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CHRIS OXLEY, NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING/U.S. Navy

Sections of the aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford are moved into position at Huntington Ingalls Newport News (Va.) Shipbuilding in May 2011. The multibillion-dollar carrier's path toward its first deployment, scheduled for next year, began two decades ago.

Years late and billions more

The USS Gerald R. Ford provides a lesson in how the Navy builds ships

BY DAVE RESS
Daily Press

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — For the past 1½ years, on 18 trips off the Virginia and North Carolina coasts, sailors and shipyard workers from Newport News have prepped the Navy's newest carrier for deployment — 27% over its original budget and years behind schedule.

The costliest single item on the Department of Defense's shopping list, the USS Gerald R. Ford has been on a fast track to launch a series of new technologies intended to boost the Navy's striking power for at least the next 50 years.

It is a fast track that started two decades ago.

It is a fast track that's seen delays installing key components of the ship, as on-shore testing revealed unexpected problems that required hundreds of millions of dollars to fix and that forced workers at Newport News Shipbuilding to redo finished parts of the 1,092-foot long carrier, hundreds of pages of government budget documents, Navy assessments, over-

SEE FORD ON PAGE 4

North accuses US of hostility for South Korean missile decision

BY HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Monday the U.S. allowing South Korea to build more powerful missiles was an example of the U.S.'s hostile policy against the North, warning that it could lead to an "acute and instable situation" on the Korean Peninsula.

It's North Korea's first response to the May 21 summit between the leaders of the United States and South Korea, during which the U.S. ended decades-long restrictions that capped South Korea's missile development and allowed its ally to develop weapons with unlimited ranges.

The accusation of U.S. policy being hostile to North Korea matters because it said it won't return to talks and would enlarge its nuclear arsenal as long as U.S. hostility persists. But the latest statement was still attributed to an individual commentator, not a government body, suggesting North Korea may still want to leave room for potential diplomacy with the Biden administration.

"The termination step is a stark reminder of the U.S. hostile policy toward (North Korea) and its shameful double-dealing," Kim Myong Chol, an international affairs critic, said, according to the official Korean Central News Agency. "It is engrossed in confrontation despite its lip-service to dialogue."

"The U.S. is mistaken, however. It is a serious blunder for it to pressurize (North Korea) by creating asymmetric imbalance in and around the Korean Peninsula as this may lead to the acute and instable situation on the Korean Peninsula now technically at war," he said.

SEE MISSILE ON PAGE 6

BUSINESS/WEATHER

J&J asks high court to void \$2B talc verdict

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Johnson & Johnson is asking for Supreme Court review of a \$2 billion verdict in favor of women who claim they developed ovarian cancer from using the company's talc products.

The court could say as soon as Tuesday whether it will get involved.

At the root, Johnson & Johnson argues that the company didn't get a fair shake in a trial in state court in Missouri that resulted in an ini-

tial \$4.7 billion verdict in favor of 22 women who used talc products and developed ovarian cancer.

A state appeals court cut more than half the money out of the verdict and eliminated two of the plaintiffs but otherwise upheld the outcome in the trial.

Johnson & Johnson denies that its talc products cause cancer and it called the verdict in the Missouri trial "at odds with decades of independent scientific evaluations confirming Johnson's Baby Powder is safe, is not contaminated by

asbestos and does not cause cancer." The company also is the maker of one of three COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in the United States.

The disputed link between cancer and talc is not really a part of the high court case. Instead, The company said it should have not been forced to defend itself in one trial against claims by women from 12 states, differing backgrounds and with varying histories of using Johnson & Johnson products containing talc.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		South Korea (Won)	1,109.26
Euro costs (June 1)	\$1.19	Switzerland (Franc)	0.9002
Dollar buys (June 1)	0.8013	Thailand (Baht)	31.20
British pound (June 1)	\$1.45	Turkey (NewLira)	8.5067
Japanese yen (June 1)	106.00	(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	
South Korean won (June 1)	1089.00	INTEREST RATES	
Commercial rates		Prime rate	3.25
Bahrain(Dinar)	0.3770	Interest Rates Discount rate	0.75
Britain (Pound)	1.4173	Federal funds market rate	0.09
Canada (Dollar)	1.2081	3-month bill	0.01
China(Yuan)	6.3697	30-year bond	2.26
Denmark (Krone)	6.0931		
Egypt (Pound)	15.6809		
Euro	0.8194		
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7611		
Hungary (Forint)	284.86		
Israel (Shekel)	3.2474		
Japan (Yen)	109.64		
Kuwait(Dinar)	0.3008		
Norway (Krone)	8.3450		
Philippines (Peso)	47.64		
Poland (Zloty)	3.67		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505		
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3217		

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MILITARY

Some win, many lose

Multilevel marketing companies have a checkered history with military members eager to earn at home

By ERICA EARL
Stars and Stripes

The thought of running your own business from home can sound appealing, especially if your home changes to a new location around the world every few years.

Multilevel marketing companies, or MLMs, are becoming increasingly popular in military communities based on their pitch of “becoming your own boss,” said Scott Johnson, a Navy veteran who hosts a podcast aimed to educate service members and veterans about career opportunities and identifying scams.

MLMs promise a path to wealth but some who become involved with them find the promise illusory, even fraudulent. Others earn good money while making friends. Knowing what to look for and keeping a life balance are two factors in managing membership in an MLM.

Multilevel marketing companies create revenue by using non-salaried members to sell goods or services directly to consumers. Products range from clothing to jewelry to beauty items, but the premise is the same. Participants must pay a recruitment fee, and they must also pay for the inventory they will be selling.

“Eventually you go broke, or you can’t continue to sell to your same friend group,” Johnson, who worked for Amway for a decade after his time in service, told Stars and Stripes by phone May 12. Amway, founded in 1959, is an MLM that sells health, beauty and home care products.

Last year proved to be particularly rough for those seeking work during the coronavirus pandemic. Unemployment for military spouses was at 24%, a higher rate than the general population, according to a 2020 Department of Defense report to Congress.

And, according to the Depart-

ment of Labor, 6.5% of veterans were unemployed in 2020. This was a significant jump from 3.1% the previous year, reflecting the severity of the pandemic, the agency said.

Friends in the business

Johnson said he understands the appeal of MLMs, especially for people who crave a social circle when their spouses deploy, or who are about to exit the military without a career plan.

He said he became involved with Amway in 1993 because he lacked a plan, and a trusted friend, a former flight surgeon, was with the company.

Johnson said he spent thousands of dollars on meetings, membership fees and inventory.

“To make up for the cost to stay at Amway, I was always having to sell, and the sales I did make became more about not disrupting the relationship. They were sympathy sales,” he said.

“But it’s more than just the money. That’s just dollars. There’s also time. I can recover money, but not my time or those friendships.”

In 2010, Johnson was part of a class-action lawsuit against Amway subsidiary Quixtar that alleged unfair and illegal business practices that misled distributors about earning potential and participation costs.

Amway settled out of court for \$56 million, and Johnson said he got 5% of what he spent on his involvement in the company.

The settlement did not include admission of guilt from Amway.

“The suit contains strong and disagreeable allegations and language that we categorically reject,” said a 2010 letter from the company’s chairman, Steve Van Andel, and then-president Doug DeVos. “Nevertheless, the company and its (Independent Business Owner) leaders take responsibility for all past



AREK SOCHA/Pixabay

Multilevel marketing companies, or MLMs, promise a path to wealth but some who become involved with them find the promise illusory, even fraudulent. Others earn good money while making friends.

issues, and we take responsibility for fixing them.”

‘Boss babes’

MLM companies deal in a range of goods and services, but the business model of recruiting more people to help sell a product remains the same.

The notion of becoming a “boss babe,” a term used in MLM social media circles, along with the products are the bait, Johnson said. Many MLM companies are marketed toward women because of the products they sell, or ride trend waves, such as weight loss and “wellness.”

Brooke Langston, a military spouse on Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, said she joined Thrive by Le-Vel, a brand of dietary supplement and weight loss products, last year to make money during the pandemic.

She was given a strict script to follow for her social media posts, as well as instructions to message friends or family members she knew might have body image insecurities, Langston told Stars and Stripes by Facebook Messenger on

May 5.

She said she regrets spending the \$1,000 it cost to sign on with the company.

“I only made \$20 from my few months with the company, which I have yet to see a cent of due to the fact that their payment portal will not release funds until you make \$25,” Langston said. “Looking back, I’m extremely embarrassed that I allowed myself to become victim to the predatory business model that is an MLM, and even more embarrassed that I tried to exploit people for my own tiny gain.”

Truthinadvertising.org, a nonprofit organization that examines product claims, said in March that Thrive uses unsubstantiated health and disease-treatment claims to sell its products.

Representatives from Le-Vel, which has an A+ rating from the Better Business Bureau, did not respond to email queries from Stars and Stripes on Friday.

Shun the ‘hun’

According to the Federal Trade Commission, an MLM should be avoided if it makes promises that

seem too good to be true, focuses heavily on salespeople recruiting other sellers for the company, uses high-pressure sales tactics or if its distributors are required to purchase more inventory than they can reasonably sell to stay active in the company.

But not everyone has a bad experience with MLMs. Ashley Watkins, a Navy spouse at Great Lakes Naval Station, Ill., said she joined Pure Romance, an MLM selling sex toys and other adult products, after she lost her civilian job.

Watkins said she purposefully schedules days where she does not engage in selling Pure Romance to keep a balance in her personal life to avoid pushing her friends away or being labeled as a “hun,” internet slang for someone who relentlessly messages people to sell products.

“I think it is a way to meet people depending on where you are stationed,” Watkins said via Facebook Messenger on May 5. “Plus, you can work from your phone anytime of the day.”

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US bombers fly over all 30 NATO nations on Memorial Day

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — U.S. long-range strategic bombers were flying a Memorial Day mission over all 30 NATO countries in Europe and North America, officials said Monday.

The B-52H Stratofortress aircraft, deployed to Moron Air Base, Spain, were expected to fly with aircraft from more than 20 allies, U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa said in a statement.

It’s the second time a bomber task force deployed to Europe has conducted such a mission since the U.S. began deploying bombers to the re-

gion in 2018, USAFE said. The mission is called “Operation Allied Sky.”

“Today’s mission is an awesome demonstration of NATO air superiority,” Gen. Jeff Harrigian, NATO Allied Air Command and USAFE-AFAFRICA commander, said in Monday’s statement.

The U.S. Air Force’s eight-engine bombers, based out of Barksdale Air Force Base, La., arrived at Moron two weeks ago. Four B-52s from the 2nd Bomb Wing and over 200 personnel deployed on a short-notice tasker, Air Force Maj. Marisa King, 96th Bomber Task Force director of operations, said in a video

statement last week.

On Monday, the long-range heavy bombers were expected to conduct aerial refueling and integration flights with the aircraft of several allies over Europe, from Turkey to Norway. KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft based at RAF Mildenhall, England, were expected to support the mission, which also included a North American leg over the U.S. and Canada, supported by aircraft from those countries.

The last time U.S. bombers conducted an overflight of all 30 allies was in August, and that effort involved six B-52s out of Minot Air Force Base, N.D., escorted by some

80 fighter jets at various stages.

Since 2018, U.S. bombers deployed to Europe have taken part in more than 200 sorties with allies and partners, mainly as a deterrent response to Russia’s military resurgence.

Early last week, the Barksdale-based bombers worked with Hungarian Gripens, Italian Eurofighters and F-16s from Greece, Romania and Bulgaria during simulated target training in the Black Sea region. The bombers later flew with RAF Eurofighter Typhoons and Hellenic F-16s over the east Mediterranean Sea before conducting counter-maritime exercises with

P-8A Poseidon aircraft from U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa’s Patrol Squadron 40.

The bomber rotation comes as the alliance conducts a series of large-scale exercises across Europe involving thousands of troops. It also follows Russia’s deployment last month of thousands of troops to the border area along Ukraine, which raised concern among NATO allies.

“Bomber missions demonstrate the credibility of our forces to address a global security environment that is more diverse and uncertain than at any other time in our history,” Harrigian said in Monday’s statement.

MILITARY

Ford: Navy packed new tech into ship

FROM PAGE 1

sight reports and congressional hearings show.

Over the past 18 months, the Ford's crew and the shipyard workers who regularly set to sea with them have made up some of that lost time. But the Ford's long path toward a first deployment, now slated for next year, has sparked years of criticism about the way the Navy acquires ships — and how it sells the need for multi-billion-dollar budgets to Congress. The Navy told Congress in 2007 it would cost \$10.49 billion. It actually cost \$13.316 billion.

The Ford is on track to hit its key goals: a 33% increase in the number of planes that can be launched over a 12-hour period, 17% fewer sailors than on the current Nimitz class, and big savings on operating costs, now estimated at \$4 billion over the life of the ship, the Naval Sea Systems Command says.

"We went all in, that's really what the problem is," Northern Virginia-based defense analyst Eric Wertheim said.

"I think they'll get the technology to perform," he said, after tracking the work of the crew and the shipyard workers who have been embarking with them over the past year and a half.

"They're doing good work ... but it cost more than it needed to."

That cost, along with the explosive growth of drones over the two decades it was conceptualized, designed, built and commissioned, has rekindled decades-old questions about the need for all the big carriers the Navy operates.

From the Navy's point of view, the Ford "is a weapons system equipped with state-of-the-art technology that is functioning as designed and is set up to provide a return on investment measured in billions of dollars across 5 decades," the Naval Sea Systems Command says.

"While it is not unusual for the first ship of a class to have unexpected challenges and delays," the Ford is performing as planned, the command says. And, it adds: "Ford class aircraft carriers will serve as the centerpiece of strike group operations through the 21st century, supporting national strategic objectives," the command said.

Two decades ago

The Navy started spending on the Ford in 2001, with preparation of the plans and other work costing \$21 million.

At the time, the Navy was aiming for a multi-step process to introduce all the features its carrier working group proposed for its next generation carrier — a new

nuclear plant, new kinds of catapults and arresting gear to increase the number of sorties the air wing could fly, a new layout of the flight deck, new radar, new anti-aircraft and missile defense weapons and a new way of arming and moving weapons from magazines.

The plan was to begin introducing some with the Nimitz-class carrier that would eventually be the USS George H.W. Bush, which would be commissioned in 2009. There'd be more on the first ship of the new class — the one that would be the Ford — with everything up and running on the second, the John F. Kennedy, now under construction and 81% complete.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, a former Naval aviator, didn't like the idea of spreading the innovations across two ships. So the Navy agreed to speed work on the features it had wanted to save for the second ship and install them on the first.

It would have the new reactor, a smaller design than the Nimitz class but capable of generating three times as much power.

Work had started on creating the new reactor. The other high-tech features, including a plane catapult that used electromagnets, were little more than concepts.

The pace quickens

The single-ship leap forward "resulted in a high degree of concurrent development, design, material procurement, and construction, ultimately impacting cost and performance," the Naval Sea Systems Command says.

The pace of spending to build the Ford soon picked up: \$135 million in fiscal year 2002, \$395 million in 2003, \$1.16 billion in 2004, when the Navy paid General Electric \$928 million, on top of some \$410 million already spent, for the nuclear reactor.

By end of 2007, the shipyard's design work and plans had cost the Navy \$1.49 billion.

But the planning and design work wasn't done, two years after the yard began cutting steel for the ship. The Navy's first cost estimates for the Ford pegged total planning at \$2.35 billion.

Payments to the yard for some of the propulsion and electrical system work had reached \$645 million by that point, and the Navy projected total construction costs would be \$4.73 billion. That figure excluded \$1.52 billion for the nuclear power system, an estimated \$697 million for ordnance — everything from the new Close-in Weapons System Mounts, the computer- and radar-linked mul-



KRISTOPH RUIZ/U.S. Navy

A sled moves along the flight deck of Pre-Commissioning Unit Gerald R. Ford during a test of catapults that comprise part of the ship's Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System.

tiple-barrel cannon that can fire 4,500 rounds a minute, to the new electromagnetic catapult and arresting gear systems and the new dual band radar.

All of these costs, except the nuclear power system, would rise sharply. The new radar's cost would be 138% above the Navy's 2008 forecast. The new arresting gear, 123% costlier. The new catapult, 111%.

All in all, these costs rose by more than \$720 million by the time the Ford was formally delivered to the Navy, though work on the ship continued.

The reworking of designs, changes in construction schedules and need to break down and rebuild already completed parts of the Ford to accommodate changes in these systems had knock-on effects.

Planning costs had climbed 42%, or by \$980 million, from the Navy's fiscal year 2008 projection.

Basic construction costs were 29% higher, by \$1.36 billion.

Alarm bells

The first warning that costs would rise came in 2007, six months after the Pentagon asked for the first big chunk of funds for the Ford, telling Congress in its budget filing for the following fiscal year that building and equipping the Ford would cost just under \$10.49 billion.

"The Navy's cost estimate, which underpins the budget, is optimistic. ... The Navy assumes that CVN 78 will be built with fewer labor hours than were needed for the previous two carriers," the Government Accountability Office concluded.

On top of that, GAO said "the shipbuilder's initial cost estimate for construction was 22 percent higher than the Navy's cost target."

At the shipyard's suggestion, to hold costs down, the Navy dropped a dynamic armor protection system. The yard also suggested

eliminating one of the waste disposal systems from the ship and said it planned to start cutting holes in steel plates earlier, during fabrication, to cut labor hours needed for welding and pulling cable.

Those efforts narrowed the gap between the Navy's cost estimate and the yard's initial one.

But the GAO said despite the yard's efforts to meet Navy targets for the Nimitz-class Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, "in both cases, costs grew not only above the negotiated contract price, but above the original estimate of the shipbuilder as well."

And there was plenty of potential for falling behind schedule, the GAO said.

The catapult and arresting gear, built by General Atomics, had to be installed by 2011 to keep construction on track. If the catapult wasn't ready, they would have to wait to complete 48 of the 423 basic construction units (called "design zones") on the carrier, all of them above the main deck and on the flight deck. If the arresting gear wasn't finished, it would hold up 18 design units above the main deck.

The dual band radar, from Raytheon Inc., needed to be delivered by 2010 to keep work on nine design zones in the carrier's island superstructure on schedule.

And the 11 electromagnetic weapons elevators, the heart of a new, safer system for arming weapons from the magazine deep in the ship's hull, needed to be ready by 2010. If not, 68 zones on every deck would be affected.

But the catapult already was more than 15 months behind schedule by 2007 and costs were running substantially above budget.

The generator needed to store the high level of electric power needed to propel the launcher had failed, and on top of the redesign needed to fix that, General Atomics also had to reconfigure the sys-

tem to meet the Navy's specifications. The power conversion system had to be redone to meet the Navy's vibration and shock requirements, once they were set, while General Atomics, which had not previously worked on shipboard systems, complained about a lack of coordination with the ship and lagging communications by the Navy.

And after the design was set, concern that the electromagnets could cause interference with the Ford's electronic systems emerged.

The schedule for the advanced arresting gear slipped, with the critical design review coming five months late because General Atomics underestimated the number of drawings needed. Changes in the Navy's shock and vibration requirements led to redesign of a major subsystem.

The contract

The Navy awarded Newport News Shipbuilding the major, \$4.9 billion contract for construction of the Ford in September 2008.

At the time, the shipyard had completed a quarter of the modules from which the carrier would be built. But the 3-D computer model of the carrier — a basic plan needed for its construction — wasn't completed until more than a year later.

And while General Atomics had by then completed the first round of testing aimed at seeing how well the catapult could handle the rapid pace of launching planes, land-based testing was already running two years late.

By April 2009, the Navy had quietly asked Newport News Shipbuilding what it would need to change if the older, steam-powered catapults were installed instead, Allison Stiller, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for ship programs, told a congressional hearing. But the Navy ultimate-

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MILITARY

Ford: Innovations led to delays, cost increases

FROM PAGE 4

ly remained committed to the electromagnetic system.

In its February 2010 request for funding, the Navy boosted the estimated cost of the Ford by more than \$1 billion, to \$11.53 billion. The Navy cited the rate of inflation as well as nonrecurring engineering costs.

A year and a half later, in July 2011, the Navy modified Newport News Shipbuilding's constriction contract, adding \$504 million to cover continuing engineering work.

Delays and rising costs

The Navy, too, kept saying the Ford was on target for delivery in 2015, even as its next budget submission, in February 2012, projected the Ford would cost \$790 million more than the estimate it made just two years earlier, bringing the total to \$12.32 billion.

A few weeks later, the Navy admitted the arresting gear system was behind schedule.

By that point, the cost of the arresting gear had more than doubled, from an original estimate of \$75 million to just under \$167 million, Navy budget documents show. In the end, the final cost was \$149 million.

The electromagnetic catapult system cost had climbed from \$318 million to \$425 million, the budget records show. And this system, which was supposed to be delivered to the shipyard by 2011, ran into technical problems, the GAO would report. In the end, the system cost \$664 million.

And while the Navy's revised development schedule called for land-based testing to continue into 2014, years behind its original plan, "significant numbers of EMALS components have already been produced, delivered to the shipbuilder, and installed on CVN 78 — even though the functional requirements, performance, and suitability of the system remain unproven," GAO said.

Changes made to the still unproven system already required re-wiring work.

But it wouldn't be until the spring of 2013 that the Navy finally said the Ford wouldn't be launched as scheduled, with that critical milestone to come four months late, in November.

"We knew a couple years ago there was going to be some schedule pressure," a Naval Sea Systems Command spokesman said at the time.

The Navy always viewed a July 2013 launch as an ambitious goal, he added.

A first delayed deadline

By the spring of 2013, construction of the Ford was a little more

than halfway completed, GAO review found.

The delivery date had been pushed back again, to February 2016, and even so, "the Navy and shipbuilder must still overcome significant technology development, design, and construction challenges in order to deliver a fully functional ship to the fleet" by then, GAO said.

The budgeted cost of \$12.8 billion was up, too — another \$500 million above the increase the Navy estimated a bit more than a year earlier. In addition to inflation, the Navy cited nonrecurring design and engineering costs needed to stay within the earlier cost cap and changes to fix problems that could affect the safety of the ship.

Increased labor, material and design costs at the shipyard were offset by a cut in the shipyard's fee. But cost increases in government-furnished equipment — the big items here were the catapult, arresting gear and radar — also boosted overall costs, the Navy said.

"The shipbuilder has begun installing the remaining 6 critical (not yet mature) technologies on the ship even though their capabilities are not yet fully proven," the GAO said.

While the Ford's baseline design included several features needed to handle the F-35 fighters the Navy started flying in 2019, the GAO said changes are still under development, eight years after the first cut of steel for the ship.

Key promises for the Ford's radar system, including air traffic control capabilities, "remain undemonstrated," GAO reported, adding that the land-based testing then underway was of a prototype not able to perform under the higher voltages required on the Ford.

The first test of the radar system configured for the Ford wouldn't start until 2016 — the year the carrier was supposed to be delivered to the Navy — and the Navy expected the system wouldn't be fully developed until 2017. The system, originally expected to cost \$202 million, ended up with a price tag of \$486 million.

There were more problems, and redesigns, for the arresting year, and the Navy said it didn't expect to complete land-based testing until 2015 — 2½ years later than planned.

At the shipyard, that meant that instead of building a module to house the arresting gear engines and related equipment, so it could be hoisted onto the hull and installed like a giant Lego-block, shipbuilders would have to cut a hole in the flight deck in order to install components. In addition to



CORY DAUT/U.S. Navy

The aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford prepares to get underway in October 2019.

the extra time and work — all of which the Navy had to pay for — this interfered with installation of cabling and ductwork.

As land-based testing continued, it prompted changes to the arresting gear and the catapult that were adding weight, and doing that around the flight deck, which could affect the ship's stability unless designers could find some way to offset that.

"Additional weight growth to the advanced arresting gear was of particular concern and could trigger a need for future structural and space modifications around the installed system," GAO warned.

Another delay

By the summer of 2014, it was clear that the already postponed delivery date for the Ford would be missed.

While the shipyard found answers to engineering and material challenges by the summer of 2014, they meant much of the work on the Ford as it entered its most complicated phase was done out of sequence, causing delays and higher costs, the GAO reported.

The shipyard had completed work on only 73% of the 777 compartments scheduled to be completed by August 2014, the agency said.

The main reason was late delivery of the electromagnetic catapult and arresting gear, with more than 50 modifications still to be completed before shipboard testing could begin.

With so much still to do, there was a time squeeze. Testing the ship's fire sprinklers was delayed because construction of the sprinkling system was not completed on time. Testing of the ship's plumbing fixtures was delayed until testing of the potable water distribution system was completed and activated.

While shipboard testing of components to the advanced weapons elevators began in February 2012, testing hadn't proceeded as planned because of faulty components, software problems and premature corrosion of electrical parts. By the summer of 2014, the

shipyard had operated only four of the ship's 11 weapons elevators.

Meanwhile, the Navy was deferring some work until after ship delivery, GAO reported.

Still more delays

Delays continued as land-based testing of the catapult, arresting gear and radar had to be completed before they could be installed, Paul L. Francis, the GAO's managing director overseeing its work on government procurement told the Senate Armed Services Committee in an October 2015 hearing.

By that point, the catapult's testing was still underway and would not be finished until early 2016 — seven years late and around the time the Ford was supposed to be delivered under the new deadline.

The arresting gear tests were running late, too — the system wasn't likely to be fully proven until early 2017, also seven years late.

The dual band radar system's land based testing was done by then — six years behind schedule.

The Navy's latest estimate for the labor needed to finish the Ford — 49.9 million hours, up 17% from its promise to Congress in 2007, was predictable, Francis said, noting that the original estimate was 2 million hours less than the shipyard itself said would be needed.

"Optimism has pervaded the program from the start," Francis said.

While the Navy said the Ford could be delivered, complete, by 2015 at a cost of \$10.5 billion, the latest estimate was that 367 compartments would not be finished on delivery. Instead of being able to conduct full flight operations in 2015, the Ford was only due to start flight operations with one fixed wing plane four months after an again-delayed 2016 delivery date.

"That CVN 78 will deliver at higher cost and less capability, while disconcerting, was predictable," Francis said.

"Unfortunately, it is also unremarkable, as it is a typical outcome of the weapon system acquisition process," he said, noting

that the Ford was already 23% above its original budget, while the USS Zumwalt, lead of what was to be a class of 32 destroyers of which only 3 were built, came in 40% above budget. The lead versions of the new littoral combat ships ran 150% over their original budgets.

The end in sight?

In February 2016, an assistant secretary of the Navy told a House subcommittee that construction of the Ford was in its final stages: 96% complete, with 80% of testing of the hull and the carrier's mechanical and electrical systems completed. Some 63% of electronics systems testing was done as well.

This put the ship on track for delivery in August or September 2016 — another delay.

There'd be a full ship shock trial — basically, setting off high explosives near the ship to see how it could weather that challenge, the first such test of a carrier since 1987 — by 2019, with the first deployment planned by 2021.

Five months later, a transformer in one of the main turbine generators in CVN 78's propulsion plant experienced a catastrophic failure.

While an initial review by the shipyard and the firm that supplied the transformer blamed a manufacturing defect, a follow-up found other problems. All required design changes and more time to implement them.

In August 2016, testing of the dual band radar system uncovered problems. That, too, required fixes.

It would not be until May 2017 that the Ford would be delivered.

The shock test Stackley said would be done in 2019 won't happen until later this summer. The Ford won't be ready to deploy until 2022 at the earliest.

Commissioned

On a sweltering July day in 2017, President Donald Trump's helicopter landed on the flight deck of the Ford, still at a shipyard

SEE FORD ON PAGE 6

MILITARY

Seniors given 'reverse parade' at Humphreys

BY MATTHEW KEELER
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — The graduating class of Camp Humphreys High School lined the garrison's streets recently as vehicles filled with friends and family drove past in a now-familiar pandemic-era ritual of celebration.

"Reverse parades" like the one held Thursday provide an opportunity for the community to recognize and congratulate their own. It began last year with an idea from Principal Erin Grazak when strict coronavirus mitigation measures precluded large gatherings.

"This was a big hit last year," Grazak said. "This event was founded by COVID, and I think it's a new tradition that's just started."

COVID-19 is the respiratory disease caused by the coronavirus that spawned the pandemic.

For the reverse parade, each student has an individualized light pole hung with a banner



Humphreys High School teachers congratulate graduating seniors during the parade.

made with their name and graduation photo.

The students decorate their posts however they want before the parade begins. Garrison commander Col. Michael Tremblay and Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Lemon then lead a convoy of over 150 vehicles past the soon-to-be graduates.

Traditionally, graduates in their caps and gowns walked the halls of the elementary and middle schools as staff and the young-



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW KEELER/Stars and Stripes

Humphreys High School senior Enemoria Vidana bows during a "reverse parade" for soon-to-be graduates at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on Thursday.

er students cheered them on, a custom called the Legacy Walk.

This year's ritual allows those unable to attend the graduation ceremony on Thursday a chance to congratulate each of the 143 students individually, Grazak said.

Matthew Macy, 17, from Vicenza, Italy, said he's never been big on celebrations, but feels excited and said the parade is a great way to end school on a high note.

"It's nice to see every one of my senior classmates just out and celebrating the fact they're moving onto the next part of their journey," he said.

The Humphreys class of 2021 is scheduled to hold a Senior Sunset on Tuesday evening.

The seniors plan to gather on the football field one last time to celebrate and talk about future goals as the sun retreats.

On Thursday, 126 out of the 143 graduates plan to walk across the stage at the Collier Community Fitness Center to receive their diplomas.

The remaining seniors either moved recently or graduated earlier in the school year.



Senior Matthew Macy waves to his supporters during the parade.

keeler.matthew@stripes.com
Twitter: @MattKeeler1231

Ford: Navy says 99% of work items now corrected

FROM PAGE 5

outfitting pier, to place the carrier into commission.

"American steel and American hands have constructed a 100,000-ton message to the world," Trump said.

The ship was two years late and four of its critical systems — the catapult, arresting gear, radar and weapons' elevators — weren't yet running the way they should. There were more than 9,000 items to be completed or fixed.

The Navy had promised a ship ready to handle all types of carrier aircraft — the F/A-18 SuperHornet fighters, E-2 Hawkeye reconnaissance planes, C-2 supply planes and helicopters by 2015.

Even after another year and half of work, the Department of Defense Director — Operational Test and Evaluation said reliability of the catapult and arresting gear was poor.

During the first 747 launches, the catapult suffered 10 critical failures, well below the Navy's requirement. The arresting gear failed 10 times out of 763 landings, while the Navy demanded an average of 16,500 problem-free recoveries.

The radar kept sending signals

of false or doubled-up targets. Certification testing had started on only two of the carrier's 11 weapons elevators, the first-of-their-kind electromagnet hoists that brought bombs and armament from the Ford's magazines to the flight deck, to be loaded onto aircraft.

Ford had to cut short its first three shakedown trips at sea because of problems with the propulsion system.

Back to the shipyard in July 2018 for what originally was scheduled to be a year to fix problems found during sea trials, the Navy slated an extra three months — until October 2019 — because there was so much work to be done.

Even after the extra three months, the Navy had accepted only four of the 11 elevators. For the catapult, only one of nine problems identified after sea trials had been fixed. Six of the seven problems identified with the arresting gear were fixed.

The Navy pushed back the target date for the Ford's first deployment by two years, to 2023.

Final sprint

For a while, the Navy had quiet-

ly let its target for Ford's first deployment slip some more, first until 2023, eventually to 2024.

But since late 2019, during 18 exercises at sea, the Ford's crew along with scores of Newport News Shipbuilding works have worked out kinks in the key systems, have made up for some of the slippage.

Almost all the key systems are certified as ready for use, with only the final two weapons elevators left to certify.

With more than 8,000 problem-free launches and landings under its belt — a key milestone, since that's roughly the number on a typical deployment — the Ford's crew proved the reliability of the catapult and arresting gear, said Capt. Joshua Sager, air wing commander.

Sager said the new electromagnetic technology means the airwing can get into the air — and return to the battle after rearming and refueling — faster than with the traditional steam-and-hydraulics systems that have been the mainstay for decades.

Last May, the Ford's electronic catapult launched 165 planes in a single 10-hour period; in December 2020, it did 170 in 8.5 hours,

well above its target of 160 in 12 hours, a one-third improvement over Nimitz class standard.

Rear Adm. James P. Downey, program executive officer for aircraft carriers, said the Ford is now hitting the Navy's planned performance goals for the new design.

Over the past 18 months of post-delivery tests and trial, "we really started stressing the ship's 23 new technologies, especially EMALS (the electromagnetic catapult) and AAG (advanced arresting gear)," he said.

"In 18 months, we corrected 99% of the 9,000-plus work items outstanding at ship's delivery," Downey said.

Matthew Collete, a University of Michigan professor of naval architecture and marine engineering, said the Ford shows how difficult it can be to find the right balance between the technology that promises a strategic edge for many years to come and the many years it takes to build a major warship.

"The Ford has a series of major improvements, and maybe they didn't all need to be made at once, but many of them depend on the others," he said.

Missile: Longer ranges permitted

FROM PAGE 1

The United States had previously barred South Korea from developing a missile with a range of longer than 500 miles out of concerns about a regional arms race. The range is enough for a South Korean weapon to strike all of North Korea but is short of hitting potential key targets in other neighbors like China and Japan.

Some South Korean observers hailed the end of the restrictions as restoring military sovereignty, but others suspected the U.S. intent was to boost its ally's military capability amid a rivalry with China.

The commentator Kim accused Washington of trying to spark an arms race, thwart North Korean development and deploy intermediate-range missiles targeting countries near North Korea.

The South Korean government said it "prudently watches" North Korea's reaction, but Unification Ministry spokeswoman Lee Jong-joo wouldn't comment otherwise, since the remarks were attributed to an individual, not an official statement from the North Korean government.

NATION

Biden observes personal Memorial Day weekend

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. — President Joe Biden honored America's war dead at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day by laying a wreath at the hallowed burial ground and extolling the sacrifices of the fallen for the pursuit of democracy.

The president was joined on Monday by first lady Jill Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and second gentleman Doug Emhoff in a somber ceremony at the Virginia cemetery's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which is dedicated to deceased service members whose remains have not been identified.

His face tight with emotion, Biden walked up to the wreath, cupping it in his hands in silent reflection and then making the sign of the cross. Later, he called on Americans to commemorate their fallen heroes by remembering their fight for the nation's ideals.

"This nation was built on an idea," Biden said Monday at Arlington. "We were built on an idea, the idea of liberty and opportunity for all. We've never fully realized that aspiration of our founders, but every generation has opened the door a little wider."

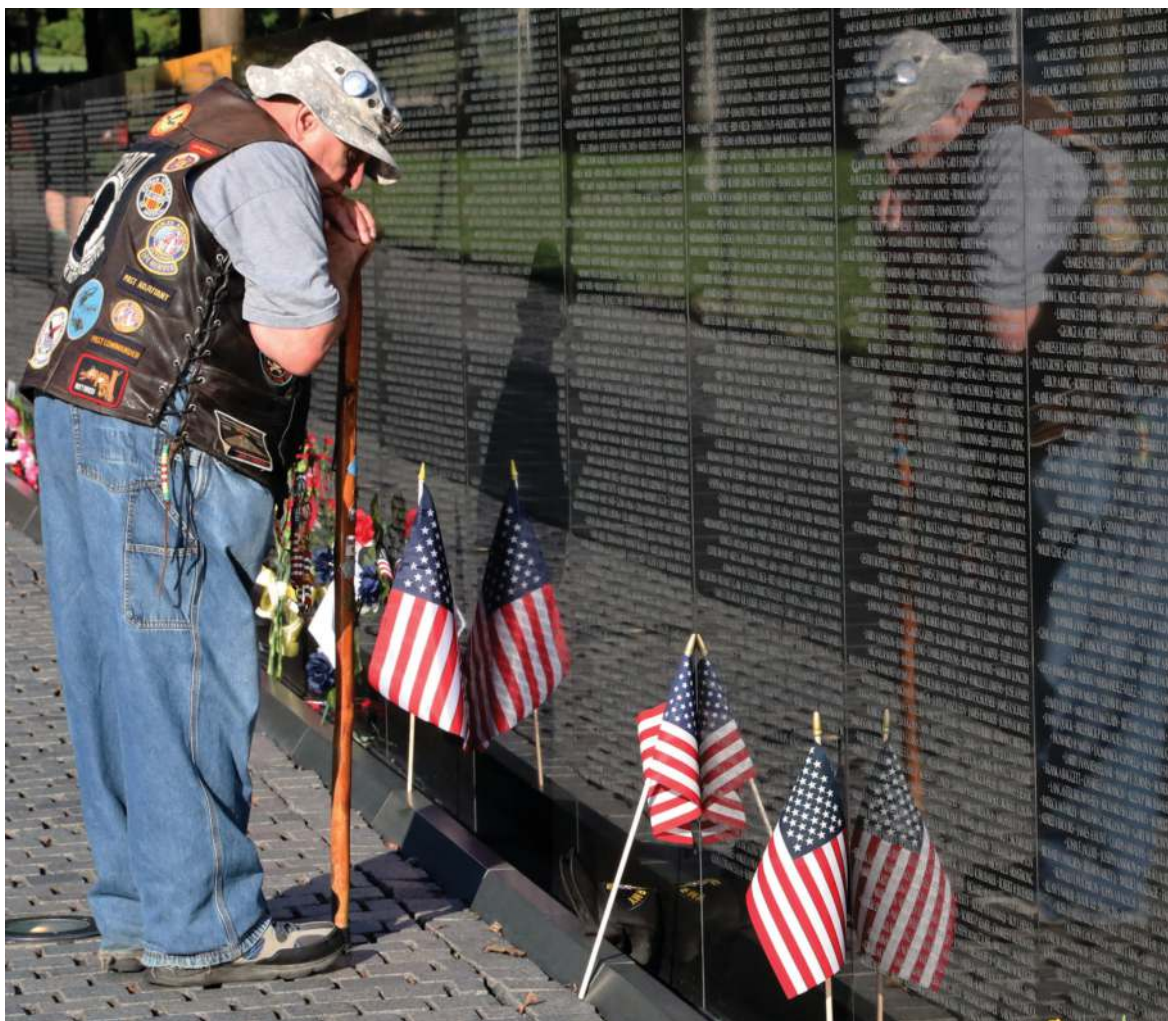
He focused much of his speech on the importance of democracy, saying that it thrives when citizens can vote, when there is a free press and when there are equal rights for all.

"Generation after generation of American heroes are signed up to be part of the fight because they understand the truth that lives in every American heart: that liberation, opportunity, justice are far more likely to come to pass in a democracy than in an autocracy," Biden said.

The Bidens stopped by a row of gravestones after the ceremony, holding hands and speaking with a family whose relative died during World War II.

Other dignitaries at the Arlington event included Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

On Sunday, Biden addressed a crowd of Gold Star military families and other veterans in a ceremony at War Memorial Plaza in New Castle, Delaware. Earlier in the day, he and other family members attended a memorial Mass for his son Beau Biden, a veteran who died of brain cancer six years ago to the day.



JOE GROMELSKI/Stars and Stripes

As President Joe Biden honored America's war dead at nearby Arlington National Cemetery, Army veteran Bernie Klonanek of Mineral, Va., remembers the fallen during a Memorial Day visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Buttigieg: Respect plane mask mandates

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on Sunday urged travelers to respect flight attendants and other crew members who enforce federal mask mandates on planes, pledging strict federal enforcement against such abuse at a time of increasingly unruly behavior by passengers.

"The flight crews and other workers you encounter, they're doing their job," he said. "They're following regulations and they're there to keep you safe. It is absolutely unacceptable to ever mistreat a transportation worker."

"And of course, there's very serious fines and enforcement around that," Buttigieg added.

Buttigieg said the federal mask mandate, which remains in effect

on planes, buses and trains until Sept. 13, continues to be driven by public health considerations. He stressed that travelers should abide by it as both a matter of safety and respect to transportation workers.

"Part of it has to do with the unique conditions of the physical space," Buttigieg said, explaining the extra COVID-19 precautions for crowded spaces. "Part of it has to do with the conditions of it being a workplace, and folks who really don't have a choice about being there, the way it is in some other cases."

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines say that fully vaccinated people can go without face coverings inside and outside various public areas.

"These rules and regulations and

these bodies of guidance always evolve with the science," Buttigieg said.

His admonition comes after the Federal Aviation Administration announced last week it was proposing civil penalties as high as \$15,000 against five passengers for violations that included allegedly assaulting and yelling at flight attendants.

Southwest Airlines last week also banned a woman accused of punching a flight attendant shortly after a plane from Sacramento, Calif., landed in San Diego on May 23. The airline said the passenger ignored instructions from the flight attendant before assaulting her. San Diego Harbor Police arrested Vyvianna Quinonez, 28, and charged her with felony battery.



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NATION

GOP given week to reach deal on infrastructure

By HOPE YEN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said Sunday time is running short for a bipartisan deal on infrastructure, indicating that President Joe Biden will look to act without Republican support if there is no consensus when Congress returns from its Memorial Day break.

“By the time that they return, which is June 7, just a week from tomorrow, we need a clear direction,” Buttigieg said. “The president keeps saying inaction is not an option. And time is not unlimited here.” He said the American people “expect us to do something.”

Biden plans to meet with lead Republican negotiator, Sen. Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia, this coming week and says he remains open to hearing from other GOP senators who are working on different proposals. But Biden has been eying the dwindling timeline for a deal, with an early June hearing scheduled on a House transportation bill that is widely seen as a building block for the big package he favors.

Democratic senators also plan on moving forward on a sweeping infrastructure package “with or without the support of Republican senators,” Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., wrote

to Democrats on Friday. Biden had originally set a Memorial Day deadline for reaching a deal before he let that deadline slip back.

The two sides remain far apart. Republican senators last week outlined a \$928 billion infrastructure proposal as a counteroffer to Biden’s \$1.7 trillion proposal, and they said they would not go along with his plans to raise the corporate tax from 21% to 28% to pay for new spending.

Republicans want to shift unspent COVID-19 relief dollars to help cover the costs, a nonstarter for many Democrats and a proposal that Biden is finding unworkable, a White House adviser told The Associated Press on Friday.

On Sunday, Capito said she remained hopeful the two sides can move closer to agreement.

“I think we can get to real compromise, absolutely, because we’re both still in the game,” she said. “I think the president told me himself that let’s get this done. We realize this is not easy. I think we bring every idea that’s on the table into the negotiations to see how we can achieve this and get it across the threshold.”

The GOP plan amounts to about \$250 billion in new spending, far from the president’s approach. Biden reduced his \$2.3 trillion bid to \$1.7 trillion in earlier negotiations.



GEORGE WALKER IV, THE TENNESSEAN/AP

Emergency personnel remove debris from a plane crash in Percy Priest Lake Sunday, near Smyrna, Tenn.

Ex-‘Tarzan’ actor among 7 plane crash victims in Tennessee lake

Associated Press

SMYRNA, Tenn. — Investigators on Sunday continued searching for the bodies of seven people believed killed in the crash a day earlier of a small jet into a Tennessee lake, including an actor who portrayed Tarzan in a 1990s television series.

Rutherford County Fire Rescue Capt. John Ingle said in a statement Sunday that recovery efforts were ongoing at Percy Priest Lake near Smyrna. He said efforts also were focused on examining a half-mile-wide debris field in the lake.

County officials identified the victims in a news release late

Saturday as Brandon Hannah, Gwen S. Lara, William J. Lara, David L. Martin, Jennifer J. Martin, Jessica Walters and Jonathan Walters, all of Brentwood, Tenn. Their names were released after family members had been notified.

Gwen Shamblin Lara founded the Remnant Fellowship Church in Brentwood in 1999 and wrote a faith-based weight loss book. Her husband of nearly three years, known as Joe Lara, was an actor featured in the TV series “Tarzan: The Epic Adventures.”

The Federal Aviation Administration said the Cessna C501 plane was heading from nearby

Smyrna Rutherford County Airport to Palm Beach International Airport when it crashed Saturday morning. Authorities did not release registration information for the plane.

Smyrna is located about 20 miles southeast of Nashville. Percy Priest Lake is a reservoir created by the J. Percy Priest Dam. It is a popular spot for boating and fishing.

“With dive teams in the water, we are strongly urging civilian boaters to stay away from the public safety boats,” Ingle said.

The National Transportation Safety Board had a lead investigator at the site.

Dems walk out in bid to block Texas’ voting restrictions

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas Democrats pulled off a dramatic, last-ditch walkout in the state House of Representatives on Sunday night to block passage of one of the most restrictive voting bills in the U.S., leaving Republicans with no choice but to abandon a midnight deadline and declare the legislative session essentially over.

The revolt is one of Democrats’ biggest protests to date against GOP efforts nationwide to impose stricter election laws, and they used the spotlight to urge President Joe Biden to act on voting rights.

But the victory may be fleeting: Republican Gov. Greg Abbott, who had declared new voting laws a priority in Texas, quickly announced he would order a special session to finish the job. He called the failure of the bill “deeply disappointing” but did not say when



JAY JANNER, AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN/AP

Gary Bledsoe, president of the Texas NAACP, speaks at a news conference at the Capitol, on Sunday, against Senate Bill 7, known as the Election Integrity Protection Act.

he would drag lawmakers back to work.

“We’ve said for so many years that we want more people to participate in our democracy. And it

just seems that’s not the case,” Democratic state Rep. Carl Sherman said.

One by one, Democrats left the House chamber until there was no

longer the 100-member quorum needed to pass Senate Bill 7, which would have reduced polling hours, empowered poll watchers and scaled back ways to vote in Texas, which already has some of the nation’s strictest voting laws.

They gathered later outside a Black church, driving home their anger over a last-minute change to the Texas bill that would have prohibited Sunday voting before 1 p.m., when many Black worshippers go to the polls. Democrats said they did not go into the House vote intending to break quorum, but instead became fed-up after Republicans repeatedly refused to take their questions while racing to pass the bill.

It was a stunning turnabout from just 24 hours earlier, when the bill seemed all but guaranteed to reach Abbott’s desk. The Texas Senate had signed off before sunrise earlier Sunday after Republi-

cans, who hold an 18-13 majority in the chamber, used a bare-knuckle procedural move to suspend the rules and take up the measure in the middle of the night.

“We knew today, with the eyes of the nation watching actions in Austin, that we needed to send a message, and that message is very, very clear: Mr. President, we need a national response to federal voting rights,” Democratic state Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer said.

Republicans showed restraint in criticizing Democrats for the move.

“I am disappointed that some members decided to break quorum,” said Republican state Rep. Briscoe Cain, who carried the bill in the House. “We all know what that meant. I understand why they were doing it, but we all took an oath to Texans that we would be here to do our jobs.”

NATION

Black women target governor, Senate seats

By BILL BARROW
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Jennifer McClellan remembers her parents recounting life as Black Virginians enduring segregation and the trauma and triumph of the civil rights movement.

It showed her that government can be “a powerful force for improving people’s lives” but also one “that oppresses some, ignores others.”

A generation later, despite her interest in public office, there was no obvious pathway for someone like her.

“There weren’t a lot of role models ... examples of Black women” in power, said McClellan in an interview. Now she’s a 48-year-old state senator running for governor herself: “We’re in a very different Virginia.”

McClellan’s candidacy alongside fellow primary candidate Jennifer Carroll Foy demonstrates the rising political power of Black women, long a foundation of Democratic

victories, and more recently, as candidates and officeholders, from Vice President Kamala Harris to mayors in Atlanta, Chicago and San Francisco.



Carroll Foy

McClellan and Carroll Foy, a 39-year-old former legislator, are trying to break another barrier by becoming the first Black woman to win a governor’s race in any state. They are decided underdogs to former Gov. Terry McAuliffe in Virginia’s June 8 primary. Yet they’re nonetheless part of a surge in candidacies by Black women not just for local and legislative posts but also statewide offices that are still new ground for Black women.

“We are normalizing Black women’s leadership (and) seeing Black women on every ballot so that it’s second nature for voters,” said Glynda Carr, co-founder of Higher Heights for America, which backs Black female candidates.



DAVID CRIGGER, BRISTOL (VA.) HERALD COURIER/AP

State Sen. Jennifer McClellan, above, Democratic candidate for governor of Virginia, and Jennifer Carroll Foy, a former state legislator, are trying to break another barrier in Virginia by becoming the first Black woman to win a governor’s race.

In addition to Virginia, two Black women are running for U.S. Senate from North Carolina in 2022: former state Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheri Beasley and former legislator Erica Smith. In Florida, U.S. Rep. Val Demings is running for Republican Sen. Marco Rubio’s seat. In Georgia, voting rights activist and former legislative leader Stacey Abrams is expected to make a second run for governor in 2022.

Steve Schale, a white strategist who helped President Barack Obama win Florida twice, said it’s a developing consensus that Black women can assemble Democrats’ ideal alliance for statewide elections: older Black voters, younger voters across racial and ethnic lines, urban white liberals and enough white moderates, especially women, in metro areas.

“This is the next step post-Obama,” Schale said. “They can rebuild that coalition as well as anyone.”

Both Virginia candidates say Black women are right for the moment.

“I am tired of fighting the same

fight that my parents, my grandparents and my great-grandparents fought, and I cannot leave that to my children,” McClellan recalled thinking when she watched the video of George Floyd, a Black man, dying under the knee of a white police officer in Minnesota last year.

Carroll Foy ties her biography — graduating from Virginia Military Institute and working in low-wage jobs and as a public defender — to her political strategy. “There’s intersectionality ... coming from one of the poorest communities in Virginia” and selling policy ideas to all working- and middle-class voters, she said in an interview.

In addition to no Black woman serving as governor, only two have been elected to the U.S. Senate, and the chamber has none now. The next goal, Carr said, is for Black women to match their voting power

to their representation.

Congress began this year with a record 25 Black women out of 435 House members. Black women are mayors in seven of the 100 most populous U.S. cities, up from one less than a decade ago. The number of Black women in state legislatures has nearly doubled in two decades, to more than 4%.

“We can celebrate,” Carr said, “but still recognize the work that needs to be done.”

At the least, strong campaigns from Black women so early in the midterm cycle stand out compared to previous years.

In 2017, as Georgia’s Abrams was preparing for her first bid for governor, white power brokers in the state party recruited one of her fellow state lawmakers, a white woman, to run against her.

“They should have been ashamed,” said Karen Finney, a prominent Black Democratic consultant and Abrams ally. “She proved them all wrong.”

Abrams trounced her hand-picked primary opponent and came within 55,000 votes out of 4 million cast of defeating Republican Brian Kemp. Soon after, Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer courted her to run for Senate. She declined but recruited the Rev. Raphael Warnock. Warnock, a Black man, won his January runoff by 2 points, a wider margin than his white colleague, Democratic Sen. Jon Ossoff, managed in a parallel contest.

Heading into 2022, Georgia Democrats are uniformly ceding the top of the ticket to Abrams, who is publicly mum but expected to run.

“She proved you don’t have to follow conventional wisdom,” McClellan said.

Finney cited her focus group research that found white women becoming more open to backing Black women. Black female candidates, she said, can leverage public frustra-

tion with dysfunction. Voters “see women as collaborative leaders, and women of color are not seen as part of what’s already broken,” Finney said, even if they’ve held office already, because they are “natural outsiders.”

Beasley and Demings, Finney added, carry potential advantages hailing from the criminal justice establishment: Beasley as part of the judiciary, Demings as a former Orlando police chief. So, Finney said, it’d be harder for Republicans to caricature either as “extremist” or “radical.”

In Virginia, McClellan and Carroll Foy describe their candidacies as progress, with caveats.

Carroll Foy has endorsements from Higher Heights and EMILY’s List, which champions abortion rights. She’s raised in the millions, though not at pace with McAuliffe, a prodigious fundraiser since his days as President Bill Clinton’s 1996 reelection co-chair.

“It’s obvious the structures in place aren’t made to have a woman of color run for and win the executive position,” Carroll Foy said.

McClellan said voters beyond the political class are “ready for someone with that different perspective,” while many insiders still believe “if there’s a white man in the race, you have to wait your turn.”

Indeed, McAuliffe is running with plenty of Black support. Among his campaign co-chairs is the highest-ranking Black member of the General Assembly, Senate President Pro Tem Louise Lucas.

She credited McAuliffe with genuine outreach to nonwhite communities and said she “goes back three decades” with the 64-year-old Democrat.

“I’m excited about all of the Black and brown women running for offices all over this nation,” Lucas said. “This is no slight to any of my sisters.”

Still, the 77-year-old senator implicitly questioned whether Black women can win a general election in Virginia. “Rather than speculate,” Lucas said, “I would prefer to say I believe Terry is best situated and suited to win.”



Abrams



Beasley

Tenn. hat shop offer of Star of David patches denounced

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The owner of a Tennessee hat shop is dealing with push-back after posting a photo of herself to social media wearing a yellow patch resembling the Star of David with the words “not vaccinated.”

The photo posted by Gigi Gaskins, owner of HatWrksNashville, shows her smiling and wearing the badge that looks similar in shape and color to those that the Nazis forced Jews to wear in Europe during the Holocaust. A caption with the photo advertised the patches for \$5 apiece.

“People are so outraged by my post?

But are you outraged with the tyranny the world is experiencing?” Gaskins said on Instagram. “If you don’t understand what is happening, that is on you not me. I pay much more respect to history by standing up with the fallen than offering silence and compliance.”

Gaskins later deleted the photo and issued an apology Saturday.

“In NO WAY did I intend to trivialize the Star of David or disrespect what happened to millions of people. That is not who I am & what I stand for,” Gaskins wrote. “My intent was not to exploit or make a profit. My hope was to share my

genuine concern & fear, and to do all that I can to make sure that nothing like that ever happens again. I sincerely apologize for any insensitivity.”

The photo was shared widely on social media with the hashtag “hateworks” and prompted hat maker Stetson to announce that it was pulling its products from the store. Hat maker Goorin Bros. of San Francisco said on Instagram that it was “horrificed” by the patch.

“To make a mockery of the Holocaust in any form is unacceptable and completely insensitive,” owner and company President Ben Goorin said. “We are look-

ing at all options to fix and address this unfortunate circumstance.”

The photo also prompted small protests outside the shop on Saturday. One sign at a protest read, “The Holocaust is not a marketing op.”

Ivo H. Daalder, the U.S. ambassador to NATO from 2009 to 2013, denounced the photo on Twitter.

“As a young school girl in Holland, my mother was forced to wear a yellow star by the Nazis to identify her as a Jew,” Daalder wrote. “It’s beyond grotesque to sell this evil symbol to proclaim one’s not vaccinated. Where does this end?”

NATION

Tulsa Massacre
centennial events
go on amid issues

By Aaron Morrison
Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Joi McCondichie is a native of this city, but her life and career in public education kept her away from home for decades. When she returned to Tulsa from Los Angeles with her then-teenage son, she moved into a home just off of the Osage Prairie Trail on the city’s north side.

It was on this trail that thousands of Black Tulsans fled the white mob that leveled their community on May 31-June 1, 1921, in the calamity that came to be known as the Tulsa Race Massacre.

“I believe God led me here because he had a task for me,” McCondichie said.

McCondichie planned a march over the weekend to memorialize those who ran from what is considered one of the worst and deadliest acts of racial violence in American history.

That march is just one of an array of events, culminating Tuesday with a visit by President Joe Biden, who is expected to join local leaders in marking the occasion.

The weekend was to include a keynote speech from former Georgia gubernatorial candidate and voting rights advocate Stacey Abrams and a performance by singer John Legend at Tulsa’s ONEOK Field in the historic Greenwood district. But organizers canceled the event on Thursday, citing “unexpected circumstances with entertainers and speakers.”

Representatives for Abrams and Legend did not respond to requests for comment.

Law enforcement organizations around the United States received a bulletin last week from

the Department of Homeland Security warning of the potential for targeted violence at the commemoration of the Tulsa massacre, according to a federal law enforcement official.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss a bulletin that was not publicly released, said authorities don’t have credible intelligence about any specific plot to target the Tulsa events. But the alert was issued given the nature of the commemoration and the “volatile threat environment.”

McCondichie said her late grandmother, Eldoris McCondichie, was among the survivors in 1921 who was streaming out of Greenwood, also known as Black Wall Street, the bustling city within a city that was the picture of Black wealth and entrepreneurial success.

On Tuesday morning, Joi McCondichie’s “A Century Walk” will retrace Greenwood residents’ escape. The walk will start along a 1.5-mile stretch of abandoned railroad tracks near Greenwood and Archer avenues. The walkers will then move north onto Osage Prairie Trail until they reach 56th Street, between Peoria Avenue and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, where a community celebration awaits.

“I thought this would be a beautiful way to commemorate the ancestors by having or attempting to walk a mile in their shoes,” Joi McCondichie said.

Other events plan to feature the last three known living massacre survivors — 106-year-old Lessie Benningfield Randle, 107-year-old Viola Fletcher and 100-year-old Hughes Van Ellis. Last week, the three gave testimony in a panel about the massacre in the U.S. House of Representatives.



Tulsa massacre survivors, from left, Hughes Van Ellis Sr., Lessie Benningfield Randle and Viola Fletcher, wave to supporters from a horse-drawn carriage before a march Friday in Tulsa, Okla.



REBECCA SANTANA/AP

A statue of Jesus Christ stands near the remains of a house in Cameron Parish, La., on May 24.

Louisiana coast still hurting
from storms, braces for more

By Rebecca Santana
Associated Press

CAMERON, La. — Scores of people in coastal Louisiana are still living in campers on dirt mounds or next to cement slabs where their houses once stood. Unresolved insurance claims and a shortage of supply and labor are stymieing building efforts. And weather forecasters are warning of more possible devastation to come.

Nine months after two back-to-back hurricanes hammered their towns, residents are still struggling to recover — even as they brace for another onslaught of storms in the season that starts Tuesday.

“We’re scared to death for this next season,” said Clarence Dyson, who is staying with his wife and four kids in a 35-foot-long camper with bunk beds while the home they had been renting in Cameron Parish undergoes repairs after Hurricane Laura.

The parish — a Louisiana designation similar to a county — is made up of small communities on the southwestern coast where residents have lived for generations, either working in the shrimp industry or more recently at one of the area’s liquefied natural gas plants.

The region features a stunning, peaceful landscape where families go crabbing together, birds perch on swaying strands of marsh grass and wind-gnarled oak trees grow on the long ridges — called cheniers — that rise above the marsh. About 70% of the parish is wetlands or open water.

Last fall, however, the area was battered by hurricanes that carved a path of destruction. On Aug. 27, Category 4 Hurricane Laura rammed into the coast near the town of Cameron with maximum winds of 150 mph. Just six weeks later, Hurricane Delta, carrying 97-mph winds, made land-

fall about 10 miles away.

Of the several communities hit, the towns of Cameron, Creole and Grand Chenier, in Cameron Parish, took the worst beating. Laura flattened homes, nearly gutted the First Baptist church, stripped trees of their branches and leaves and toppled power lines.

Nine months later, the parish’s electric lines have been replaced by ramrod straight poles. Oak trees denuded of leaves and branches are started to sprout new growth. Piles of debris have been hauled away. And Booth’s Grocery Store, in business since 1957, is once again selling beer and bait.

But for most of the parish, recovery is still an ongoing process. Cement slabs and mounds of dirt still mark the place where homes used to be. The sounds synonymous with rebuilding — the whine of circular saws cutting lumber or nail guns hammering shingles — are rare.

Building contractors are in short supply; most are already slammed with work in the more densely populated, hurricane-damaged Lake Charles area farther north. Lumber prices have soared due to a trade dispute with Canada and a temporary shutdown in production when the coronavirus pandemic hit a year ago.

Leaders of the First Baptist Church in Cameron have been trying to get a contractor to come out and give them a quote so they can apply for a building permit. Most of the church has been gutted to the studs, with pews currently stacked in the building’s center. This is the fourth hurricane the small congregation has survived as well as one fire, said Cyndi Sellers, a longtime church member who was baptized and married there.

In the meantime, the small congregation holds services in the meeting room of the parish’s gov-

erning body. They try to soften the space with plastic sunflowers and a blue cloth across the podium. A cross with a Bible verse attached to it stands on a table.

Meanwhile, forecasters with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are predicting 13 to 20 named storms — six to 10 of which will become hurricanes and three to five of which will be major hurricanes — for this year’s Atlantic season, which runs from June through November.

The stress of rebuilding and worry about future storms have prompted some to consider moving inland. But many who did just that after Hurricane Rita in 2005 were still unable to escape Laura’s wrath. The 2020 storm was so powerful, it was still a hurricane when it hit Shreveport about 200 miles north of the coast.

Federal officials just recently made it a little easier for residents to stay on their properties while they rebuild, by allowing the trailers it provides to be placed on lots that lie in the flood plain.

The movable living quarters can be seen everywhere, often parked near the cleared slabs and elevated mounds where houses used to be. Some residents intend to build something more permanent. But not 67-year-old Margaret Little. She plans to stay in a one-bedroom trailer that can be hooked to a truck and hauled away when the next hurricane comes.

Hurricane Rita took her brick house in Grand Chenier. Then Laura wiped out the trailer she’d bought to replace it. By the time Delta came, there was nothing left to take.

Little’s husband loves to crab and shrimp, and they have replanted the fruit trees they lost in Laura. But she draws the line at permanently rebuilding.

“I can’t lose another house. I just can’t,” she said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Small town can't find \$200K in fines and fees

SC GREENWOOD — A small South Carolina town has lost track of nearly \$200,000 worth of tickets, fines and fees, and officials aren't sure if the money was never received or just never logged into the court system.

Ware Shoals Councilwoman Valerie Jackson said at a recent Town Council meeting that the problem in the town stretches back to 2004, The Index-Journal of Greenwood reported.

The town's court system wasn't recording scheduled payments for the past 16 years, she said.

So far, the town has found both tickets and fines paid and not recorded as well as people who failed to make scheduled payments, Ware Shoals Police Chief Bryan Louis said. The town's judge is sending letters to people who have unpaid fines and fees, Louis said.

Alligator strays into river from home, is recaptured

PA WRIGHTSVILLE — An alligator that wandered away from his owner's Pennsylvania home slipped into the Susquehanna River, but was found the following day.

The alligator, named Oscar, is believed to have gotten out of the pen at the Wrightsville home sometime Thursday, the York Daily Record reported. The home is about 100 feet from the river's west bank, and the 3-foot-long animal was spotted Friday morning in the Susquehanna.

Owner Tyler Hake, a biologist who works with reptiles and has had Oscar since he was about 16, was in western Pennsylvania conducting a survey. On Friday, he and a borough crew walked the riverbank and spotted Oscar in the river, pretty much in front of Hake's home, and were able to recapture him.

Hake said he appreciated the aid provided by the police department and borough workers, calling them "super helpful."

Police: Woman stole cop cruiser, totaled it in crash

NJ TRENTON — Police said that a woman stole a police car in New Jersey's capital city and led law enforcement on a chase through a nearby township before she crashed and was arrested.

Trenton police said the police cruiser was parked on a street in downtown Trenton when it was taken shortly after 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Police alleged that the woman drove the vehicle north on Route 29 into Hopewell Township with law enforcement in pursuit before crashing into a utility pole at Washington Crossing Road and Bear Tavern Road.

Police said 30-year-old Cherrille Cooper of Morris Plains was



EMILY MATTHEWS, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE/AP

Rain or shine

Bicyclists ride through rain puddles in Schenley Plaza during the Allies Ball Free For All on Friday in Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh Action Against Rape was handing out flowers to anyone who could correctly answer a question related to sexual assault.

taken into custody and was then taken to a hospital for treatment of injuries said not to be life-threatening. She was then to be taken to police headquarters for processing on several unspecified charges.

Police said the vehicle was "totaled," but no one else was seriously hurt. The investigation is ongoing and the police internal affairs unit is also investigating. It wasn't immediately clear whether Cooper has an attorney and a number for her couldn't be found Sunday.

Woman arrested at US border with animal parts

VT HIGHGATE SPRINGS — A Montreal woman has been arrested on charges of trying to cross the U.S. border into Canada with "numerous undeclared wildlife items," including a three-toed sloth, 18 crocodile skulls and heads and seven crocodile feet, according to documents filed in federal court in Vermont.

Both sloths and crocodiles are protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Bennington Banner reported Friday.

Vanessa Rondeau, the owner of The Old Cavern Boutique in Montreal, also was alleged to be in possession of two horseshoe crabs, 30 sea stars, 23 raccoon feet, eight African antelope horns, one human skull "with mounted butterflies," four puffer fish and six shark jaws Wednesday when she attempted to cross the border at

THE CENSUS

15 The age of a western Michigan teenager who graduated from both high school and community college. Voca Ford received diplomas from Tri County High School in Montcalm County and Grand Rapids Community College, WOOD-TV reported. "When I was in kindergarten, I took third-grade reading," Ford said. "When I was in sixth grade, I took algebra, which is technically a freshman course." Ford said she would like to attend an Ivy League school and become a psychiatrist.

Highgate Springs, Vt., according to the criminal complaint.

All wildlife must be declared to the Fish and Wildlife Service upon import into the United States and prior to its export from the U.S., under the Endangered Species Act.

Woman accused of harassing home buyers

MN MINNEAPOLIS — A White Bear Lake woman has been charged with two counts of stalking after she allegedly harassed real estate agents and prospective buyers who came to look at a property next door that was recently put up for sale.

The Star Tribune reported that Lori E. Christensen, 57, took photos of and videotaped clients, put up "No Trespassing" signs facing the home for sale and loudly made disparaging comments about the house and the people who had lived there.

Court documents say Christensen told investigators that she has a First Amendment right to freedom of speech, videotapes conversations to protect herself and always remains on her own property.

Christensen, who has previous convictions for domestic assault

and violating a harassment restraining order, made her first court appearance remotely Friday. She posted a \$20,000 bond and is due back in court June 24.

Ruffed grouse becomes man's backyard friend

NH NEW LONDON — Some people are greeted by the family dog. For Todd Westward, it's a ruffed grouse.

The bird started hanging out in the New London, N.H., backyard last month with Westward while his family was away on a trip, his wife, Mary Beth Westward, posted in Facebook. Since then, the bird, named Walter, has made himself a fixture in the yard.

Walter has perched on her husband's shoulder and arm, and has visited his backyard work station.

Mary Beth Westward said she's gotten a lot of positive comments from her post, and heard some similar stories about social grouse.

City sets new rules on downtown music volume

MS OXFORD — The city of Oxford has adopted new rules limiting how loud music

can be played at downtown venues.

The Oxford Board of Aldermen recently approved a sound ordinance amendment related to live and recorded music, The Oxford Eagle reported.

Before, organizers or business owners were required to obtain a city permit for amplified sound at parades or other events. Under the new rules, a permit is not required as long as the sound falls within approved limits.

Limits have been set for residential areas and the downtown spaces, for indoor and outdoor spaces and live and recorded music.

Unusual bobcat tree den found in fire burn zone

CA THOUSAND OAKS — Biologists studying Southern California bobcats found a mother and three kittens this spring in an unusual den in a cavity up in a tree in an area intensely burned by a huge 2018 wildfire west of Los Angeles, the National Park Service said.

Bobcat "denning" in a tree is unusual, according to biologist Joanne Moriarty.

Their dens are usually found in hollow areas of thick chaparral or coastal sage or in woodrat nests made of piles of sticks and leaves.

Scientists believe the bobcat used the cavity because little vegetation has grown since the Woolsey Fire ravaged the Santa Monica Mountains and Simi Hills, the park service said Thursday.

WORLD

Netanyahu may lose PM title as rivals move to join forces

By JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A former ally of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday said he would seek to form a coalition government with the Israeli leader’s opponents, taking a major step toward ending the rule of the long-time premier.

The dramatic announcement by Naftali Bennett, leader of the small hardline Yamina party, set the stage for a series of steps that could push Netanyahu and his dominant Likud party into the opposition in the coming week.

While Bennett and his new partners, headed by opposition leader Yair Lapid, still face some obstacles, the sides appeared to be serious about reaching a deal and ending the deadlock that has plunged the country into four elections in the past two years.

“It’s my intention to do my ut-

most in order to form a national unity government along with my friend Yair Lapid, so that, God willing, together we can save the country from a tailspin and return Israel to its course,” Bennett said.

The pair have until Wednesday to complete a deal in which each is expected to serve two years as prime minister in a rotation deal, with Bennett holding the job first.

Bennett said there was no feasible way after the deadlocked March 23 election to form a right-wing government favored by Netanyahu. He said another election would yield the same results and said it was time to end the cycle.

“A government like this will succeed only if we work together as a group,” he said. He said everyone “will need to postpone fulfilling part of their dreams. We will focus on what can be done, instead of fighting all day on what’s impossible.”



SEAN SPIVEY, NEW ZEALAND DEFENSE FORCE/AP

A member of the New Zealand Defense Force rescues a dog from floods while assisting family members with their evacuation near Ashburton on New Zealand’s South Island, on Sunday.

New Zealanders evacuate amid flooding

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — Several hundred people in New Zealand were evacuated from their homes Monday with some recounting dramatic helicopter rescues as heavy rain caused widespread flooding in the Canterbury region.

Authorities declared a state of emergency after some places received as much as 16 inches of rain over the weekend and into Monday. Forecasters warned of possible heavy rain through Monday evening before conditions improved.

The military helped evacuate more than 50 people,

including several overnight in an NH-90 military helicopter. The military helicopter rescued an elderly couple from the roof of their car.

“Seeing the community overnight pull together and support the displaced residents who were evacuated from their homes has been heartening,” said Army Liaison Officer Capt. Jake Faber.

A man was rescued by a civilian helicopter pilot Sunday after he was swept from his farm as he tried to move his stock to safety.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern planned to travel to Christchurch to be briefed.



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WORLD

China easing birth limits to cope with aging society

By Joe McDonald
Associated Press

BEIJING — China's ruling Communist Party said Monday it will ease birth limits to allow all couples to have three children instead of two in hopes of slowing the rapid aging of its population, which is adding to strains on the economy and society.

The ruling party has enforced birth limits since 1980 to restrain population growth but worries the number of working-age people is falling too fast while the share over age 65 is rising. That threatens to disrupt ambitions to transform China into a prosperous consumer society and global technology leader.

A ruling party meeting led by President Xi Jinping decided to introduce "measures to actively deal with the aging population," the official Xinhua News Agency said. It said leaders agreed "implementing the policy of one couple can have three children and supporting measures are conducive to improving China's population structure."

Leaders also agreed China needs to raise its retirement age to keep more people in the workforce and

improve pension and health services for the elderly, Xinhua said.

Restrictions that limited most couples to one child were eased in 2015 to allow two, but the total number of births fell further, suggesting rule changes on their own have little impact on the trend.

Couples say they are put off by high costs of raising a child, disruption to their jobs and the need to look after elderly parents.

Comments on social media Monday complained the change does nothing to help young parents with medical bills, low incomes and grueling work schedules known popularly as "996," or 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. six days a week.

"Every stage of the problem hasn't been solved," said a post on the popular Sina Weibo blog service signed Tchaikovsky. "Who will raise the baby? Do you have time? I go out early and get back late. Kids don't know what their parents look like."

Another, signed Hyeongmok, joked bitterly: "Don't worry about aging. Our generation won't live long."

China, along some other Asian economies, faces what economists call the challenge of whether they can get rich before they get old.

The Chinese population of 1.4 billion already was expected to peak later this decade and start to decline. Census data released May 11 suggest that is happening faster than expected, adding to burdens on underfunded pension and health systems and cutting the number of future workers available to support a growing retiree group.

The share of working-age people 15 to 59 in the population fell to 63.3% last year from 70.1% a decade earlier. The group aged 65 and older grew to 13.5% from 8.9%.

The 12 million births reported last year was down nearly one-fifth from 2019. About 40% were second children, down from 50% in 2017, according to Ning Jizhe, a statistics official who announced the data on May 11.

Chinese researchers and the Labor Ministry say the share of working-age people might fall to half the population by 2050. That increases the "dependency ratio," or the num-



ANDY WONG/AP

An elderly man plays with children in Beijing on May 10. China's ruling Communist Party will allow couples to have three kids instead of two to cope with an aging population, a state news agency said Monday.

ber of retirees who rely on each worker to generate income for pension funds and to pay taxes for health and other public services.

Leaders at Monday's meeting agreed it is "necessary to steadily implement the gradual postpone-

ment of the legal retirement age," Xinhua said. It gave no details, but the government has been debating raising the official retirement ages of 60 for men, 55 for white-collar female workers and 50 for blue-collar female workers.

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OPINION

The anti-elite elites who gloss over Jan. 6

By KATHLEEN PARKER
Washington Post Writers Group

If I understand correctly, elites are so evil that even elites are anti-elite. And no one is more anti-elite than the uber-elite Donald Trump.
How do we know this? For starters, people with private planes and heliports atop buildings named for themselves are not very interested in schmoozing with the so-called common man. A common woman is something else, clearly. Donald Trump would no more seek out the company of most MAGA-hat-wearing followers than Melania would make her own clothes.
I mention Trump against my best intentions because the former president seems to be everywhere. Not him personally, but his surrogates. The freshest to his stable is none other than the elite, anti-elitist Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Yale- and Harvard-educated lawyer who recently signed a bill to restrict “Silicon Valley elites” from indefinitely blocking political figures’ speech. This bit of overreach toward Twitter and Facebook coincides nicely with Trump’s sustained whine since being shut down by the two social media giants, who determined that his incendiary rhetoric warranted permanent eviction.
I don’t disagree with that reasoning, even though it looks like censorship in what’s supposed to be an open marketplace of ideas and expression. Trump is a scowling hatemonger whose pathological lies have been to varying degrees flagged and tagged by both

sites. No one can force a private company to admit people who abuse community standards. That said, shutting out a president of the United States is a mind-boggling precedent that serves mostly to fuel conspiracy theorists.
As I’ve argued previously, it seems better to let everyone talk and draw one’s own conclusions. Social media’s operating assumption in denying some people a soapbox in the virtual public square is that people in the audience are generally too witless to distinguish between truth and falsehood. This may well be true, but still, isn’t it better for all of us to know what liars, thieves and fools are thinking?
I’ll leave the legal arguments to others, but not necessarily to DeSantis, who surely understands that private companies can do as they please if clients — or whatever Twitter people call themselves — fail to adhere to rules (even if they are just recently promulgated). DeSantis’ attack on the tech Goliaths was a brilliant tactic — so long as he doesn’t mind seeming kind of dumb. A Harvard law graduate probably knows better. Even Trump knows better than most of what he says and does, but he’s found the anti-elite formula so effective, he doesn’t care that elites think he’s insane. Actually, elites no longer care, either.
Today’s riddle: If everybody is an elite — and elites are all populists — does Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., still have to be a socialist? Plainly, DeSantis either is running for president in 2024 or hopes to be Trump’s

running mate, should the former president seek another term. One shudders to consider the latter, especially in light of Senate Republicans’ blocking of the Jan. 6 commission. Their resistance to an investigation raises an obvious question: What are they so afraid will be discovered?
To argue that this is politics as usual is to say that insurrections are as ordinary as, well, Trump rallies. But Americans know better. We all watched in shock as fatigue-clad and costumed “warriors” breached the Capitol and stalked the hallways chanting threats to public officials who were in hiding. Make no mistake: Jan. 6 is a date that will live in infamy.
When President Franklin Roosevelt famously said the same about Dec. 7, 1941, he was referring to the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Though that was an attack by a foreign power that led to war at incalculable human cost, the domestic attack by our fellow Americans was similarly jarring. The attackers raised the threat of accomplishing outcomes our enemies have always sought — the ruin of our democracy and the potential for civil war.
That Republicans would thwart an investigation into the events of that day suggests that the GOP has abandoned the union and sided with a former president whose words on Jan. 6 bordered on treasonous. There is no excuse to not pursue an investigation while there’s still time to save this fragile republic. Besides, it’s the anti-elite, populist thing to do.

Belarusian citizens deserve a complete US strategy

By JOHN R. BOLTON
Special to The Washington Post

The United States and the European Union made a strategic mistake last summer by mishandling the unprecedented protests against Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko’s autocratic regime. Now, after Lukashenko’s commission of air piracy on May 23 to kidnap an opposition critic, the West appears set on compounding its error by driving Belarus further into the welcoming arms of Russian President Vladimir Putin.
Western capitals reacted with essentially unanimous condemnation when the Lukashenko government forced a Ryanair flight transiting Belarusian airspace to land and arrested passenger Roman Protasevich, an opposition journalist, and his girlfriend, Russian activist Sofia Sapega. Both kidnap victims were soon displayed in “confession” videos possibly obtained by threats or torture.
Rhetorical condemnation of the seizures came quickly, and EU and U.S. sanctions on the Lukashenko regime were announced. Lukashenko responded by accusing the West of launching “hybrid warfare” against Belarus.
Since Soviet days, Belarus and Russia have had an integrated air-defense system, leading to speculation about Moscow’s possible role or at least acquiescence in the kidnapping. Putin’s spokesman called such suspicions “obsessive Russophobia.” Putin pledged support to Lukashenko when the two met in Sochi, Russia, on Friday.
There is no question the West rightly concluded that Belarus committed air piracy, behavior entirely consistent with the regime’s autocratic methods. And as Alexei Navalny and many others could testify, it has the hallmarks of Putin’s equally authoritarian state

next door.
Unfortunately, however, virtue-signaling, even accompanied by economic sanctions, does not constitute a satisfactory Western strategy to resolve a vastly more important issue: What is the future for Belarus as a whole? Will it be encouraged to follow the path of former Warsaw Pact states and at least some former Soviet republics into the West? Or will it be allowed to suffer full annexation into Russia? President Joe Biden needs to decide the answers to these questions and how to make them happen before his June 16 summit with Putin. There is no sign he knows what his answers are.
Last August, amid huge protests in Belarus prompted by a thoroughly rigged Lukashenko election, demonstrators said they were inclined toward neither Russia nor the West and did not want to be pawns in any international struggle. That view was supported by the lead EU foreign-affairs official. The Trump administration, consumed by the 2020 election campaign, said and did little. The protests failed. Lukashenko remained in power, and quiet returned. Until now. Will we repeat this strategic mistake?
Caught between NATO’s easternmost reach and Russia’s border, Belarus and other former Soviet republics are in a gray space that invites insecurity and Russian interventionism. Simply looking at the borders Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine share with Belarus, Western Europeans would see that Minsk’s future is intimately tied to their own.
Supporting Belarus’ political opposition is thus not simply about deploring the thwarting of human rights through corrupted elections or the kidnapping of dissidents, unpalatable as those transgressions are. The potential freedom of all 9.5 million Belarusian citizens is at

stake, since integrating Belarus into Russia would all but extinguish the chance for real liberty.
That the West’s attention turned away from Belarus after the unsuccessful anti-Lukashenko demonstrations last summer, and refocused only following the Protasevich air-napping, shows that ad hoc, piecemeal approaches to a strategic problem are unsustainable and unlikely to succeed. Nor does it advance the Belarusian opposition’s cause to ignore the larger strategic context.
One approach, undoubtedly distasteful to the high-minded, would be to develop a way out for Lukashenko. Secure exile for himself and a select few followers in some well-appointed venue might be attractive to him at the right moment. But such an extrication doesn’t happen overnight. It requires complex planning, specifically in this case to deter any possible Russian military moves into Belarus, as in Moscow’s seizure of Crimea from Ukraine or its creation of other “frozen conflicts” on Russia’s periphery. One potential bargaining chip: Putin’s prized Nord Stream 2 pipeline to Germany still isn’t complete, and it can be stopped at will, assuming the West and Germany in particular still have one.
We cannot underestimate how difficult are the prospects facing Belarus. It is certain, however, that sanctions and one-off expressions of displeasure with Lukashenko will not change his behavior or regime. Merely driving him deeper into Putin’s embrace risks losing all of Belarus, essentially forever. Time was growing short after last summer’s rigged elections. It is even shorter today.

John R. Bolton served as national security adviser under President Donald Trump and is the author of “The Room Where It Happened: A White House Memoir.”

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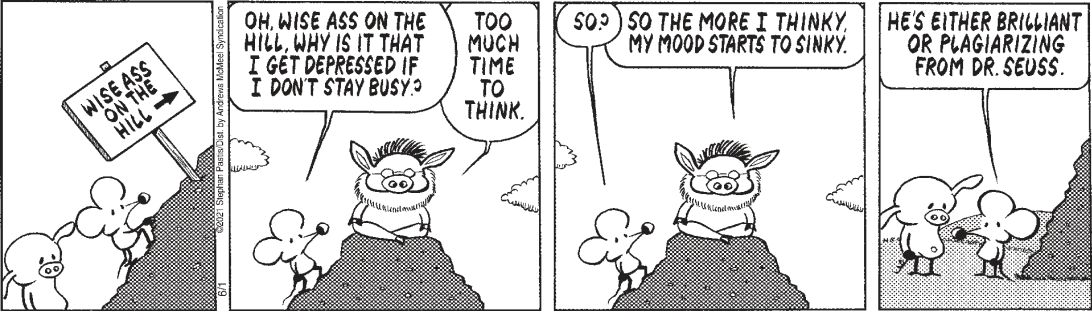
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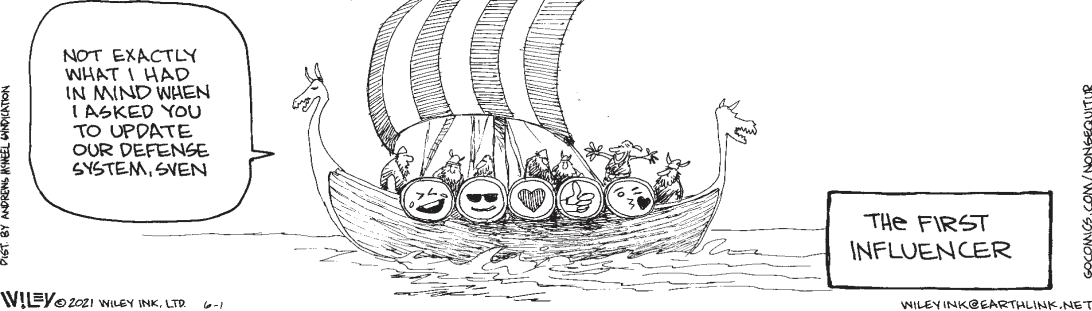
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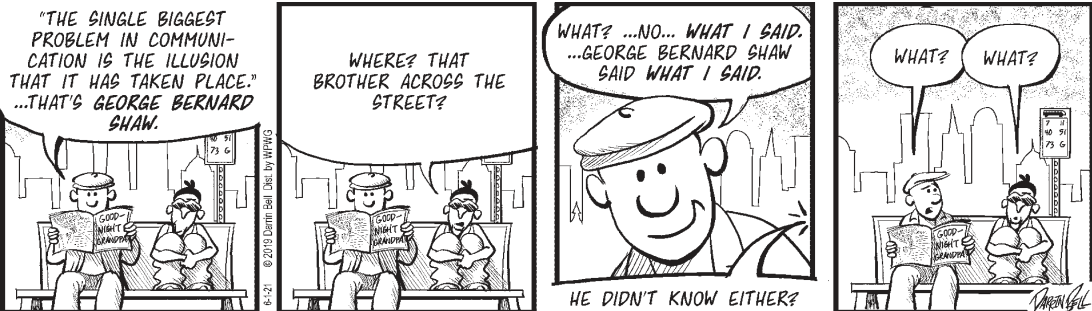
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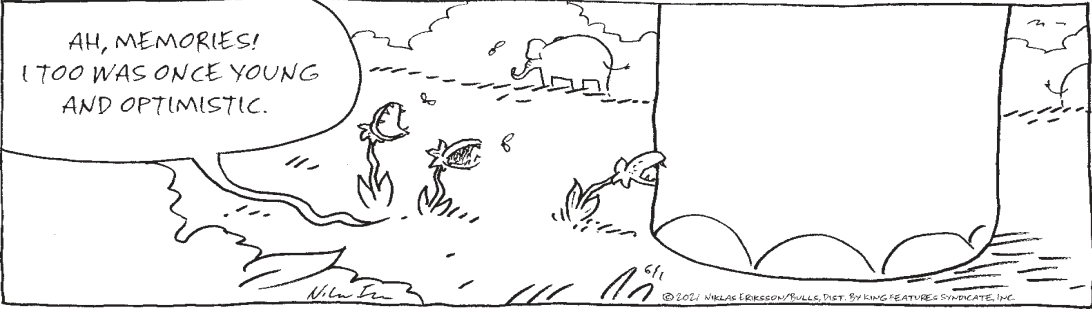
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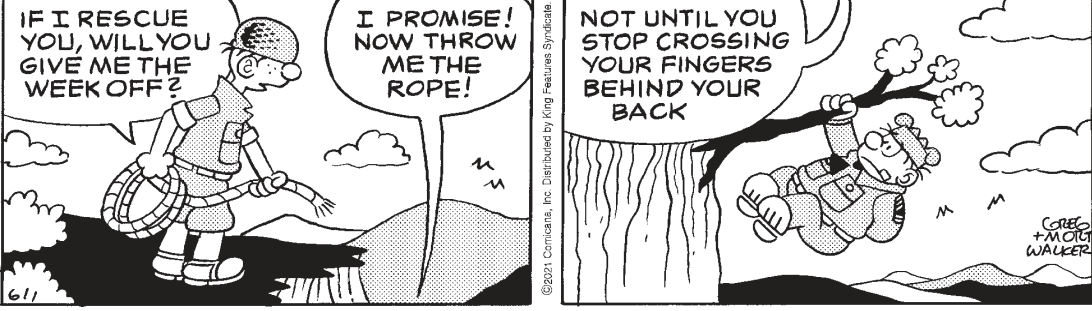
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
			18				19	20				
21	22	23				24						
25					26					27	28	29
30				31						32		
33			34						35			
			36					37				
38	39	40					41					
42					43	44				45	46	47
48					49				50			
51					52				53			

- ACROSS
- 51 Phoenix cagers
- 52 Enervate
- 53 "Born Free" lioness
- 24 Knife material
- 26 Plagues
- 27 "Manhattan Beach" author Jennifer
- 28 Hockey venue
- 29 Online crafts site
- 31 Turkish title
- 34 Op-ed pieces
- 35 Champagne feature
- 37 Possesses
- 38 Cushions
- 39 Pakistan's language
- 40 Low-fat
- 41 "M*A*S*H" vehicle
- 44 Eggs
- 45 "You've got mail" co.
- 46 IV measures
- 47 Sportage maker
- DOWN
- 1 Unruly group
- 2 Docs' org.
- 3 PC alternative
- 4 Leg joints
- 5 Riga native
- 6 "Xanadu" band
- 7 Rulers of Japan
- 8 Nike symbol
- 9 Chicago Mayor — Lightfoot
- 10 Curved lines
- 11 Squad
- 16 Army address
- 20 Openings
- 21 Nevada neighbor
- 22 Sulk
- 23 Tavern order

Answer to Previous Puzzle

V	A	T		F	R	I	A	R		E	G	O
I	D	O		R	U	M	B	A		L	A	W
M	A	P	L	E	L	E	A	F		M	M	E
			E	E	E		S	A	S	S	E	D
E	L	P	A	S	O		H	E	A	T		
L	A	I		T	U	G		L	A	R	G	E
S	I	N	S		T	I	S		B	E	A	R
A	T	E	A	T		S	O	N		E	S	S
		S	S	R	S		L	O	A	T	H	E
S	I	C	K	E	N		I	S	P			
W	O	E		B	I	R	C	H	B	E	E	R
I	N	N		E	D	D	I	E		T	S	E
G	E	T		K	E	A	T	S		C	C	X

6-1 CRYPTOQUIP

TSHV CUDVZ IPNQH BHBNH CY

THVI IU NHZ, E MUDQZ YHH

ISHB NEZZEVK HPMS UISHC

“XVEKSI-XVEKSI!”

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SPECIALLY CULTIVATED FOODSTUFF THAT'S KNOWN FOR IMPROVING HOCKEY PLAYERS' GAMES: PUCK-WHEAT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals D

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FACES



DISNEY/AP

Paul Walter Hauser brings one of the titular villain's bumbling henchmen to life in his latest project, "Cruella."

Contagious confidence

'Cruella' costar Hauser seeks to be memorable through talent, charm offensive

BY ADAM GRAHAM
The Detroit News

Reviews are nothing new for Paul Walter Hauser. He's been receiving them since high school, when his school newspaper's theater critic was, well, Paul Walter Hauser.

"I would literally review our school plays, even if I was in them, which is terrible," says the actor, who hails from Saginaw, Mich. "I'd do it tongue-in-cheek, stupidly. I would be like, 'there's this great actor named Paul Hauser in this play, and he really steals the show!'"

These days the reviews are similar, but they're actually coming from others.

The 34-year-old has been earning effusive praise since his mainstream breakthrough as a doofus criminal in 2017's Tonya Harding bio-comedy "I, Tonya." He's since turned heads in projects ranging from the streaming smash "Cobra Kai" to Spike Lee's "BlacKkKlansman" and "Da 5 Bloods" to Clint Eastwood's "Richard Jewell," in which he starred as the security guard turned bombing suspect at the 1996 Summer Olympics games.

Last weekend brought "Cruella," the Disney tale centered on "101 Dalmations" villainess Cruella de Vil, which stars Emma Stone in the title role. Hauser plays Horace, Cruella's right-hand man, a thief who is especially adept at stealing scenes.

Whether it's reviewing his own work or carving his own path in Hollywood, Hauser's key has always been confidence.

"You've just gotta be really loud and believe in yourself, and then everybody blindly starts believing in you as well," says Hauser, during a Zoom chat in May from New Orleans, where he's filming his latest project. "Confidence is very contagious. Somebody reflects a trait with a lot of confidence, and everybody goes, 'yeah, you're a unicorn because you told me you're a unicorn, not because there's a horn in the middle of your head.'"

If Hauser is a unicorn in Hollywood, his power comes from his ability to find the humanity and the sadness in the funny, says Craig Gillespie, who directed Hauser in both "Cruella" and "I, Tonya."

"When he came in and read for 'I, Tonya,' there wasn't a second choice," says the director. "He has this amazing ability to be funny, but to find the pain and the suffering that can come along with comedy. He does it in the most effortless way, and I love that it's always more complex than what's written and what he's actually saying."

"You've just gotta be really loud and believe in yourself, and then everybody blindly starts believing in you as well."

Paul Walter Hauser

Hauser — whose thick Cockney accent in "Cruella" is inspired by Bob Hoskins' accent in "Hook," which he used to imitate as a 12-year-old — was excited to reteam with Gillespie after things worked out so well on "I, Tonya." He says he actively seeks out "repeat business" with directors with whom he clicks.

"When I get along really well with a director, I secretly kind of stalk their IMDb filmography page and I'm always hoping to work with them again, because we found the magic once before," says Hauser. "I don't know why the Coen Brothers use John Goodman so much, but I have to imagine it's because he's funny, he's really talented and they get along and hopefully love each other,

so I'm trying to do the same thing. I try to love on everybody I work with, and some people get it and then other people don't, and that's OK, too. That's just how the world works."

Gillespie says he wasn't able to find a way to squeeze Hauser into his upcoming "Pam & Tommy" series, but he plans to keep Hauser in mind for future roles.

"Paul is such a beautiful human being. He has such a big heart, and he's so empathetic to the world around him," says Gillespie, 53. "I think you can see that in his performances, and that's that part of him, that humanity, that people love about him. And it's all real."

Hauser recently shed 40 pounds. He'd ultimately like to lose 100 pounds, and while he admits he misses the indulgences of Taco Bell and ice cream, the benefits outweigh the cravings.

"I'm really happy to try to get a little bit healthier and open up to some more roles, maybe action films or rom-coms or something where I get seen in a new light," says Hauser, who is now filming "In With the Devil," a six-part limited series for AppleTV+ in which he stars as a convicted murderer alongside Taron Egerton.

He's never made any secret about going after what he wanted, whether that has meant lobbying for jobs on social media — he's open about his desire to join the Marvel Cinematic Universe or appear in a Batman movie — or trying to will his dream project, a film about the professional wrestling stable the Four Horsemen alongside his "I, Tonya" co-star and pal Sebastian Stan, into existence. (Hauser sees himself as Arn Anderson and Stan as the limousine-riding, jet-flying Ric Flair.)

"Sometimes I put too many things out into the universe, I try to manifest, and I think to some people it looks thirsty or pathetic," says Hauser. "But they've gotta remember this is my childhood dream and I'm living it out every week of my career and my life, so it's hard not to geek out."

'Quiet Place' sequel cues box-office return with \$48.4M opening

From wire reports

Moviegoing increasingly looks like it didn't die during the pandemic. It just went into hibernation.

John Krasinski's thriller sequel "A Quiet Place Part II" opened over the Memorial Day weekend to a pandemic-best \$48.4 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. It added another \$22 million overseas.

"A Quiet Place Part II," which was on the cusp of opening in March 2021 before theaters shut, was the first big film this year to open exclusively in theaters.

Many studios have trotted out hybrid release plans during the pandemic, debuting films simultaneously in the home. The Walt Disney Co. did that this weekend with its live-action PG-13 Cruella De Vil prequel, "Cruella," making it available to Disney+ subscribers for \$30. In theaters, it grossed \$21.3 million, Disney said, and an estimated \$26.4 million over the four-day weekend. "Cruella" also added \$16.1 million in 29 international territories.

'Hooked on a Feeling' singer B.J. Thomas dies at 78

B.J. Thomas, the Grammy-winning singer who enjoyed success on the pop, country and gospel charts with such hits as "I Just Can't Help Believing," "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head" and "Hooked on a Feeling," died May 29 of complications from lung cancer. He was 78.

A Hugo, Okla., native who grew up in Houston, Billy Joe Thomas broke through in 1966 with a gospel-styled cover of Hank Williams' "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" and went on to sell millions of records and have dozens of hits across genres. He reached No. 1 with pop, adult contemporary and country listeners in 1976 with (Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song." The same year, his "Home Where I Belong" became one of the first gospel albums to be certified platinum for selling more than 1 million copies.

Thomas' signature recording was "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head," a No. 1 pop hit and an Oscar winner for best original song as part of the soundtrack to 1969's "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid."

Allman Brothers Band to release 50th anniversary concert

On March 10, 2020, two days before New York City essentially shut down due to the coronavirus pandemic, The Allman Brothers Band delivered a 50th anniversary performance at Madison Square Garden.

The full concert can be experienced July 23 with the release of "The Brothers/March 10, 2020/Madison Square Garden/New York, NY." The set will be released as four CDs, three DVDs and two Blu-rays and, according to Rolling Stone, will also stream on Nugs.net and Coda, the streaming service for Amazon Prime.

Other news

■ **Gavin MacLeod**, the veteran supporting actor who achieved fame as sardonic TV news writer Murray Slaughter on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and stardom playing cheerful Capt. Stubing on "The Love Boat," died May 29 at his home in Palm Desert, Calif. He was 90.

SCOREBOARD

PRO SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New England	5	1	2	17	11	7
Philadelphia	4	2	2	14	9	5
Orlando City	3	1	3	12	8	4
NYCFC	3	2	2	11	13	7
CF Montréal	3	3	2	11	10	9
Columbus	3	2	2	11	7	6
Nashville	2	0	5	11	9	6
Atlanta	2	1	4	10	9	7
New York	3	4	0	9	10	10
D.C. United	3	5	0	9	8	11
Inter Miami CF	2	4	2	8	8	13
Toronto FC	1	4	2	5	8	12
Chicago	1	5	1	4	4	11
Cincinnati	1	4	1	4	6	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Seattle	5	0	3	18	14	3
Sporting KC	5	2	1	16	15	10
LA Galaxy	5	2	0	15	11	11
Colorado	4	2	1	13	12	8
Houston	3	3	2	11	11	12
San Jose	3	5	0	9	11	12
Portland	3	4	0	9	9	11
Real Salt Lake	2	1	3	9	9	7
LAFC	2	3	2	8	8	9
Vancouver	2	4	1	7	6	9
Austin FC	2	4	1	7	5	8
Minnesota	2	4	1	7	6	11
FC Dallas	1	3	3	6	8	11

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Sunday, May 23

Atlanta 1, Seattle 1, tie
Philadelphia 1, D.C. United 0
Nashville 1, Austin FC 0

Saturday's games

CF Montréal 1, Chicago 0
New York 2, Orlando City 1
New England 1, Cincinnati 0
Columbus 2, Toronto FC 1
Nashville 2, Atlanta 2, tie
New York City FC 2, Los Angeles FC 1
LA Galaxy 1, San Jose 0
D.C. United 3, Miami 0
Sporting Kansas City 3, Houston 2
Colorado 3, FC Dallas 0
Minnesota 1, Real Salt Lake 1, tie

Sunday's games

Philadelphia 3, Portland 0
Austin FC 0, Seattle 0, tie

Saturday, June 12

Austin FC at Sporting Kansas City

Friday, June 18

Nashville at New York
Vancouver at Real Salt Lake

Saturday, June 19

Colorado at Cincinnati
Chicago at Columbus
New England at New York City FC
Orlando City at Toronto FC
Miami at D.C. United
Minnesota at FC Dallas
San Jose at Austin FC
Seattle at LA Galaxy
Sporting Kansas City at Portland
Houston at Los Angeles FC

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	6	2	.750	—
New York	5	2	.714	½
Atlanta	4	2	.667	1
Chicago	2	4	.333	3
Washington	2	4	.333	3
Indiana	1	7	.125	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	5	1	.833	—
Las Vegas	5	2	.714	½
Phoenix	3	3	.500	2
Los Angeles	2	2	.500	2
Dallas	1	4	.200	3½
Minnesota	1	4	.200	3½

Saturday's games

Atlanta 90, New York 87, OT
Phoenix 89, Dallas 85

Sunday's games

Las Vegas 101, Indiana 78
Los Angeles 82, Chicago 79, OT
Minnesota 79, Connecticut 74, OT

Monday's games

No games scheduled

Tuesday's games

Las Vegas at Connecticut
Los Angeles at Dallas
Phoenix at Chicago
Indiana at Seattle

Wednesday's games

No games scheduled

AUTO RACING

Coca-Cola 600

NASCAR Cup Series

Sunday
At Charlotte Motor Speedway
Concord, N.C.

Lap length: 1.50 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

- (1) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 400 laps, 70 points.
- (3) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 400, 60.
- (20) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 400, 54.
- (4) William Byron, Chevrolet, 400, 58.
- (7) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 400, 43.
- (6) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 400, 41.
- (14) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 400, 36.
- (27) Chris Buescher, Ford, 400, 32.
- (15) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 400, 42.
- (10) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 400, 40.
- (13) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 400, 26.
- (2) Ricky Stenhouse Jr, Chevrolet, 400, 27.
- (11) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 400, 24.
- (18) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 400, 25.
- (9) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 398, 22.
- (19) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 398, 21.
- (16) Joey Logano, Ford, 398, 20.
- (22) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 398, 19.
- (26) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 398, 18.
- (24) Michael McDowell, Ford, 398, 17.
- (23) Cole Custer, Ford, 397, 16.
- (31) Aric Almirola, Ford, 397, 15.
- (21) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 397, 14.
- (17) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 397, 13.
- (25) Anthony Alfredo, Ford, 397, 12.
- (28) Ryan Preece, Chevrolet, 397, 11.
- (27) Ryan Newman, Ford, 396, 10.
- (28) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 395, 0.
- (8) Martin Truex Jr, Toyota, 391, 12.
- (30) Cody Ware, Ford, 389, 0.
- (33) BJ McLeod, Ford, 389, 0.
- (32) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, 389, 5.
- (33) James Davison, Chevrolet, 388, 4.
- (34) Garrett Smithley, Chevrolet, 387, 0.
- (37) Josh Billicki, Ford, 382, 2.
- (38) David Starr, Ford, 369, 0.
- (10) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 359, 1.
- (12) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, engine, 139, 1.

Race Statistics

Average Speed of Race Winner: 150.782 mph.

Time of Race: 3 hours, 58 minutes, 45 seconds.

Margin of Victory: 10.051 seconds.

Caution Flags: 4 for 26 laps.

Lead Changes: 23 among 13 drivers.

Lap Leaders: K.Larson 0-47; W.Byron 48-49; B.Keselowski 50-55; M.DiBenedetto 56-57; A.Alfredo 58; K.Larson 59-131; C.Elliott 132-148; T.Reddick 149; C.Bell 150-152; K.Larson 153-174; A.Bowman 175-179; D.Hamlin 180-182; C.Elliott 183-187; K.Larson 188-230; W.Byron 231-247; T.Reddick 248-249; A.Dillon 250; A.Alfredo 251-252; K.Larson 253-305; Ky.Busch 306; K.Larson 307-346; T.Reddick 347-349; R.Blaney 350-351; K.Larson 352-400

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): K.Larson, 7 times for 327 laps; C.Elliott, 2 times for 22 laps; W.Byron, 2 times for 19 laps; T.Reddick, 3 times for 6 laps; B.Keselowski, 1 time for 6 laps; A.Bowman, 1 time for 5 laps; D.Hamlin, 1 time for 3 laps; C.Bell, 1 time for 3 laps; A.Alfredo, 2 times for 3 laps; R.Blaney, 1 time for 2 laps; M.DiBenedetto, 1 time for 2 laps; Ky.Busch, 1 time for 1 lap; A.Dillon, 1 time for 1 lap.

Wins: M.Truex, 3; K.Larson, 2; A.Bowman, 2; W.Byron, 1; C.Elliott, 1; J.Logano, 1; R.Blaney, 1; Ky.Busch, 1; B.Keselowski, 1; C.Bell, 1; M.McDowell, 1.

Top 16 in Points: 1. D.Hamlin, 633; 2. K.Larson, 557; 3. W.Byron, 557; 4. C.Elliott, 541; 5. J.Logano, 506; 6. M.Truex, 486; 7. R.Blaney, 482; 8. Ky.Busch, 476; 9. K.Harvick, 468; 10. B.Keselowski, 448; 11. A.Dillon, 407; 12. A.Bowman, 405; 13. T.Reddick, 376; 14. C.Buescher, 370; 15. C.Bell, 350; 16. M.McDowell, 346.

NASCAR Driver Rating Formula

A maximum of 150 points can be attained in a race.

The formula combines the following categories: Wins, Finishes, Top-15 Finishes, Average Running Position While on Lead

Lap, Average Speed Under Green, Fastest Lap, Led Most Laps, Lead-Lap Finish.

Indianapolis 500

IndyCar Series

Sunday

At Indianapolis Motor Speedway
Indianapolis

Lap length: 2.5 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

- (8) Helio Castroneves, Dallara-Honda, 200 laps, Running.
- (6) Alex Palou, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (26) Simon Pagenaud, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (12) Pato O'Ward, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (4) Ed Carpenter, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (23) Santino Ferrucci, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (31) Sage Karam, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (3) Rinus Veekay, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (24) Juan Pablo Montoya, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (5) Tony Kanaan, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (9) Marcus Ericsson, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (21) Josef Newgarden, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (19) Conor Daly, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (15) Takuma Sato, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (22) JR Hildebrand, Dallara-, 200, Running.
- (2) Colton Herta, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (1) Scott Dixon, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (20) Jack Harvey, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (25) Marco Andretti, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (17) Scott McLaughlin, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, Running.
- (16) James Hinchcliffe, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (7) Ryan Hunter-Reay, Dallara-Honda, 200, Running.
- (30) Dalton Kellett, Dallara-Chevrolet, 199, Running.
- (29) Max Chilton, Dallara-Chevrolet, 199, Running.
- (13) Pietro Fittipaldi, Dallara-Honda, 199, Running.
- (27) Sebastien Bourdais, Dallara-Chevrolet, 199, Running.
- (14) Felix Rosenqvist, Dallara-Chevrolet, 199, Running.
- (11) Ed Jones, Dallara-Honda, 199, Running.
- (10) Alexander Rossi, Dallara-Honda, 198, Running.
- (32) Will Power, Dallara-Chevrolet, 197, Running.
- (33) Simona de Silvestro, Dallara-Chevrolet, 169, Did not finish.
- (18) Graham Rahal, Dallara-Honda, 118, Did not finish.
- (28) Stefan Wilson, Dallara-Honda, 32, Did not finish.

Race Statistics

Average Speed of Race Winner: 190.690 mph.

Time of Race: 02:37:19.3846.

Margin of Victory: 0.4928 seconds.

Cautions: 2 for 18 laps.

Lead Changes: 35 among 13 drivers.

Lap Leaders: Herta 1, Veekay 2-30, Herta 31-32, Dixon 33-35, Castroneves 36-38, Herta 39-48, VeeKay 49, Daly 50-70, Castroneves 71-76, Palou 77, O'Ward 78, Rahal 79-81, VeeKay 82-83, Daly 84-102, O'Ward 103-113, Rahal 114-118, Palou 119-124, Castroneves 125-126, O'Ward 127-130, Palou 131-157, Castroneves 148-149, O'Ward 150, Sato 151-156, Rosenqvist 157, Dixon 158-161, Palou 162-168, Castroneves 169-171, Palou 172, Pagenaud 173-175, Karam 176-177, Ferrucci 178-179, Rosenqvist 180-192, Sato 193, Castroneves 194-195, Palou 196-198, Castroneves 199.

Points: Palou 248, Dixon 212, O'Ward 211, Pagenaud 201, Veekay 191, Newgarden 184, Herta 154, Rahal 148, McLaughlin 143, Ericsson 138.

GOLF

Charles Schwab Challenge

PGA Tour

Sunday

At Colonial Country Club
Fort Worth, Texas

Yardage: 7,209; Par: 70

Purse: \$7.5 Million
Final Round

Jason Kokrak, \$1,350,000	65-65-66-70—266	-14
Jordan Spieth, \$817,500	63-66-66-73—268	-12
Charley Hoffman, \$366,094	71-62-72-65—270	-10
Patton Kizzire, \$366,094	67-65-71-67—270	-10
Sebastián Muñoz, \$366,094	67-65-70-68—270	-10
Ian Poulter, \$366,094	68-70-64-68—270	-10
Troy Merritt, \$253,125	68-71-69-65—273	-7
Lucas Glover, \$196,875	74-67-65-68—274	-6
Emiliano Grillo, \$196,875	70-68-68-68—274	-6
Adam Hadwin, \$196,875	66-67-71-70—274	-6
Brian Harman, \$196,875	69-66-69-70—274	-6
Kyle Stanley, \$196,875	69-67-68-70—274	-6
Brendon Todd, \$196,875	72-64-67-71—274	-6
Abraham Ancer, \$125,625	70-71-67-67—275	-5
Doug Ghim, \$125,625	68-71-66-70—275	-5
Talor Gooch, \$125,625	67-69-68-71—275	-5
Kramer Hickok, \$125,625	66-68-70-71—275	-5
Collin Morikawa, \$125,625	69-66-72-68—275	-5
Gary Woodland, \$125,625	70-69-69-67—275	-5
John Augenstein, \$68,438	69-68-69-70—276	-4
Daniel Berger, \$68,438	68-68-72-68—276	-4

Wyndham Clark, \$68,438	70-70-68-68—276	-4
Erik Compton, \$68,438	65-68-70-73—276	-4
Corey Connors, \$68,438	70-67-68-71—276	-4
Tony Finau, \$68,438	69-67-68-72—276	-4
Sergio Garcia, \$68,438	63-69-68-76—276	-4
Adam Long, \$68,438	70-68-71-67—276	-4
Maverick McNealy, \$68,438	70-63-71-72—276	-4
Justin Rose, \$68,438	68-68-69-71—276	-4
Kevin Streelman, \$68,438	69-66-69-72—276	-4
Vincent Whaley, \$68,438	69-66-72-69—276	-4
Rafa Cabrera Bello, \$40,125	73-66-71-67—277	-3

Bank of Hope Match Play

LPGA Tour

At Shadow Creek Golf Course
Las Vegas

Prize Money: \$1.5 million

Yardage: 6,804; Par: 72

(Seedings in parentheses)

Sunday

Semifinal Matches

Ally Ewing (20), United States def. Ariya Jutanugarn (16), Thailand, 3 and 2
Sophia Popov (15), Germany def. Shanshan Feng (19), China, 1-up

Third Place

Ariya Jutanugarn (16), Thailand def. Shanshan Feng (19), China, concession

Final

Ally Ewing (20), United States def. Sophia Popov (15), Germany, 2 and 1

DEALS

Sunday's transactions

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball
American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLAS — Optioned RHP Travis Lakins Sr. to Norfolk (Triple-A East).
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Optioned RHP Zack Burdi to Charlotte (Triple-A East). Signed RHP Kevin Folman to a minor league contract.

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Signed RHP Heath Fillmyer to a minor league contract. Recalled 2B Ernie Clement from Columbus (Triple-A East).

HOUSTON ASTROS — Placed RHP Bryan Abreu on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 29. Optioned RHP Brandon Bielak to Sugar Land (Triple-A West). Recalled RHPs Enli Paredes and Nivaldo Rodriguez from Sugar Land.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Optioned RHP Carlos Hernandez to Omaha (Triple-A East). Recalled CF Edward Olivares from Omaha.

MINNESOTA TWINS — Recalled C Ben Rortved from St. Paul (Triple-A East). Placed RF Max Kepler on the 10-day IL.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Optioned RHPs Albert Abreu and Delvi Garcia to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (Triple-A East). Transferred CF Aaron Hicks from the 10-day IL to the 60-day IL. Selected the contract of LHP Nestor Cortes from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre and signed him to a major league contract. Recalled RHP Nick Nelson from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Activated LHP Jesus Luzardo from the 10-day IL. Optioned RHP Jordan Weems to Las Vegas (Triple-A West).

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Optioned RHP Luis Patino to Durham (Triple-A East).

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Recalled RHP Jeremy Beasley from Buffalo (Triple-A East). Selected the contract of RHP Carl Edwards from Buffalo. Designated RHP Ty Tice for assignment.

National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Placed INF David Bote on the 10-day IL. Selected the contract of INF Sergio Alcantara from Iowa (Triple-A East). Designated RHP Tyson Miller for assignment.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Optioned LHP Lucas Gilbreath to Albuquerque (Triple-A West).

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Optioned RHP Alec Bettinger to Nashville (Triple-A East). Signed RHP Nick Belzer to a minor league contract. Placed LHP Angel Perdomo on the 10-day IL. Recalled RHP Alex Bettinger from Nashville.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Placed CF Roman Quinn on the 60-day IL. Selected the contract of LF Travis Jankowski from Lehigh Valley (Triple-A East).

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Designated 3B Ildemaro Vargas for assignment. Placed RHP JT Brubaker on the bereavement list. Selected the contract of RHP Chase De Jong from Indianapolis (Triple-A East).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed RHP Kodi Whitely on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 27. Recalled RHP Seth Elledge from Memphis (Triple-A East).

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Optioned RHP Aaron Northcraft to El Paso (Triple-A West). Recalled SS Tucupita Marcano from El Paso.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Placed LHP Caleb Baragar on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 29. Recalled RHP Nick Tropeano from Sacramento (Triple-A West).

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Sent CF Victor Robles to Harrisburg (Double-A Northeast) for a rehab assignment. Optioned RHP Kyle McGowin and SS Luis Garcia to Rochester (Triple-A East).

AP SPORTLIGHT

June 1

1925 — Lou Gehrig bats for Pee Wee Wanninger in the eighth inning and replaces Wally Pipp at first base to start his streak of 2,130 consecutive games.
2004 — Detroit and Indiana combine for just 60 first-half points in the Pistons' 69-65 victory, breaking the NBA playoff record of 62 set by the Pistons and Nets during the second round.

NBA PLAYOFFS/SPORTS BRIEFS

Suns even series; Davis hurt

By GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Phoenix Suns coach Monty Williams initially planned to sit Chris Paul for Game 4 against the Lakers. A persistent shoulder injury had reduced the point guard to a fraction of himself, and Williams didn't think Paul could help in a crucial game.

Paul changed his coach's mind in an emotional pregame conversation Sunday.

"He said, 'Coach, let me start, and if you don't think I'm looking like I normally do, then take me out and we'll have to go in a different direction,'" Williams said. "This is one of those situations that I had to trust the player."

By the time Paul was finished orchestrating their superb second half, the Suns were headed in only one direction: back to Phoenix with a 2-2 series and greatly increased confidence in these playoff newcomers' ability to knock off the defending champs.

Paul had 18 points and nine assists, Devin Booker and Jae Crowder added 17 points apiece and the Suns leveled the first-round series with a 100-92 victory.

Deandre Ayton had 14 points and 17 rebounds for the second-seeded Suns, who took advantage of Anthony Davis' absence from the second half with a groin injury to reclaim home-court advantage in the series after two straight losses.

Paul was largely a non-factor in



MARK J. TERRILL / AP

Lakers forward LeBron James, right, falls after being fouled as Suns guard Chris Paul stands at left during Game 4 on Sunday.

Game 3, clearly struggling to put up shots with his ailing right arm. After two days in which he didn't touch a basketball, Paul looked better in Sunday's pregame workout — and then looked a whole lot sharper in the game, contributing 12 points and all his assists in the second half.

"Everything clicks a little better with 3 on the court and with 3 being himself," Crowder said. "I feel like we feed off of that. He's a big part of the puzzle. It's a little challenging when we don't have him doing things he normally does. It's definitely monumental that he's out there for our team."

Paul was grateful Williams was

receptive to his fervent desire to play. He also assured his teammates that he would only persevere if he could help, telling Crowder and others: "I don't know how long it's going to be, but if you all feel like I'm out here looking like some trash, just tell me and I'll get out."

Davis scored six points on 2-for-9 shooting in the first half, but didn't return after halftime. He scored 34 points in each of the Lakers' two victories in the series, but he appeared to aggravate his accumulated injury woes in the second quarter, falling awkwardly and grabbing his leg after a layup attempt defended by Crowder.

NBA scoreboard

First Round (Best-of-seven) x-if necessary
Eastern Conference
Philadelphia 3, Washington 0
Philadelphia 125, Washington 118
Philadelphia 120, Washington 95
Philadelphia 132, Washington 103
Monday: at Washington
x-Wednesday: at Philadelphia
x-Friday: at Washington
x-Sunday, June 6: at Philadelphia
Brooklyn 3, Boston 1
Brooklyn 104, Boston 93
Brooklyn 130, Boston 108
Boston 125, Brooklyn 119
Sunday: Brooklyn 141, Boston 126
Tuesday: at Brooklyn
x-Thursday: at Boston
x-Saturday, June 5: at Brooklyn
Milwaukee 4, Miami 0
Milwaukee 109, Miami 107 (OT)
Milwaukee 132, Miami 98
Milwaukee 113, Miami 84
Saturday: Milwaukee 120, Miami 103
Atlanta 3, New York 1
Atlanta 107, New York 105
New York 101, Atlanta 92
Atlanta 105, New York 94
Sunday: Atlanta 113, New York 96
Wednesday: at New York
x-Friday: at Atlanta
x-Sunday, June 6: at New York
Western Conference
Utah 2, Memphis 1
Memphis 112, Utah 109
Utah 141, Memphis 129
Utah 121, Memphis 111
Monday: at Memphis
Wednesday: at Utah
x-Friday: at Memphis
x-Sunday, June 6: at Utah
L.A. Lakers 2, Phoenix 2
Phoenix 99, L.A. Lakers 90
L.A. Lakers 109, Phoenix 102
L.A. Lakers 109, Phoenix 95
Sunday: Phoenix 100, L.A. Lakers 92
Tuesday: at Phoenix
Thursday: at L.A. Lakers
x-Saturday, June 5: at Phoenix
Portland 2, Denver 2
Portland 123, Denver 109
Denver 128, Portland 109
Denver 120, Portland 115
Portland 115, Denver 95
Tuesday: at Denver
Thursday: at Portland
x-Saturday, June 5: at Denver
Dallas 2, L.A. Clippers 2
Dallas 113, L.A. Clippers 103
Dallas 127, L.A. Clippers 121
L.A. Clippers 118, Dallas 108
Sunday: L.A. Clippers 106, Dallas 81
Wednesday: at L.A. Clippers
Friday: at Dallas
x-Sunday, June 6: at L.A. Clippers

BRIEFLY

Kokrak overcomes Spieth at Colonial

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jason Kokrak played in 233 PGA Tour events before getting his first victory. The big hitter didn't have to wait nearly as long to win again, though this one may have been harder because he had to overcome a local favorite at Colonial.

Kokrak shot an even-par 70 in a final-group showdown Sunday with Jordan Spieth, winning the Charles Schwab Challenge at 14-under 266. He was two strokes better than Spieth, who hit his approach from the rough at No. 18 over the green and into the water.

"You stay in the moment and it's a golf course. You're playing the golf course, you're playing yourself. You're not really playing Jordan," Kokrak said. "But for where we got to in comparison to some of the other players, I knew it was going to be a boxing match and see who was going to come out on top."

There were five bogeys and five birdies for Kokrak, who twice needed two shots to get out of bunkers. There were also back-to-back bogeys at Nos. 15 and 16 before a key par-saving 7-foot putt after his approach missed the 17th green.

But when he struck his round-ending 4-footer, he followed the ball to the cup and finally broke into a smile when celebrating with caddie David Robinson.

A huge crowd followed the only contending group all day, most of them waiting to erupt for Dallas-native Spieth, who began the round with a one-stroke lead before a bogey-filled 73.

US men miss qualifying for 3-on-3 basketball

GRAZ, Austria — When the 3-on-3 street version of basketball makes its Olympic debut in Tokyo, the United States men's team won't be there.

The US lost to the Netherlands in the quarterfinals of an Olympic qualifying tournament on Sunday.

The Americans were world champions in 2019 and had former NBA players Dominique Jones and Robbie Hummel on a four-player roster for the event.

The U.S. women did advance.

NHL working on Canadian travel exemption

The NHL and health authorities are reportedly working on a travel exemption that would let the winner of the all-Canadian North Division and an American opponent cross the border during the final two rounds of the playoffs.

The exemption would let teams enter Canada without having to isolate for 14 days, as is currently required for non-essential travelers because of the pandemic.

ROUNDUP

Nets wallop Celtics, Irving dodges bottle

Associated Press

BOSTON — Kyrie Irving had 39 points and 11 rebounds to quiet the first post-pandemic full house at the TD Garden, Kevin Durant scored 42 points and Brooklyn beat Boston to take a 3-1 series lead.

Afterward, as Irving walked off the court he was nearly hit by a bottle thrown from the stands. Irving and Nets guard Tyler Johnson turned to the stands and pointed; police surrounded a man in a Kevin Garnett jersey before leading him out in handcuffs. A spokeswoman for the TD Garden said Boston Police arrested one person "for throwing an object" and that the fan was "subject to a lifetime ban from TD Garden."

"Fans have got to grow up at some point," Durant said. "I know that being in the house for a year and a half with the pandemic has got a lot of people on edge, has got a lot of people stressed out. But when you come to these games you've got to realize: These men

are human. We're not animals. We're not in the circus."

James Harden added 23 points and a career postseason-high 18 assists for Brooklyn. Game 5 is in New York on Tuesday night, when the Nets will try to advance to the Eastern Conference semifinals for the first time since 2014.

Jayson Tatum scored 40 points for the Celtics, following up his 50-point effort in a Game 3 victory. But with Jaylen Brown and Kemba Walker out with injuries, Tatum couldn't save the season on his own.

Clippers 106, Mavericks 81: Kawhi Leonard had 29 points and 10 rebounds, Paul George scored 20 points and visiting Los Angeles manhandled Dallas in Game 4 to tie the series.

Reggie Jackson added 15 points, and the Clippers are headed home for Game 5 much more sure of themselves than when they left LA in a two-game hole.

Luka Doncic started slowly after being listed as questionable be-



ELISE AMENDOLA / AP

Nets guard Kyrie Irving scores during the first quarter of Game 4 against the Celtics in their first-round playoff series Sunday in Boston.

cause of a cervical strain.

Playing with medical strips on his left shoulder, and wearing a large pad in that area when he wasn't playing, Doncic scored 19 points after averaging 38 in the first three games. He was 9-for-24 with series lows in rebounds and assists with six apiece.

Hawks 113, Knicks 96: Trae Young scored 27 points, John Collins added 22 despite a smack to the lip and host Atlanta frustrated Julius Randle and New York once again, pulling away in the second

half for a 3-1 series lead.

Randle was serenaded again by chants of "Overrated!" every time he put one up. The roars were deafening after a sequence in the third when Randle missed on a drive and had a put-back rim out before the Knicks knocked the ball out of bounds.

Randle's frustration boiled over less than a minute later when he slammed Collins to the court on another drive. Nothing was called initially, but Randle was assessed an offensive foul after a video review.

NHL PLAYOFFS/FRENCH OPEN

ROUNDUP

Lightning, Avs win series openers

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C — Andrei Vasilevskiy turned away almost everything, while Barclay Goodrow came through with an opportunistic go-ahead goal midway through the third period.

And just like that, the Tampa Bay Lightning responded to another road environment with the confidence forged amid last year's Stanley Cup championship run.

Goodrow beat Alex Nedeljkovic at 12:39 of the third period and Vasilevskiy had 37 saves, helping the Lightning beat the Carolina Hurricanes 2-1 on Sunday night to open their second-round playoff series.

Brayden Point also scored for the Lightning, who weathered a high-energy start from Carolina and continued the Hurricanes' postseason frustrations on the power play.

Vasilevskiy was the key in both. He had 15 saves in that first period with the Hurricanes buzzing out of the gate backed by a rowdy home crowd of more than 16,000. Carolina also went 1-for-5 on the power play.

"He can just track the puck so well," defenseman Ryan McDonagh said. "Never gives up on a puck and just stays to his strengths out there. ... We know he's a big backbone back there."

The Lightning swept the first two games at Florida in their six-game first-round series, then handed Carolina its first postseason home loss after its six-game series against Nashville. Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night.

Goodrow's winner came when he headed left against Carolina defenseman Brady Skjei, then shot from a sharp angle on the left side. Nedeljkovic dropped down but left space between his pad and the post — and the puck slipped through to break the 1-1 tie.

"The puck had eyes, obviously," Tampa Bay defenseman Victor Hedman said. "But good things happen when you shoot the puck. That was a good example of it."

It was a mistake for Nedeljkovic in another otherwise strong performance with 28 saves.

"It's no use hiding it ... it was a bad goal," Carolina coach Rod Brind'Amour said. "He made a lot of good saves tonight, too. That's part of it. We'll bounce back and he'll bounce back. We've got to score more than one to win anyway. That's the way I look at it."

That lead held, with the Lightning holding off Carolina's final minute with the empty net and extra attacker in a desperate tying attempt.

Jake Bean scored on the power

play to tie it early in the third for Carolina, which entered with home-ice advantage after winning the Central Division.

Avalanche 7, Golden Knights 1: Nathan MacKinnon and Gabriel Landeskog each scored twice and well-rested Colorado used its speed to make quick work of visiting Vegas in a skirmish-filled Game 1 of their second-round playoff series.

What began as the Avalanche putting on a passing clinic — racing out to a 5-0 lead — spiraled into one fight after another. There were a total of 79 penalty minutes between the teams, including four 10-minute misconduct calls and a match penalty on Vegas' Ryan Reaves, who was later given an attempt-to-injure penalty.

"I don't think you can call that physicality to be honest with you," Landeskog said. "Reaves is on a mission to hurt somebody in the third and that's what he goes out and does. I'm sure the league will take a look at it, intent to injure."

Young defenseman Cale Makar added a goal and three assists, and Brandon Saad and Mikko Rantanen also scored for the Avalanche, who had an extra burst after nearly a week off following a four-game sweep of St. Louis in round one.

"Everyone took it serious, the break. Wasn't a vacation," MacKinnon said. "Everyone was ready to go and we had a great start."

"We knew they were going to play physical and had to be ready for it," Makar said. "It might happen in the next game, but we'll be ready for it."



Lightning players congratulate Barclay Goodrow, right, after Goodrow's goal during the third period against Carolina on Sunday.

Scoreboard

First round	
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)	
Carolina 4, Nashville 2	
Carolina 5, Nashville 2	
Carolina 3, Nashville 0	
Nashville 5, Carolina 4, 2OT	
Nashville 4, Carolina 3, 2OT	
Carolina 3, Nashville 2, OT	
Carolina 4, Nashville 3, OT	
Tampa Bay 4, Florida 2	
Tampa Bay 5, Florida 4	
Tampa Bay 3, Florida 1	
Florida 6, Tampa Bay 5, OT	
Tampa Bay 6, Florida 2	
Florida 4, Tampa Bay 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Florida 0	
Boston 4, Washington 1	
Washington 3, Boston 2, OT	
Boston 4, Washington 3, OT	
Boston 3, Washington 2, 2OT	
Boston 4, Washington 1	
Boston 3, Washington 1	
N.Y. Islanders 4, Pittsburgh 2	
Islanders 4, Pittsburgh 3, OT	
Pittsburgh 2, Islanders 1	
Pittsburgh 5, Islanders 4	
Islanders 4, Pittsburgh 1	
Islanders 3, Pittsburgh 2, 2OT	
Islanders 5, Pittsburgh 3	
Toronto 3, Montreal 3	
Montreal 2, Toronto 1	
Toronto 5, Montreal 1	
Toronto 2, Montreal 1	
Toronto 4, Montreal 0	
Montreal 4, Toronto 3, OT	
Montreal 3, Toronto 2, OT	
Monday: Montreal at Toronto	
Winnipeg 4, Edmonton 0	
Winnipeg 4, Edmonton 1	
Winnipeg 1, Edmonton 0, OT	
Winnipeg 5, Edmonton 4, OT	
Winnipeg 4, Edmonton 3, 3OT	
Vegas 4, Minnesota 3	
Minnesota 1, Vegas 0, OT	
Vegas 3, Minnesota 1	
Vegas 5, Minnesota 2	
Vegas 4, Minnesota 0	
Minnesota 4, Vegas 2	
Minnesota 3, Vegas 0	
Vegas 6, Minnesota 2	
Colorado 4, St. Louis 0	
Colorado 4, St. Louis 1	
Colorado 6, St. Louis 3	
Colorado 5, St. Louis 1	
Colorado 5, St. Louis 2	
Second round	
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)	
Tampa Bay 1, Carolina 0	
Sunday: Tampa Bay 2, Carolina 1	
Tuesday: at Carolina	
Thursday: at Tampa Bay	
Saturday: at Tampa Bay	
x-Tuesday, June 8: at Carolina	
x-Thursday, June 10: at Tampa Bay	
x-Saturday, June 12: at Carolina	
Boston 1, N.Y. Islanders 0	
Boston 5, N.Y. Islanders 2	
Monday: at Boston	
Thursday: at N.Y. Islanders	
Saturday: at N.Y. Islanders	
x-Monday, June 7: at Boston	
x-Wednesday, June 9: at N.Y. Islanders	
x-Friday, June 11: at Boston	
Colorado 1, Vegas 0	
Sunday: Colorado 7, Vegas 1	
Wednesday: at Colorado	
Friday: at Vegas	
Sunday, June 6: at Vegas	
x-Tuesday, June 8: at Colorado	
x-Thursday, June 10: at Vegas	
x-Saturday, June 12: at Colorado	



Roger Federer plays a return to Denis Istomin during their first-round match of the French Open on Monday in Paris.

Federer wins return to Paris, Slam action

By JOHN LEICESTER AND SAMUEL PETREQUIN
Associated Press

PARIS — They feted Roger Federer with as loud as applause gets from a crowd capped at 1,000 people in Court Philippe Chatrier — when he walked out with a wave, when he hit one of his 48 winners, even when he attempted a back-to-the-net 'tweener and hit the ball out.

This match bathed in sunshine Monday meant Federer finally was back at the French Open and back in Grand Slam action and he gave the excited fans what they wanted perhaps as much as he did: a victory.

Federer's first match at any major tournament in 16 months ended with a 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 victory over qualifier Denis Istomin at the French Open. It was a case of many happy returns — and serves, forehands, backhands, volleys and drop shots, too.

Showing no signs of rust, really, or trouble with the right knee that needed two operations last year, Federer produced more than twice as many winners as unforced errors — 48 to 20 — and never faced a break point while improving to 8-0 against Istomin over their careers.

Federer, whose 40th birthday is Aug. 8, acknowledged recently he has zero chance of claiming the trophy this time around in Paris; instead, he is hoping to tune up his game to be ready to challenge for a championship at Wimbledon, where play begins in about a month.

After rhythmic clapping from the stands accompanied Federer's trot to the baseline for the match's opening point Monday, he got off to the perfect start against Istomin, who is ranked 204th and now is the owner of a seven-match Grand Slam losing streak but did upset Novak Djokovic at the 2017 Australian Open.

Federer used a drop shot against Istomin to earn a break point in the opening game, then converted it with a forehand winner, before holding to go up 2-0.

Just 1½ hours later, it was over for Federer, who won the 2009 French Open for one of his 20 Grand Slam titles.

He shares that men's record with rival Rafael Nadal, who is scheduled to play his first-round match Tuesday to open his bid for a 14th championship in Paris and tiebreaking 21st major overall. Djokovic also is slated to make his debut on Day 3 of the clay-court tournament.

Serena Williams, who has 23 Grand Slam singles titles, was scheduled to play later Monday in the first scheduled night session in French Open history.

The reigning women's champion, Iga Swiatek, picked up Monday right where she left off last year: running yet another opponent this way and that in a 6-0, 7-5 victory over her best friend on the tennis circuit, Kaja Juvan.

Swiatek, who turned 20 on Monday, is attempting to become the first woman since Justine Henin in 2007 to win consecutive French Open titles. Swiatek did not lose a set at Roland Garros last year.

"She didn't give me any birthday gifts," Swiatek said of the partner with whom she won a gold medal in doubles at the Youth Olympics in 2018.

Daniil Medvedev finally won a French Open match on his fifth attempt. The second-seeded Russian, twice a runner-up at other majors, beat Alexander Bublik 6-3, 6-3, 7-5, after four first-round losses on the Parisian clay.

In another first-round men's match, rising Italian star Jannik Sinner, a quarterfinalist on his debut at Roland Garros last year, had a far harder time. He needed to save match point to get through a 6-1, 4-6, 6-7 (4), 7-5, 6-4 win over France's Pierre-Hugues Herbert.

AUTO RACING

Larson cruises to Coca-Cola 600 victory

Earns 269th win for Hendrick, breaking Richard Petty’s record

BY STEVE REED
Associated Press

CONCORD, N.C. — The first thing Rick Hendrick thought about as Kyle Larson crossed the finish line to win the Coca-Cola 600 was April 29, 1984.

That’s when Hendrick won for the first time as a NASCAR Cup Series owner when Geoff Bodine took the Sovran Bank 500 at Martinsville Speedway.

Little did Hendrick know that 37 years later he would become the winningest owner in NASCAR Cup Series history. Larson’s dominating win at Charlotte Motor Speedway gave Hendrick Motorsports a record-setting 269th win, passing Petty Enterprises.

“Unbelievable,” Hendrick said. “I can’t get in my brain around it right now.”

“With nearly 40 years of excellence, Hendrick Motorsports has set the gold standard for race team success,” said NASCAR Chairman and CEO Jim France. “Rick Hendrick has already cemented his legacy as a NASCAR Hall of Famer, and now adds another incredible accomplishment to an exemplary NASCAR career.”

Hendrick said he’s glad to have the record behind him, while quickly praising Richard Petty for his role in NASCAR.



Hendrick

“Richard Petty is the king of NASCAR and he has done so much for this sport,” Hendrick said.

Hendrick called it “pretty neat” that Larson broke the record driving the No. 5 car — the same number on Bodine’s car several decades ago.

“It feels great to be the guy to help Mr. H break that record,” Larson said.

Hendrick said he didn’t care which of his four Cup drivers won Sunday — as long as one of them did.

And it seemed all four of them had that chance.

It was an impressive night for Hendrick Motorsports with all four drivers finishing in the top five — Chase Elliott was second, William Byron fourth and Alex Bowman fifth.

Kyle Busch was third for Joe Gibbs Racing.

It also was the sixth win in 16 races this season for Hendrick Motorsports — and this one wasn’t even close.

Larson, who joined Hendrick this season, ended six years of struggles at Charlotte, leading 328 of 400 laps and winning four stages.

Larson’s previous best finish at Charlotte was fifth in 2016 and he had only one top-10 finish at the Coca-Cola 600. Larson dominated most of the race, becoming the first driver since Busch in 2018 to sweep every stage. It gave Larson a series-high 10 stage wins this



NELL REDMOND / AP

NASCAR Cup Series driver Kyle Larson celebrates in victory lane after winning the Coca-Cola 600 on Sunday at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C. Larson led 328 of the 400 laps.

year.

“He is an awesome talent as you see by some of the moves he makes,” Hendrick said. “And he wants to win and is super dedicated. He is all business.”

Busch seemed resigned to the fact he wasn’t going catch Larson even with about 100 laps remaining.

When asked after the first three stages by Fox Sports commentators what he had to do catch the leader, Busch joked “I’m going to have to wreck him — they’re too fast.”

In a year of parity in which 11

drivers won in the first 14 races, Larson became only the third driver with multiple wins this season. He also won at Las Vegas.

Special guests

Two-time heavyweight champion boxer Tyson Fury and singer Pitbull were in attendance. Carolina Panthers running back Christian McCaffrey served as the honorary pace car driver and Jay Leno and Kevin Eubanks were the grand marshals.

Who’s hot

Hendrick has won six of the 15

races run this season. It was the 12th career Coca-Cola 600 win for Hendrick Motorsports, but the organization’s first since since Jimmie Johnson took the checkered flag in 2014.

Who’s not

Denny Hamlin, who won seven races last season, continues to search for his first victory of the year with 16 races in the books. Hamlin simply hasn’t had much success at Charlotte Motor Speedway, failing to register a Cup Series win here in 30 Cup Series races. He finished seventh.

Homecoming: Castroneves fourth-oldest winner of Indy 500

FROM PAGE 24

Castroneves became the fourth-oldest winner in Indianapolis 500 history, behind Al Unser (47, 1987), Bobby Unser (47, 1981) and Emerson Fittipaldi (46, 1993).

After climbing down the fence, Castroneves ran nearly a mile down the frontstretch for a victory lap on foot. He pumped his arms in the air and waved to the ecstatic crowd, his explosion of emotional energy stopped every few feet by a flood of rivals who rushed onto the track to congratulate him.

“I was drawn by the positive energy of everyone. For a long time these people want to see a four-time winner,” he said. “I say that because they tell me. Every time we sign the autographs, they are like, ‘I’ve never seen a four-time winner. I want to see it.’ That’s what probably made me thank all of them because they made this place special.”

Almost every member of Team Penske rushed out to meet Castroneves, including former teammate Will Power, who saw the final scoring pylon and had no idea his long-

time friend won.

“I was looking up and down ‘Who is the 06?’ ” Power told Castroneves in a victory hug. “You’re a legend.”

Castroneves spent more than two decades driving for Team Penske and won three Indy 500s with the team. But he was eventually phased over to the sports car program, where he won the IMSA championship last season before Roger Penske shuttered the team and made the business decision to cut Castroneves loose.

Penske, now the owner of the speedway, embraced Castroneves in Victory Lane. Foyt welcomed the new member to the four-time winners club.

“He deserved it, he worked hard to get it and he finally got it,” said Foyt, who was celebrating the 60th anniversary of his first Indy 500 victory. “It wasn’t given to him and when someone works as hard as he did, I’m glad it happened for him.”

After Castroneves, still the last driver to win consecutive Indianapolis 500s in 2001 and 2002, was cut loose by Penske, he insisted he was not done racing yet.

Michael Shank agreed.

Shank hired Castroneves for the Indy 500 to complement the one-car Meyer Shank Racing team.

Maybe Castroneves would have a shot to win, but he’d also boost a team that needed some veteran leadership at one of the most challenging tracks in the world.

Castroneves was also part of the winning Rolex 24 Daytona sports car team in January, taking the prestigious sports car event for the first time.

“I’ve run two races this year and won two races, I’d say that’s pretty good,” said Castroneves, who noted this might be the year for aging veterans.

“I don’t know if this is a good comparison, but Tom Brady won the Super Bowl and Phil Mickelson won the golf so here you go. The older guys are still kicking the younger guys’ butts.”

Brady, a seven-time Super Bowl champion, capped his first season with Tampa Bay by leading the Bucs to their first championship in 18 years at 43 years old. Mickelson at 50 became the oldest major winner

last week.

Castroneves’ win was a stark contrast to the recent theme of young drivers taking over IndyCar, which now has six different winners through six races this season. Three of them have been first-time winners and four are drivers aged 24 or younger.

Castroneves found himself in a closing duel with one of the young stars, but he passed Palou for good with two laps remaining and beat him by 0.4928 seconds for the victory.

When he finally made it to the real Victory Lane — after a kiss from Mario Andretti, a hug from Johnny Rutherford, well wishes from just about every Indy 500 great — Castroneves sipped from his bottle of 2% milk and then dumped the rest over his head.

When he climbed into the back of a convertible for his true victory lap around the 2.5-mile speedway, most of the fans were still in the stands cheering Castroneves. The lap took more than 20 minutes to complete and the fans who stayed in the stands climbed the fence to cheer him as he passed.

Scoreboard

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	34	20	.630	—
Boston	32	20	.615	1
New York	29	24	.547	4½
Toronto	27	25	.519	6
Baltimore	17	36	.321	16½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	32	20	.615	—
Cleveland	28	23	.549	3½
Kansas City	25	26	.490	6½
Detroit	22	31	.415	10½
Minnesota	21	31	.404	11
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	31	24	.564	—
Houston	28	24	.538	1½
Seattle	27	27	.500	3½
Los Angeles	24	29	.453	6
Texas	22	33	.400	9
National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	25	20	.556	—
Atlanta	24	26	.480	3½
Philadelphia	25	28	.472	4
Miami	24	28	.462	4½
Washington	21	28	.429	6
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	30	23	.566	—
Chicago	29	23	.558	½
Milwaukee	28	25	.528	2
Cincinnati	23	28	.451	6
Pittsburgh	20	32	.385	9½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Diego	34	20	.630	—
San Francisco	33	20	.623	½
Los Angeles	31	22	.585	2½
Colorado	20	34	.370	14
Arizona	19	35	.352	15
Sunday's games				
Toronto 4, Cleveland 1, 7 innings, 1st game				
Cleveland 6, Toronto 5, 7 innings, 2nd game				
Detroit 6, N.Y. Yankees 2				
Chicago White Sox 3, Baltimore 1				
Kansas City 6, Minnesota 3				
Seattle 4, Texas 2				
L.A. Angels 4, Oakland 2				
Milwaukee 3, Washington 0				
Tampa Bay 6, Philadelphia 2				
Colorado 4, Pittsburgh 3				
Houston 7, San Diego 4				
Cincinnati 5, Chicago Cubs 1				
Arizona 9, St. Louis 2				
San Francisco 5, L.A. Dodgers 4				
Miami at Boston, ppd.				
Atlanta at N.Y. Mets, ppd.				
Monday's games				
Minnesota at Baltimore				
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees				
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland				
Boston at Houston				
Oakland at Seattle				
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland				
Detroit at Milwaukee				
Philadelphia at Cincinnati				
San Diego at Chicago Cubs				
L.A. Angels at San Francisco				
Washington at Atlanta				
Pittsburgh at Kansas City				
St. Louis at L.A. Dodgers				
N.Y. Mets at Arizona				
Tuesday's games				
Chicago White Sox (Cease 3-1) at Cleveland (Bieber 5-3)				
Minnesota (Pineda 3-2) at Baltimore (Zimmermann 2-3)				
Tampa Bay (Glasnow 4-2) at N.Y. Yankees (German 4-3)				
Boston (Richards 4-3) at Houston (Garcia 3-3)				
Oakland (Bassitt 5-2) at Seattle (Gonzales 1-3)				
Miami (Alcantara 2-4) at Toronto (Ray 2-2)				
Philadelphia (Nola 3-4) at Cincinnati (Gray 1-3)				
Washington (Strasburg 1-2) at Atlanta (Fried 2-2)				
Detroit (Boyd 2-6) at Milwaukee (TBD)				
San Diego (Weathers 2-1) at Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 5-4)				
Pittsburgh (Crowe 0-3) at Kansas City (Singer 2-4)				
Texas (Dunning 2-4) at Colorado (Márquez 3-5)				
N.Y. Mets (Peterson 1-4) at Arizona (Smith 2-1)				
L.A. Angels (Heaney 2-3) at San Francisco (Wood 5-2)				
St. Louis (Gant 4-3) at L.A. Dodgers (TBD)				

ROUNDUP

Gausman, Giants down Dodgers

San Francisco hits two homers off LA's Kershaw

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kevin Gausman pitched six shutout innings and Mauricio Dubón hit one of two homers off Clayton Kershaw, helping the San Francisco Giants beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-4 on Sunday.

Gausman (6-0) allowed two hits, struck out seven and walked none before he was removed because of left hip tightness. He also helped himself with an RBI single in the fifth inning.

Jake McGee worked the ninth for his 12th save in 14 opportunities.

Austin Slater also connected against Kershaw (7-4), sending the Giants to their third win in the four-game set after Los Angeles posted a three-game sweep last weekend. San Francisco has the second-best record in the majors at 33-20 and is a half-game behind San Diego in the NL West.

Albert Pujols and Max Muncy each hit a two-run homer for Los Angeles.

Brewers 3, Nationals 0: Brandon Woodruff (4-2) outpitched Max Scherzer (4-4) and Avisail García homered again, leading visiting Milwaukee to its fourth straight win.

The Brewers collected four of the game's seven hits. Washington totaled three runs in getting swept in the three-game series.

Woodruff struck out 10, allowing only two hits in seven innings and leaving with a 1.27 ERA.

Scherzer also struck out 10 and gave up two hits in six innings.

Rays 6, Phillies 2: At St. Petersburg, Fla., Mike Zunino and Brett Phillips homered as AL East-leading Tampa Bay won for the 15th time in 16 games.

The Rays have won four consecutive games, including a two-game sweep of Philadelphia, since Kansas City stopped their 11-game win streak on Tuesday,

Philadelphia, losers of eight of 11, got a run-scoring double from Brad Miller. The Phillies loaded the bases with two outs in the ninth against Diego Castillo, but Odúbel Herrera flew out to deep center field.

White Sox 3, Orioles 1: Lucas Giolito (5-4) struck out 12, and host Chicago handed Baltimore its 13th straight loss.

Baltimore matched its worst skid since 2009. It has been swept in four consecutive series and dropped 20 of 22 overall.



ASHLEY LANDIS / AP

San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Kevin Gausman fields a ground ball hit by the Dodgers' Matt Beatty during the sixth inning of Sunday's game in Los Angeles. Beatty was out at first.

Nick Madrigal hit a tiebreaking triple in the seventh inning as the White Sox completed a four-game sweep. The AL Central leaders have won six of seven to climb a season-high 12 games over .500.

Tigers 6, Yankees 2: Rookie Tarik Skubal (2-7) pitched six shutout innings, and Detroit completed its first home series sweep of New York in 21 years.

New York was outscored 15-5 with 36 strikeouts during the series and went 1-for-25 with runners in scoring position. Shortstop Gleyber Torres had two errors and third baseman Gio Urshela one that contributed to a four-run third inning and a 6-0 Detroit lead.

Detroit had not swept a three-game home series from the Yankees since May 12-14, 2000, its first season at Comerica Park.

Astros 7, Padres 4: Zack Greinke (5-2) pitched eight effective innings and Kyle Tucker homered, lifting host Houston over San Diego.

Greinke permitted one run and six hits. The right-hander improved to 14-3 in his career against the Padres.

Houston jumped on Blake Snell (1-2) for four runs in the first. Alex Bregman drove in Jose Altuve with a groundout, and Tucker capped the inning with a three-run homer to left.

Reds 5, Cubs 1: Tyler Mahle (4-2) worked five shutout innings, Eugenio Suárez homered and visiting Cincinnati stopped Chicago's six-game winning streak.

Tyler Naquin drove in two runs for Cincinnati, and Nick Castella-

nos had two hits. Jonathan India also had two hits and drove in a run.

Castellanos extended his hitting streak to 16 games, the longest active streak in the majors.

Blue Jays 4-5, Indians 1-6: Host Cleveland rallied for a doubleheader split, taking advantage of another wild outing for Tyler Chatwood (0-2).

Chatwood forced in the tying run with his fourth straight walk in the seventh, and José Ramírez followed with a game-ending sacrifice fly.

Teoscar Hernández and Rowdy Tellez homered against Aaron Civale (7-2) in the opener, leading Toronto to the victory. Ross Stripling (1-3) pitched five innings of one-run ball for the win, and Jordan Romano got three outs for his third save.

Angels 4, Athletics 2: Jared Walsh's 12th homer sparked a four-run second inning for visiting Los Angeles, and four relievers combined for six scoreless innings.

David Fletcher doubled twice and drove in two runs for the Angels, who won their second straight for a split of the four-game series.

José Suarez (2-0) pitched three hitless innings for the win. Raisel Iglesias recorded four outs for his ninth save.

Diamondbacks 9, Cardinals 2: Ketel Marte homered and drove in three runs, and host Arizona stopped a 13-game losing streak.

Arizona is just 19-35. It had been on the National League's longest losing streak since the Diamondbacks' 14-game skid in 2004.

Matt Peacock (2-1) got his first

big league win as a starting pitcher. He surrendered two runs and six hits in six innings.

Mariners 4, Rangers 2: Yusei Kikuchi (3-3) took a no-hit bid into the sixth inning, Kyle Seager homered and host Seattle sent Texas to its 12th straight road loss.

The Rangers matched a team record for most consecutive road losses set in 2003. Texas was off Monday before continuing its trip with three games at Colorado.

Seattle has won a season-best four in a row. Texas has lost six straight overall.

Royals 6, Twins 3: Whit Merrifield had two hits and scored two runs, leading visiting Kansas City past Minnesota.

Andrew Benintendi and Hunter Dozier each drove in two runs for Kansas City, which had dropped three of four. Dozier hit a solo drive in the ninth inning for his sixth homer.

Royals right-hander Brad Keller improved to 3-0 in his last four starts. He permitted three runs and five hits in five innings.

Rockies 4, Pirates 3: Charlie Blackmon got three extra-base hits and keyed a two-run rally in the ninth inning that sent visiting Colorado past Pittsburgh.

Blackmon hit two doubles and a triple as the Rockies ended a five-game losing streak. They were shut out in both games of a doubleheader against Pittsburgh on Saturday.

After Pirates closer Richard Rodriguez (3-1) walked Ryan McMahon with one out in the ninth, Blackmon hit an RBI double off the wall in center to make it 3-all.

SPORTS



Winning return

Federer cruises in 1st Slam match after 16 months away » **French Open, Page 21**

INDIANAPOLIS 500



'Spiderman': homecoming

PAUL SANCYA/AP

Helio Castroneves, of Brazil, climbs the fence at the start/finish line after winning the Indianapolis 500 on Sunday. The 135,000 in attendance at Indianapolis Motor Speedway got to see the 46-year-old Castroneves' trademark "Spiderman" celebration after he became the first driver since 1991 to win the race for the fourth time.

Castroneves collects record-tying 4th victory as spectators return to stands

BY JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis 500 was meant to mark the return of some sort of normalcy, at least for marquee sporting events that Americans find so meaningful.

For Helio Castroneves, Indy provided a professional rebirth that pushed him into an elite club that last welcomed a new member 30 years ago. He became just the fourth four-time winner of the Indy 500 on Sunday in front of 135,000 fans at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, easily the largest and loudest sporting event since the start of the pandemic.



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Castroneves soaked up the celebration as he joined A.J. Foyt, Al Unser Sr. and Rick Mears as the only four-time winners.

The race was postponed to August a year ago and held without spectators for the only time in its 105-year history. Given permission to open 40% of the grandstands this year, the exuberant crowd came in droves and went wild for Castroneves' historic win for the old guys.

Biding his time until the moment was right, the veteran passed 24-year-old Alex Palou with two laps remaining and the frenzied crowd roared its approval. When the Brazilian took the checkered flag, he rushed to the fence for his traditional "Spiderman" climb that belied his 46 years.

Castroneves had been trying since 2009

NASCAR

Larson wins Coca-Cola 600 to give Hendrick historic victory in Cup Series
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to join A.J. Foyt, Al Unser Sr. and Rick Mears, his former mentor at Team Penske, as the only four-time winners of "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing." Mears was the last driver to join the club in 1991.

SEE HOMECOMING ON PAGE 22

Suns win Game 4, pull even with Lakers » NBA playoffs, Page 20

