest intensity possible."

Asked recently about the possibility of catching the 38-year-old Federer, out for the rest of the season after a pair of operations on his right knee, Nadal expressed a sentiment he's uttered before.

Climbing the Grand Slam list, Nadal said, is "not an obsession at all."

"I know that you put a lot of attention on all of this," he replied when the topic was raised last week at the Italian Open, Nadal's first tournament since February because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Of course I would love to finish my career with 25, but (that's) something that probably will not happen. I'm going to keep fighting to produce chances, and then when I finish my career, let's see, no?" he said. "I just want to keep enjoying tennis. And that's it. If I am playing well, I know I normally have my chances. If not, going to be impossible. That's it."

There is, of course, another great of the game playing during this era and, like Nadal, gaining on Federer.

That would be No. 1-ranked Novak Djokovic, who had won five of seven major titles to raise his total to 17 before being disqualified at the U.S. Open for accidentally hitting a line judge with a ball while walking to a changeover.

In this oddest of years, the Grand Slam season will drawing to a close in France; the clay-court major was postponed from May until now because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Roland Garros is the last Slam, the last opportunity of

this season. So we all know who the main favorite is there: Obviously, it's Nadal. And everything that he has achieved there, losing maybe a couple matches in his entire career on that court ... is probably the most impressive record that anybody has on any court," Djokovic said. "So, yeah, of course you would put him right there in front as a favorite to win it."

For the record: Nadal has won 93 of 95 matches in the French Open and his last 21 in a row.

So what makes him so dominant there?

"He's an unbelievably great tennis player. Probably on clay, a little bit better than on the other surfaces," Thiem said. "He's left-handed, which makes it very uncomfortable. And then his forehand, the topspin on the clay, it's cruel to play."

Thiem takes notes and hopes to emulate aspects of Nadal's game. So do others.

In Rome, for example, two-time Grand Slam champion Simona Halep and one of her coaches, Artemion Apostu-Efremov, caught one of Nadal's training sessions.

"We were watching the way he hits the ball, the acceleration, the energy he has on the court and the way he practices 100%. It's always an inspiration," Apostu-Efremov said.

"This dedication on the court and focus on court," he said, "it's something that, for sure, could be transferred to Simona."

Nadal wound up losing his third match in Italy, which is neither ideal form nor the sort of prep work he is accustomed to ahead of Roland Garros.

Still, Nadal at the French Open is unlike anyone else, anywhere else.

"Regardless of how he feels, I'm sure he'll find a way," said Stefanos Tsitsipas, a 2019 Australian Open semifinalist seeded No. 5 in Paris. "He always finds a way, every single year. Clay is his surface. I'm sure he's going to do well."

AP sports writer Andrew Dampf in Rome contributed to this report.



CLAUDE PARIS/AP

Spain's Rafael Nadal, 34, can tie Roger Federer for most-ever major titles at 20 by claiming his 13th French Open championship.

# NBA/NFL



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

The Boston Celtics' Jayson Tatum, left, is defended by the Miami Heat's Andre Igoudala during the second half of an Eastern Conference finals Friday in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

## Celtics avoid elimination by topping Heat in Game 5

By TIM REYNOLDS  
Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Their season saved for at least two more days, Boston coach Brad Stevens offered the most succinct assessment of his Celtics.

"We're prideful," Stevens said. Celtic Pride. It was on display Friday night — when Jayson Tatum and his teammates announced very loudly that they're not ready to see the world that exists outside the NBA's restart bubble quite yet.

Tatum had 31 points and 10 rebounds, Jaylen Brown added 28 points and the Celtics shook off a slow first half to top the Miami Heat 121-108 in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals and stave off elimination.

"Our deal was to come out and play, come out and compete, give it our best shot and I thought we played pretty well in the second half," Stevens said. "But we're going to have to do it again and again because of the position we're in."

The Heat lead the series 3-2, with Game 6 on Sunday.

Daniel Theis had 15 points and 13 rebounds for the Celtics, who trailed by 12 early but outscored Miami 41-25 in the third quarter and never looked back. Kemba Walker scored 15 points, Marcus Smart had a 12-point, eighth-rebound, eight-assist night and Gordon Hayward scored 10 for the Celtics.

Goran Dragic scored 23 points before fouling out with 4:27 left for Miami, which got 20 from Duncan Robinson.

"It's certainly not going to be easy," Robinson said. "We've got

## NBA scoreboard

Playoffs	
CONFERENCE FINALS	
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)	
Eastern Conference	
Miami 3, Boston 2	
Miami 117, Boston 114, OT	
Miami 106, Boston 101	
Miami 117, Miami 106	
Miami 112, Boston 109	
Friday: Boston 121, Miami 108	
Saturday: Game 6 (APN Sports, 1:30 a.m. Monday CET; 8:30 a.m. Monday JKT)	
x-Tuesday: Game 7	
Western Conference	
L.A. Lakers 3, Denver 1	
L.A. Lakers 126, Denver 114	
L.A. Lakers 105, Denver 103	
Denver 114, L.A. Lakers 106	
L.A. Lakers 114, Denver 108	
Saturday: Game 6	
x-Monday: Game 6 (APN Sports, 3 a.m. Tuesday CET; 10 a.m. Tuesday JKT)	
x-Wednesday: Game 7	

Friday	
Celtics 121, Heat 108	
Miami — Butler 5-11 7-8 17, Crowder 5-12 4-6 14, Adebayo 5-11 3-4 13, Dragic 8-17 6-7 23, Robinson 7-15 3-4 20, Hill 0-0 0-0 0, Olynyk 2-3 0-0 5, Igoudala 1-5 0-0 2, Jones Jr. 0-0 0-0 0, Herro 6-12 0-0 14. Totals 99-86 23-19 108.	
Boston — Brown 12-23 0-1 28, Tatum 8-22 12-31 31, Theis 6-10 3-4 15, Smart 3-9 4-12, Walker 4-11 4-4 15, Hayward 4-9 2-2 10, Williams 0-1 0-0 0, Kanter 4-7 0-0 8, Wanamaker 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 42-93 25-29 121.	
Three-Point Goals—Miami 7-36 (Robinson 3-11, Herro 2-5, Olynyk 1-2, Dragic 1-7, Butler 0-2, Igoudala 0-3, Crowder 0-6), Boston 12-38 (Brown 4-10, Walker 3-6, Tatum 3-10, Smart 2-5, Theis 0-2, Hayward 4-4), Fouled Out—Miami 1 (Dragic), Boston None, Rebounds—Miami 38 (Adebayo, Butler 8), Boston 50 (Theis 13, Adebayo, Butler 8), Boston 29 (Smart 8), Total Fouls—Miami 23, Boston 23.	

to band together to do difficult things."

Jimmy Butler scored 17, Tyler Herro and Jae Crowder each had 14 and Bam Adebayo 13 for the Heat, which could get nothing to fall from three-point range.

Miami was 7-for-36 from beyond the arc, now shooting 24.8% on threes in its last 13 quarters — after shooting 35.3% on those in the playoffs before that drought.

"Boston played great in that second half," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "They deserved and earned what they got. We understand how tough it is to win in the playoffs. We did not compete hard enough defensively and we paid the price for that. But you do have to credit Boston. They played with great force."

Brown made back-to-back threes in the fourth quarter to turn an eight-point lead into a 103-89 margin with 8:05 left, and things weren't in doubt again. He turned to blow a kiss to the Heat bench after the second of those threes, reminiscent of something Herro did during his 37-point barrage in Game 4.

Game on. Series on. "It's not going to be perfect," Tatum said. "You just want to give yourself a chance."

The opening minutes didn't go according to plan for Boston, which missed 11 of its first 12 shots, committed four turnovers in that dismal stretch to make matters even worse, and got into a 17-5 hole early.

But the Celtics weathered all that and, even after shooting only 40% in the first half, only trailed 58-51 at the break — never leading, but never letting Miami get too far removed from view.

The Heat scored the first basket of the third quarter. The next few minutes were all Celtics.

They went on a 13-0 run over a stretch of only 3:06 to turn a nine-point deficit into a 64-60 lead, and the game changed just that fast.

## Watt brothers set for family reunion

By KRISTIE RIEKEN  
AND WILL GRAVES  
Associated Press

Growing up in Wisconsin, the sibling rivalry between the Watt brothers had no boundaries. Out front playing roller hockey. In the backyard playing football. Mini-baseball in the basement. Even the kitchen table at grandma's was not immune.

As kids, J.J., T.J. and Derek would spend hours at their grandmother's house, sipping their "special drink" of Sprite and cranberry juice in sippy cups while playing gin rummy, where their great-grandmother offered proof the family's competitive streak runs deep. Really deep.

"Great grandma, even when she was 100 years old, takes no prisoners," said J.J., the star defensive end for the Houston Texans. "When that's the attitude of your 100-, 101-year-old (great-) grandma, it kind of trickles down throughout the whole family."

On Sunday, the Watt brothers will play a much higher stakes game when J.J.'s Texans look to avoid an 0-3 start as they visit Derek and T.J.'s undefeated Steelers (2-0). It will be just the second time since 1927 that three brothers will appear in the same NFL game.

"It's incredible. It's special," said J.J., at 31 the oldest of the bunch. "It's a testament to our parents and everything that they did and all the people in our lives — our coaches, our trainers, everybody who helped us get here. It's going to be very, very cool."

If not exactly warm and fuzzy, J.J. is actually looking for a bit of payback against Derek after something the fullback did last season when he played for the Chargers in a loss to the Texans.

"I won the game so it doesn't matter, but yeah, he tossed a chip in the ribs," J.J. said. "That's what he does. He's a pretty little fullback. He sticks his elbow in your ribs as you're pass rushing and then he goes on his way. We'll

see what happens on Sunday."

Derek, the middle brother at 27, laughed at the memory and expects to have a run-in or two with big brother's familiar No. 99.

"I think I got him pretty good and he tried to play a spin move with it," said Derek, who signed a three-year deal with the Steelers in March. "But I am sure if he finds an opportunity this game he will definitely try to get me back for it. But I don't see him going out of his way, that's for sure."

That would simply be against the Watt way. John and Connie Watt instilled in their sons at a young age the importance of selfless hard work. They showed them out of the house in Pewaukee, Wisconsin — about a half-hour west of Milwaukee — and the three boys became the de facto sports commissioners of the neighborhood.

"We were trying to get as many people, as many kids in the community to come over our house and play as many sports as we possibly could," said T.J., the baby of the bunch at 26.

Some things never change. The Watts spent a portion of their off-season co-hosting a game show called "Ultimate Tag," and are currently starring in a series of Subway commercials featuring mom and dad.

Yet even as their stars have risen — as tends to happen when you're a three-time Defensive Player of the Year like J.J., or a 2019 All-Pro with a rapidly growing reputation as one of the best outside linebackers in the NFL in T.J. — their private lives remain relatively simple. Their group chats focus on Derek's son Logan, J.J. complaining about the heat in Houston; and T.J. being well, T.J., but staying as quiet as possible.

Considering how much his chatterbox older brothers talk, maybe it's fitting T.J. is practically a monk by comparison. Or maybe it's just a byproduct of constantly having to prove yourself in a house stuffed with testosterone.



JOHN CORDES/AP

Houston Texans defensive end J.J. Watt, left, stands next to his brother, San Diego Chargers fullback Derek Watt, after the Texans beat the Los Angeles Chargers 27-20 on Sept. 22, 2019. The three Watt brothers will share the field for the first time ever on Sunday when J.J. and the Texans visit T.J., Derek and the Steelers.



## SPORTS



**On the verge**  
Lightning close within one win  
of Stanley Cup » **Page 19**



FRENCH OPEN

If Spain's Rafael Nadal manages to claim a 13th French Open championship, he'll collect his 20th Grand Slam title overall, tying Roger Federer's record.

PETR DAVID JOSEK / AP

# Chasing history

## Nadal closes in on Federer, record

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
Associated Press

**F**or all of the many qualities contributing to Rafael Nadal's unprecedented superiority at the French Open — the bullwhip of a high-bouncing lefty forehand, the reflex returns, the cover-every-corner athleticism, the endless energy and grit — there's one element that stands above all the rest.

According to the opponent Nadal beat in the last two finals in Paris, anyway.

"You go into the match knowing that even your best tennis, even if you play it over three, four hours, might not be enough. I mean, if you do it, you maybe have a little chance, but you have to go to your limit on every single rally, every single point," Dominic

Thiem, who won the U.S. Open less than two weeks ago, told The Associated Press.

"That makes it not easy to go into the match," Thiem said. "And that's the mental part, I guess." When main-draw competition begins Sunday at Roland Garros, Thiem and every other player in the men's bracket will be pursuing Nadal as the 34-year-old from Spain pursues history.

If Nadal manages to claim a 13th French Open championship — extending his own record for the most singles trophies won by anyone at any major tennis tournament — he would, more significantly, also collect his 20th Grand Slam title overall, tying Roger Federer's record for a man.

Nadal's tally elsewhere: four U.S. Opens, two Wimbledon, one Australian Open.

**SEE HISTORY ON PAGE 22**



ALFREDO FALCONE, L'ESPRESSO/AP

With 18 major titles to his credit, Serbia's Novak Djokovic is just one behind Nadal and two behind Switzerland's Federer, who is skipping the French Open because of surgery on his knee.

Celtics down Heat in Game 5, stave off elimination

**NBA, Page 23**

Marlins, Reds, Astros secure postseason berths

**MLB, Page 21**