

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## 1 dead after Portland protesters clash

Associated Press

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

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

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

An Associated Press freelance photographer heard three gunshots and then observed police medics attending to the victim, who appeared to be a white man. The freelancer said the man was wearing a hat bearing the insignia of Patriot Prayer, a

right-wing group whose members have frequently clashed with protesters in Portland in the past.

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

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

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

"This violence is completely unacceptable and we are working diligently to find and apprehend the individual or individuals responsible," Chief Chuck Lovell said.

Portland has been the site of nightly protests for more than three months since the police killing of George Floyd in Min-

neapolis. Many of them have ended in vandalism and violence, and hundreds of demonstrators have been arrested by local and federal law enforcement since late May.

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

The caravan had arrived downtown just as a planned protest was getting underway. The chaotic scene came two days after Trump invoked Portland as a liberal city overrun with violence in a speech at the Republican National Convention as part of his "law and order" re-election campaign theme. The caravan marked the third Saturday in a row that Trump supporters have rallied in the city.

On Sunday, Trump issued a flurry of tweets and retweets including several that blamed

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler for the death and one in which the president appeared to be encouraging his supporters to move into Portland.

"GREAT PATRIOTS!" Trump wrote as he shared video of his supporters driving into Portland to confront the protesters.

Acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf blamed local officials for failing "to protect their communities."

"I'm asking Portland officials, so that's the mayor, that's the governor and that's local law enforcement, to do their job to address any violent activity that is occurring in their streets," Wolf told CBS' "Face the Nation."

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

## Navy challenges China's claim in South China Sea

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Stars and Stripes

A U.S. Navy destroyer passed near contested islands in the South China Sea again Thursday, the same day Defense Secretary Mark Esper emphasized the Pentagon's intent to continue challenging Beijing's territorial claims in the region.

The USS Mustin steamed near the Parcel Islands, its second cruise in the area this year, to challenge "excessive maritime claims and reinforce laws of the sea in international waters," according to a Navy statement.

China has set up military airfields and outposts on the islands that have raised

concern among surrounding nations and within the United States, which sends its warships through the area on a regular basis.

The U.S. went on record in July formally rejecting China's claims in the region. On Wednesday in Honolulu — Thursday in the South China Sea — Esper said in a livestreamed speech that Beijing has failed to honor commitments it made to refrain from militarizing parts of the South China Sea.

The Mustin's operation came the same day the U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security sanctioned 24 Chinese companies "for their role in helping the Chinese military construct and militarize" features in the

South China Sea, including the Paracels, according to a Commerce Department statement.

"Despite protests from the United States and other countries, the government of the People's Republic of China has been rapidly building the artificial islands since 2013, enabling the Communist Chinese Party's militarization of disputed outposts in the South China Sea to undermine the sovereign rights of U.S. partners in the region," the statement said.

China claims sovereignty over the Parcel Islands and has occupied them since 1974, according to the CIA World Factbook. Taiwan and Vietnam also lay claim to the islands.

# Marines end use of photos for promotions

BY IMMANUEL JOHNSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

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

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

The move follows Secretary of Defense Mark Esper’s July 14 guidance to all service branches to stop using photographs in promotion boards and selection processes, to help the military to better reflect

**‘Anything that helps eliminate unfair bias is a good thing.’**

**Sgt. Kirstin Spanu**  
U.S. Marine Corps

the U.S.’s diversity in its ranks and ensure “equal opportunity for all who serve.”

Two weeks before Esper’s memo, the Marines said they had no plans to eliminate the photos, which were called a procedural requirement by service Manpower and Reserve Affairs spokeswoman Yvonne Carlock, according to Military.com.

The Marines compose their board with diversity in mind and “each member agrees to the precept which directs that

Marines’ race, religion, color, sex (including gender identity), sexual orientation, or national origin will not impact their professional opportunities,” Carlock said.

The Marines are the second service branch to bar the use of photos in the promotion and selections processes. The Army stopped using photos on Aug. 1, days after Esper’s memo.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger last month called on the service to “listen, understand, try to empathize, so that we can make adjustments within our service to change the way that some people view ... either a conscious bias or an unconscious bias.”

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

The Navy has set up a task

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

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

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

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

## MCAS Iwakuni bans family for coronavirus violations

BY JOSEPH DITZLER  
*Stars and Stripes*

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

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

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

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

Friday’s release came with an apology: “The air station expresses sincere regret

to our Japanese neighbors for any anxiety caused by this incident and we will continue to strictly enforce appropriate COVID-19 risk mitigation measures.”

The family left Iwakuni on Friday for the U.S., according to an email Saturday from 1st Lt. Phillip Parker, a spokesman for MCAS Iwakuni, to Stars and Stripes. Parker said a family member employed by the Defense Department has resigned that position; Parker declined to identify the organization.

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

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

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

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

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

The family’s ban, or “debarment,” followed a misconduct hearing Aug. 7, one day after the four were medically cleared. They spent 24 days of isolation in their base home, according to the statement.

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

At the air station, they did not immediately enter quarantine, a violation of USFJ and base orders. The three learned their positive test results after entering quarantine, according to the Marines.

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

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



# Trump's visit to Kenosha may stoke tensions

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will travel to Kenosha, Wis., on Tuesday, amid fury over the police shooting of Jacob Blake in the back, which left the 29-year-old Black man paralyzed.

White House spokesman Judd Deere told reporters aboard Air Force One on Saturday that Trump will be meeting with law enforcement officers and “surveying” some

of the damage from recent protests that turned destructive.

The visit is certain to exacerbate tensions in the city, where a crowd of about 1,000 demonstrators gathered outside a courthouse Saturday to denounce police violence.

Trump has been running his reelection campaign on a law-and-order mantle, denouncing protesters as “thugs” while voicing his support for police.

In his acceptance speech during the virtual Republican

National Convention, Trump painted the election in hyperbolic terms as a stark choice between peaceful streets and anarchy.

Trump's opponent for reelection, former Vice President Joe Biden, and his running mate, Kamala Harris, have accused Trump of rooting for violence amid unrest in Wisconsin.

“He views this as a political benefit,” Biden said in an interview on MSNBC. “He’s rooting for more violence, not less. And

it’s clear about that.”

Kenosha Police Officer Rusten Sheskey and two other officers were responding to a domestic dispute call last Sunday when Sheskey shot Blake in the back seven times.

Cellphone video captured the shooting, which has sparked new protests against racial injustice and police brutality months after George Floyd’s death at the hands of a Minneapolis officer touched off a wider reckoning on race

## Congress to receive election intel in writing only

The Washington Post

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

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

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

“I believe this approach helps ensure ... that the information ODNI provides Con-

**‘I believe this approach helps ensure ... that the information ODNI provides Congress ... is not misunderstood or politicized.’**

John Ratcliffe

Director of National Intelligence

gress ... is not misunderstood or politicized,” Ratcliffe wrote in letters to congressional leadership, including the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the House and Senate intelligence panels.

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

Democrats, led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Cali-

fornia, immediately cried foul on the decision.

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

“The ODNI had requested the opportunity to brief the intelligence committees and the

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

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

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

## French military officer suspected of Russian ties arrested

Associated Press

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

Europe-1 radio reported that the officer served on a NATO base in Italy and is accused of

treason for passing “ultra-sensitive” information to Russian secret services.

The French Defense Ministry would not provide details about the officer. Speaking on Europe-1 on Sunday, Defense Minister Florence Parly said only that a judicial procedure

is underway and the French military has taken “necessary protective measures” after the breaches.

The Paris prosecutor’s office, which is handling the case, would not comment. NATO did not immediately respond to requests for information.

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

# Kansas fraternities, sororities hit by virus

Associated Press

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

The University of Kansas said in a news release that it has conducted 21,719 tests and 474 have been positive, for a positive rate of 2.18%. But among sororities and fraternities, there have been 270 positives among 2,698 members tested.

The university began testing every student, faculty and staff member for COVID-19 as they returned to campus this month.

At Kansas State, health officials announced six cases at Alpha Delta Pi, six at Alpha Xi Delta, five at Chi Omega and five at Kappa Delta, The Kansas City Star reported. The cases have resulted in quarantines.

## Arkansas

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

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

The new cases push the Arkansas total past 60,000 to at least 60,378 since tracking of the outbreak began in March, with a death toll of 772.

The department said 5,473 cases are currently active and not among those who have died or recovered, while 384 are hospitalized, 23 fewer than Friday.

The testing positivity rate sits at 9%, compared to the 5% threshold set by the World Health Organization for a pandemic.

## Connecticut

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

residential students.

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

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

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

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

## Florida

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

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

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

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

## South Carolina

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

The state's Department of Health and Environmental Control reported 1,250 new coronavirus cases Saturday, bringing the total number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state to more than 15,500.

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

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

## Texas

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

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

The rolling seven-day average of the rate of positive tests has fallen from 16% a week ago to 12.16% as of Friday, the most recent rate reported by the state. Gov. Greg Abbott has set a 10% positivity rate as a target, and the World Health Organization has set 5% as the threshold for the end of the pandemic.

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

## Washington

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

The county is home to Washington State University, and students have been pouring into Pullman in the past week

for the start of the school year.

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

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

## Nevada

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

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

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

The number of newly confirmed cases reported daily has decreased since peaking above 1,400 on July 15, a trend that officials attribute, at least partially, to the state's face-covering mandate and limits on large gatherings. But the number of tests reported has decreased week-by-week as well, from more than 49,000 in the third week in July to less than 27,000 last week.

## Iowa

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

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

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

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



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Lighthouse ownership is up for grabs

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

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

Under provisions of the federal lighthouse act, the National Park Service will provide applications to interested parties and review and evaluate the applications.

## Thief steals car with toddler inside

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

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

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

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

## Hundreds of subway windows smashed

**NY** NEW YORK — Authorities were on the hunt for a vandal they said

smashed hundreds of windows on New York City subway trains.

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

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

## Cottage with private beach for sale

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

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

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

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

## Tanker crash spills 3,000 gallons of fuel

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

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

The tandem trailer being hauled by a tanker truck overturned between Fishing Bridge

and Mud Volcano in an area where the Grand Loop Road runs near the Yellowstone River, park officials said.

## Autopsy: Man died in recycling truck accident

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

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

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

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

## Man hurt after crashing small plane

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

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

## Man allegedly stole bus to get home

**NY** AVON — A New York man was charged with criminal possession of stolen

property after sheriff's deputies said he stole a school bus in Pennsylvania to drive home.

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

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

## Bears crash home and get food, stern words

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

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

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

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

The bears stayed outside the window for a while before leaving. They also returned the next day but didn't gain entry this time.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

# College football returns, COVID-19 style

Associated Press

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"We know the general principles and I think every human being on the planet can quote line and verse about mask-wearing distance. But each situation is different. I have been awed by the power of this virus and its ability to being transmitted from person to person."

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

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

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

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

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

Central Arkansas coach Nathan Brown acknowledged leading up to the "Week Zero" game that there had been some uneasiness with going forward with a season.

It was hard to avoid the news that leagues like the Pac-12 and Big Ten opted against playing this fall.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Byron reaches playoffs with 1st series win

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — William Byron snaked his way through a smoky crash late Saturday night at Daytona International Speedway and narrowly avoided another melee a few laps later.

Those moves got him to victory lane for the first time in his young NASCAR Cup Series career and back in the playoffs for the second consecutive season.

They also helped knock out Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson, a seven-time series champion whose final season won't end with another title.

Winless in 120 races, Johnson made a trip to victory lane to congratulate Byron and the No. 24 team, the one now directed by Johnson's former and longtime crew chief, Chad Knaus.

"It's a big win for Chad Knaus and William Byron," Johnson said. "I really felt like we had a way to transfer, to win, or point our way in and things just got ugly, unfortunately, but that's plate racing."

Byron won the race in overtime after two late cautions and locked up one of the three post-season berths available going into the finale. Matt DiBenedetto finished 12th and secured the final spot. Clint Bowyer wrapped up a berth at the end

of the opening stage.

"It was too eventful," said DiBenedetto, whose parents drove down from North Carolina to watch from the stands. "I'm mentally worn out. I'm gonna sleep great tonight, but there was so much going on there at the end."

Chase Elliott finished second, followed by Denny Hamlin, Martin Truex Jr. and Bubba Wallace.

Johnson looked as if he would land one of those three playoff spots. But he got shuffled back in the final stage and then got caught up in a wreck in the closing laps that started when Hamlin made contact with Joey Logano. Byron squeezed

between the two, took the lead and held on after a green-white-checkered finish.

It was the ninth overtime finish at Daytona's summertime race in the last 13 years.

Byron didn't care how he got it, just that he finally did.

"It's been a hard couple of years in the Cup Series and trying to get my first win and trying to gel with this team," Byron said. "These guys have done an awesome job and to be in the playoffs is amazing, man."

About 20,000 fans spread out across Daytona's massive motorsports stadium and were treated to a frantic finish.



# Adell slugs 2 HRs in rout of Mariners

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Jo Adell hit his first two major league home runs, Mike Trout drove in six and the Los Angeles Angels set a season high in runs as they routed the Seattle Mariners 16-3 Saturday night.

Angels right-hander Dylan Bundy (4-2), a subject of speculation ahead of Monday's trade deadline, returned to early season form after giving up four runs in each of his last two starts. He allowed only one run, four hits and three walks in 5.1 innings with three strikeouts. It was the fourth time in seven starts he has allowed one run or fewer.

The 21-year old Adell came into the game batting .175 and in the midst of a 4-for-28 slump. Justin Upton led off the second with a walk before Adell drove Justus Sheffield's curveball an estimated 437 feet into the left field stands to give LA a 3-1 advantage.

"That is the sound of a power hitter right

there. It was a loud crack and then I saw the flight and the replay," Angels manager Joe Maddon said.

Adell became the fifth player in franchise history to hit his first two big league homers in the same game when he lined one just over the wall in right-center to lead off the seventh and extend the lead to 7-1. Before Adell, the last Halos player to do it was Tom Brunansky in 1981.

"I've had my struggles but it was good to have a swing and a day like I had tonight," Adell said. "I've really made a point over the past couple weeks of simplifying the swing. I've cut down a lot of the movement I had. I'm trying to slow everything down and make it more compact."

It is the third time in Trout's career he has had six or more RBIs in a game. The reigning AL MVP had three hits, including a three-run homer in the seventh inning to extend the lead to 14-1. Trout has homered in the first two games of the series and has 297 for his career. He also had a two-run

double in the sixth and a sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Trout leads the Majors with 32 RBIs and his 12 home runs are tied for third.

Shohei Ohtani, Albert Pujols and Anthony Rendon each drove in two for Los Angeles, which has its first three-game winning streak since July of 2019. Pujols had a two-run single in the fifth to make it 6-1.

Shed Long Jr. homered for Seattle in the ninth inning. Tim Lopes' RBI double in the second evened it at 1. When Braden Bishop's single drove in Dee Gordon in the eighth, the Mariners were down 14-2.

Sheffield (2-3) allowed six runs and four hits in 4.2 innings. The left-hander also had four walks and six strikeouts. Mariners' pitchers had 11 walks, including two with the bases loaded.

"The game got away from us and got ugly at the end. We struggled to make adjustments on Bundy," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. "We took a little bit of a step back tonight."

## MLB roundup

# Dodgers' Muncy has 4 RBIs in win over Rangers

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Max Muncy drove in four runs close to home for the Los Angeles Dodgers, who can still avoid their first series loss of the season after a 7-4 win Saturday night over the Texas Rangers and potential trade target Lance Lynn.

Cody Bellinger's long two-run homer in the third put Los Angeles up 3-0. Muncy, who played high school baseball about 25 miles from the new Rangers ballpark, made it 4-2 with a deep sacrifice fly in the fifth off Lynn (4-1). The slugger then belted a three-run homer in the seventh.

Blake Treinen (3-1) worked 1.1 scoreless innings for the win. Kenley Jansen got three outs for his ninth save.

**Yankees 2, Mets 1:** Clint Frazier scored the winning run on Dellin Betances' wild pitch in the ninth inning, and the host Yankees averted their longest losing streak in a quarter-century.

J.A. Happ pitched brilliantly

into the eighth at Yankee Stadium and Luke Voit homered early for the injury-ravaged Bronx Bombers, who stopped a seven-game slide.

**Cubs 3-5, Reds 0-6:** Nick Castellanos raced home on Craig Kimbrel's third wild pitch of the seventh inning, and host Cincinnati avoided a doubleheader sweep.

In the opener, Chicago ace Yu Darvish scattered seven hits over six innings, and Anthony Rizzo homered twice.

**Phillies 4, Braves 1:** Rhys Hoskins had three hits, including a three-run homer, and Zach Eflin pitched seven strong innings to lead host Philadelphia to its fifth straight victory. Bryce Harper doubled and drove in a run for the Phillies, who pulled within two games of Atlanta for first place in the NL East.

**Brewers 7, Pirates 6:** Eric Sogard bailed out All-Star closer Josh Hader by hitting his first career game-ending homer, a two-run shot that lifted host Milwaukee.

**Rockies 4, Padres 3:** Pinch-hitter Daniel Murphy hit a one-out RBI single in the ninth inning, lifting host Colorado over San Diego for its first walkoff win.

**Red Sox 5, Nationals 3:** Xander Bogaerts hit an early three-run homer and Boston's bullpen finished with 6.2 scoreless innings to defeat visiting Washington.

**Rays 4, Marlins 0:** Rookie Josh Fleming and four relievers combined on a three-hitter, and Tampa Bay pitchers extended their streak of success at Marlins Park to 36 consecutive scoreless innings.

**Indians 2, Cardinals 1 (12):** Tyler Naquin hit a go-ahead double for visiting Cleveland in the 12th inning, then Yadier Molina made a baserunning blunder and got trapped for the final out for St. Louis.

**Royals 9, White Sox 6:** Mikel Franco and Ryan McBroom homered during Kansas City's five-run seventh in a win at Chicago.

**Tigers 8-4, Twins 2-2:**

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

The Tigers took the opener behind Matthew Boyd (1-4), who pitched six solid innings for his first victory of the season. Victor Reyes had four hits.

**Astros 4-6, Athletics 2-3:** Kyle Tucker hit a bases-clearing triple, George Springer homered and host Houston competed a doubleheader sweep.

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

**Giants 5, Diamondbacks 2:** Evan Longoria hit two doubles, Brandon Belt reached base four times and San Francisco won at Arizona to snap a three-game losing streak.

**Blue Jays 5, Orioles 0:** Taijuan Walker pitched six shutout innings in his debut for host Toronto.

## NBA roundup

## Lakers advance, send Blazers packing

Associated Press

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

They decided to stay and look like they could be here a while.

The Lakers moved into the Western Conference semifinals by finishing off the Portland Trail Blazers with a 131-122 victory on Saturday night.

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

They just got back from a break.

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

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

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

When the Lakers finally got back on the

court for the first time since Monday, they weren't particularly sharp. Portland finished with its highest point total of the series despite playing without leading scorer Damian Lillard.

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

"When we play Laker basketball, running in transition, playing great defense, getting stops, running in transition, playing for each other, playing scrappy, we're a tough team to beat," Davis said.

Davis scored 43 points and James had 36 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. The two All-Star forwards dominated the series after the No. 1 seed was knocked off in Game 1.

**Bucks 118, Magic 104:** Brook Lopez sensed bonds between Milwaukee Bucks players strengthening after their decision to boycott a playoff game sent ripples across the NBA and other major pro sports leagues, which joined in suspending play to protest against racial injustice.

And when it was time to return to the court, they were in sync.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 28 points and 17 rebounds and the Bucks beat the Orlando Magic to close out the Eastern Conference series in five games.

"You could just feel the closeness," said Lopez, who had 16 points. "We're still out there on the floor taking care of our mission and what we want to achieve, but I think being through all this brought us together even more."

Milwaukee advanced to face Miami in the second round, beginning Monday. But the Bucks showed little interest in congratulating themselves or talking about basketball after the first NBA game played since they declined to take the court on Wednesday night, when Game 5 was originally scheduled.

Their decision not to play came in response to the police shooting of Jacob Blake, who is Black, in Wisconsin. Before long, games were being postponed in the NHL and in Major League Baseball, while some NFL teams chose to call off training camp practices.

**Rockets 114, Thunder 80:** Russell Westbrook returned.

That was a fortunate turn of events for the Houston Rockets.

James Harden scored 31 points, and Westbrook came back from an injury to face his former team in the playoffs for the first time, helping the Rockets beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 114-80 on Saturday night for a 3-2 lead in the first-round playoff series.

A two-time scoring champion and the 2016-17 league MVP, Westbrook averaged 27.1 points in his first season in Houston but had played just one game since Aug. 4 because of a strained right quadriceps — missing the Rockets' first four playoff games. He finished with seven points, six rebounds and seven assists in 23 minutes against the team for which he played the first 11 years of his career.

## NHL roundup

## Islanders top Flyers for 2-1 series lead

Associated Press

TORONTO — Matt Martin and Leo Komarov scored in the second period as the New York Islanders rallied to beat the Philadelphia Flyers 3-1 on Saturday night, taking a 2-1 lead in their conference semifinal series.

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

to the Flyers.

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

**Lightning 3, Bruins 1:** Well-rounded winger Ondrej Palat is scoring, reigning MVP Nikita Kucherov is defending and

Tampa Bay has taken over its series against Boston.

Palat scored two goals to give him four in the past three games, Kucherov was part of a strong defensive effort in the third period and the Lightning grabbed a 3-1 lead in their second-round series. From goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy on, Tampa Bay is clicking like the Stanley Cup contender it was supposed to be and now stands one win away from eliminating

Boston and moving on to the Eastern Conference final for the second time in three years.

**Golden Knights 3, Canucks 0:** Robin Lehner stopped 32 shots and Vegas beat Vancouver to take a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference semifinal series.

Alex Tuch, got his seventh goal of the postseason, and Mark Stone and Zack Whitecloud also scored. Lehner got his second career playoff shutout.