

Army eyes replacing plastic IDs

By JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Army is looking for alternatives to traditional military identification cards, which are needed to gain entry to bases worldwide but are also “known vectors of diseases,” a service bid announcement said.

The Army in an April 1 solicitation said it will begin accepting proposals later this month for developing a system that would utilize biometrics and metadata, such as passwords.

The current system “results in the physical handling of cards which are known vectors of diseases and which can result in large percentages of personnel being exposed,” the Army said in its announcement.

The military’s Common Access Card is used by military personnel, both uniformed and civilian, to gain access to installations and is needed to access certain government computers. It’s also required for making purchas-

es at commissaries and exchange shops.

But the Army says a physical card is “subject to compromise and in a pandemic environment results in a significant risk to the population that is to be protected.”

The risk of coronavirus infection from touching contaminated surfaces is generally considered low, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated in guidance released Monday. It could, however, be transmitted by touching surfaces an ill person has recently coughed or sneezed on, and then directly touching the mouth, nose or eyes, the guidance stated. Colds and other illnesses can be transmitted the same way.

The Army’s aim is to develop a “Pandemic Entry & Automated Control Environment” that makes use of biometrics — such as facial recognition or other physical traits — and data such as a password to enable base entry, the bid announcement said.

“Use of PEACE provides real-time valida-

tion of persons at the entry point location as well as within the installation and various facilities,” the Army announcement said.

The Army didn’t make clear if the goal is to develop an alternative CAC or an outright replacement of the plastic card. But it did say it wants proposals that could be used across the Defense Department as well as in the civilian sector.

Within the military, the “PEACE” system would be used “to secure access to sensitive/classified areas, access and operations of critical weapons/respective platforms, and homeland protection in urban areas,” the Army announcement said.

Commercial applications could include venues “such as Disney World, where annual passes are sold as well as major sporting events whose tickets are subject to counterfeiting,” the Army said.

The deadline for submitting proposals is May 18.

Sailor killed by police after wounding two in shooting

By ROSE L. THAYER

Stars and Stripes

A sailor was shot and killed by Fort Detrick police Tuesday morning after shooting two men nearby and fleeing onto the Maryland Army base.

The 38-year-old sailor, whom the Navy confirmed was a hospital corpsman, entered a business at 8:20 a.m. in Riverside Tech Park in Frederick, Md., according to Chief Jason Lando of the Frederick Police Department. The gunman shot and injured two men in or near the business, then drove

toward the base, which is about 10 minutes away, Lando said.

The Associated Press reported that the corpsman, who was assigned to Fort Detrick, drove through a base gate but only got about a quarter of a mile before he was stopped by military personnel. Fort Detrick spokeswoman Lanessa Hill told the AP that Frederick police had given base officials advance notice, “so we knew that he was out there.”

The sailor was pronounced dead at the scene.

Both men who were shot in Frederick were flown by helicopter to the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore and are in critical condition at the facility’s Shock Trauma Center, Lando said.

With two active crime scenes, police have asked for more time before releasing details.

“It’s very tragic. It’s happening too frequently. Every time we turn on the TV we’re seeing something like this happened, and now it’s happening in our backyard,” Lando said.

Spat ongoing over Chinese ships in Philippine waters

By SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

The Philippines has accused Chinese diplomats of lying after they claimed hundreds of ships trespassing in Philippine waters are sheltering from bad weather.

Diplomats from the island nation protest-

ed last month after 220 Chinese fishing vessels were spotted by the Philippine coast guard near Julian Felipe Reef in the Spratly Islands.

Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana on Saturday told the vessels to sail away and for the Chinese to “leave our sov-

ereign territories and abide by international law.”

That prompted a retort from the Chinese Embassy in Manila, where a spokesman said authorities should “avoid any unprofessional remarks” over the ships’ presence.

Navy, Marines seek to synch joint ops rules

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Navy and Marine Corps are working together on standardizing their rules for joint operations following the deadly assault amphibious vehicle accident last year, according to the Navy's top officer.

Adm. Mike Gilday, the chief of naval operations, said Monday that he met with Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger after the release on March 25 of the investigation into the AAV accident.

"What we discussed was the

fact that there are gaps and seams where there shouldn't be gaps and seams in Navy and Marine Corps operations at the tactical level," Gilday said during a Defense Writers Group event. "So these are combined operations that we've been doing for some time now, and to have separate requirements on the Marine Corps side and the Navy side just doesn't make sense."

On July 30, eight Marines and a sailor from the Battalion Landing Team 1/4 of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit drowned as their assault am-

phibious vehicle sunk near San Clemente Island off the coast of California during a training exercise ahead of a deployment.

Their vehicle was traveling back to the USS Somerset when it began to take on water. The investigation into the accident found there were no proper safety boats on the water that day and the unit's vehicles were in "horrible condition."

Gilday said the services are working together to make certain that operations with amphibious vehicles have the

same standard instructions. He has appointed a three-star admiral in charge of the Navy's support to the effort.

Gilday did not describe any specific requirement gaps between the two services for these types of operations.

Following this review of standards, the Navy and Marine Corps are going to take a broader look at the various tactical operations that the services conduct together to see where there are variations in guidance, he said. From there, they will be combined and agreed up by both services.

Fleet Readiness commander fired; no specifics from Navy

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The commander of the Navy's Fleet Readiness Centers was fired Monday, according to the service.

Rear Adm. Trent DeMoss was relieved by Vice Adm. Dean Peters, the commander of Naval Air Systems, "due to a loss of confidence in his ability

to command," according to a Navy statement.

DeMoss is being investigated by the Navy's inspector general, Rear Adm. Charlie Brown, the Navy's chief spokesman, said in a statement issued Monday. Brown would not comment further due to it being an ongoing investigation.

No information was provided on what the inspector general is

investigating or what led Peters to lose confidence in DeMoss.

The readiness centers oversee the maintenance, repair and overhaul of Navy aircraft, according to its official website. There are eight centers throughout the world, with the headquarters located at Naval Air Station Patuxent River in Maryland, about 70 miles southeast of Washington.

Capt. Christopher Couch, the vice commander of Fleet Readiness Centers, will be the acting commander until a replacement is found, according to the statement. DeMoss has been assigned to the headquarters of Naval Air Systems Command.

DeMoss took command of the Navy's Fleet Readiness Centers in August, according to his official biography.

Destroyer finishes its maiden patrol in Indo-Pacific region

BY DANIEL BETANCOURT
Stars and Stripes

The guided-missile destroyer USS John Finn has returned to San Diego, its homeport, after a busy four months in the Indo-Pacific region on its first overseas deployment, according to the Navy.

The John Finn, an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, arrived home Friday after finishing its work with both the Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group and the 7th Fleet.

During its Indo-Pacific tour,

the John Finn took part in a two-carrier exercise in the South China Sea and transited the Taiwan Strait, exercises that constitute a U.S. response to a growing Chinese military presence in the region.

"John Finn provided presence and maintained the freedom of the seas while deployed," the ship's skipper, Cmdr. Bralyn Cathey, said in a Navy statement. "My crew and ship were proud to show the flag abroad while executing myriad missions and exercises

during our maiden deployment."

The John Finn on March 10 became the third U.S. warship in just over a month to transit the 110-mile-wide Taiwan Strait. The destroyer and its strike group partners also joined the Nimitz Carrier Strike Group for exercises in the South China Sea on Feb. 19.

Before steaming for the Western Pacific, the John Finn made history in November by becoming the first Navy warship to shoot down an intercon-

tinental ballistic missile with a SM-3 Block IIA interceptor missile. The test demonstrated one of several layers of homeland defense against ICBMs, according to the Defense Department Missile Defense Agency.

The John Finn, standing off Kauai, Hawaii, brought down the ICBM launched Nov. 17 from Kwajalein Atoll in a simulated strike on Hawaii. It was the first successful use of an SM-3 against an ICBM, according to the agency.

Biden: Make all adults eligible for shots by April 19

Bloomberg News

President Joe Biden will announce Tuesday that he wants all American adults to be eligible for a coronavirus vaccine by April 19, two weeks earlier than his previous goal, a White House official said Tuesday.

Biden will also announce that 150 million doses of vaccine were administered within his first 75 days in office, keeping pace with his accelerated goal of getting 200 million shots into arms by his 100th day in office.

Almost half of U.S. states had opened vaccination to everyone 16 and older by the end of last week. That will rise to 36 by the end of this week. All 50 have now committed to opening eligibility to all adults by May 1, Biden's previous goal. CNN reported that Biden is expected to credit governors' effort to meet his earlier deadline for the updated goal.

Biden's administration has been racing to put shots in arms before a new outbreak erupts, as fresh variants of the

virus that are more easily transmitted — and possibly more harmful once caught — spread throughout the U.S. One variant, known as B.1.1.7 and originally found in the U.K., is now the dominant variant in regions holding two-thirds of the U.S. population.

The head of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has warned of “impending doom” as cases have begun to rise again, fueled in part by states lifting some or all of their restrictions.

Anthony Fauci, a Biden medical adviser, said Tuesday that cases are increasing but don't yet amount to a full new surge.

“There clearly is an increase,” Fauci, who is the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told MSNBC on Tuesday. “The difference factor that's going on right now, that were different from the surges that we saw last year, is that we have a highly efficacious vaccine now.”

World powers seek to bring US back into Iran nuclear deal

Associated Press

VIENNA — Officials from five world powers began a new effort Tuesday to try to bring the United States back into the foundering 2015 nuclear deal they signed with Iran, a delicate diplomatic dance that needs to balance the concerns and interests of both Washington and Tehran.

The meeting in Vienna of envoys from Russia, China, Germany, France, Britain and Iran came as the U.S. was due to start its own indirect talks with Iran. It would be one of the first signs of tangible progress in efforts to return both nations to the accord, which restricted Iran's nuclear program in return for relief from U.S. and international sanctions.

Following the closed meetings of the signatories to the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, Russia's delegate, Mikhail Ulyanov, tweeted that the initial talks were “successful.”

“The restoration of JCPOA will not happen immediately. It will take some time. How long? Nobody knows,” he wrote. “The most important

thing after today's meeting of the Joint Commission is that practical work towards achieving this goal has started.”

In 2018, then-President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. unilaterally out of the accord, opting for what he called a maximum-pressure campaign involving restored and additional American sanctions.

Since then, Iran has been steadily violating restrictions in the deal, like the amount of enriched uranium that it can stockpile and the purity to which it can be enriched.

Tehran's moves have been calculated to pressure the other nations in the deal to do more to offset crippling U.S. sanctions reimposed under Trump.

President Joe Biden, who was vice president under Barack Obama when the original deal was negotiated, has said he wants to bring the U.S. back into the JCPOA but that Iran must reverse its violations.

Iran argues that the U.S. violated the deal first with its withdrawal, so Washington has to take the first step by lifting sanctions.

Biden infrastructure plan boosted by Senate rules

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With an appeal to think big, President Joe Biden is promoting his \$2.3 trillion infrastructure plan directly to Americans, summoning public support to push past the Republicans lining up against the massive effort they sum up as big taxes, big spending and big government.

Republicans in Congress are making the politically brazen bet that it's more advantageous to oppose the costly American Jobs Plan, saddling the Democrats with ownership of the sweeping proposal and the corporate tax hike Biden says is needed to pay for

it. He wants the investments in roads, schools, broadband and clean energy approved by summer.

On Monday, Biden received a boost from an unexpected source. The Senate parliamentarian greenlighted a strategy that would allow Democrats in the evenly split 50-50 chamber to rely on a 51-vote threshold to advance some bills, rather than the 60 votes typically needed. The so-called budget reconciliation rules can now be used more often than expected — giving Democrats a fresh new path around the GOP blockade.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's

spokesman welcomed the parliamentarian's opinion as “an important step forward.” Spokesman Justin Goodman said no decisions have been made on the process ahead, but “this key pathway is available to Democrats if needed.”

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell declared plainly on Monday that Biden's plan is “something we're not going to do.”

Speaking to reporters in Kentucky, McConnell said Republicans could support a “much more modest” approach, and one that doesn't rely on corporate tax hikes to pay for it.

Lawyer: Man charged with aiding ISIS no threat

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

Prosecutors say a Tennessee man has been helping spread Islamic State propaganda, but a defense attorney told a judge the man is living with his mother and isn't a threat.

Benjamin Alan Carpenter, dubbed "Abu Hamza," was arrested in Knoxville, Tenn., on March 24 after a grand jury indicted him on charges of attempting to provide material support and resources to ISIS, the Justice Department announced Monday, following a detention hearing before U.S. Magistrate Judge Debra C. Poplin.

Carpenter remains in custody pending Poplin's decision on whether to hold him until his trial, which is set for June 1.

Carpenter is the leader of Ahlut-Tawhid Publications, which translates and publishes pro-

ISIS content and official ISIS media in English, the Justice Department said. He provided English translations of ISIS content to someone he believed was affiliated with the terrorist group, but who was actually an undercover FBI employee, it said.

But Carpenter has not traveled to meet with ISIS members outside the U.S. and mostly works from a bedroom in his mother's home in Knox County, his attorney said at the hearing, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported.

"Assistant Federal Defender Benjamin Sharp countered Monday that Carpenter was part nerd, part loser, but hardly a danger in need of pretrial detention," the newspaper reported.

Sharp described his client as someone who spends most days on a computer in the bedroom, where he's lived for more than

two years since breaking up with a girlfriend. He has no bank account, no car and works a few hours a week as a pet sitter.

Carpenter's mother has promised to shut down her internet, get rid of her cellphone and watch over her son if the judge lets him out of pretrial detention, the newspaper reported. He previously chatted with ISIS online, at least once using her computer, prosecutors said.

Carpenter has been under FBI scrutiny since at least 2015 and is on the no-fly list, the local newspaper reported.

"We've known about him five years," Assistant U.S. Attorney Casey Arrowood said at the hearing. "He's evolved over time."

He's grown more radicalized and popular among terrorist leaders seeking to recruit American Muslims, Arrowood said.

The media company he found-

ed produces videos and newsletters promoting terrorist causes, idolizing terrorist leaders as celebrities and treating beheadings as justice, prosecutors said.

Fluent in Arabic, Carpenter provides translation services and "regularly communicated" with ISIS leaders and recruiters through encrypted messaging services, Arrowood said.

The charge arises from his activities sometime at the end of January and early February, an unsealed indictment states. The newspaper reported that he translated a violent ISIS training video.

The FBI has been investigating Carpenter's media business since a 2015 raid of the Virginia home where he'd been living with his then-girlfriend, Sharp said.

Poplin is expected to decide within days whether to keep Carpenter in custody.

Police official says Chauvin trained to defuse situations

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Four years before George Floyd's death, Officer Derek Chauvin took a 40-hour course on crisis intervention that included training on how to recognize people in crisis and how to use de-escalation techniques to calm them down, the jury at Chauvin's murder trial was told Tuesday.

Sgt. Ker Yang, the Minneapolis police official in charge of training officers on handling crises, became the latest member of the department to take the stand as prosecutors try to prove that Chauvin failed to follow his training when he put his knee on Floyd's neck.

Yang said on day seven of Chauvin's trial that officers are taught to make critical decisions in dealing with people in crisis, including those suffering mental problems or the effects of

drug use, and then defuse the situation. Prosecutor Steve Schleicher said records show that Chauvin attended a course on the method in 2016.

"When we talk about fast-evolving situations ... a lot of the time we have the time to slow things down and reevaluate and reassess and go through this model," Yang said.

Chauvin, 45, is charged with murder and manslaughter in Floyd's death May 25. The 46-year-old Black man was pinned to the pavement outside a neighborhood market after being accused of trying to pass a counterfeit \$20 bill for a pack of cigarettes.

Floyd's treatment by the white officer was captured on widely seen bystander video that sparked protests around the U.S. that descended into violence in some cases.

'Stay out of politics,' McConnell tells CEOs critical of voting law

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell says it's a "big lie" to call the new voting law in Georgia racist and he warned big business to "stay out of politics" after major corporations and even Major League Baseball distanced themselves from the state amid vast public pressure.

McConnell particularly slammed President Joe Biden's criticism that the Georgia bill was restrictive and a return to Jim Crow-era restrictions in the Southern states aimed at limiting ballot access for Black Americans.

"It's simply not true," McConnell told reporters Monday.

The choice by the GOP leader to dive into voting politics lends heft to efforts nationwide to install strict new voting laws after Donald Trump's false claims of fraud that cost him the election to Biden. The new laws are aimed at scaling back early voting and other options that became wildly popular during the pandemic.

Speaking in Kentucky, McConnell said Monday it's simply "not accurate" to say the Georgia law is making it more difficult to vote.

McConnell also criticized Biden for criticizing the law, saying the president's claims had been fact-checked as false.

"The President has claimed repeatedly that state-level debates over voting procedures are worse than Jim Crow or 'Jim Crow on steroids.' Nobody actually believes this," McConnell said in a lengthy statement earlier Monday.

"Nobody really thinks this current dispute comes anywhere near the horrific racist brutality of segregation."

McConnell more pointedly warned the big businesses that have been responding to public pressure on their corporate actions not to give in to the advocacy campaigns. Last week, Delta, Coca-Cola and other companies spoke critically of the new law in Georgia and baseball announced it was moving the All-Star Game from the state.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man scaling bank loses grip and falls to ground

NY NEW YORK — A man attempting to scale the outside of a New York City building lost his grip and fell back down to the ground below.

Video posted online showed the man, apparently one of a group of demonstrators, climbing along the side of the entrance to JPMorgan Chase Bank headquarters at Madison Avenue and 46th Street in midtown Manhattan. Another man spray-painted letters onto the building, as others could be heard chanting.

As he climbed, another man on the street could be heard telling him to get down. As the climber attempted to get to the metal awning over the entrance, he slipped and fell, landing on his side.

The New York City Fire Department said he was taken to the hospital. His condition wasn't clear.

State asks residents to send ticks for research

MO SPRINGFIELD — Missouri conservation officials are asking people to save the ticks they come across while tromping through the woods and toss them in the mail.

The Missouri Department of Conservation and A.T. Still University in Kirksville have partnered in a two-year research study. It begins this month and will conclude in September 2022, the Springfield News-Leader reported.

The goal is to better understand statewide distribution of tick species and the pathogens they carry. Some of the pathogens can make people sick.

Future is unclear for bovine who escaped

RI JOHNSTON — The future is uncertain for a 1,600-pound steer that enjoyed an extended reprieve from the slaughterhouse after escaping in Rhode Island.

Skylands Animal Sanctuary & Rescue announced that the owner decided to sell the steer that had amused Rhode Islanders by its ability to elude capture in Johnston and Providence.

"We don't know where the steer will end up, but we hope he is safe and will be happy," the sanctuary announced on social media.

The steer escaped Feb. 4 from a slaughterhouse in Johnston, R.I., and was on the lam for over a month. The steer's freedom ended when the Connecticut owner recaptured him on March 26.

City plans banners to honor its vets, troops

MA HAVERHILL — Haverhill is planning to honor its veterans as well as city residents currently serving in the military this Memorial Day with banners throughout the downtown area.

The Hometown Heroes program is being led by the Haverhill Exchange Club with support from Veterans Services Officer Luis Santiago and the VFW and AmVets organizations.

"The banner program serves as a visual reminder of the sacrifice our hometown heroes past and present have and continue to make," Exchange Club President Thea Tsagaris told The Eagle-Tribune.

The banners are made of vinyl and measure 2 feet by 4 feet.

Each one includes the image of the person honored, their name and a brief biography.

Police collect 40 guns in local buyback event

GA ALBANY — A Georgia police department said it collected a few dozen firearms during a gun buyback event.

Police in Albany handed out \$4,500 worth of gift cards in exchange for 40 guns during the four-hour event outside the Albany Civic Center, WALB-TV reported.

People exchanging weapons traded in handguns, long rifles and even a sawed-off shotgun.

Albany Police Capt. Benita Childs said gun owners she spoke with during the buyback seemed to be responsible people, with some saying they wanted weapons out of their homes to protect their grandchildren.

Man accused of killing horse to prevent seizure

NV RENO — Sheriff's deputies have arrested a 54-year-old Reno man they said killed a horse on his property to prevent animal control officers from seizing the malnourished animal.

John Forrest Smith was booked into the Washoe County Jail for suspicion of willfully maiming, torturing or killing an animal.

KOLO-TV reported that animal control officers said they've had ongoing problems with Smith.

They asked the Washoe County's sheriff's office for assistance when they went to seize a malnourished horse from a home on the north edge of Reno near the Bonanza Casino.

Lincoln statue moved to Civil War battlefield

KY PRESTONSBURG — A replica statue of Abraham Lincoln in Kentucky has been moved to a permanent home at a Civil War battlefield.

Floyd County Judge-Executive Robert Williams told WYMT-TV that the statue is now at the Middle Creek Battlefield in Prestonsburg. The site is where Union forces halted a Confederate advance into Kentucky in 1862.

The statue depicting the president seated is a replica of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington.

It was removed in 2019 from the law office of Eric C. Conn, who was sentenced to 12 years in prison for the largest Social Security fraud in history. Conn fled the country but was caught in Honduras and sentenced to an additional 15 years.

Custer State Park sees 1st bison calf of season

SD CUSTER — The first bison calf of the season has been born in Custer State Park.

The calf was born March 31, KELO-TV reported. It's the first of 475 calves expected to be born at the park this year.

The park saw about 450 bison births last year. The average number of births in the past five years has been about 425.

This year's calves will grow the park's herd to about 1,450 bison. The oldest bison in herd this year was 22 years old, said Kobbie Stalder, the park's visitor services program manager.

— From wire reports



Single source convenience, reliably independent. Visit www.stripes.com.

Reporting World, National and Military News

Baylor wins title, hands Zags first loss

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — There was another team out there that was marching through the season undefeated, that looked unstoppable at times, that had all arrows pointing toward a national title.

COVID-19 put a halt to the undefeated dream. Nothing could stop Baylor from cutting down the nets.

Not even Gonzaga.

The fresh-as-can-be Bears obliterated wobbly-legged Gonzaga's march to its own undefeated season Monday night. It was an 86-70 runaway that brought this once-downtrodden program's first national title back home to Waco, Texas.

Jared Butler scored 22 points and MaCio Teague had 19 for the Bears (28-2), who were ranked second or third in the AP poll all year long. But never first. That was because of one team and maybe, just maybe, because of a three-week break that put a halt to a 17-0 start and sapped some of Baylor's burgeoning momentum.

"Prior to COVID, us and Gonzaga were on the track to being undefeated," coach Scott Drew

reminded everyone in the socially distanced arena, during a TV interview, while brushing off confetti.

So maybe this blowout in one of the most-anticipated finals in memory — a meeting between teams whose own regular-season matchup in December was scrapped because of a coronavirus outbreak — shouldn't come as such a shock.

The two losses that came after Baylor's COVID-19 break in February felt like a far-off memory come March. Then came April, and the feeling grew even stronger.

Baylor outscored all six of its opponents in the tournament by an average of 15 points. It beat Houston by 19 in the semifinal. Less than 5 minutes into the final, the Bears were ahead of Gonzaga by double digits.

Pounding the offensive glass — Baylor won that battle 16-5 — and winning the lion's share of the 50-50 balls, the Bears weren't about to let this one come down to a Jalen Suggs miracle. The Gonzaga freshman's buzzer-beater from near the half-court logo got the Zags to the final in a game that stood as their

first true test of the season.

They passed against UCLA. Against Baylor? Not even close.

"When you come against a team that's just firing on all cylinders for 40 minutes, it's kind of hard to compete with," Zags forward Corey Kispert said.

After running to a 19-point lead early, the Bears never let Gonzaga get any closer than nine. Butler made four three-pointers and added seven assists, and was named the Final Four's most outstanding player.

"I knew at some point, we were up big," said Butler, who insisted his team wasn't focused on the scoreboard. "We were scoring, they weren't scoring. It was just electrifying."

Guard Davion Mitchell — nicknamed "Off Night" because so many opponents encounter one when they go against him — finished with 15 points and did the best he could on Suggs. The freshman finished with 22 points, most of them after this game was out of hand, and likely will be heading to the NBA Draft next.

Gonzaga's first loss in 32 games this season — 36 dating

to 2019-20 — leaves Indiana's 1975-76 team as the last to go undefeated.

Baylor was up 9-0 after 2½ minutes, and the Bulldogs faced only their fourth double-digit deficit of the season at 11-1. They faced their biggest deficit of the season — 15 points — with 7:10 gone. By then, Suggs had two fouls and was watching from the bench.

After the game, he was crying — burying his head on the shoulder of one teammate, then another.

"He's a winner and he lost for the first time in college basketball," Zags coach Mark Few said. "He's highly competitive and doesn't like losing. In his mind, he saw us cutting down nets."

But more than anything he did in the title game, it was Suggs' memorable basket two nights earlier that laid the groundwork for Gonzaga in this one. His bank shot at the buzzer vs. UCLA capped one of the most riveting college basketball games ever. Back on the floor about 46 hours after that emotional roller coaster, it was clear the Zags were gassed.

Tar Heels turn to assistant Davis as new head coach

Associated Press

North Carolina didn't have to look far to find the successor to Hall of Fame coach Roy Williams or someone with a strong connection to the storied men's basketball program.

The school turned to former Tar Heels player and assistant coach Hubert Davis as head coach Monday, the promotion coming four days after Williams' emotional retirement news conference.

The 50-year-old Davis played under Dean Smith before a long NBA career, and he also spent the past nine seasons working under Williams.

The school announced the

hiring after an emergency meeting Monday by its board of trustees, with Davis' introductory news conference planned for Tuesday.

"I love this university," Davis said in a statement. "I played here, I earned my degree here, I fell in love with my wife here, I got married here, I moved here after I retired from the NBA and I have raised my family here. I am proud to lead this team, and I can't wait for all that comes next."

Williams retired after 18 seasons at his alma mater in a career that also included 15 years at Kansas and 903 overall victories. All three of his NCAA

championships came with the Tar Heels.

The school has long had a history of turning to people with UNC ties to lead its program, which owns six NCAA championships. It has worked before, with longtime assistant Bill Guthridge taking over after Smith's 1997 retirement and leading the Tar Heels to two Final Fours, as well as Williams' return from Kansas in 2003.

But it didn't work during the three-year tumultuous tenure of Matt Doherty — including an 8-20 season in 2002 — after Williams turned down the job following Guthridge's retire-

ment in 2000.

The Tar Heels are staying in the "Carolina family" again, this time by turning to a trusted former player who has never been a college head coach. His hiring also marks a groundbreaking moment as the first Black coach in the history of the program.

"I am honored and humbled to be given the opportunity to lead this program," Davis said. "I would not be here without Coach Dean Smith, Coach Bill Guthridge and Coach Roy Williams; they taught me so much — and I'm eager to walk their path in my shoes and with my personality."

Full crowd watches Texas lose

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Steven Matz sensed the buzz from fans when warming up before his Toronto debut, then helped the Blue Jays ruin the home opener for the Texas Rangers before the largest MLB crowd since the pandemic.

Rangers fans didn't have much to cheer about, other than just finally getting to see their team play a regular-season game in the retractable-roof stadium that opened last year.

Marcus Semien and Cavan Biggio hit back-to-back homers early for the Blue Jays and Matz struck out nine while allowing only one run over 6 ½ innings in a 6-2 win Monday.

"It was definitely cool, that extra little adrenaline warming up and getting into the game," Matz said. "It was fun. It felt really good to have fans in the stands."

The Rangers announced a sellout crowd of 38,283 for their 50th home opener in Texas, the second in \$1.2 billion Globe Life Field that has a listed capacity of 40,518 — the announced attendance doesn't include complimentary tickets. They played all 30 home games in the stadium's debut season without fans last summer.

Major League Baseball allowed about 28%

capacity for the National League Championship Series and World Series games that were played there exclusively last October, with the largest crowd being 11,472. The Rangers said last month they would allow full capacity after Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's order that allowed businesses in the state to operate at 100% capacity.

"It felt like a real game. It felt like back to the old days when we had full capacity," Rangers manager Chris Woodward said. "Was hoping we'd see how loud our stadium got if we gave them something to cheer about. Unfortunately we didn't do that."

Toronto, 3-1 for the first time since 2015, was ahead 4-0 in the second. Biggio went deep to right after a two-out, two-run shot by Semien off Texas starter Mike Foltynewicz (0-1).

Matz (1-0) allowed only two hits, walked one and hit one batter in an outing longer than any of the lefty's six starts last season while going 0-5 for the New York Mets, who traded him to Toronto in January. He ended his day with four consecutive strikeouts.

"That's the way he pitched in spring training... In command the whole time, that's what we need," Blue Jays manager Charlie Montoyo said. "First start for the Blue Jays, it was awesome."

All-Star Game moved to Denver

Associated Press

DENVER—Major League Baseball plans to relocate the All-Star Game to Coors Field in Denver after pulling this year's game from Atlanta over objections to sweeping changes to Georgia's voting laws, according to a person familiar with the decision.

The person spoke to Associated Press on the condition of anonymity Monday night because MLB hadn't announced the move yet. The commissioner's office was expected to declare Tuesday that the Rockies will host the game.

ESPN was first to report the decision.

MLB pulled the July 13 game from Truist Park in Atlanta in response to Georgia voting rules that Republican Gov. Brian Kemp quickly signed into law March 25. Critics, including the CEOs of Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines and Coca-Cola, have condemned the changes as being too restrictive.

The Georgia law includes new limits on voting by mail and greater legislative control over how elections are run, amid a push in Republican-led states to reduce voting options after former president Donald Trump made baseless claims of widespread fraud in last year's election.

Stanton's grand slam propels Yankees past Orioles

Associated Press

NEW YORK— Giancarlo Stanton hit a grand slam over the visitors' bullpen that landed in the left-bleachers 471 feet from home plate, helping New York hand Baltimore its first loss this season, 7-0.

New York was ahead 1-0 on Aaron Judge's fourth-inning homer when starter Jorge López (0-1) walked the bases loaded in the fifth, and Shawn Armstrong forced in a run with a walk to slumping Aaron Hicks.

Stanton sent a 92 mph fastball soaring for the longest home run of the young major league season and his eighth career slam.

New York improved to 8-0 when Judge and Stanton homered in the same game, including three postseason wins.

Left-hander Jordan Montgomery (1-0) allowed four hits

in six innings with seven strikeouts and no walks.

Dodgers 10, Athletics 3: Will Smith homered off the left-field foul pole, Corey Seager and Zach McKinstry each drove in three runs and visiting Los Angeles pounded winless Oakland.

Angels 7, Astros 6: Mike Trout hit his first home run of the season and Shohei Ohtani came off the bench to score the go-ahead run during an eighth-inning rally that sent host Los Angeles past Houston.

Giants 3, Padres 2: Pinch-hitter Mike Yastrzemski connected for a go-ahead homer in the seventh inning to lead visiting San Francisco over San Diego, which lost star shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr. to a partially dislocated left shoulder.

Cubs 5, Brewers 3: Willson Contreras, Javier Báez and David Bote homered during a four-

run fourth inning to lift host Chicago over Milwaukee.

Phillies 5, Mets 3: A throwing error by New York third baseman Luis Guillorme allowed the go-ahead runs to score, and host Philadelphia used a five-run eighth inning to rally past New York after Jacob deGrom dominated through six.

Reds 5, Pirates 3: Nick Castellanos hit a go-ahead homer in the seventh inning just hours after deciding to appeal a two-game suspension for his part in a brawl, and host Cincinnati beat Pittsburgh.

Red Sox 11, Rays 2: Xander Bogaerts had four hits, including a Little League home run — a double, with two ill-advised throws that allowed him to score — and host Boston got on the board with 16 hits and its first win of the season.

Royals 3, Indians 0: Danny

Duffy pitched six innings of two-hit ball to beat a longtime nemesis and Whit Merrifield drove in all of visiting Kansas City's runs with a homer and sacrifice fly.

Twins 15, Tigers 6: Nelson Cruz hit a grand slam after a near miss and added a solo homer and a double, Matt Shoemaker held host Detroit hitless into the fifth inning and Minnesota rolled.

Cardinals 4, Marlins 1: Yadier Molina hit a bases-loaded double during a three-run first inning, and Daniel Ponce de Leon and St. Louis bullpen protected the lead against host Miami.

White Sox 6, Mariners 0: Yermín Mercedes continued his early tear with three more hits, Carlos Rodon struck out nine and Chicago held host Seattle to three hits.

Jets deal Darnold to Panthers for picks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sam Darnold was the face of a hopeful franchise, a promising playmaker who might just be the New York Jets' quarterback for at least the next decade.

It took only three years for that dream to fizzle and fade into disappointment.

Darnold was traded Monday to the Carolina Panthers, ending months of speculation and a stint in New York that was marked by a few flashes of brilliance, inconsistent play and unfortunate injuries.

And with the rebooting Jets holding the No. 2 overall pick in

the NFL Draft, they're likely moving on to another young signal-caller — perhaps BYU's Zach Wilson or Ohio State's Justin Fields — who they hope will deliver the team back to respectability.

New York acquired a sixth-round pick in this year's draft and second- and fourth-round picks in the 2022 draft. That gives them 21 selections over the next two drafts, with seven of them coming in the first two rounds.

Meanwhile, the 23-year-old Darnold gets a much-needed change of scenery and a new opportunity in Carolina, where

he'll also be reunited with wide receiver Robby Anderson. The quarterback could also quickly seek some measure of revenge this season when the Panthers host the Jets.

"I like his toughness," Panthers general manager Scott Fitterer said. "He can move in the pocket and make plays down the field with his arm. All of those really stood out about him. I think in this offense with Matt Rhule and Joe Brady, that he can really take that next step."

Darnold was considered an untouchable player on the Jets' roster in his second season, but

it became clear they could move on when GM Joe Douglas backed off that stance in March. Douglas praised Darnold, but acknowledged he would answer calls from teams interested in acquiring him.

The market for Darnold didn't appear as robust as the Jets had hoped. But the speculation New York would move on from the young QB only intensified when Douglas, new coach Robert Saleh and offensive coordinator Mike LaFleur all traveled to Provo, Utah, to watch quarterback Wilson's impressive passing display at BYU's pro day on March 26.

Sanheim's overtime goal lifts Flyers over Bruins

Associated Press

BOSTON — Travis Sanheim scored 3:08 into overtime, and the Philadelphia Flyers beat Boston 3-2 on Monday night after losing their first five meetings with the Bruins this season.

The Flyers moved within three points of Boston for the final playoff spot in the NHL's East Division.

Travis Konecny and Sean Couturier also scored for Philadelphia, and Brian Elliott stopped 27 shots. The Flyers were 2-4-2 in their previous eight games.

Patrice Bergeron had a second-period goal for Boston that moved him into fourth on the club's career scoring list with 899 points, one ahead of Rick Middleton.

Karson Kuhlman also scored for the Bruins, who have collected at least a point in seven of their last nine games (5-2-2). Dan Vladar made 29 saves.

Avalanche 5, Wild 4: Nathan MacKinnon, Andre Burakovsky, Brandon Saad and J.T. Compher scored during their team's four-goal second period,

and visiting Colorado extended its league-best points streak to 15 games.

The franchise record is 16 outings with a point from Dec. 27, 2000-Jan. 30, 2001.

Coyotes 5, Kings 2: Michael Bunting scored three times, and visiting Arizona earned its third straight win.

Canadiens 3, Oilers 2 (OT): Eric Staal scored in overtime in his debut with his new team, giving host Montreal a come-from-behind win.

Staal played on a line with Jonathan Drouin and Tyler Toffoli. He was acquired in a trade with Buffalo on March 26.

Jets 4, Senators 3: Pierre-Luc Dubois scored twice to lead host Winnipeg to the victory.

Golden Knights 6, Blues 1: Alec Martinez scored two goals and William Carrier added a goal and an assist, sparking visiting Vegas to the victory.

Maple Leafs 5, Flames 3: Auston Matthews scored twice for visiting Toronto, and Jack Campbell made 26 saves to tie a franchise record with his ninth straight win.

Nets lose Harden, beat Knicks as Irving nets 40

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kyrie Irving scored 40 points, Jeff Green made two free throws with 3.7 seconds left and the Brooklyn Nets overcome the early loss of James Harden to beat the New York Knicks 114-112 on Monday night.

Harden returned after missing two games with right hamstring tightness but lasted just four minutes before having to leave again with the same injury.

But even short-handed and on the second night of a back-to-back, the Nets had enough.

"It was a total team effort," Irving said. "A lot of guys stepped up, especially our bench. They came in and made a difference, and when we got guys out, injury bug, we need that more than ever."

Irving wore down the Knicks' defense with his dazzling dribbling moves that freed up space for jumpers, including a three-pointer with 59 seconds left after New York had closed within two.

"He's just an amazing basketball player and he found a way to keep our team in it for big

stretches," coach Steve Nash said, "and a lot of guys played really well when he was out, gave us a lift and then he was able to come in and close. So brilliant performance and really gutsy from everybody."

Suns 133, Rockets 130: Devin Booker scored 18 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter, and visiting Phoenix beat Houston for its sixth straight win.

Cavaliers 125, Spurs 101: Darius Garland scored a career-high 37 points, and visiting Cleveland beat San Antonio to snap a five-game skid.

Pistons 132, Thunder 108: Jerami Grant scored 21 points against his former team, and visiting Detroit beat Oklahoma City.

Mavericks 111, Jazz 103: Luka Doncic scored 31 points and Dorian Finney-Smith added a season-high 23 as host Dallas beat Utah for its season-best fifth straight win.

Raptors 103, Wizards 101: Gary Trent Jr. beat the buzzer with a long three-pointer and Toronto rallied from a 19-point second-half deficit to beat Washington.