One dead in Portland after clash between demonstrators

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS  
Associated Press  
PORTLAND, Ore. — One person was shot and killed in Portland, Ore., as a large caravan of President Donald Trump supporters and Black Lives Matter protesters clashed in the streets, police said.

It wasn’t clear if the shooting late Saturday was linked to fights that broke out as a caravan of about 600 vehicles was confronted by counter-protesters in the city’s downtown.

Police said the caravan had left the area around 8:30 p.m., and officers heard gunshots around 15 minutes later, according to a statement. Officers arrived at the shooting scene “within a minute,” police said, but the man who was shot did not survive.

An Associated Press freelance photographer heard three gunshots and then observed police medics attending to the victim, who appeared to be a white man. The freelancer said the man was wearing a hat bearing the insignia of Patriot Prayer, a right-wing group whose members have frequently clashed with protesters in Portland in the past.

Police said the man was shot in the chest. He was not immediately identified. It’s unclear who shot him.

Homicide detectives were looking for more evidence, acknowledging that several images and videos had been posted on social media.

“It is important for detectives to get a full and accurate picture of what happened before, during, and after the shooting,” a police statement said. “If anyone was a witness, has video, or has information about the homicide, they’re asked to contact the primary detectives.”

“This violence is completely unacceptable and we are working diligently to find and apprehend the individual or individuals responsible,” Chief Chuck

SEE CLASH ON PAGE 10
Global job cuts herald economic pain ahead

Global corporations have announced more than 200,000 job cuts or buyouts in recent weeks, a worrying sign that more losses will come as furloughs implemented early in the pandemic turn into permanent layoffs.

MGM Resorts International and Coca-Cola Co. were the latest examples on Friday, joining an increasing number of companies that are trimming their workforce after economies emerged from shutdowns. Almost a quarter of U.S. workers that were temporarily laid off probably won’t come back, according to Goldman Sachs Group Inc. estimates.

The cuts cast a shadow on the fragile rebound in the global economy at a time when COVID-19 continues to pose a threat and many government stimulus programs have run their course.

The impact is widespread. Airlines were hit the earliest by a collapse in travel, and the job losses have now extended to retailers, entertainment and cosmetics companies.

The U.S. retail industry furloughed more than 1 million workers in early April amid lockdowns. Many may become permanent.

With the pandemic constraining commerce, many firms are facing the prospect of losing billions of dollars on souring loans. While some large European banks have said they need to cut workers, U.S. banks have largely abstained — except for Wells Fargo.
Marines end use of photos for promotions

By Immanuel Johnson
Stars and Stripes

Photos will no longer be used to select Marines for promotion or assignments, training, education and command opportunities as of Tuesday, officials said as the Corps joins a services-wide effort to fight unconscious bias.

In a memo released last week, the Marine Corps noted that only “authorized information can be placed before, requested by, or reviewed by members of a selection board” and photos of Marines were no longer considered authorized.

The move follows Secretary of Defense Mark Esper’s July 14 guidance to all service branches to stop using photographs in promotion boards and selection processes, to help the military to better reflect the U.S.’s diversity in its ranks and ensure “equal opportunity for all who serve.”

Two weeks before Esper’s memo, the Marines had already acknowledged that不公平 policy exists that directs selection boards to look for photos of Marines, which is part of an initiative to diversify the Corps’ ranks.

The move comes amid nationwide protests against police brutality and racial injustice, with the White House and some branches of the military announcing plans to change policies that discriminate against minorities.

“Today’s announcement is an admission that, as a service, we have failed to reflect the America we serve,” said Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger last month called on the service to “listen, understand, try to empathize, so that we can work together to use our service to change the way that some people view … either a conscious bias or an unconscious bias.”

“We got to change the way that we discuss things, the way that we understand them. And that means a lot more listening,” he said.

The military has set up a task force to address biases in the service, and the Air Force has ordered independent reviews of its record on military discipline and opportunities for Black airmen.

A Marine who has used promotion photos several times said she endorsed the move to stop using pictures.

“Anything that helps eliminate unfair bias is a good thing,” said Sgt. Kirstin Spanu, a communications strategy and operations specialist with the Marine Reserve.

The military began more closely examining its policies on diversity and racial bias after protests flared around the U.S. following the deaths of several African Americans, including George Floyd in Minneapolis and Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Ky., at the hands of law enforcement officials.

Parents of poisoned toddler sue government for negligence

By Wyatt Olson
Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — The parents of a 7-month-old girl who died last year at an unauthorized home day care in Honolulu filed suit Wednesday alleging that negligence by active-duty military personnel and federal employees led to her death.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court of Hawaii, names the United States of America, Island Palm Communities and 20 as-yet unnamed individuals as defendants.

Abigail Lobisch died Feb. 24, 2019, while staying overnight as-yet unnamed individuals as United States of America, I island Palm Communities and 10 as-yet unnamed individuals as defendants.

Abigail Lobisch died Feb. 24, 2019, while staying overnight at the unlicensed day care at Aliamanu Military Reservation, Honolulu, operated by Dixie De nise Villa.

An autopsy determined Abigail’s death was caused by a lethal amount of diphenhydramine, an over-the-counter medication that also goes by the brand name Benadryl. Her bloodstream contained roughly double the amount that has proven fatal in other in fant deaths.

Villa has been charged with manslaughter and is awaiting trial while out on bail.

Villa’s arrest resulted from a visitation report at Aliamanu, which lies on the west ern outskirts of Honolulu. Island Palm Communities is a private company that manages housing in partnership with the Army in Hawaii.

“Our civil lawsuit is directed against the United States for its failure to enforce safety rules,” said Loretta Sheehan, the attorney representing Anna and James Lobisch. “At the end of the day, in our case it’s irrelevant whether Ms. Villa or somebody else in that household poisoned Abigail. What matters is that a child care establishment was being run out of that household, exposing chil dren to neglect and to danger, and Abigail was the one who finally paid the price.”

The suit seeks an unspecified amount of compensation for “ser vere and devastating emotional distress” suffered by the Lobisch family over their daughter’s death.

“We just don’t ever want something like this to happen again to anyone — to any child, to any parent,” Anna Lobisch said during a phone interview Thursday. “I’ve said this before: We’re never going to have closure from what happened. It’s not going to bring Abi back, but we’re hoping that justice will be served.”

Army Garrison Hawaii on Thursday referred questions about the lawsuit to the Pentagon, but it was after hours in Washington.

Villa and her husband, Aaron Villa, a chief petty officer in the Navy, moved into their home at Aliamanu in late 2017 after he was transferred from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island in Wash ington, the lawsuit said.

The suit alleges that Villa oper ated an unauthorized home day care at the Whidbey neighbor hood known as Maylor Point. In 2015, one of Aaron Villa’s super iiors ordered the chief petty officer to “shut it down,” the lawsuit said.

Children at risk

Soon after moving to Aliama nu, Denise Villa began operating an unauthorized day care, and a neighbor began seeing and hearing things that led her to believe children were being left unsupervised and at risk of hurting themselves.

The neighbor, Katie Camario — referred to only as “K.C.” in the lawsuit — made numerous calls over months to staff ers at Island Palm Communities, submit ting photos and video of incidents in Villa’s backyard.

In early January 2018, Camario saw a toddler crying in the backyard for about five minutes; no one tended to the child, the lawsuit said.

“On January 8, 2018, K.C. heard a child yelling: ‘fire, fire!’” the lawsuit said. “She came to the window and saw a boy of about 4-5 years of age holding a long lighter. The boy was attempting to light a trampoline in the backyard on fire. K.C. saw a flame come out of the lighter.”

Handed the lighter, another child put it in his mouth, the lawsuit said.

In this instance, Camario called the military police, who responded to the Villa home.

But the unauthorized day care continued to operate.

‘Cease and desist’

During a town hall meeting at Fort Shafter shortly after Abigail’s death, Col. Thomas Barrett, then the commander of U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, told the audience that the Army has issued two “cease and desist” orders to Villa in early 2018, but that she “had disregarded those orders,” the lawsuit said.

“The government has a tremen dous number of safety rules when it comes to providing child care on base,” Sheehan said. “Child care providers are required to go through rigorous background checks, interviews, references. They have to go through training. They are subject to unannounced inspections. They are subject to recall training. So there’s quite a safety net there when it comes to child care on base.”

But in this case, government officials apparently did not follow those safety rules.

“Nothing was ever enforced,” Sheehan said. “Nobody was ever burned from base. Military housing was never taken away. There was never a refusal to renew their lease. The government appeared to simply wave its finger at Ms. Villa and didn’t shut her down, and the failure to shut her down as a child care provider led to the death of Abigail Lobisch.”

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South Korean army’s chief of staff picked as new defense minister

By KIM GAMEL and YO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — President Moon Jae-in has nominated the army’s chief of staff to be his new defense minister, the presidential office said Friday, citing his expertise in U.S.-South Korean military relations.

Gen. Suh Wook, who has been chief of staff since April 2019 and previously served as the operations division chief at the U.S.-led Combined Forces Command, will face a confirmation hearing at the National Assembly. He would replace Jeong Kyeong-doo, a former air force fighter pilot who has held the post since 2018.

The Blue House cited Suh’s expertise in military field maneuvers and combined operations between the longtime allies, which wrapped up their latest joint training exercise on Friday.

The nomination comes as South Korea is pressing to expedite the long-delayed transfer of wartime operational control, or OPCON, from the United States to Seoul before the end of Moon’s term in 2022.

Recent military exercises have focused on testing Seoul’s ability to assume control of OPCON since plans to hand it over have been conditioned based after the allies missed a 2015 deadline amid rising tensions with North Korea.

Suh, 57, who was born in the city of Gwangju, has a good understanding of the Moon administration’s philosophy on national security, presidential spokesman Kang Min-seok said during a briefing.

“We expect him to contribute to maintaining a strong readiness posture based on experiences and insight from his more than 30 years of service,” Kang said.

The spokesman added: “He is the right person to push for the OPCON transfer based upon a strong South Korean-U.S. alliance, as well as implementing defense reforms to build a strong military.”

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Tokyo’s virus number falls; US military reports 6 new cases

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The U.S. military in Japan reported a handful of new coronavirus cases over the weekend, while the daily count in the nation’s capital took a substantial dip.

Tokyo announced 247 cases on Saturday and 148 on Sunday, according to reports by national broadcaster NHK and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The last time the city’s daily count fell below 200 was Aug. 25.

Marine Corps Installations Pacific announced Saturday that six people had tested positive for the coronavirus at three Okinawa bases: four infections at Camp Foster; one at Camp Kinser and one at Camp Courtney.

“These individuals all tested positive due to our requirement to test all inbound personnel before exiting [quarantine],” a statement said. “All of these individuals have been in [quarantine] for nearly two weeks. Close contacts have been notified and directed to quarantine.”

No cases were recorded on Sunday; however, the Marines did announce that three people had recovered from the virus. The previous day, it said one individual was no longer infected.

No other U.S. military installations in Japan had reported new coronavirus patients as of 9 p.m. Sunday.

Stars and Stripes reporter Corey Dickstein contributed to this report. gamel.kim@stripes.com

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**MCAS Iwakuni bans family for coronavirus violations**

**BY JOSEPH DITZLER**  
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — An American family that drew rebuke from Japan's defense minister after skipping coronavirus restrictions in July has been banned from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, and all U.S. military installations, for 10 years, according to Marine statements.

The family of four arrived July 12 at Haneda International Airport in central Tokyo and the following day boarded a commercial flight for Kintaikyo Airport, which shares a runway with MCAS Iwakuni, according to a news release by the air station Friday. Tests by Japanese authorities at Haneda later showed three of the family members were infected with the coronavirus.

According to the Marines, the family violated Japan's Quarantine Act, along with orders in place from U.S. Forces Japan and MCAS Iwakuni to control the virus' spread.

Japan at the time was experiencing the onset of a second wave of coronavirus cases.

Friday's release came with an apology: "The air station expresses sincere regret to our Japanese neighbors for any anxiety caused by this incident and we will continue to strictly enforce appropriate COVID-19 risk mitigation procedures."

The family left Iwakuni on Friday for the U.S., according to an email Saturday from 1st Lt. Philip Parker, a spokesman for MCAS Iwakuni, to Stars and Stripes.

Parker said a family member employed by the Defense Department has resigned that position; Parker declined to identify the organization.

Earlier reports about the incident indicated a family of three; however, only three of the four family members tested positive for coronavirus, according to the release.

Defense Minister Taro Kono singled out the family at a news conference July 15 and called on the U.S. to tighten up its coronavirus testing and isolation procedures.

Kono said the family gave false information about its travel plans. He also cited the U.S. practice, afterwards curtailed, of housing military personnel newly arrived on Okinawa in an off-base hotel during their 14-day mandated quarantine.

At the time, U.S. personnel arriving at air bases in Japan were subject to quarantine but were not tested unless they experienced symptoms.

Not long after Kono's statement, USFJ ordered anyone affiliated with the U.S. military, including service members, Defense Department civilian employees, contractors and family members, to test free of the virus before exiting quarantine.

The family's ban, or "debarment," followed a misconduct hearing Aug. 7, one day after the four were medically cleared.

They spent 24 days of isolation in their base home, according to the statement.

The Marine statement indicated the family arrived at Haneda via a commercial flight from the United States. From Haneda, Japanese authorities cleared them to travel directly to their quarantine site, but not on public transportation.

The next day they took the commercial flight to Iwakuni.

At the air station, they did not immediately enter quarantine, a violation of USFJ and base orders.

The three learned their positive test results after entering quarantine, according to the Marines.

Contact tracing found no contacts linked to the family on the air station; of six traced off the station, none apparently contracted the virus, according to the Marines.

"While deeply regrettable, this incident caused no additional cases of COVID-19 within Japan," the statement said.

**Afghan president names members of peace council**

**BY RAHIM FAIEZ**  
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's president has appointed a council for national reconciliation, which will have final say on whether the government will sign a peace deal with the Taliban after what are expected to be protracted and uncertain negotiations with the insurgents.

The negotiations were envisaged under a U.S.-Taliban peace agreement signed in February as intra-Afghan talks to decide the war-torn country's future. However, their start has been hampered by a series of delays that have frustrated Washington. Some had expected the negotiations to begin earlier this month.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani issued a decree late Saturday establishing the 46-member council, led by his former rival in last year's presidential election, Abdullah Abdullah, who is now in the government.

The council is separate from a 21-member negotiating team, which Ghani appointed in March and which is expected to travel to the Gulf Arab state of Qatar, where the Taliban maintain a political office, for intra-Afghan talks.

The council will have the final say and will ultimately decide on the points that the negotiating team takes up with the Taliban.

Abdullah's appointment to head the reconciliation efforts follows a power-sharing deal he signed in May with Ghani to end the political deadlock after last year's elections — a vote in which Abdullah had also declared himself a winner.

The High Council for National Reconciliation is made up of an array of Afghan political figures, including current and former officials, and nine women representatives, one of whom was named Abdullah's deputy.

The establishment of the council may not sit well with the Taliban, who have appointed just one 20-member negotiating team that has the authority to make final decisions. The Taliban team answers only to the insurgents' leader, Mullah Hibatullah Akhunzada.

There are also other obstacles in the way of the negotiations. The Afghan government has reversed a decision to release the last 320 Taliban prisoners it is holding until the insurgents free more captured soldiers.

The U.S.-Taliban deal called on the Taliban to free 5,000 government and military personnel they hold captive while the government was to free 5,000 Taliban prisoners, in an exchange meant as a goodwill gesture ahead of the intra-Afghan negotiations.

**Israel responds with tank strikes to explosive balloons from Gaza**

**Associated Press**

JERUSALEM — The Israeli military said it struck militant targets in Gaza early Sunday in response to continued launches of explosives-laden balloons out of the Hamas-run territory.

There were no immediate reports of casualties on either side. But the violence comes at a time when Israel is struggling with a worsening economic crisis and a new outbreak of the coronavirus.

Hamas-linked groups have launched more than 150 incendiary balloons into Israel in recent weeks, torching wide swathes of farmland. Israel has responded with airstrikes and other attacks.

The army said Sunday's tank fire struck Hamas "military posts" in southern Gaza, without elaborating.

Hamas is pressing Israel to ease its blockade on Gaza and allow large-scale development projects. Egypt and Qatar are trying to shore up an informal cease-fire.

Those efforts have grown more urgent in recent days as authori- ties in Gaza have detected the first cases of local transmission of the coronavirus. Hamas has imposed a lockdown in the coastal territory bordering Israel and Egypt, which is home to 2 million Palestinians.

Israel and Egypt imposed a blockade on Gaza after Hamas seized power from rival Pales- tinian forces in 2007. Israel says the blockade is needed to keep Hamas from building up its arse- nal, but critics view it as a form of collective punishment. Israel and Hamas have fought three wars and several smaller battles since the closure was imposed.

The restrictions have pushed the local economy to the brink of collapse, and years of war and isolation have left the health care system ill-equipped to cope with a major outbreak.

In response to the recent attacks, Israel closed Gaza's sole commercial crossing, forcing its only power station to shut down for lack of fuel and leaving Gazans with just a few hours of electricity a day. Israel has also closed the coastal territory's fishing zone.

The U.N.'s Mideast envoy, Nickolay Mladenov, recently warned the situation is "rapidly deteriorating."
VIRUS OUTBREAK

India has world’s biggest single-day count

BY SHERIF SALIQ
Associated Press

NEW DELHI — India registered 78,761 new coronavirus cases on Sunday, the biggest single-day spike in the world since the pandemic began, just as the government began easing restrictions to help the battered economy.

The surge raised India’s tally to over 3.5 million and came as the government announced the reopening of the subway in New Delhi, the capital. It also will move ahead with limited sports and religious events next month.

A country of 1.4 billion people, India now has the fastest-growing daily coronavirus caseload of any country in the world, reporting more than 75,000 new cases for four straight days.

One of the reasons is testing: India now conducts nearly 1 million tests every day, compared with just 200,000 two months ago.

A significant feature of India’s COVID-19 management, however, is the growing rate of recovered patients. On Sunday, the recovery rate reached nearly 76.5%.

The Health Ministry credited its strategic policy of “testing aggressively, tracking comprehensively and treating efficiently” in supervised home isolation and hospitals.

But COVID-19 fatalities continue to mount and soon India will have the third-largest death toll, after the United States and Brazil, even though it has had far fewer deaths than those two countries.

India is now reporting around 1,000 COVID-19 deaths every day. So far, more than 63,000 Indians have died from the disease.

Even as eight states remain among the worst-hit regions and contribute nearly 72% of the total infections, the virus is now spreading fast in the vast hinterlands, with health experts warning that September could be the most challenging month yet. Early last week, members of a small secluded tribe in the remote Andaman and Nicobar Islands tested positive for the coronavirus.

So far, the biggest contributor to the new surge has been the western state of Maharashtra, home to the commercial capital of Mumbai, which has reported more than 24,000 deaths and nearly 21% of all cases.

India’s economy — the fifth largest in the world — has been severely hit by the pandemic. But despite the surging cases, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his team have been pushing for a return to normalcy to ease the pain.

The federal government on Saturday said the crowded subway, a lifeline for millions of people in New Delhi, will reopen gradually starting Sept. 7. Schools, colleges and movie theaters will remain closed until the end of September.

Muslims wearing face masks beat drums during a Muharram procession in Kolkata, India, on Sunday.

Virus concerns force US election officials to get creative

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The coronavirus has upended everyday life in ways big and small. What happens when those disruptions overlap with voting? Thousands of state and local election officials across the U.S. are sharing ideas and making accommodations to try to ensure that voters and polling places are safe amid an unprecedented pandemic.

Here are virus-related obstacles voters could face during this unprecedented presidential election year along with some of the solutions being tried:

Closures and curtailed hours

What if you need a voter registration form or absentee ballot application and all the normal go-to places are closed or open by appointment only? It’s a problem nationwide.

The most recent American Library Association survey found that 62% of U.S. libraries, which are sources for voting documents, were fully closed while another 26% were offering only curbside service. Likewise, the vast majority of state motor vehicle departments are operating on limited hours, at reduced capacity or by appointment only, according to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

Benjamin Hovland, chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, said 40 states have online voter registration, a particular benefit during the pandemic.

Among states, Ohio has earned points for its creativity. Republican Secretary of State Frank LaRose struck partnerships with grocers and newspapers to distribute absentee ballot applications this spring, and he’s tapped breweries to promote voter registration in the fall: “Beer drinking and democracy go together,” he said of the program.

Polling place contamination

Perhaps the most pressing worry of most voters is how polling places will be kept virus-free. A CDC study conducted after Wisconsin’s primary, the first in-person election after states began issuing stay-at-home orders, found 37 of the state’s new COVID-19 cases in the days after the election were among voters, a warning to other states.

As an example of how seriously they’re responding, California issued 50 pages of instructions to its election boards last month calling for site-specific virus prevention plans and extensive training. That’s on top of CDC-recommended guidelines that include social distancing, wearing masks and frequent hand-washing.

German leaders condemn far-right attempt to storm parliament building

Associated Press

BERLIN — Senior German officials on Sunday condemned attempts by far-right protesters and others to storm the parliament building following a protest against the country’s pandemic restrictions.

Hundreds of people, some waving the flag of the German Reich of 1871-1918 and other far-right banners, breached a security barrier outside the Reichstag late Saturday but were intercepted by police and forcibly removed.

“Reich flags and right-wing extremist provocations in front of the German Bundestag are an unbearable attack on the heart of our democracy,” Germany’s president, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, said Sunday. “We will never accept this.”

Steinmeier said people had the right to express their anger about the coronavirus restrictions and to question them publicly, including demonstrations.

“My sympathy ends where protesters allow themselves to be used by enemies of democracy and political agitators,” he added.

Police used pepper spray to drive back the protesters, who earlier in the day had participated in a large rally through the capital.

About 300 people were arrested in front of the Reichstag and following an incident at the Russian embassy, according to police.
VIRUS OUTBREAK

College towns alarmed over student outbreaks

BY BRYAN ANDERSON, JIM SALTER AND LINDSAY WHITEHURST
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — As waves of schools and businesses around the country are cleared to reopen, college towns are moving toward renewed shutdowns because of too many parties and too many COVID-19 infections among students.

With more than 300 students at the University of Missouri testing positive for the coronavirus and an alarming 44% positivity rate for the surrounding county, the local health director Friday ordered bars to stop serving alcohol at 9 p.m. and close by 10 p.m.

Iowa’s governor has ordered all bars shut down around The University of Iowa and Iowa State, while the mayor of Tuscaloosa, Ala., did the same in the hometown of the University of Alabama, while the mayor of Tuscaloosa, Ala., did the same in the hometown of the University of Alabama.

But the council was nevertheless worried that college students sharing dorms, bathrooms and showers could become “super-spreaders” and bring the virus off campus, council chair George Handley said.

“We’re already seeing what’s happened across the country at other universities,” he said.

In Utah, the city council in Provo overrode a mayoral veto to pass a mask mandate, which includes a $500 fine for organizing large mask-less gatherings, days before students return to Brigham Young University from around the country.

But the council was nevertheless worried that college students sharing dorms, bathrooms and showers could become “super-spreaders” and bring the virus off campus, council chair George Handley said.

“We’re already seeing what’s happened across the country at other universities,” he said.

In March, a recent warehouse party organized by a BYU student’s promotional company called Young/Dumb also raised concern when pictures of hundreds of revelers without masks surfaced online.

BYU, owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has its own rules requiring masks on campus. Requirements for indoor public spaces in town will help people stay healthy and businesses stay open, Handley said.

This is actually about preserving our way of life, it’s not about destroying it, contrary to what some people say,” Handley said.

The outbreaks since students began returning to campus in the past few weeks have heightened tensions between colleges and their towns and led to recriminations between local politicians and university officials.

Surging infection numbers around the U.S. have been blamed in part on young people ignoring mask and social distancing requirements.

In Iowa’s Story County, home to Iowa State, 74% of new cases over the past seven days were among people ages 19 to 24, Gov. Kim Reynolds said Thursday. In the same time period, 69% of new cases in Johnson County, the home of the University of Iowa, were in that age group.

“It is increasing the virus activity in the community, and it’s spilling over to other segments of the population,” Reynolds said.

Three of North Carolina’s largest public universities have abruptly halted in-person undergraduate instruction and directed students to move out of the dorms after hundreds tested positive following their return to campus.

More than 800 have been infected at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and over 670 at North Carolina State.

Leaders at UNC-Chapel Hill, which has shifted to online classes, wrote an open letter Thursday to the mayor outlining steps the university is taking to curb off-campus parties.

“We recognize the very real problems with the behaviors of some of our fraternity and sorority members,” the letter said.

Oyeronke Popoola, 17-year-old freshman at UNC-Chapel Hill who moved out of her dorm, said that administrators, not students, deserve most of the blame for the virus-related problems after they ushered students back to campus.

“They should’ve put everything online from the beginning, but they wanted the money,” she said.

The problems did not change the thinking of others around the country.

The University of Virginia announced Friday that it is moving ahead with plans to offer in-person instruction for the fall semester, after delaying the start of classes for two weeks to assess the spread of COVID-19.

“We know some will be delighted to hear this news and others will be disappointed,” a university statement said. “To be frank, it was a very difficult decision, made in the face of great uncertainty, and with full awareness that future events may force us to change course.”

Search for love persists virtually, even amid quarantine

BY LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — If there’s one thing the pandemic hasn’t canceled, it’s the search for love.

With the health emergency, daters have taken to apps, websites and matchmaking services in search of connection, with more meeting in person as the crisis drags on at a time when every touch is calculated and fraught.

Some daters insist on safety precautions before leaping into offline meetups. Others take no precautions, relying on mutual trust. A lucky few are on the ultimate step, marriage.

In March, the popular dating app Hinge experienced a 30% increase over January and February in messages sent among users. In June, compared to the same month last year, there was a 13% increase in the number of dates — virtual or in-person — in the U.S. and U.K., said Logan Ury, chief researcher for the app.

Users are feeling creative.

“Their faces are seen, but they’re not touching, and there’s a lot of eye contact,” said Andrew Burman, a 30-year-old dater in New York. “They’re feeling resilient, and they’re not willing to put a year of their love life on hold because of the global pandemic,” Ury said.

Look no further than Jordan and Brittany Tyler in Alleghan, Mich., as evidence of that.

Jordan, an adjunct professor of communications at Western Michigan University, and Brittan-y, who supervises a program for autistic youth, had both been afraid to start dating about a year when the pandemic hit. Neither had dated online before they signed up for Match.com.

“When the lockdown happened an alert went off on my phone and it sounded liked ‘The Purge’ or something,” Brittany laughed. “I thought, ‘I’m going to die alone.’”

Both had dater’s exes for several years before marrying.

The two started texting March 18. They were wed by July after spending much of quarantine together after a romantic date March 24 at Jordan’s place.

Jordan’s winning line when they hopped from text to the physical world?

“I said, ‘Hey, if you come have dinner with me I’m stocked up on toilet paper. I’ll give you a free rol,’” he joked. “It was worth the time.”

For two New Yorkers, real-estate agent Gordon von Broock, 53, and hair colorist Alix Mane, 42, pandemic love didn’t start with a meeting in the physical world.

“It was just a friend of a friend’s friend,” Mane said. “I was just looking to meet someone to have casual messages.”

But a recent warehouse party organized by a BYU student’s promotional company called Young/Dumb also raised concern when pictures of hundreds of revelers without masks surfaced online.

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Kansas fraternities and sororities hit hard by COVID-19

Associated Press

LAWRENCE — The coronavirus is hitting fraternities and sororities in Kansas particularly hard, with 10% testing positive at the University of Kansas. Breaks linked to four sororities at Kansas State University.

The University of Kansas said in a news release that it has conducted 21,719 tests and 474 have been positive, for a positive rate of 2.2%. But among the fraternities and sororities, there have been 270 positives among 2,698 members tested.

The university began testing every student, faculty and staff member for COVID-19 as they returned to campus this month. At Kansas State, health officials announced six cases at Alpha Delta Pi, six at Alpha Xi Delta, five at Chi Omega and five at Kappa Delta, The Kansas City Star reported. The cases have resulted in quarantines.

Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas reported at least 795 new cases Saturday of the coronavirus, as well as 16 new deaths from the illness.

Of those new cases, 108 were found in the state’s correctional system, according to the Department of Health.

The university's latest figures push the Arkansas total past 60,000 to at least 60,378 since tracking of the state’s COVID-19 cases began in March, with a death toll of 772. The department said 5,473 cases are currently active and not asymptomatic, those who have died or recovered, while 384 are hospitalized, 23 fewer than Friday.

The department sits at 9%, compared to the 5% threshold set by the World Health Organization for COVID-19.

Connecticut

Officials at University of Connecticut said 57 students who have tested positive for COVID-19 are in isolation as university officials welcome back its 5,000 residential students.

The university’s latest figures as of Saturday showed that 1.14% of residential students are currently positive for the virus. So far, 69 students have tested positive while 10 have recovered.

Students began returning to campus Aug. 18. All were tested for the virus and all were supposed to limit their contact with others during their first 14 days back.

By Aug. 18, university officials announced they had evicted several students from off-campus housing after learning of a crowded dormitory room party with no mask-wearing or social distancing in violation of the school's coronavirus rules. At that point, eight students had tested positive and were being isolated.

Contact tracers are investigating the latest new cases at the university. Two of the university’s more than 3,000 faculty and staff members have tested positive.

Florida

MIAMI — Health officials in Florida reported 150 new deaths from COVID-19 and 3,197 confirmed cases as the positivity rate continued to drop in the state.

The new deaths raised the total death toll to 11,246 deaths. They bring the average daily toll reported over the past week to 120.

The number of new known cases is down from peaks averaging nearly 12,000 daily in mid-July.

The positivity rate in testing has averaged below 10% over the past week while the number of people being treated in Florida hospitals for COVID-19 has also been declining to about 3,800 since highs of more than 9,500 on July 23.

South Carolina

COLUMBIA — South Carolina’s streak of 13 days with less than 1,000 reported coronavirus cases is over, according to The State newspaper.

The state’s Department of Health and Environmental Control reported 1,250 new coronavirus cases Saturday, bringing the total number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state to more than 57,353.

More than 2,500 people in South Carolina have died from the virus.

The percent of positive tests announced Saturday also climbed to 20.5%, the second time in a week that it’s been more than 20%, the state said.

Texas

AUSTIN — Texas reported 4,732 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus Saturday, along with 154 new deaths from the disease.

The new coronavirus cases reported Saturday were the highest number of cases for the six-month Texas outbreak to at least 606,530, the Texas Department of State Health Services said. Of those, the state said its estimate of the number of active cases fell by almost 3,500 to 101,189, and the confirmed number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized fell by 67 to 4,422.

The overall COVID-19 death toll for the Texas outbreak rose to 12,266.

The rolling seven-day average of the rate of positive tests has fallen from 16% a week ago to 12.16% as of Friday, the most recent rate reported by the state.

Gov. Greg Abbott has set a 10% positivity rate as a target, and the World Health Organization has set 5% as the threshold for the end of the pandemic.

The rolling seven-day average of tests administered was 37,200 as of Friday, however, down from 40,400 the day before and well below the 63,900 average of Aug. 18.

Washington

PULLMAN — The number of coronavirus cases in Whitman County has nearly tripled in the past week, one of the highest growth rates in the nation.

The county is home to Washington-States University, and students have been pouring into Pullman in the past week for the start of the school year.

The Spokane-Review reported that the county’s COVID-19 case count rose to 422 on Saturday.

The county said in a press release that of the 58 new positive cases reported in the county Saturday, 22 were in people 19 or younger and 36 were in people age 20 to 39.

Nevada

CARSON CITY — Nevada is reporting 609 additional coronavirus cases and 15 deaths.

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services released the latest COVID-19 statistics Saturday.

The statewide totals most recently stood at 68,461 cases and 1,302 deaths since the start of the pandemic.

The number of newly confirmed cases reported daily has decreased since peaking above 1,400 on July 15, a trend that officials attribute, at least partially, to the state’s face-covering mandate and limits on large gatherings.

The number of tests reported has decreased week-by-week as well, from more than 49,000 in the third week in July to less than 27,000 last week.

Meanwhile, a student at the College of Southern Nevada and an employee at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas have tested positive for COVID-19. Both schools confirmed the infections.

The UNLV staff member is the fourth person at the school to test positive since school began earlier this week.

Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma has nearly 1,100 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus and 11 new deaths from the illness, the Oklahoma State Health Department reported Saturday.

The new cases were linked to four sororities at Oklahoma State University.

The number of new deaths reported Saturday raised the total for the six-month outbreak to 57,353 cases, while the deaths raised the state’s outbreak toll to 797.

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

Hundreds of photos contributed by families were staked at Belle Isle State Park on Saturday in Detroit. A memorial drive is planned for Monday to honor 1,500 city residents who have died from COVID-19. Mayor Mike Duggan declared the day as Detroit Memorial Day to remember residents who didn’t have the funerals that they deserved due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Iowa

IOWA CITY — One of the largest school districts in Iowa is starting the school year with online-only instruction.

KRCG reports that the Iowa City school board voted Saturday to conduct all classes virtually for the first two weeks. Classes in the 12,000-student district begin on Sept. 8.

The move comes after the state granted the district a waiver earlier in the week for allowing for the virtual instruction. The 14-day average positivity rate in Johnson County, where the district is located, was 13.9% on Wednesday, and had risen to 21.1% by Saturday.

The positivity threshold Gov. Kim Reynolds has established for schools to seek online learning instead of required classroom lessons is 15%.

Extracurricular activities, like sports, must be suspended for the duration of the two-week waiver.

South Dakota

PIERRE — South Dakota health officials Saturday reported 425 new cases of the coronavirus and two new deaths.

The state has now had a total of nearly 13,000 cases of COVID-19 as of Saturday. There were 2,428 cases still active.

With the new deaths reported Saturday, South Dakota’s death toll from the disease has risen to 167. The South Dakota Department of Health has reported 10,347 recoveries from the disease, and a total of 79 people who are currently hospitalized.
President Donald Trump gives a thumbs up while walking to Air Force One upon departure at Chennault International Airport on Saturday in Lake Charles, La.

Clash: Demonstrators continue fighting in Portland after fatal shooting

FROM FRONT PAGE

Lovel said.

Portland has been the site of nightly protests for more than three months since the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Many of them have ended in vandalism and violence, and hundreds of demonstrators have been arrested by local and federal law enforcement since late May.

In the two hours following the shooting, protesters gathered downtown and there was sporadic fighting and vandalism, police said. Some gave speeches in Lownsdale Square Park before the protest petered out. Ten people were arrested, police said.

The caravan had gathered downtown just as a planned protest was getting underway. The chaotic scene came two days after Trump invoked Portland as a cautionary tale for what would be occurring in their streets, Wolf told CBS “Face the Nation.”

Trump and other speakers at last week’s Republican convention evoked a violent, dystopian future if Democratic presidential hopeful Joe Biden wins in November and pointed to Portland as a cautionary tale for what would be in store for Americans.

The pro-Trump rally’s organizer, who recently coordinated a similar caravan in Boise, Idaho, said in a Twitter video posted Saturday afternoon that attendees should only carry concealed weapons and the route was being kept secret for safety reasons.

The caravan had gathered earlier in the day at a suburban mall and drove as a group to the heart of Portland. As they arrived in the city, protesters attempted to stop them by standing in the street and blocking bridges.

Videos from the scene showed sporadic fighting, as well as Trump supporters firing paintball pellets at opponents and using bear spray as counter-protesters threw things at the Trump caravan.

The Black Lives Matter demonstrations usually target police buildings and federal buildings. Some protesters have called for reductions in police budgets while the city’s mayor and some in the Black community have decried the violence, saying it’s counterproductive.

Early Saturday morning, fires set outside a police union building that has been a frequent site for protests prompted police to declare a riot.

An accelerant was used to ignite a mattress and other debris that was laid against the door of the Portland Police Association building, police said in a statement. At least one dumpster had also been set on fire in the street nearby.

The commotion followed a sit-in in the lobby of the Portland mayor’s condominium building Friday night.
Ownership of lighthouse is up for grabs

RI WESTERLY — One of Westerly’s most recognizable landmarks is available for any qualified organization willing to take care of it.

The U.S. Coast Guard wrote to the state Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission this month to inform it that the Watch Hill Lighthouse was in “excess to the needs of the Coast Guard” and was posted for transfer to the federal General Services Administration. The Sun of Westerly reported.

Under provisions of the federal lighthouse act, the National Park Service will provide applications to interested parties and review and evaluate the applications. If a transfer of ownership is approved, the new owner will be required to maintain the lighthouse in accordance with federal standards.

Three cars with sleeping toddler inside

OH DAYTON — A toddler who was sleeping in the backseat of a car stolen from a Dayton gas station was found unharmed when a passing motorist spotted her strapped in her car seat in some brush along the side of a city street, authorities said.

The car was stolen when the child’s father stopped at the station to use an ATM. The thief drove off, apparently unaware the child was in the backseat, authorities said.

The child was found about 30 minutes later and was soon reunited with her family.

The car thief remained at large. The stolen vehicle has not been recovered.

Hundreds of subway windows were smashed

NY NEW YORK — Authorities were on the hunt for a vandal they said smashed hundreds of windows on New York City subway trains.

More than 400 windows were damaged since May, costing roughly $400,000 to fix and all but exhausting supplies of replacement windows, the city’s transit agency said.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the police department this week announced a $12,500 reward for information leading to an arrest.

Police released photos and video last week of a possible suspect — a man wearing a white tank top, gray pants, beige hat and blue surgical mask.

Cottage with private beach for sale for $20M

NV GLENBROOK — A Lake Tahoe cottage with a private beach is on the market for nearly $20 million.

The 1,688-square-foot cottage comes with 2 acres, including a private 170-foot beach with a private pier, according to the Reno Gazette-Journal.

The modest home was built in 1956 on Tahoe’s eastern shore in the community of Glenbrook.

Baby’s first nasal swab

Quinton Brown, 1, is held by his mother, Heather Brown, as he eyes a swab while being tested for COVID-19 at a new walk-up testing site at Chief Sealth High School in Seattle. The child’s daycare facility requires testing for the virus. The coronavirus testing site is the fourth now open by the city and is free.

Jean Merkelbach of the Engel & Volkers real estate agency said the land is the value of the property and that the cottage would probably be demolished to build another home.

Tanker crash spills 3,000 gallons of fuel

WY YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK — A tanker hauling unloaded gasoline spilled about 3,000 gallons of the fuel after overturning in Yellowstone National Park while en route to a delivery, park officials said.

There was no evidence any gasoline entered the nearby Yellowstone River, officials said.

The tandem trailer being hauled by a tanker truck overturned between Fishing Bridge and Mud Volcano in an area where the Grand Loop Road runs near the Yellowstone River, park officials said.

Autopsy: Man died when caught in recycling truck

KS TOPEKA — A Topeka man whose body was found among recycling materials at a landfill building apparently was inside a dumpster when its contents were put into the back of a recycling truck, officials said.

Paul Vigil, 62, died March 9 from several injuries suffered in a cardboard recycler accident, according to an autopsy made public, The Topeka Capital-Journal reported.

Vigil’s body was found by employees among recycling materials inside a landfill building.

An autopsy by Shawnee County Coroner John Ralston found Vigil suffered gapping cuts to his left back and left upper chest and fractures to his skull, long bones, axial skeleton and multiple ribs. Several of Vigil’s organs, including his heart, lungs and spleen, were absent when the autopsy was conducted.

Vigil’s blood-alcohol level when he died 0.08%, the legal limit for intoxication in Kansas.

Man hurt after crashing small plane on highway

AZ TUSAYAN — The Coconino County Sheriff’s Office said a 24-year-old man was injured when the engine on the small plane he was flying, causing him to crash on a highway near the entrance to the Grand Canyon.

The sheriff’s office said the man suffered neck and back injuries after trying to land on the highway but crashing into a light pole, which caused the plane to crash and flip over. The plane temporarily blocked traffic on the highway.

Man allegedly stole school bus to get home

NY AVON — A New York man was charged with criminal possession of stolen property after sheriff’s deputies said he stole a school bus in Pennsylvania to drive home.

Justin Freedom reportedly stole a school bus and drove back to Avon, according to a statement from Livingston County Sheriff Thomas J. Dougherty.

Sheriff’s deputies responded to a suspicious condition complaint for a bus with Pennsylvania license plates. Authorities contacted the bus company in Sarver, Pa., to confirm if the bus was supposed to be in Avon; it was not.

Bears crash kitchen and get snacks, stern words

MT BILLINGS — When something black and furry scurried into the TV room of Kathy Kenyon’s house in Red Lodge, her thought was it might be the neighbor’s dog.

But when she stepped into the doorway to the kitchen to investigate, she saw the intruder was a mother black bear and her two cubs. They had pushed out a screen in a partly opened window and crawled in to dine on freshly bought peaches and Hershey’s chocolates.

When her husband, Don Redfoot, went to investigate, he stepped around the corner and came face to face with momma bear and quickly retreated.

Kenyon decided to clap and yell at the bears to see if she could scare them back outside. The mother bear jumped out the open window, but the cubs lingered while eating the chocolates. With some prodding, they eventually left through the window.

The bears stayed outside the window for a while before leaving. They also returned the next day but didn’t gain entry this time.
Trump surveys storm damage in La. and Texas

By Jill Colvin

LAKE CHARLES, La. — President Donald Trump got a firsthand look Saturday at the damage from Hurricane Laura on a post-Republican National Convention trip.

His stops, first in Louisiana and later in Texas, came two days after the Category 4 storm slammed the Gulf Coast, leaving at least 16 dead and wreaking havoc with severe winds and flooding. While the storm surge has receded and the cleanup effort has begun, hundreds of thousands remain without power or water, and they could for weeks or months as the hot summer stretches on.

“I’m here to support the great people of Louisiana. It’s been a great state for me,” he said in Lake Charles. “It was a tremendously powerful storm.” He said he knows one thing about the state: “They rebuild it fast.”

During the two hours he spent in the city, Trump met with officials and relief workers but not with any of the residents whose homes have been ripped apart in the storm.

He did, however, get a good look at the extensive damage and the debris strewn across the city of 80,000 people, beginning with the bird’s-eye view from Air Force One as it came in for a landing.

His first stop was a warehouse being used as a staging area for the Cajun Navy, a group of Louisiana volunteers who help with search and rescue after hurricanes and floods. “Good job,” Trump told them.

Trump then toured a neighborhood with Gov. John Bel Edwards and acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf, making his way down a street blocked by felled trees and where houses were battered by the storm, one with its entire roof torn off.

The president then flew by helicopter to Orange, Texas, which was the worst-hit area in the state. Several hundred supporters greeted his arrival with Trump 2020 flags, banners and signs.

Among the officials on hand were Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas. Before a flyover to view damaged areas, Trump and other officials visited the emergency operations center in Orange County to discuss storm damage and the government response. He was flying back to Washington Saturday evening.

Laura, which packed 150-mph winds and a storm surge as high as 15 feet, toppled trees and damaged buildings as far north as central Arkansas. More than 580,000 coastal residents evacuated in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

Official: Congress will receive election intel in writing only

By Ellen Nakashima

WASHINGTON — Senior intelligence officials will no longer brief Congress in person on foreign interference in the 2020 election. Instead, they will inform lawmakers of threats in writing, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence said Saturday.

The decision, made with Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe’s assent, arose out of concerns that briefings to law-makers have resulted in leaks of classified information, an ODNI official said.

But the change threatens to undermine the community’s pledge to be transparent with Congress and the public at a time when three foreign adversaries, including Russia, are seeking to influence the American political process.

“I believe this approach helps ensure that the information ODNI provides the Congress ... is not misunderstood or politicized,” Ratcliffe wrote in letters to congressional leadership, including the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the House and Senate intelligence panels.

“It will also better protect our sources and methods and most sensitive intelligence from additional unauthorized disclosures or misuse,” he wrote. The development was first reported by CNN.

Democrats, led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California, immediately cried foul.

“This is a shocking abdication of its lawful responsibility to keep the Congress currently informed, and a betrayal of the public’s right to know how foreign powers are trying to subvert our democracy,” she said in a joint statement with Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., who chairs the House Intelligence Committee.

“The ODNI had requested the opportunity to brief the intelligence committees and the full U.S. House of Representatives in mid-September and has now cancelled those briefings and said it would hold no others,” the pair wrote. “This is shameful and — coming only weeks before the election — demonstrates that the Trump Administration is engaged in a politicized effort to withhold election-related information from Congress and the American people.”

In a briefing Saturday, White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows defended the decision.

“It really comes down to one simple thing: The last time they gave briefings, a few members went out and talked to the press and disclosed information they shouldn’t have,” Meadows said, adding that the written briefings “will make sure there is proper tools for oversight” but don’t “jeopardize sources and methods for the intel we get.”
Restaurant collapse in northern China kills 29

Associated Press

BEIJING — Rescue efforts ended at a two-story restaurant in a northern Chinese village that collapsed during a local resident’s 80th birthday celebration, leaving 29 people dead, authorities said Sunday.

The Ministry of Emergency Management said another 28 people were injured, seven of them seriously, when the building suddenly crumbled on Saturday.

There was no immediate word on what caused the collapse or on the fate of the birthday guest and other celebrants.

Hundreds of rescue workers using sniffer dogs, cranes and high-tech sensors had searched the rubble, lifting slabs of concrete in hopes of freeing survivors.

The official China Daily newspaper said the Cabinet’s Work Safety Commission would oversee the investigation into the accident’s cause.

While China has seen major improvements in industrial safety, building standards are sometimes ignored, particularly in rural areas such as Shaxi province’s Xiangfen county, about 400 miles southwest of Beijing, where the restaurant was located.

The region lies in the heart of China’s coal country, where thousands of miners have died in explosions, collapses and floods over the years.

Senior French military officer suspected of Russian ties arrested

Associated Press

PARIS — A senior French military officer based abroad is under investigation for “serious security breaches,” the defense minister said Sunday.

Europe-1 radio reported that the officer served on a NATO base in Italy and is accused of treason for passing “ultra-sensitive” information to Russian secret services.

The French Defense Ministry would not provide details about the officer. Speaking on Europe-1 on Sunday, Defense Minister Florence Parly said only that a judicial procedure is underway and the French military has taken “necessary protective measures” after the breaches.

Parly also said Sunday that France is putting “massive investment” into military activities in space - notably after a 2018 incident in which a Russian satellite cozied up to a French one in an apparent effort to eavesdrop on secure military communications.

CHINATOPIX/AP

Rescuers search for victims in the aftermath of the collapse of a two-story restaurant Saturday in Xiangfen county in northern China’s Shaxi province. More than a dozen were killed after the restaurant collapse during a gathering.
Tran lands lead Disney animated role as Raya

By Nardine Saad
Los Angeles Times

Kelly Marie Tran will bring the warrior Raya to life in Disney’s animated film “Raya and the Last Dragon,” replacing Cassie Steele, who previously held the role. That makes Tran the first Southeast Asian actress to lead an animated Disney film—one that is set in the fictional realm of Lumandra — a reimagined Earth inhabited by Southeast Asia. The picture has also marked new directors, Don Hall and Carlos Lopez Estrada, who join “Raya” stories Paul Brings and Dean Wells at the helm.

In a new look at the project Aug. 27, the animation studio showed the warrior flanked by her trusty steed Tuk Tuk against a dazzling backdrop of the fictional land of Kumandra.

It’s unclear why the Raya role was recast.

“Raya and the Last Dragon” was scheduled to be released in November but has been pushed back because of the global repercussions of the COVID-19 crisis. It’s currently slated for release on March 12, 2021, and is one of the first Disney Animation features to be developed from remote locations as a result of the pandemic. Directors Hall and Estrada were taken by Tran’s comedy and ad-lib skills, and how natural her pronunciation was to the role, Entertainment Weekly reported.

“I didn’t know that I was yearning just to see someone who looked like me,” the Vietnamese-American actress said. “She is someone who is technically a princess, but I think that’s really cool about this project, about this character specifically, is that everyone’s trying to flip the narrative on princesses. It’s not just princess, it’s like ‘first time公主’ is something new.”

Tran, 31, rose to fame in 2017 as rebel mechanic Rose Tico in Disney and Lucasfilm’s “Star Wars: The Last Jedi.” She made headlines (and quite a bit of social media) after a toxic reception online. Her screen time was slashed in last year’s Skylark saga finale, “The Rise of Skywalker,” and the reviews accused filmmakers of pandering to fans.

Tran’s voice, at least, will put her out front in “Raya” as Disney continues to redefine its erstwhile princess tropes in the vein of “Moana,” “Ralph Breaks the Internet” and the “Frozen” franchise.

The new film is set in the fictional realm of Lumandra — a reimagined Earth inhabited by an ancient civilization. Raya is a warrior determined to find the last dragon. The film also stars comedian Awkwafina as Sisu, a dragon in human form, who needs Raya’s help to reclaim her power and become her true dragon self.

Brandy returns to spotlight, conquers her demons on ‘B7’

By Gary Gerard Hamilton
Associated Press

When Brandy began crafting her newest album nearly three years ago, her intent was both benevolent and selfish. She wanted to give R&B fans the timeless music she’s been synonymous with, while also gain liberation from emotional bondage.

She achieved her goal with “B7”—but she wasn’t prepared for the raw and emotional way the lyrics poured out of her during the creative process. It’s why, for the first time, the Grammy winner co-wrote every song on the album and co-produced the majority of the project.

“This is a heartbreak album, on top of me being an artist who can write about the things I’ve been through and the things I’ve experienced, especially the ups and downs and the highs and lows,” Brandy told Entertainment Weekly.

“B7,” released last month, marks a triumphant return for the singer whose previous album dropped eight years ago. “Saving All My Love” — a title referencing her mentor, the legend Whitney Houston — opens the album as Brandy explains her absence: “Sorry for my tardy / Long time / I was brokenthed / Heartache, I’m guarded.”

“I had to get my heart together. I had to get my mind together,” said Brandy, who had her journal open during this interview with The Associated Press. “I’m no good when my spirit is off.”

There’s pleasant familiarity on the seventh studio record from the woman who has influenced stars like India.Arie, Solange and J. Cole and is known as the “vocal bible.” With “B7,” Brandy aimed to create fresh, creative music without losing “what my fans know me to be.”

But she also opens herself up by tackling heavy subjects. Mental health is at the center of “Borderline” and on the raw closing track, “Bye BiPolar,” she sings of a love gone terribly wrong (Brandy said she hasn’t been diagnosed). She also hints at past possible substance abuse on “Lucid Dreams,” a dreamy, minimalistic track where she lulls, “Got demons to tame (illusions) / Maybe it’s a daze / Got worse over time / I was always high.”

“I wasn’t with the person that I wanted to be with, so I was with this person when I fell asleep. And so, I was addicted to being asleep, and that was just not a healthy place for me, she explained pensively. “That was a scary time. And I had to face a lot of things about myself that I never thought I could.”

Released on her new imprint Brand Nu Entertainment, “B7” is Brandy’s first independent album. It debuted at No. 3 on Billboard’s R&B albums chart and No. 1 on the independent albums chart. She worked on the album with the songwriting master and mentor, the late LaShawn Daniels, producer DJ Camper (H.E.R., Mary J. Blige) and songwriter Kim “Raydence” Krysiuk, who contributed to nine tracks on the album.

“At the start of it, I could tell she was super self-conscious about her ideas ... because I don’t know if anyone’s ever instilled that confidence in her writing. But she could write her (butt) off,” said Krysiuk, who has also penned hits for Beyonce and Ariana Grande.

“She could really have done this album by herself.”

It was 1994 when 15-year-old Brandy burst onto the music scene with her self-titled debut, which sold four million albums in the U.S., followed by the five-million-seller “Never Say Never” in 1998, forming a career that birthed hits such as “I Wanna Be Down,” “Have You Ever,” “Sittin’ Up in My Room” and “The Boy Is Mine,” her 1998 duet with Monica that dominated at No. 1 for an astounding 13 weeks. That collaboration, two decades later, still lives on: Brandy and Moni ca will participate in the popular “Verzuz” celebration series formed by iconic producers Timbaland and Swizz Beatz on Monday.

Another part of Brandy’s ’90s life is having a moment in 2020: Her sitcom “Moesha” was added to Netflix this month to much fanfare.

Following “Moesha,” she became the first Black actress to portray “Cinderella” on-screen and she also had her own Barbie Doll.

But her perfect image took a huge hit in 2004 after it was revealed that she lied about a marriage to her child’s father to avoid scrutiny for having her daughter out of wedlock.

Some of those experiences, as well as her journey of motherhood, inspired songs on “B7” like the up-tempo bop “Baby Mama” and “High Heels,” featuring that same daughter, Sy’rai, now 18 and all grown up.

“What’s the point of doing music if I can’t tell my story? If I can’t be honest within my own lyrics? If I can’t use music to heal my own life?” Brandy
Monday, August 31, 2020

Eugene Sheffer Crossword

Across
1  Bar bill
4  "Ben-Hur" studio
7  Campus area
11  Lawman Wyatt
15  Pennsylvania port
16  Junior
17  Helps
18  Exhausted
20  Klinger portrayer
22  Hide-air insert
24  Discarded cargo
28  Big name in coloring supplies
32  Perry's assistant
33  Circle dance
34  Covert agent
36  Katy Perry hit song
37  Elroy's dog
39  Pennants
41  Daytona 500 acronym
43  "O Sole Mio"
44  Location
46  Top story
50  Travel
53  Young lion
55  Not difficult
56  Garfield's pal
57  Devoured
58  1973 Toni Morrison novel
59  Innings enders
60  Group of whales
61  Sawbuck
25  — gin fizz
26  Winged
27  Red planet
28  "Rush Hour" actor Jackie
29  Activist Parks
30  Sciences' partner
31  LAPD alert
35  Thanksgiving veggie
38  Crew tool
40  Actress Vardalos
42  Summary
45  Car
47  Lacking slack
49  Printer's blue
50  Romance
51  College URL
52  Petty peeve
54  Sleep site

Down
3  Heard a loud mysterious boom last night Employee
4  Earthquakes where there should be none! Dozens of unexplained
5  Or... it could be that when you thought the slippers you dropped
6  It could've been that when you thought the
7  I heard a loud mysterious boom last night Employee
8  As I gave people all over the world
9  What a man does in an alley, robs in the alley
10  What's wrong?
11  It's the last day of August and it's a Monday
12  That means labor day will be the latest date possible
13  50 summer vacation lasts as long as possible
14  The one year I actually miss school
15  Oh are we going back? I thought we still didn't know
16  I've decided that from now on, I'm gonna be upset at the start of each new week and only worry about the things I can control. How bout you?
17  I'm making plans to fight to the death for the few resources will soon have left!
18  Some guys should avoid on Mondays. Do people still use these?
19  In favor of permanent head tattoos.
20  Always wait for the second part.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

31  REINS
32  PROPEL
33  PEI
34  HORSE
35  INTENSE
36  TROOP
37  SOM
38  DUNE
39  SAP
40  HIDE

CRYPTOQUIP

L TV Y J P E H T V P O C S C T H U C
V G H V O T J W U N H G Y U C
L C C Q J W U X L T C Q J C L V X
W C T S X Y N E C X E Q C: N Y B B X T
E Y W B G.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: PASSAGEWAY IN A STORE THAT'S FULLY STOCKED WITH CERTAIN SKIN-CARE PRODUCTS: AISLE OF OLAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals P

We can't afford two meals; I'll order soup and you can have the fly.
Many Americans unwitting investors in China

By Joshua Rogin
The Washington Post

U

Many Americans unwitting investors in China

By William D. Hartung
Special to The Washington Post

R

eports that the Trump administration is planning to block advanced combat aircraft and armed drones to the United Arab Emirates should prompt a clear-eyed view of the security relationship between the United States and the UAE and how it is intertwined with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China. The UAE and China are entwined in a SLTC and other Chinese state-owned enterprises. The Pentagon recently declared China to be a significant threat to US national security and foreign policy. The administration's decision to block advanced combat aircraft transfers is a significant step in responding to this threat.

The UAE is a key ally of the United States, and its military capabilities and infrastructure are critical to US national security. The UAE has been a key partner in the campaign to oust the Houthi rebels from Yemen and has played a significant role in the fight against ISIS. However, the UAE's policies and actions in the region have been controversial, resulting in allegations of human rights abuses and complicity in war crimes.

The UAE has been accused of using advanced weaponry, including drones and attack helicopters, to attack Yemeni civilians and infrastructure. The UAE has also been implicated in the 2019 oil tanker attacks in the Gulf of Oman, which were attributed to Iran. The UAE has also been accused of using advanced weapons to support the Taliban in Afghanistan.

The UAE is also a key player in the region's arms race, buying advanced weapons from the United States and other Western governments. The UAE has been accused of violating international law by selling advanced weapons to countries such as the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

The Trump administration's decision to block advanced combat aircraft transfers is a significant step in responding to this threat. However, the administration's approach to regional stability and security in the Middle East should be rethought.

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The UAE's acquisition of advanced weapons from the United States and other Western governments is a concern. The UAE has a history of violating international law by selling advanced weapons to countries such as the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

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Masks are good. Let’s be more specific about them.

BY TOM FRIEDEN
Special to The Washington Post

I f we all wear a mask when we’re around others, we’ll all be safer. That’s been clear for five months. Masks are a simple, low-cost way to protect lives and livelihoods during the coronavirus pandemic. But the federal government’s poor communication, along with the politicization of mask-wearing, not only slowed the widespread use of masks, but, most dismally, it also delayed answers to more specific questions about which masks are best, when to wear them, how to best wear them and, most important, how to get more people to mask up correctly.

The Centers for Disease Control and others have changed recommendations about masks because the scientific consensus has changed as more has become known about the virus. For example, with most infectious diseases, the sicker you are and the longer you’ve been ill, the more infectious you will be and the more likely you will be to infect others. But COVID-19 spreads differently. Studies have found that the amount of virus in the mouth and nose of an infected person is highest in the days before symptoms start to appear and only then, not so much a week before feel sick, then decreases steadily. With COVID-19’s close cousin, SARS, it’s the opposite — viral load increases steadily after the week before you feel sick. Studies then emerged showing that a high proportion of infected people didn’t feel sick but had large quantities of virus in the mouth and nose. Even before symptoms appeared.

One analysis from Germany suggested a 47% reduction in virus spread just from mask-wearing, and another study suggested that three-quarters of a country’s increase could be prevented by mask use. Had the United States adopted mask use earlier, this might have translated into 100,000 fewer deaths, millions fewer lost jobs and businesses, and a faster economic recovery.

Masks work. In South Carolina, locales with mask mandates had a 46% decrease in COVID-19 cases than locales without mask mandates. In Kansas, counties that adopted mask mandates had a striking reduction in cases. Why are there differences? There are few good studies on this, surprisingly, and findings are inconsistent, but it’s clear that just about any face covering is better than none. Our epidemic prevention team at Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of the global public health organization Vital Strategies, recently released a brief reviewing the science. Surgical masks are highly effective, and for the highest-risk situations, a medical N95 mask with an air exhalation valve is safest. In other countries, governments increased production of surgical (and N95) masks, guaranteed their availability and price, and distributed them as necessary. The United States could have done this through robust use of the Defense Production Act and other means, and still should.

There are many other ways to be more specific about masks. The profusion of homemade face masks, although they may encourage use and engage volunteers and communities in proactively reducing the spread of COVID-19, isn’t as effective as a tightly fitting mask with three layers consisting of cotton or cotton-synthetic material. If an N95 or surgical mask isn’t being used, a tight-fitting mask with three layers consisting of cotton or cotton-synthetic material is next best. When should masks be used? Masks don’t need to be worn in those few places where flying, passing outdoor contact — as long as that person is sneezing, coughing, shouting or singing close to me — is extremely low. But in any public indoor area where others are present and there is any community spread of COVID-19, masks are essential to reduce risk.

Masks are good. Let’s be more specific about them.

Bloomberg Opinion

Masks are good. Let’s be more specific about them.

OPINION

By Connor Sen
Bloomberg Opinion

This recession has featured extreme differences in pain levels between companies and industries based on their exposure to the pandemic. States are no different. Those reliant on travel and services are basically in depression. Those more exposed to manufacturing are relatively better off — which may be good news for President Donald Trump’s re-election hopes. State employment data from July make those trends clear. It’s why New York City and Los Angeles have unemployment rates close to 20%. But Rust Belt states that were key to the 2016 election, such as Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota, seem to be doing something more like a typical recession.

With the national unemployment rate at 10.2%, things aren’t going particularly well for any state or region. But Midwestern states are relatively less exposed to the industries that have gotten hurt the worst. Unemployment in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin is on average 2% lower than the national unemployment rate. We’ve never seen anything like this before in 45 years of state employment data, particularly during recessions.

Midwestern states are relatively less exposed to the industries that have gotten hurt the worst.

There are a couple ways to think about this. The first is that if we get a vaccine tomorrow and everyone can go back to their pre-pandemic routines quickly, then the Midwestern states that have done relatively better in this crisis may underperform their coastal peers. The post-vaccine recovery, at least in part, will likely be more robust in New York and San Francisco than Michigan.

In a scenario that doesn’t happen over at least the next few months, there are reasons to believe these Rust Belt states can grow even as life remains disrupted. Pandemic-related industries have been forced to pivot, led to price spikes throughout the economy, suggesting there’s room for production to increase. Wednesday’s durable goods report points to a V-shaped recovery in manufacturing. This should benefit workers in Midwestern factories and supply chains.

Another perhaps surprising source of strength for the Midwest is the housing market. Construction and new home sales tend to be a more important part of the economy in the South and West, where demographics are more favorable. But last week’s new home sales report showed housing is booming in the Midwest as well. On a seasonally adjusted basis, Midwestern new home sales in July were the highest in 13 years, and more than triple their level during the worst months after the 2008 financial crisis.

If the presidential race tightens over the final two months of the campaign, it might be due in part to the economies of key Midwestern states being somewhat more resilient than those of coastal, more Democratic locales.

Unemployment rates of about 8% make it tough for any president running for reelection. As my colleague Brooke Sutherland has written, many manufacturers are cutting costs even as they report relatively strong profits. But with manufacturing and housing improving, the lagged impact of fiscal relief passed by Congress this spring still being felt, and much of the labor market burden being felt by younger workers who may be less likely to vote, it’s possible the kinds of older voters without strong attachment to either party who voted for President Donald Trump in 2016 might be economically insulated enough to stick with the president.

There are still two months for voters to make up their minds, and in a year like this one perhaps late-breaking economic conditions will be more impactful than in most previous years. For that reason it will be important to track economic conditions not only nationally but also in the states most likely to determine the outcome of the election.

Polling averages currently give Democratic nominee Joe Biden a lead of about 9% nationally and slightly less in Midwestern battleground states, putting him in better shape than Hillary Clinton was at this point in 2016. But if the trajectory of the coronavirus improves somewhat over the next couple of months, manufacturing and housing continue their upward trajectories, and Congress passes another fiscal relief package, that may be enough to make the election more competitive than it currently looks.

Connor Sen is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He has been a contributor to The Atlantic and Business Insider.

Rust Belt’s pandemic resilience could help Trump win

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Although mask-wearing has increased in the United States, it remains lower in men than women, lower in the South than the North, and lower than in countries that have used masks more intensively to limit COVID-19. How can we increase mask use?

First, make masks readily available and consume. Let’s encourage their use as a social norm. Employers must provide — free — surgical or n95 masks to vulnerable and essential workers, including meatpackers and grocery and pharmacy staff. States including Michigan and private companies have increased supply and normalized masking up. Others should follow suit.

Second, implement mask mandates that are easy to understand, and require businesses to make a good-faith effort to enforce mandates, including, certainly, for all employees.

Third, use mask use, as Philadelphia does, and adjust communications campaigns to increase correct mask-wear. What is measured can be managed. Right now, states are relying on the public’s communications and community engagement can further increase correct mask use.

Mask use won’t end the COVID pandemic, of course. Masks must be combined with comprehensive action, including closure of indoor spaces when appropriate, protecting health care workers and health care facilities, physical distancing, handwashing, ventilation, strategic testing, rapid testing, complete contact tracing and supportive quarantine. Unlike most other measures, however, masks don’t cost much and can be produced by one’s local community. They are among the cheapest, simplest and most effective ways to fight the virus and get the economy running again.

Mask use is crucial. But it won’t be enough on its own. People need to properly designed and worn, and simply separate us from the virus.
SATURDAY'S transactions

**BASEBALL**

BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Recalled RHP Shawn Armstrong from the 10-day IL; placed RHP Mychal Givens on the 60-day IL; activated LHP Ryan Elmore from the IL.

DETROIT TIGERS — Activated RHP Beauパン Pantalone from the 10-day IL.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Acquired 1B/E C Jaxx Groshans from the 60-day IL.

ORLANDO MAGIC — Activated C Mo Bamba from the 10-day IL.

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Recalled RHP Edward Olivares and a player to be named later from Las Vegas, and INF Max Schrock to alternate training site.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Activated RHP Kyle Crick from the 10-day IL.

**PRO SOCCER**

**Scores**

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**Rosters**

- New York: Seantag Diop, Ami Mary, and Kadeem Clark
- New England: Cole Hirst, Daniel Velasquez, and David Martinez
- Inter Miami: Xavier Mbuyi, Justin Park, and Marcus Kelly
- LA Galaxy: Duneell Delgado, Max Turney, and Daniel Acosta
- Toronto FC: Sean and Jordan Balogun
- Minnesota: Leo and Jackson Williams
- New York City FC: Merveille and Jack Rose
- Real Salt Lake: Jordan and Ryan Thompson
- Seattle: Alex and Jackson Foxx

**Tennis**

**American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.**

**Pro basketball**

**NW Arkansas Razorbacks**

**Race Statistics**

- Average Speed of Race Winner: 155.10 mph
- Average Time of Race Winner: 15:27.15
- Length of Race: 2.50 miles
- Number of Laps: 5

**Formula 1**

Byron reaches playoffs with his first series win

Johnson's final season will end without a title

About 20,000 fans spread out across the speedway for the first race of the 2017 F1 season.

Byron swerved his way through clouds of smoke to stay in the mix there. He was even luckier after Hamlin and Logano got together. "I wasn't going to lift," Byron said. "It was awesome."

He did a burnout that included a few spins through Daytona's wet infield grass and then headed to victory lane for the first time in three years.

Liberty connection

Byron has taken remote classes at Liberty University, and the winning car carried sponsorships from the school. The deal was brokered between Hendrick Motorsports and Jerry Falwell Jr., who stepped down this week as Liberty president. The university also helped knock out three other participants.

Wallace reacts

Wallace said before the race that there was not much of a dialogue among NASCAR drivers regarding sitting out the Cup Series regular-season finale at Daytona.

NASCAR pressed on at its historic track while other sports postponed games andracers this week in the wake of the shooting of Jacob Blake, a Black man, by a white police officer in Kenosha, Wis.

"We still have a lot of work to do as a nation to make things better for our next generation coming up through," Wallace told NBC Sports before the race. "Us not following suit (with other sports) does not mean that we're standing down. We still know what's on our table or what's on our plate to go out and accomplish and attempt to accomplish to make this a better place."

Back: Fans, teams hope for best from experiment

FROM BACK PAGE

is different. I have been awed by the power of this virus and its ability to be transmitted from person to person.”

He cited the number of outbreaks already on campuses of colleges and universities.

Austin Peay didn’t disclose the number of players, coaches or staffers affected by COVID-19. But athletic director Gerald Harrison posted on Twitter that the team brought 70 players as usual.

The biggest name missing was wide receiver DeAngelo Wilson, a second-team AP FCS All-American last season.

"None of the individuals representing Austin Peay in Montgomery, Alabama, tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19," Harrison wrote.

Central Arkansas didn’t have any key players fail to make the trip.

Central Arkansas coach Nathan Brown acknowledged leading up to the “Week Zero” game that there had been some unceasefulness with going forward with a season. It was hard to avoid the news that leagues like the Pac-12 and Big Ten opted against playing this fall.

“This season was hanging on a thread and we knew that we had to do things right and we knew that our players had to truly buy into that,” Brown said. “As a human being, you’re naturally going to go through the emotions of what you see and what you feel.

“But what I encouraged our guys to do was not pay attention to social media, pay attention to what’s right in front of you in Conway, Arkansas, at the University of Central Arkansas and base your judgment on that. And I think we’ve handled things well.”

Fans and teams — and college football in general — are hoping for a positive outcome for both players and those who sit in the stands for Game 1 of the COVID-19 experiment.

The first glitch came when Austin Peay’s freshman CJ Evans scored on a 75-yard touchdown run to start the game. The referee’s mic was live when he cursed “God damn mask.”

The family of Austin Peay’s George Pollard drove down from Birmingham to see the starting wide receiver and his team play. Father George Pollard is used to being around people for his job at a car manufacturing plant and said he had no reservations.

“Ready to get out of the house,” Pollard said. “Ready for college football to kick off.”

Austin Peay Governors quarterback Jeremiah Oatsvall runs the ball against Central Arkansas during Saturday’s “Week Zero” football game in Montgomery, Ala. The Bears won the game — the first played under the coronavirus pandemic — 24-17.

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## MLB Schedule

### Tuesday, August 4

**Baltimore Orioles vs. Boston Red Sox**
- **Home Run**: Triston Casas (2)
- **Total Runs**: 2

### Wednesday, August 5

**Chicago White Sox vs. Minnesota Twins**
- **Home Runs**: Andrew Vaughn (1), DJ LeMahieu (2)
- **Total Runs**: 5

**Los Angeles Angels vs. Texas Rangers**
- **Hit Batsman**: Hitting: Taylor Hearn (2), Nick Pivetta (2)
- **Total Runs**: 1

**New York Mets vs. Philadelphia Phillies**
- **Home Run**: Pete Alonso (25)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**San Diego Padres vs. Los Angeles Dodgers**
- **Triple Play**: Tatis Jr. (1), LeMahieu (1)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**San Francisco Giants vs. Arizona Diamondbacks**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Crawford (27)
- **Total Runs**: 3

## Saturday, August 8

**San Francisco Giants vs. Los Angeles Dodgers**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Crawford (28)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**San Diego Padres vs. Los Angeles Dodgers**
- **Strikeout**: Jacob deGrom (11)
- **Total Runs**: 1

**Tampa Bay Rays vs. Boston Red Sox**
- **Home Run**: Andrew Benintendi (23)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**New York Mets vs. Philadelphia Phillies**
- **Double Play**: Franchy Cordero (1)
- **Total Runs**: 1

**Los Angeles Angels vs. Texas Rangers**
- **Home Run**: Mike Trout (29)
- **Total Runs**: 4

**San Diego Padres vs. San Francisco Giants**
- **Home Run**: Victor Caratini (14)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**New York Mets vs. Philadelphia Phillies**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Nimmo (25)
- **Total Runs**: 3

## Sunday, August 9

**San Francisco Giants vs. Los Angeles Dodgers**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Crawford (29)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**San Diego Padres vs. Los Angeles Dodgers**
- **Home Run**: Victor Caratini (15)
- **Total Runs**: 3

**New York Mets vs. Philadelphia Phillies**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Nimmo (26)
- **Total Runs**: 4

**Los Angeles Angels vs. Texas Rangers**
- **Home Run**: Mike Trout (30)
- **Total Runs**: 6

**San Diego Padres vs. San Francisco Giants**
- **Home Run**: Victor Caratini (16)
- **Total Runs**: 5

## Monday, August 10

**San Francisco Giants vs. Los Angeles Dodgers**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Crawford (30)
- **Total Runs**: 2

**San Diego Padres vs. San Francisco Giants**
- **Home Run**: Victor Caratini (17)
- **Total Runs**: 3

**New York Mets vs. Philadelphia Phillies**
- **Home Run**: Brandon Nimmo (27)
- **Total Runs**: 4

**Los Angeles Angels vs. Texas Rangers**
- **Home Run**: Mike Trout (31)
- **Total Runs**: 6

**San Diego Padres vs. San Francisco Giants**
- **Home Run**: Victor Caratini (18)
- **Total Runs**: 5
Adell breaks out in Angels’ rout

By Joe Reedy

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Jo Adell hit his first two major league home runs, Mike Trout scored a new single-season record and the Los Angeles Angels rolled past Seattle.

Cody Bellinger’s long two-run homer in the seventh inning of the Angels’ 8-4 victory at Anaheim on Monday topped a two-run home run by Mike Trout in the fifth inning for his first victory of the season.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 0:

Kyle Tucker hit a bases-clearing triple, Georges Hernandez homered and Hughes’ 7-4 victory for his first success of the season at Toronto.

Red Sox 5, Nationals 3:

Xander Bogaerts hit an early three-run homer and Boston’s bullpen was finished with 6 2/3 scoreless innings to defeat visiting Washington.

Rockies 4, Padres 3:

Pinch-hitter Daniel Murphy hit a one-out RBI single in the ninth inning, lifting host Colorado over San Diego for its first walkoff win.

Royals 9, White Sox 6:

Maikel Franco and Ryan McBroom homered during Kansas City’s five-run seventh in a win at Chicago.

Scoreboard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Indians 2, Cardinals 1 (12)

Cleveland...St. Louis

IP H R ER BB SO

Hernandez 1 B...1 B...1 0 0 3
Ramierez 0 B...1 B...1 0 0 0 0 0 1
LoSciollo 0 B...1 B...1 0 0 0 0 1 0
C.F. 4 0 0 0 0 0 1
F. Reyes 4 0 0 0 0 0 1
Firmans 1 C...1 B...1 0 0 0 0 1 0
Naquin 3 B...1 B...1 0 0 0 0 0 1
D. Ona 3 B...1 B...1 0 0 0 0 1 0
D. Wilson 4 0 0 0 0 0 1
J. Fuentes 1 B...2 B...2 0 0 0 0 0 1
A. C. 2 0 0 0 0 0 1
R. Perez 1 0 0 0 0 0 1

IP H R ER BB SO

A. Reyes 1 0 0 0 0 1 0
G. Gallegos 5 3 1 1 2 5

St. Louis

Wittgren, W, 2-0 1 2/3 0 0 0 2 0

St. Louis

Wittgren, W, 2-0 1 2/3 0 0 0 2 0

Tigers 8-4, Twins 2-2:

Miguel Cabrera hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the fifth inning, lifting host Detroit to a doubleheader sweep.

The Tigers took the opener behind Mattheus Boyd (1-4), who pitched six solid innings for his first victory of the season.

Victor Reyes had four hits.

Astros 4-6, Athletics 2-3:

Kyle Tucker hit a bases-clearing triple, Georges Hernandez homered and host Houston completed a doubleheader sweep.

In the first game, Lance McCullers Jr. (3-2) pitched six effective innings for the Astros, and Tucker hit a three-run homer.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 2:

Evan Longoria hit two doubles, Brandon Belt reached base four times and San Francisco won at Arizona to snap a three-game losing streak.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 0:

Taijuan Walker hit a bases-clearing triple, Georges Hernandez homered and host Toronto completed a doubleheader sweep.

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Blue Jays 5, Orioles 0:

Taijuan Walker pitched six shutout innings in his debut for host Toronto.
TORONTO — Matt Martin and Leo Komarov scored in the second period as the New York Islanders rallied to beat the Philadelphia Flyers 3-1 on Saturday night, taking a 2-1 lead in their conference semifinals series.

Anders Lee also scored, and Semyon Varlamov had 26 saves to rebound after a rocky Game 2 that saw him benched in the first period in an overtime loss to the Flyers.

“If you go back to the first 68 games of the regular season, he was very good after a loss and bounced back,” New York coach Barry Trotz said of his goalie. “I think the maturity of (Varlamov) as a pro shows in volumes, and it shows especially after losses.”

The playoffs resumed after a two-day break to protest racial injustice, the latest twist in an unprecedented, pandemic-halted season. Game 4 is Sunday night.

Tyler Pitlick scored for Philadelphia in the first period, and Carter Hart stopped 25 shots. Pitlick’s wrist shot from the top of the right circle flashed past the glove of a screened Varlamov to give the Flyers a 1-0 lead 5:42 into the game. The play was set up by a puck battle behind the net by Scollard, who was able to power his way out and drop the pass off to Pitlick.

After a couple near misses by Mathew Barzal in the early in the second, the Islanders’ center shoveled a pass out from the back boards to a wide-open Martin on the doorstep to tie the game at 1-1.

The Islanders top Flyers for 2-1 series lead

Associated Press

Hart during the second period of their Eastern Conference playoff game in Toronto on Saturday.

Mathew Barzal battles with the Flyers’ Tyler Pitlick in front of Flyers goaltender Carter Hart during the second period of their Eastern Conference playoff game in Toronto on Saturday.

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Lakers finish off Blazers

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — There was a point this week when LeBron James and the Milwaukee Bucks weren’t sure they would remain in the bubble.

They decided to stay and look like they could be here a while. The Lakers moved into the Western Conference semifinals by finishing off the Portland Trail Blazers with a 131-122 victory on Saturday night.

It was the team’s first series victory since 2012 and set it up for a second-round matchup against Houston or Oklahoma City. The Rockets lead 3-2 with Game 6 on Monday, so the Lakers will have some time off.

They just got back from a break.

Los Angeles was scheduled to play Wednesday night and the players were relaxing in their rooms when they got word that the Milwaukee Bucks had decided not to play their game that afternoon against Orlando. It was a surprise to everyone else in the league and there was some frustration that night when players held a meeting.

James was one of the frustrated people, having realized the Bucks hadn’t fully thought through their actions.

“And then from that point on, my mind began to figure out, what is the plan going forward? And if we don’t have a plan, then what are we talking about? Why are we still here?” James said.

When the Lakers finally got back on the court for the first time since Monday, they weren’t particularly sharp. Portland fin- ished with its highest point total of the series despite playing without leading scorer Damian Lillard.

Anthony Davis said the team knows it has to get back to its usu- ally stronger defense in the next round.

“When we play Lakers basket- ball, running in transition, playing great defense, getting stops, running in transition, playing for each other, playing scrappy, we’re a tough team to beat,” Davis said.

Davis scored 43 points and James had 36 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. The two All-Star forwards dominated the series after the No. 1 seed was knocked out in Game 1. They could put up more big numbers in the next round if they play Houston, which uses a small lineup.

“We know we’re a tough team to beat,” he said. “We know we’re a great team and we’ve just got to play that way every night.”

Roundup

United against protest, Bucks eliminate Magic in Game 5

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Brook Lopez sensed bonds be- tween Milwaukee Bucks players strengthening after their decision to boycott a playoff game sent ripples across the NBA and other major pro sports leagues, which joined in suspending play to protest against racism.

He was still out there on the floor taking care of our mis- sion and what we want to achieve, but I think being through all this LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — The Bucks’ Giannis Antetokounmpo is defended by the Orlando’s Evan Fournier (10) during Milwaukee’s 118-104 win Saturday.

brought us together even more.”

Milwaukee advanced to face Miami in the second round, be- ginning Monday. But the Bucks showed little interest in congratu- lating themselves or talking about basketball after the first NBA game played since they declined to play Wednesday night.

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Ashley Landis/Pool

Lakers 118, Thunder 80


Houston 114, Thunder 95


Portland 131, Lakers 121

LA — Davis (2:1:0) Davis Jr. (1:0:0) Schroder (1:0:0) Caldwell-Pope (1:0:0) Williams (1:0:0) Sabonis (1:0:0) Vucevic (1:0:0). Totals 40-122 16-33 131.

Los Angeles Lakers’ Anthony Davis (3) reacts to a call during the Lakers’ series-clinching 111-111 victory on Saturday night.

Ashley Landis/Pool

Rockets 114, Thunder 80


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Los Angeles Lakers’ Anthony Davis (3) reacts to a call during the Lakers’ series-clinching 111-111 victory on Saturday night.
Still in the bubble
Lakers move on to second round with win over Blazers » Page 23

WELCOME BACK
Austin Peay and Central Arkansas kick off, COVID-19 style, in Alabama

BY JOHN ZENOR
Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — With masks, social distancing and mostly empty stands, the college football season kicked off COVID-19 style.

Austin Peay and Central Arkansas, two teams fresh from FCS playoff appearances, took the stage at Cramton Bowl Saturday night in the Guardian Kickoff Classic. The Bears won 24-17 but college football was the star of the show.

“It’s the first game from the pandemic, and so it should mean that much more to everybody. Not just the players,” said Dave Dotson, whose family drove in from Texas to see son Simeon, a defensive back for Central Arkansas.

Only 2,000 tickets were distributed at the 22,000-seat stadium, and there appeared to be significantly fewer fans actually attending. A number of them were family members of players.

Masks were required coming into the gates, walking around the stadium and at the concession stands. Coaches and players also wore them on the sidelines.

Dave and Juliana Dotson decided to make the drive with teen sons Reuben and Ephraim — which turned into about 12 hours Friday because of Hurricane Laura-related detours — after seeing the precautions being taken at the game.

“It made us feel a little better about being here,” Juliana said. “It said there would be four seats in between each group and two rows, so there would be social distancing put in place.”

University of Alabama at Birmingham professor of infectious diseases Michael Saag said the game would be “a good test case” for sports and live events. Both teams were tested Wednesday.

“Let’s pull back to the big picture: Everything we do in this epidemic is an experiment of sorts,” said Saag, who is also associate dean for global health. “Nobody really knows what’s going to happen at any event or with any type of exposure.

“We know the general principles and I think every human being on the planet can quote line and verse about mask-wearing distance. But each situation

SEE BACK ON PAGE 19