

## Guard missions in DC trigger frustration

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Three months after more than 25,000 National Guard troops poured into the nation's capital to secure President Joe Biden's inauguration, Defense Department and Guard officials are losing patience and are denying some of the city's recurring requests for troops to protect D.C.

According to defense officials, the Army on Monday approved only about a quarter of the Guard troops requested by city officials to provide security in case of unrest after the upcoming verdict in the trial of former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin. The D.C. National Guard confirmed that acting Army Secretary John Whitley has approved the deployment of 250 troops, but officials said the city's initial request was for as many as 1,000.

Whitley's decision came after days of debate and discussion over the city's April 8 request that sought six teams to monitor Metro stops, Guard members to staff 30 traffic checkpoints and a quick reaction

force "of at least 300 guardsmen to be staged at the D.C. Armory with the ability to respond within thirty (30) minutes to a request for assistance."

The request, signed by Christopher Rodriguez, director of the city's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, was sent to the D.C. Guard's commander, Maj. Gen. William Walker. The troops would be unarmed, and he asked that they be ready to start Monday.

"There is the potential for First Amendment demonstrations to occur in the District of Columbia in response to the verdict," Rodriguez said. "These demonstrations are congruent with the demonstrations that occurred during 2020, where the District saw a large influx of participants and general disorder and criminal activity."

The request, however, has been met with frustration from Defense and Guard officials who believe the city is relying too heavily on National Guard troops and should instead be seeking support from

federal law enforcement agencies in the region. And tension is flaring as the city braces once again for potential demonstrations and unrest.

Federal authorities were warily watching as lawyers finished closing arguments Monday in the Chauvin trial in Minneapolis, and were preparing for the possibility of unrest if the jury does not reach a guilty verdict. Chauvin is facing murder and manslaughter charges in the death of George Floyd. Prosecutors argued that he squeezed the life out of Floyd by pinning his knee against Floyd's neck last May.

In the wake of the deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, states around the nation sent about 26,000 Guard troops to D.C. to help secure Biden's inauguration.

But as weeks went by, divisions over the treatment of some Guard members — including complaints about food, resting areas and overcrowding amid COVID-19 fears — began to fester, and state leaders started pulling their troops home or openly opposing additional extensions.

## Pentagon says Russia massing troops near Ukraine

**By JOHN VANDIVER**

*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — Russia's military presence along the border with Ukraine is larger than the force used during Moscow's 2014 invasion of that country, the Pentagon said this week as tensions in the region continue to escalate.

"We do continue to see that buildup," Pentagon spokesman John Kirby told reporters Monday. "We call on the Russians to cease their provocations and to contribute to better security and stability there. And they can start by being more transparent about what their intentions are and what they're doing."

The size of the force along Ukraine's borders "is certainly bigger" than in 2014, Kirby said, although he refused to speculate on the number of Russian troops in the region.

Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in early 2014, and later that year sent troops into eastern Ukraine to support pro-Russian separatists. Despite Kyiv and Mos-

cow agreeing to numerous cease-fires, the war in the east of Ukraine escalated sharply last month, when four Ukrainian soldiers were killed in fighting in the Donetsk region.

The European Union on Monday put the size of the Russian force near Ukraine at "more than 100,000."

"The risk of further escalation is evident," EU foreign affairs chief Joseph Borrell told reporters in Brussels.

The Russian presence is "the highest military deployment of the Russian army in the Ukrainian borders, ever," Borrell said. He initially estimated there were about 150,000 troops near the border, but the EU adjusted that figure downward, to around 100,000.

The buildup coincides with a plan announced last week by Moscow to block the movement of foreign naval ships in and out of the Kerch Strait, a strategic passage between the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, which has been a focal point of tensions in the past.

"This represents yet another unprovoked escalation in Moscow's ongoing campaign to undermine and destabilize Ukraine," State Department spokesman Ned Price said in a statement Monday, citing Russia's recent history of impeding access to Ukraine ports in the area.

In 2018, Russian forces fired on Ukrainian vessels trying to transit the Kerch Strait and took more than 20 Ukrainian sailors prisoner.

In recent weeks, worries about Russia massing forces near Ukraine led U.S. European Command in Stuttgart to raise its threat level for the region from possible crisis to potential imminent crisis.

But EUCOM Chief Gen. Tod Wolters told lawmakers in Washington on Thursday that chances of a new invasion were "low to medium" and the risk could be fading.

"My sense is, with the trend that I see right now, the likelihood of an occurrence will start to wane," Wolters said.

# Coast Guard command choice breaks barriers

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Vice Adm. Linda L. Fagan has been nominated by the White House to serve as the next vice commandant of the Coast Guard, which would make her the first female four-star admiral in the service, the Coast Guard announced Monday.

A 1985 Coast Guard Academy graduate, Fagan now serves as commander of the Coast Guard Pacific Area. She is also the service's first-ever Gold Ancient Trident, which is the officer with the longest service record in the marine safety field, according to the Coast Guard statement issued Monday.

Adm. Karl L. Schultz, the commandant of the Coast Guard, said in the statement that Fagan is “an outstanding leader with 36 years of Coast Guard operations, policy-making, joint service and interagency experience.”

“Throughout her distinguished career, she has been a top performer and a trailblazer,” he said. “As the Coast Guard’s first female four-star admiral and President [Joe] Biden’s nominee to serve as the Coast Guard’s 32nd vice commandant, Adm. Fagan will be instrumental in moving the service forward at a critical juncture in our history.”

In her current position, Fagan oversees

all Coast Guard missions from the Rocky Mountains to the East Coast of Africa, according to the service. She also serves as commander of Defense Force West and provides Coast Guard mission support to the Defense Department and combatant commanders.

Under Fagan’s leadership, the service has expanded its presence and engagement in the Western Pacific in the face of growing threats from China and North Korea.

In 2019, the Coast Guard sent two cutters to support freedom-of-navigation and police ship-to-ship transfers that are barred by international sanctions from entering North Korea. Also that year, the Coast Guard sent a cutter through the Taiwan Strait for the first time, challenging Beijing’s claims to the waterway.

Also during Fagan’s tenure, the Coast Guard began “strategically homeporting” its newest fast-response cutters in Guam to police Chinese illegal fishing in the region. When announcing the move in October, national security adviser Robert O’Brien said the illegal fishing “threatens our sovereignty, as well as the sovereignty of our Pacific neighbors and endangers regional stability.”

Fagan will take over for Adm. Charles W. Ray on June 18, the Coast Guard said.

# Sigonella earns top Navy JROTC academic title

BY KENT HARRIS  
*Stars and Stripes*

They’re not the biggest, but they might be the brightest.

A five-member team from Sigonella High School has taken top prize in the 2021 Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps academic competition for the first time in the school’s history.

Seniors Eliza Moore, Noah Bachicha and Katherine Payne, junior Norman Nguyen and sophomore Allison Havard made up the team.

Each had to take an online test in March with 70 questions featuring an array of general academic and Navy-specific topics.

“This is a big deal for any program,” said Victor Martinez-Frias, who runs the program at the school. It’s even more significant at Sigonella because it has the smallest program in the Navy with only 31 students, he said.

Moore, who plans to study political science at Duke University this fall, said the test felt similar to taking the SAT.

She credited her team’s success to “a lot of studying, a lot of talking to each other, quizzing each other and just putting in the work. It was a total team effort.”

Sigonella, part of an NJROTC area that includes Italy, Spain and the northeastern United States, has entered the competition every year since 1996. There are 10 other NJROTC areas, with those from Japan and Guam grouped with states from the northwestern U.S.

Chapin High School from South Carolina was second this year, while Pacifica High School from Garden Grove, Calif., came in third.

# Marine injures another when firearm accidentally discharges

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — A Marine at Camp Lejeune, N.C., shot another Marine last week when he accidentally discharged a firearm in a barracks building, Navy investigators said.

A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, discharged the firearm Thursday evening, injuring the other Marine who

was taken to Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune with non-life-threatening injuries, 1st Lt. Dan Linfante, a spokesman for the 2nd Marine Division, said in a statement Monday.

The injured Marine has been released from the hospital and has been deemed “completely stable” by medical officials, Linfante said.

Naval Criminal Investigative Service is

investigating the incident.

An NCIS spokesperson said the shooter and the victim were both men, and the preliminary findings indicate it was an accidental shooting. No charges have been filed in connection with the shooting.

The 2nd Marine Division and NCIS have not said what type of gun was fired, or whether the firearm was personally owned or a service weapon.

# Jurors weigh Chauvin's fate; Biden weighs in

*Associated Press*

MINNEAPOLIS — The jurors who sat off-camera through three weeks of draining testimony in Derek Chauvin's murder trial in George Floyd's death were in the spotlight Tuesday, still out of sight but now in control of verdicts awaited by a skittish city.

The jury of six white people and six people who are Black or multiracial resumed deliberations in the morning.

Anonymous by order of the judge and sequestered now until they reach a verdict, they spent just a few hours on their task Monday after the day was mostly consumed by closing arguments in which prosecutors argued that Chauvin squeezed the life out of Floyd last May in a way that even a child knew was wrong.

The defense contended that the now-fired white officer acted reasonably and that the 46-year-old Floyd died of a heart condition and illegal drug use.

In Washington, President Joe Biden said Tuesday that he is "praying the verdict is the right verdict" and that he believes the case to be "overwhelming." He also said he called

Floyd's family Monday and "can only imagine the pressure and anxiety they're feeling."

The president has repeatedly denounced Floyd's death but had previously stopped short of weighing in on the trial itself.

Chauvin, 45, is charged with second-degree murder, third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter, all of which require the jury to conclude that his actions were a "substantial causal factor" in Floyd's death and that his use of force was unreasonable.

The most serious charge carries up to 40 years in prison.

"Use your common sense. Believe your eyes. What you saw, you saw," prosecutor Steve Schleicher said in closing arguments at the widely televised trial, referring to the bystander video of Floyd pinned to the pavement with Chauvin's knee on or close to his neck for up to 9 minutes, 29 seconds, as onlookers yelled at the officer to get off.

Chauvin attorney Eric Nelson countered by arguing that Chauvin did what any reasonable police officer would have done after finding himself in a "dynamic" and "fluid" situation involving a large man struggling with three of-

ficers.

With the case drawing to a close, some stores were boarded up in Minneapolis. The courthouse was ringed with concrete barriers and razor wire, and National Guard troops were on patrol.

Prosecutor Jerry Blackwell had the final word Monday, offering the state's rebuttal argument. The prosecutor, who is Black, said the questions about the use of force and cause of death are "so simple that a child can understand it."

"In fact, a child did understand it, when the 9-year-old girl said, 'Get off of him,'" Blackwell said, referring to a young witness who objected to what she saw.

Nelson noted that officers who first went to the corner store where Floyd allegedly passed a counterfeit \$20 bill were struggling with Floyd when Chauvin arrived as backup. The defense attorney also pointed out that police had been told that Floyd might be on drugs.

"A reasonable police officer understands the intensity of the struggle," Nelson said, noting that Chauvin's body camera and badge were knocked off his chest.

## Judge addresses lawmaker's comments on trial

*The Washington Post*

The judge in the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin on Monday admonished politicians for making what he called irresponsible and disrespectful comments about the case as jurors were sent to deliberate on a case that has already rattled the country.

Judge Peter Cahill's comments were sparked by Rep. Maxine Waters' remarks over the weekend during a rally in Brooklyn Center, Minn., where she said that if Chauvin was found not guilty of murder in George

Floyd's death, protesters should stay on the streets, "get more active" and "get more confrontational."

Republicans have highlighted the Democratic California congresswoman's comments as potentially leading to violence, but they have faced accusations of hypocrisy over their lack of action over former President Donald Trump's frequent inflammatory comments or to members of their own party who have been accused of egging on violence.

The matter entered the courtroom after the jury headed off to

begin their deliberations on Monday afternoon, following three weeks of testimony from dozens of witnesses.

Chauvin's attorney Eric Nelson moved for a mistrial, objecting, among other things, to Waters' statements, which he said had the effect of "threatening and intimidating the jury."

Cahill conceded that Waters "may have given" the defense grounds "on appeal that may result in this whole trial being overturned."

He saved his harshest words for elected officials that he felt

were speaking about the case "in a manner that is disrespectful to the rule of law and to the judicial branch."

"I think if they want to give their opinions, they should do so in a respectful and in a manner that is consistent with their oath to the Constitution, to respect a coequal branch of government," he said. "Their failure to do so, I think, is abhorrent."

However unfortunate Cahill found the remarks, he said it did not "prejudice this jury." He denied the defense's motion for mistrial.

## Portland, Ore., police arrest 2 amid protest vandalism

*Associated Press*

PORTLAND, Ore. — Some people in a small crowd calling for the abolition of police, broke windows as they marched in Portland on Monday night, hours after authorities said that a man who was fatally shot by an officer

in a city park last week had an orange-tipped replica gun.

The Portland Police Bureau said on Twitter late Monday it had made two arrests for criminal mischief after declaring the assembly of about 80 people in northeast Portland unlawful.

Windows were broken at a bank building, a fast-food restaurant, a grocery store and at a Boys and Girls Club, the department said.

The protest followed the police killing Friday of Robert Douglas Delgado, 46, who had reportedly been acting like a cow-

boy and doing "quick-draws" with what appeared to be a handgun in Lents Park. Delgado's gun turned out to be a replica with an orange tip, which is typically intended to distinguish toy guns or BB guns from functioning firearms.



# Capitol cop's death due to natural causes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who was injured while confronting rioters during the Jan. 6 insurrection, suffered a stroke and died from natural causes, the Washington, D.C., medical examiner's office ruled Monday, a finding that lessens the chances that anyone will be charged in his death.

Investigators initially believed the officer was hit in the head with a fire extinguisher, based on statements collected early in the investigation, according to two people familiar with the case. And they later thought the 42-year-old Sicknick may have ingested a chemical substance — possibly bear spray — that may have contributed to his death.

But the determination of a natural cause of death means the medical examiner found that a medical condition alone caused his death — it was not brought on by an injury. The determination is likely to significantly inhibit the ability of federal prosecutors to bring homicide charges in Sicknick's death.

U.S. Capitol Police said that the agency accepted the medical examiner's findings, but that the ruling didn't change the fact that Sicknick had died in the line of duty, "courageously defending Congress and the Capitol."

"The attack on our officers, including Brian, was an attack on our democracy," police officials said in a statement. "The United States Capitol Police will never forget Officer Sicknick's

bravery, nor the bravery of any officer on January 6, who risked their lives to defend our democracy."

Federal prosecutors have charged two men with using bear spray on Sicknick during the Jan. 6 riot. The arrests of George Tanios, 39, of Morgantown, W.Va., and Julian Khater, 32, of Pennsylvania, were the closest federal prosecutors have come to identifying and charging anyone associated with the five deaths that happened during and after the riot.

Lawyers for the two men had no immediate comment Monday.

Sicknick died after defending the Capitol against the mob that stormed the building as Congress was voting to certify Joe Biden's electoral win over Do-

nald Trump. It came after Trump urged his supporters to "fight like hell" to overturn his defeat.

Sicknick was standing guard with other officers behind metal bicycle racks as the mob descended on the Capitol.

"Give me that bear s---," Khater said before he reached into Tanios' backpack, according to court papers. Tanios told Khater "not yet" because it was "still early," but Khater responded that "they just f---ing sprayed me." Khater was then seen holding a can of chemical spray, prosecutors say.

As the rioters began pulling on one of the racks, Khater was seen with his arm in the air and the canister in his hand while standing just 5 to 8 feet from the officers, authorities said.

## Proud Boys leaders ordered jailed on Capitol riot charges

Associated Press

A federal judge on Monday ordered two leaders of the far-right Proud Boys extremist group to be arrested and jailed while awaiting trial on charges they planned and coordinated an attack on the U.S. Capitol to stop Congress from certifying President Joe Biden's electoral victory.

Joseph Biggs and Ethan Nordean had been free since their March 10 indictment, but U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly concluded that the two men are dangerous and that no conditions for their release could be adequate. The judge said Biggs and Nordean "facilitated political violence," even if they weren't armed and didn't assault anybody at the Capitol on Jan. 6.

Kelly overruled another federal judge in Washington, D.C., who had ordered pretrial home confinement for Nordean. Biggs was freed after his initial Jan. 20 arrest in his home state of Florida. Justice Department prosecutors initially didn't seek to keep Biggs jailed, but last month asked for his pretrial release to be revoked, saying new evidence shows he poses a "grave danger" to the community.

Attorneys for Biggs and Nordean asked

Kelly to suspend Monday's ruling pending a possible appeal, but the judge denied their request.

Biggs and Nordean are among more than two dozen Capitol riot defendants who have been described by federal authorities as Proud Boys leaders, members or associates.

Last month's indictment charged Biggs, Nordean and two other men described as Proud Boys leaders with conspiring to impede Congress' certification of the Electoral College vote. Other charges in the indictment include obstruction of an official proceeding, obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder and disorderly conduct.

Zachary Rehl and Charles Donohoe are charged in the same indictment as Biggs and Nordean and have been jailed since their arrests in March.

Police arrested the Proud Boys' top leader, Enrique Tarrio, in D.C. two days before the riot and charged him with vandalizing a Black Lives Matter banner at a historic Black church during a protest in December. Tarrio, who was ordered to stay out of the District of Columbia, hasn't been charged in connection with the Capitol siege.

## India hospitals struggle amid virus surge

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — India was able to prevent a collapse in its health system last year through a harsh lockdown. But now, coronavirus-related tragedies are everyday occurrences in the vast country, which is seeing its largest surge of the pandemic so far and watching its chronically underfunded health system crumble.

Tests are delayed. Medical oxygen is scarce. Hospitals are understaffed and overflowing. Intensive care units are full. Nearly all ventilators are in use, and the dead are piling up at crematoriums and graveyards. India recorded over 250,000 new infections and over 1,700 deaths in the past 24 hours alone, and the United Kingdom announced a travel ban on most visitors from the country this week. Overall, India has reported more than 15 million cases and some 180,000 deaths — and experts say these numbers are likely an undercount.

India's massive vaccination drive is also struggling. Several states have flagged shortages, although the federal government has claimed there are enough stocks.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

### Man tossed used cups in couple's yard for 3 years

**NY** LAKE VIEW — An upstate New York couple may have finally solved the mystery of who's been tossing used coffee cups in their front yard for nearly three years.

Edward and Cheryl Patton told The Buffalo News they tried mounting a camera in a tree in front of their home in Lake View to catch the phantom litterer. But it wasn't until some neighbors got involved recently and followed a minivan and jotted down its license plate number that there was a break in the case.

After Edward Patton called police, they waited and pulled over a vehicle driven by Larry Pope, 76, who Cheryl Patton said had once worked with her and had had disagreements with her over union issues.

### Beans sign, landmark for decades, is coming down

**MI** SAGINAW — After decades above Saginaw, a landmark sign is coming down.

The sign spells B-E-A-N-S with a rabbit behind it. It's been dark since 2009 when a storm knocked out the neon lights, said Thomas Mudd, founder of the Saginaw Valley Historic Preservation Society.

The building was a grain elevator but later became associated with Michigan Bean Co. and its Jack Rabbit beans. The Saginaw school district is turning the property into a site for high school sports.

"It's very easy for people to say save the sign until they see

everything they would have to do to save the sign," Mudd said.

### Mountain trail closed after bee attack

**AZ** PHOENIX — A popular trail on Phoenix's Camelback Mountain was temporarily closed after bees stung a hiker and a Phoenix firefighter who was on a rescue mission.

Firefighters responded to the Echo Canyon Trail about after receiving reports of a 50-year-old man experiencing a medical condition while hiking the trail.

But the firefighters encountered bees while making their way up the mountain, delaying their rescue operation.

A hiker in his 40s and a city firefighter sustained multiple bee stings, but both refused to be taken to the hospital.

### Man found sitting in subway, rifle near foot

**NY** NEW YORK — An Ohio man arrested for bringing an unloaded, military-style rifle into a Times Square subway station was found sitting with the three-foot-long weapon lying on the floor, inches from his foot, according to a newly released court document.

A New York City police officer said he recovered an ammunition magazine containing 17 rounds from a paper bag that was also sitting on the floor near Saadiq Teague, along with a loose round. An empty shell casing was found inside the 18-year-old's backpack, according to the document released Saturday during Teague's arraignment on three felony weapons possession charges.

### Thieves targeting catalytic converters

**WI** MILWAUKEE — Thieves in Milwaukee are targeting catalytic converters on people's cars.

As of April 11, thieves had stolen 497 car parts, up 19% from the same time last year, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported. Police say catalytic converters are the main target.

Sgt. Efrain Cornejo said the converters contain precious metals such as palladium, rhodium and platinum. Repair shops and people looking to save money on replacement parts also are looking for converters, he added.

Depending on the vehicle, a converter can fetch up to \$600 on the underground market, said Leroy Washington of Wright Car Connection, a car repair shop in Milwaukee.

### Defendant flees court during lunch break

**NC** WILSON — A man who was on trial on attempted murder charges fled a North Carolina courtroom while he was on lunch break, authorities said.

The Wilson County Sheriff's Office is looking for Deonta Earl Bridgers, 31, who jurors convicted in absentia after he fled, The Wilson Times reported.

Wanda Samuel, the sheriff's office chief of staff, said a deputy received a tampering alert from Bridgers' electronic monitoring device when he failed to return to court from lunch. Deputies began searching for Bridgers and found his monitoring device at a dilapidated house, Samuel said.

A Wilson County jury convicted Bridgers on charges including two counts of attempted first-degree murder stemming from a February 2019 shooting that left two people injured.

### Man pleads guilty to smuggling gun silencers

**IA** SIOUX CITY — A Sioux City man has pleaded guilty to smuggling gun silencers into the United States, federal prosecutors said.

Lloyd Clark, 72, pleaded guilty to one count of smuggling goods into the United States.

Customs and Border Protection officials seized seven silencers, a modified rifle with an installed silencer and a World War II-era machine gun from Clark's home. He did not have legal authority to possess the items, U.S. Attorney's office said.

### Amateur genealogist botched grave cleaning

**MD** DAVIDSONVILLE — An amateur genealogist has come forward to admit she scrubbed roughly 200 gravestones at a Maryland cemetery in a way that left them damaged.

The Capital in Annapolis reported that the woman scrubbed the markings on headstones dating back to the 19th century to make them easier to photograph for the "Billion Graves" genealogy website.

The scrubbing left nearly 200 stones at All Hallows Episcopal Church Cemetery in Davidsonville with awkward "zebra" stripes that may cost \$10,000 to repair.

— From wire reports

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# Thibodeau's ways working with Knicks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A smile crept across Tom Thibodeau's face. A coach who has said he's never happy couldn't hide that he was.

New Orleans coach Stan Van Gundy had called Thibodeau's New York Knicks a throwback to the 1990s version, a rough and tough team hated by opponents and beloved by its fans. Thibodeau was an assistant then to Van Gundy's brother, Jeff, during the last sustained success the franchise enjoyed.

"It was a great period for the Knicks," Thibodeau said. "I think that that period is long gone, but when you look at it, the same things go into winning."

For the first time in years, that's just what the Knicks are doing.

With Julius Randle carrying a team built on defense in an era when offenses rule, the Knicks

have surged into the Eastern Conference playoff race after six consecutive wins, their longest streak in seven years.

At 31-27, they began the week sixth in the East but only a half-game out of fourth place. That put them not only in good shape to at least qualify for the play-in tournament, but even for a chance at home-court advantage in a first-round series.

Randle, with four straight 30-point games on the heels of his first All-Star selection, could be rewarded with a Most Improved Player or All-NBA honor. But the Eastern Conference player of the week said his lone focus is on the team, right where Thibodeau likes it.

"I judge things by wins and losses. I know that's kind of not a great way to judge everything, but at this point in the season that's how I'm judging it," Ran-

dle said. "Are we putting ourselves in position to win, are we doing the things necessary to win games, and right now we are."

Thibodeau made no guarantees of that when he was hired last summer. His much simpler first priority was for the Knicks to be a good team at practice, where they could eventually develop habits they could carry to games.

That figured to be a challenge in this compacted season, when some coaches say they are hardly practicing at all, given the heavy schedule of games and coronavirus testing protocols teams face.

Thibodeau has long been known for his endless hours of work and his expectation that players would do the same. He guided the Chicago Bulls to three 50-win seasons and won a Coach of the Year award, but he was criticized for pushing players too

hard at a time when organizations stress the value of rest and recovery.

That, along with skepticism about the effectiveness of a defense-first style in this era of explosive scoring, followed Thibodeau from Chicago and Minnesota back to New York. But the Knicks are answering those questions by limiting teams to the fewest points per game and lowest shooting percentage in the league.

Randle and RJ Barrett are 1-2 in the league in minutes played but are thriving with the workload. Barrett, who didn't even make an All-Rookie team last year, has become a clutch closer and improved shooter. Randle, previously known as little more than a scorer, has five triple-doubles and has proven to be a reliable playmaker out of the power forward spot.

# Curry scores 49 points to power Warriors over Sixers

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Stephen Curry hit 10 three-pointers and scored 49 points to extend his sizzling stretch, leading the Golden State Warriors to a 107-96 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday night.

Curry's three that tied the game at 86-all gave him 11 straight games with 30 or more points, topping Kobe Bryant for the most by any player 33 or older. Curry, who turned 33 last month, also has the longest 30-point game streak by a Warriors player since Wilt Chamberlain in 1964.

Curry had his fifth 40-point game in April and topped Bryant and Michael Jordan for most 40-point games in a month by a player 33 or older.

Joel Embiid, who scored 28 for the 76ers, who played without All-Star Ben Simmons (illness) and starting forward Tobias Harris (20.5 points; sore

right knee).

**Suns 128, Bucks 127 (OT):** Devin Booker made a free throw with 0.3 seconds left after getting fouled on a jump shot to give visiting Phoenix an overtime victory over Milwaukee.

After Khris Middleton had tied the game on a three-pointer with 22.1 seconds left, Jae Crowder inbounded a pass to Booker, who attempted to get free for a shot while getting hounded by Jrue Holiday.

**Jazz 111, Lakers 97:** Jordan Clarkson scored 22 points, Joe Ingles added 21 with five three-pointers and Utah won at Los Angeles, splitting its series with the defending NBA champion.

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 19 points as the NBA-leading Jazz avenged the Lakers' 127-115 overtime victory on Saturday night. The Jazz rested Rudy Gobert, Mike Conley Jr. and Derrick Favors in the first game on the second night of a

back-to-back set, but all three returned for the rematch at Staples Center.

**Nuggets 139, Grizzlies 137 (2OT):** Nikola Jokic scored 47 points, including a go-ahead three-pointer late in the second overtime, and Denver rallied to beat visiting Memphis.

Jokic added 15 rebounds and eight assists, Will Barton scored 28 and Michael Porter Jr. 21 for the shorthanded Nuggets. Denver played without its top two point guards — Jamal Murray, who has a torn ACL in his left knee and Monte Morris.

**Bulls 102, Celtics 96:** Nikola Vucevic had 29 points and nine rebounds, and Chicago won at Boston.

Coby White added 19 points and seven assists to help the Bulls snap the Celtics' season-high six-game winning streak. Chicago has won its last two since a five-game skid.

**Heat 113, Rockets 91:** Kendrick Nunn scored a season-

high 30 points, Duncan Robinson and Goran Dragic each added 19 and host Miami beat Houston.

The Heat were playing without Jimmy Butler, Bam Adebayo and Tyler Herro — a trio that averages 55 points per game — and outscored the Rockets 59-36 after halftime.

**Spurs 109, Pacers 94:** Derrick White and Jakob Poeltl took advantage of their early mismatches by delivering a quick knockout punch and leading visiting San Antonio over short-handed Indiana.

**Wizards 119, Thunder 107:** Bradley Beal scored 30 points, Davis Bertans made six three-pointers in his return from paternity leave, and host Washington beat Oklahoma City.

**Pistons 109, Cavaliers 105:** Frank Jackson scored 20 points, including a tiebreaking baseline drive in the final minute, lifting host Detroit over Cleveland.



# Woodruff leads Brewers past Padres

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Brandon Woodruff and three relievers combined on a two-hitter and Luis Urias homered in his return to Petco Park before leaving with an injury Monday, as the Milwaukee Brewers beat Joe Musgrove and the San Diego Padres 3-1.

Billy McKinney also homered off Musgrove (2-2), who set a career-high with 13 strikeouts in his first home start since throwing the Padres' first no-hitter on April 9 at Texas. The big right-hander, who grew up in suburban El Cajon, is 0-2 since throwing the no-no.

Pinch-hitter Tyrone Taylor hit Milwaukee's third homer of the night, off Drew Pomeranz, leading off the eighth.

**Red Sox 11, White Sox 4:** Kiké Hernández led off with a replay-aided home run and Bobby Dalbec worked a 14-pitch walk in a six-run first inning against Lucas Giolito, helping host Boston in the first Patriots' Day game played apart from the Boston Marathon.

The Marathon was moved to Oct. 11 because of Massachusetts limits on crowds during the coronavirus pandemic. The Patriots Day game, with a start shortly after 11 a.m., has been played by the Red Sox since 1959. It drew a limited crowd of 4,738.

Giolito (1-1) was removed with two on

and no outs in the second. He allowed eight runs — seven earned — and eight hits as his ERA more than doubled from 2.55 to 5.79.

Nathan Eovaldi (3-1) matched his career-high with 10 strikeouts in 6 1/3 innings, allowing four runs and nine hits with no walks.

**Mariners 4, Dodgers 3:** Rookie Taylor Trammell homered and added a key RBI double, third baseman Dylan Moore thwarted a rally with a terrific defensive play in the seventh and host Seattle beat Los Angeles in a matchup of early season division leaders.

The Mariners handed the Dodgers a second straight loss, the first time on the young season Los Angeles dropped consecutive games. It came on the strength of a couple long balls off Los Angeles starter Dustin May (1-1) and a strong start by Justus Sheffield.

**Giants 2, Phillies 0:** Brandon Belt hit a two-run homer, Kevin Gausman niftily pitched out of trouble in six innings and San Francisco won at Philadelphia.

Giants manager Gabe Kapler became the first manager in major league baseball history to start his career 200-200. Kapler, who was 161-163 as the Phillies' manager in 2018-19, was booed when he brought out the lineup card.

**Cardinals 12, Nationals 5:** Paul DeJong

hit two of St. Louis' five homers, including a grand slam, Tommy Edman and Paul Goldschmidt went deep back-to-back and the visiting Cardinals offered Jack Flaherty his usual strong run support.

DeJong clanged a solo shot off the left-field foul pole in the second inning for the first run allowed by Joe Ross (1-1) in three games this season after he sat out 2020 because of COVID-19 concerns. DeJong later ended the right-hander's evening with another drive to left, this one off a high fastball after Dylan Carlson was walked intentionally to load the bases.

**Rays 4, Royals 1:** Josh Fleming pitched two-hit ball into the sixth inning, and Kevin Kiermaier led a strong effort from the bottom of Tampa Bay's batting order for a road win. Fleming (1-1) struck out three in 5 1/2 innings, getting big cheers from friends and family who journeyed over from his hometown of Bridgeton, Mo. The 24-year-old left-hander has allowed just one run in 10 1/2 innings.

**Rangers 6, Angels 4:** Adolis García homered and doubled off Dylan Bundy, Kohei Arihara took a shutout into the sixth inning and Texas got its offense on track with a road win.

The Rangers eclipsed their entire output during a three-game home series against Baltimore over the weekend, when they totaled just four runs.

## UEFA president urges clubs to ditch Super League

Associated Press

MONTREUX, Switzerland — In a direct appeal to the owners of the English clubs in the Super League project, UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin urged them Tuesday to change their minds out of respect for soccer fans.

Ceferin both cajoled and criticized the six-club English group — made up of American billionaires, Middle East royalty and a Russian oligarch — less than 48 hours after the Super League was launched in alliance with three clubs from each of Italy and Spain.

"Gentlemen, you made a huge mistake," Ceferin said in a speech to European soccer leaders at the UEFA annual meeting. "Some will say it is greed, others (will say) disdain arrogance, flippancy or complete ignorance of England's football culture. It does not matter."

"What does matter is that there is still time

to change you mind. Everyone makes mistakes."

Ceferin urged them to turn back out of respect for fans in England, aiming another barb at what he earlier called "a few selfish people."

"Come to your senses," he said. "Not out of love for football, because I imagine some of you don't have much of that."

Ceferin also lavished praise on UEFA executive committee colleague Nasser al-Khelaifi, the president of French champion Paris Saint-Germain. PSG has so far resisted offers to be one of the 15 founding Super League members. Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund have also stayed out.

"Nasser, thank you from the bottom of my heart. You showed that you are a great man," Ceferin told the Qatari official before also citing Bayern chief executive Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

The UEFA president said fans and governments have supported UEFA in resisting the proposed 20-team Super League, which threatens to directly challenge the Champions League and damage the historic pyramid structure of European soccer.

"We cannot lose this match," said Ceferin, a Slovenian lawyer.

The clubs have not said when their planned breakaway league, underwritten by American bank JP Morgan Chase, would kick off.

On Monday, Ceferin said he wanted Super League clubs and their players banned from all UEFA competitions "as soon as possible."

It is unclear if UEFA's legal statutes and Champions League rules will allow that before Real Madrid, Chelsea and Manchester City play in the semifinals next week. Manchester United and Arsenal also play next week in the Europa League semifinals.

# Marleau breaks Howe's record in SO loss

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — On a milestone night for Sharks forward Patrick Marleau, a tight game between West Division rivals only seemed fitting.

Alex Tuch scored the winner in a shootout and the streaking Vegas Golden Knights beat San Jose 3-2 Monday as Marleau passed Gordie Howe for the most games played in NHL history.

Robin Lehner stopped 29 shots and Vegas won its seventh in a row, overcoming a two-goal deficit behind a pair of power-play goals from captain Mark Stone.

"It was special," Stone said. "I think in the moment, you don't really understand the magnitude of it. When I get home tonight and really reflect on what just happened, I think I'm going to have a big thing of emotion going through me, to be a part of

a huge night for (Marleau). No matter the outcome, I think we showed a ton of respect for our opponents, even if it's a crazy rivalry."

The 41-year-old Marleau played in his 1,768th career game to break Howe's record in front of a sold-out crowd of 3,950 that included his wife, Christina, and four sons. That wouldn't have been possible in San Jose, where fans still aren't allowed in the arena during the pandemic.

"Just extremely grateful for everything and all the support everyone has given me throughout my career, especially tonight," Marleau said. "I don't know how many phone calls or texts I got. It might take me a week to reply to everybody. It's been overwhelmingly humbling, to say the least."

After the game, a choked-up Marleau was asked what keeps

him coming to the rink.

"I just love it," he said, wiping away tears with a towel. "There's nothing else like it."

Howe played in 1,767 regular-season games and 419 more in the World Hockey Association, the latter of which are not recognized by the NHL.

Martin Jones made 38 saves for the Sharks, including five spectacular game-saving stops in overtime.

Lehner, who denied all three San Jose attempts in the shootout, improved to 8-0-1 since returning from a concussion on March 19.

"We've been playing really well lately, and we wanted to keep building, keep everything going. This was an important win for us," Lehner said. "We stuck with it. The last 10 minutes of the third was a lot of back and forth, same in overtime. It's a tough schedule for everyone.

You've got to find ways to win and grind through it. Stoney stepped up, scored two goals."

Stone was the spark the Golden Knights needed, considering they looked flat on the second night of back-to-back games after playing in Anaheim on Sunday.

"Playing the back-to-back, three in four, those are hard stretches," Stone said. "Coming in you play one shift, the emotion of the fans and the honoring of Patrick. You can get a little wrapped up in it sometimes. We're trying to find ways to win, that's what good teams do."

"We know this was the hottest team in the league," San Jose coach Bob Boughner said. "There was a lot of emotion in this game and a lot on the line. We wanted to make sure we honored Patty the best way we could. That was by playing hard as a team."

## Lightning slip past Hurricanes in overtime

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Yann Gourde scored 2:50 into overtime to give the Tampa Bay Lightning a 3-2 victory over the Carolina Hurricanes on Monday night in a matchup between Central Division contenders.

Alex Killorn and Brayden Point also scored for the Lightning. Andrei Vasilevskiy finished with 25 saves.

Andrei Svechnikov and Brady Skjei scored for the Hurricanes, who had only one regulation loss in the past eight games. Petr Mrazek stopped 33 shots.

Carolina and Florida are tied for the Central Division lead with 63 points, though the Hurricanes have two games in hand. The defending Stanley Cup champion Lightning are one point behind the co-leaders.

**Predators 5, Blackhawks 2:** Luke Kunin and Calle Jarnkrok each scored a goal and added an assist to lead host Nashville over

Chicago.

Matt Duchene, Mattias Ekholm and Tanner Jeannot also scored and Mikael Granlund had two assists for Nashville, which snapped a two-game skid.

Alex DeBrincat and David Kampf scored for Chicago, which has lost two of three.

**Stars 3, Red Wings 2 (SO):** Denis Gurianov scored in the fifth round of a shootout to give host Dallas a win over Detroit, and a vital extra point for the defending Western Conference champion in its push to get back in the playoffs.

Roope Hintz and rookie Jason Robertson both scored in regulation for the Stars, with Miro Heiskanen assisting on both goals. Robertson also converted the first shootout attempt for Dallas.

**Oilers 4, Canadiens 1:** Connor McDavid scored the winner late in the third period and host

Edmonton defeated Montreal.

Jesse Puljujarvi, with a goal and an assist, Ethan Bear and Devin Shore also scored for Edmonton, while Mike Smith made 22 saves. McDavid also had two assists for a three-point game for the Oilers, who trailed 1-0 with less than 10 minutes to play in regulation.

Eric Staal scored for Montreal, which got 25 saves from Jake Allen after he replaced Carey Price to start the second period. Price, who stopped seven shots in the opening 20 minutes, didn't come out after the intermission.

**Senators 4, Flames 2:** Connor Brown scored a short-handed goal and added an empty-netter for Ottawa in a win at Calgary.

Josh Norris had a goal and an assist and Brady Tkachuk also scored for Ottawa. Senators goaltender Matt Murray made 26 saves for the win.

Elias Lindholm and Michael Stone scored for the Flames. Jacob Markstrom stopped 16 of 19 shots in the loss.

**Wild 5, Coyotes 2:** Kevin Fiala had a goal and an assist, Cam Talbot stopped 22 shots and Minnesota stretched its winning streak to four games with a win at Arizona.

Kirill Kaprizov, Jordan Greenway and Marcus Johansson also scored to help the Wild strengthen their playoff position. They have 59 points, 14 ahead of the fourth-place Coyotes in the West Division.

**Panthers 4, Blue Jackets 2:** Frank Vatrano scored two goals, Anthony Duclair had a pair of assists and host Florida defeated Columbus.

Sam Bennett and Radko Gudas also scored for the Panthers, who have won five straight games against the Blue Jackets and gone 6-0-1 in their past seven meetings.