

Navy eyes ways to encourage sailors to get vaccine

By **CAITLIN M. KENNEY**
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Navy could potentially relax some of its coronavirus health protection policies for sailors who receive the vaccine, the service's personnel chief said Friday.

"I think you're also going to see — not quite yet but probably in the not-too-distant future — that it's going to be pretty attractive to get the vaccine because we'll have sailors who can avoid, for instance, a two-week quarantine on the ship or in a barracks room before we bring them into that clean bubble if they have the vaccine," Vice Adm. John Nowell told reporters during a media roundtable discussion.

Relaxing the restriction of movement or other policy incentives for vaccinated sailors is still being discussed and nothing has been formalized,

Cmdr. Dave Hecht, a spokesman for the chief of naval personnel, wrote Friday in an email.

"A lot of sailors that I know would much prefer being able to get a vaccine and then be safe, to not have to do some of the other [coronavirus] risk mitigation measures we put in place like two-week quarantine," Nowell said.

The current rate of sailors willing to get the vaccine is about 70%, according to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

The USS Benfold, an Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer in the Pacific Fleet, has a 96% vaccine acceptance rate among its crew, according to Nowell.

"That's all about shipmates understanding that they need to take care of themselves, and their shipmates, and then therefore their ship," he said.

Navy tests destroyer's full crew for virus after onboard outbreak

By **WYATT OLSON**
Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — The entire crew of the guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee is undergoing testing for the coronavirus after about a dozen sailors were found to be infected, the Navy said Friday.

The warship, which carries roughly 350 sailors, arrived on Jan. 23 in San Diego from its homeport in Hawaii for training.

The "approximately" one dozen sailors who tested positive were moved off the ship, 3rd Fleet spokesman Cmdr. Sean Robertson wrote in a statement Friday.

"Individuals who were in close contact with those Sailors are also off the ship and are in quarantine while they monitor for any symptoms," he said.

None of the infected sailors have been hospitalized, Robertson said.

"The ship remains able to meet its mission," he said.

Testing of the entire crew was being conducted Friday to

"The ship remains able to meet its mission."

Cmdr. Sean Robertson
3rd Fleet spokesman

"reassure Sailors and their families," he said.

The Navy Times reported Thursday it had obtained an internal document from the Chafee indicating that 41 sailors were listed as either positive with the virus or a close contact of someone who was infected.

The Navy Times quoted one Chafee petty officer, who had requested anonymity over fear of retribution, saying the coronavirus outbreak began during the transit from Hawaii and that the galley had been closed for about a week.

"Before pulling into San Diego we had seven people in quarantine and three tested positive, all the cooks that came into contact with the whole crew," the sailor told the Navy Times.

Junior enlisted troops in Space Force to be 'specialists'

By **CAITLIN M. KENNEY**
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Space Force has decided on the names for its ranks, and while officers will keep the same names that they have in the Air Force, several enlisted ranks have changed, according to a memorandum released Friday.

The service-wide memo is the most recent change for Space Force personnel after it was announced in December that they would be referred to as

"guardians." The rank changes will start Feb. 1.

For the junior enlisted who are E-1 to E-4, they will no longer be "airman" but "specialist," and then depending on their grade, the rank will include numbers 1 through 4, according to the memo provided by the Air Force.

For example, an E-3 will go from airman first class to specialist 3, or Spc3, in Space Force. They can be addressed as specialist, Spec3, or specialist 3, accord-

ing to the memo.

Guardians who are E-5 will no longer be a staff sergeant but a sergeant in the Space Force. Grades E-6 to E-9 with names technical sergeant, master sergeant, senior master sergeant and chief master sergeant will remain the same.

The most senior enlisted guardian will now be the chief master sergeant of the Space Force, according to the memo.

All the officer ranks, from second lieutenant to general, remain the same.

Antifreeze sickens 11 soldiers in Texas

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — The 11 soldiers hospitalized at Fort Bliss on Thursday drank antifreeze believing it was an alcoholic beverage, officials said Friday.

The soldiers were participating in a training exercise as part of the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade of the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, when they drank the potentially deadly substance, said Lt. Col. Allie Payne, spokeswoman for Fort Bliss. The unit was preparing to return from the McGregor Training Complex on the final day of the 10-day training exercise when the soldiers became ill.

All 11 soldiers were hospitalized Thursday afternoon and more than 24 hours after the incident, two soldiers remained seriously ill in the intensive care unit at the base's William Beaumont Army Medical Center. Up to four of the soldiers were expected to be released Friday evening, said Col. Shawna Scully, deputy commander of medical

services at the hospital.

"Exactly what was happening on that day that led to the soldiers ingesting that material is all under investigation," Payne said. "We do want to understand what happened that day."

An administrative investigation and an investigation from the Army Criminal Investigation Command are underway. For that reason, Payne declined to release details on how the antifreeze was presented or packaged at the time it was consumed.

Drinking alcohol while on duty or during field training exercises is not allowed, she said.

The injured soldiers included one warrant officer, two noncommissioned officers and eight enlisted members. No other soldiers were believed to be involved, Payne said.

"We're very glad those soldiers got the treatment they needed," she said. "Our primary concern remains the well-being of our soldiers, our families, and the unit."

Antifreeze, also referred to as ethylene glycol, is dangerous, even in small amounts. It can immediately cause kidney failure or large doses can lead to organ failure, Scully said. Other symptoms include nausea, agitation and confusion.

Doctors treat antifreeze consumption by administering medication that binds the substance together to clear it from the body, Scully said. In extreme cases, clearance is done using a dialysis machine.

The first soldier entered the emergency room Thursday afternoon with symptoms, followed shortly by a second, she said. The medical leadership on base then asked all members of the battalion conducting training to be taken to the hospital immediately for evaluation.

All 11 soldiers admitted to the hospital "have shown signs of significant improvement," Scully said. One soldier who required a ventilator has since been removed from the support. "All others are doing incredibly well," she said.

USAF Academy reviews honor code after cheating

The Gazette (Colorado Springs)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The Air Force Academy is reviewing its honor code in the wake of suspicion that hundreds of cadets cheated last spring after being sent home for online learning at the height of the pandemic.

Two of the nearly 250 cadets suspected are no longer at the academy. Most of the remainder have admitted to cheating and are on six months of probation and remediation, according to the service academy.

On Friday, the academy announced the review as well as the alleged infractions, which were discovered through faculty academic safeguards. Those infractions ranged from failing to properly cite sources and using unauthorized tutoring websites, to receiving solutions to exam questions in real time and completing final exams in small groups, according to an academy news release.

"The honor code is not only foundational to the Air Force Academy, but it serves as a guide for cadets to live an

honorable life, whether serving in uniform or not," Lt. Gen. Richard Clark, the academy's superintendent, said. "Honor serves as one of my fundamental institutional priorities for developing leaders of character."

The alleged violations occurred after officials sent approximately 3,000 of the school's 4,000 cadets home in March, in the wake of the novel coronavirus pandemic, transitioning them from in-person to virtual learning. All alleged cheating cases involved freshmen, sophomores and juniors, according to the academy.

"Remediation is a consequence and not an act of leniency," Clark said. "If earned, remediation provides an opportunity to reset the moral compass and deepen a cadet's understanding of and respect for the honor code. Developing leaders of character is not without life lessons and learning from these mistakes."

Per the honor code, cadets pledge to "not lie, steal, or cheat nor tolerate among us anyone who does." The in-

cident is the first major honor code violation at the academy since 2011, according to Gazette records.

A cadet-led process to investigate honor code infractions of the cadets who didn't admit to cheating is underway. The academy noted that COVID-19 restrictions have slowed the process, but that accountability is paramount.

"We will let the process work for each cadet and go from there," said Lt. Col. Michael R. Andrews, spokesman with the Air Force Academy.

The Honor Review Committee is partnering with AF Cyberworx to review the honor program, obtaining feedback from senior leaders, cadets, stakeholders and alumni to see how the system can be improved. Internal processes, structures and activities associated with the honor program will be examined, according to the academy.

"Findings and recommendations are great, but they don't equal progress until action is taken that results in enduring positive change," Clark said.

Biden warns against delaying aid for virus

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden is warning of a steep and growing “cost of inaction” on his \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief plan as the White House searched for “creative” ways to win public support for a package that is getting a cold shoulder from Senate Republicans.

In the age of the coronavirus, it’s not as simple as jumping on a plane to travel the country and try to gin up a groundswell. And at a time of deep polarization, Biden may struggle to convince Republican voters of the urgency when Congress already has approved \$4 trillion in aid, including \$900 billion last month.

Biden signaled on Friday for the first time that he’s willing to move ahead without Republicans.

“I support passing COVID relief with support from Republicans if we can get it,” he told reporters. “But the COVID relief has to pass. No ifs, ands or buts.”

His message so far has been that a fresh \$1.9 trillion in aid would be a bargain compared to the potential damage to the world’s largest economy if it doesn’t pass. An aggressive push for vaccinations and generous aid to individuals would help put parents back to work and let children return to

school and improve their lifetime earnings, Biden said at a Friday meeting with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen in the Oval Office.

“We have learned from past crises that the risk is not doing too much,” he said. “The risk is not doing enough.”

Only a week into his presidency, Biden is confronting the challenge of selling his first major piece of legislation to a country he has pledged to unite. Private calls with Republican lawmakers have yet to produce any progress on reaching a deal, while Senate Democrats are now preparing to pass the measure strictly on partisan lines as soon as next week.

Some Biden allies have expressed frustration that the administration has not more clearly defined what the massive legislation would actually accomplish. The new president instead has largely focused his first nine days in office on signing executive orders rolling back his predecessor’s policies.

In particular, Biden, for whom the widespread distribution of coronavirus vaccines will be a defining test, has not explained what the increased money for testing and vaccination would achieve — including how much quicker the White House be-

lieves it would help bring about an end to the pandemic.

Biden’s outreach to senators has largely brought criticism that the plan should be more targeted and that the country can afford to wait to see the effects of the stimulus dollars that were approved in December.

Many Republicans are under more political pressure from donors and activists back home to rein in spending than to approve more. Some Republicans particularly object to what are still seen by many as bailouts for cash-strapped state and local governments.

Some do support a deal, just not what Biden is offering.

Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, a member of a bipartisan group of legislators contacted by the administration, said he supports funds for vaccine distribution and even potentially extra jobless benefits, but he wants a full accounting of what funding remains from previous aid packages.

“Unemployment insurance, they think it’s an emergency, well we have unemployment insurance in place until mid March. Where’s the emergency?” Portman said. “Am I against extending it, no I’m not. I think we should, based on some economic factors. But it just doesn’t make sense.”

Biden, Dems hit gas on push for \$15 minimum wage

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Democratic push to raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour has emerged as an early flashpoint in the fight for a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief package, testing President Joe Biden’s ability to bridge Washington’s partisan divides as he pursues his first major legislative victory.

Biden called for a \$15 hourly minimum wage during his campaign and has followed through by hitching it to a measure that, among other things, calls for \$1,400 stimulus checks and \$130 billion to help schools reopen. Biden argues that anyone who holds a full-time job shouldn’t live in poverty, echoing progressives in the Democratic Party who are fully on board with the effort.

“With the economic divide, I mean, I want to see a \$15 minimum wage. It should actually be \$20,” said Rep. Rashida Tlaib, D-Mich.

Some Republicans support exploring an increase but are uneasy with \$15 an hour. They warn that such an increase could lead

to job losses in an economy that has nearly 10 million fewer jobs than it did before the pandemic began. Moderates such as Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Rep. Tom Reed of New York are urging Biden to split off the minimum wage hike from COVID-19 talks and deal with it separately.

“The more you throw into this bucket of COVID relief that’s not really related to the crisis, the more you risk the credibility with the American people that you’re really sincere about the crisis,” Reed said.

Including the wage increase, Murkowski said, “complicates politically an initiative that we should all be working together to address.”

The resistance from moderates has left Democrats with a stark choice: Wait and build bipartisan support for an increase or move ahead with little to no GOP backing, potentially as part of a package that can pass the Senate with Vice President Kamala Harris’ tiebreaking vote. Democratic leaders appear to be moving toward the latter option, with no guarantee of success. Even if

raising the wage can get past procedural challenges, passage will require the support from every Democrat in the 50-50 Senate, which could be a tall order.

Leading the charge is Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., who unveiled \$15 wage legislation this week with the backing of 37 Senate Democrats. His bill would gradually raise the wage to \$15 over a period of five years. The federal minimum is \$7.25 and has not been raised since 2009.

Sanders, the incoming chair of the Senate Budget Committee, said it was fine with him if Republicans were not prepared to “come on board.” He said the government needed to pump money into the economy to make sure “people are not working on starvation wages.”

Democrats are moving toward using a tool that allows certain budget-related items to bypass the Senate filibuster — a hurdle requiring 60 votes — and pass with a simple majority. Sanders is confident that a minimum wage increase fits within the allowed criteria for budget reconciliation.

Fauci sees vaccines for kids by summer

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government's top infectious disease expert said Friday he hopes to see some kids starting to get vaccinated for COVID-19 in the next few months. It's a needed step to securing widespread immunity to the virus.

Vaccines are not yet approved for children, but testing already is underway for those as young as 12.

If those trials are successful, Dr. Anthony Fauci said they would be followed by another round of testing down to those 9 years old.

"Hopefully by the time we get to the late spring and early summer we will have children being able to be vaccinated," Fauci said at a White House coronavirus briefing.

Fauci was looking ahead to a time vaccines will be plentiful. Even older adults are having difficulty getting shots at the moment. As of Thursday, only about 1.3% of Americans had been fully vaccinated with the required two doses of the currently available vaccines.

Children represent about one-fourth of the population, and for the U.S. to reach "herd immunity," or widespread resistance, about 70% to 85% of the population must be vaccinated.

"Children tend to not become as severely ill as adults but they can still become ill and some have tragically died," said Dr. Leana Wen, a public health expert and emergency room physician, who supports Fauci's goal. "Children can also be vectors of transmission, and getting children vaccinated is important as we strive for herd immunity."

Illinois

CHICAGO— Chicago Public Schools plans to proceed with the reopening of elementary and middle schools on Monday despite the failure to reach an agreement with the teachers union, Mayor Lori Lightfoot

said Friday night.

School officials and the Chicago Teachers Union have been locked in negotiations for days in an attempt to reach an agreement to reopen schools closed in March to about 335,000 students because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The teachers union has opposed the school district's plan over fears for the health of its members.

"We wish we were here to announce that a deal has finally been struck. But sadly, another day has passed and the CTU has not agreed to anything," Lightfoot said late Friday during a press conference.

Kentucky

FRANKFORT— The rate of positive COVID-19 tests in Kentucky dropped again Friday, the 11th consecutive daily decline, Gov. Andy Beshear said.

The rate dipped to 8.75%, Beshear said in a news release. He said it "shows that Kentuckians are continuing to make those small sacrifices we've been talking about all year in order to protect each other until we get enough vaccines for everyone who wants one."

The state reported 2,608 new cases Friday and 57 new deaths.

Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG— Republicans are faulting the administration of Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf for Pennsylvania's slow COVID-19 vaccine rollout even as Wolf himself says insufficient supply is the real culprit, setting up a fresh political fight over who's to blame for the frustrations of eligible residents trying to get inoculated.

GOP leaders in the House and Senate chided Wolf for the fact that Pennsylvania ranks second-to-last among the states in vaccine administration. The state has managed to get less than half of its federal allocation of doses into people's arms, according to data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention.

State health officials say about 720,000 Pennsylvania residents have received at least one shot through Thursday, a fraction of the more than 4 million who are currently eligible.

Washington

SEATTLE— A new coronavirus variant first identified in England and recently found in Snohomish and Pierce counties has been detected in a King County test sample, health officials in Washington state said.

University of Washington Medicine on Friday notified King County public health officials, who said the appearance of the B117 variant is "a wakeup call," according to a blog post from Public Health — Seattle & King County.

Viruses constantly mutate, and coronavirus variants are circulating around the globe. Scientists are primarily concerned with three variants, the one from the U.K., one from South Africa and one from Brazil that researchers believe may spread more easily. All have been confirmed in the U.S.

Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas on Friday reported 47 more coronavirus deaths as the number of people hospitalized because of the virus continued to drop.

The Department of Health said the state's COVID-19 deaths since the pandemic began now total 4,831. The number of people in the hospital because of COVID-19 dropped by 45 to 951. Thursday marked the first day the state's virus hospitalizations had been below 1,000 since November.

The state's virus cases rose by 1,707 to 292,563.

The state reported that 284,928 of the 519,800 doses Arkansas has received of the coronavirus vaccine have been given.

Twenty-four percent of the state's 8,829 hospital beds and

nearly 7% of its 1,182 intensive care unit beds are available, according to the Department of Health. There are 299 COVID-19 patients in ICUs around the state.

Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Public Health on Friday reported 4,156 new confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 as it also said 58,357 doses of vaccine were administered to combat the coronavirus.

The number of doses administered Thursday is the most in a single day since a vaccine has been made available.

Public health officials say 887,845 doses of vaccine have been administered over the last six weeks. However, only 194,471 people have received the two doses required for full vaccination, about 1.5% of the state's population.

Illinois has seen 1.1 million COVID-19 cases since the start of the pandemic, with 19,138 deaths, including 71 reported Friday.

Alabama

MONTGOMERY — Alabama will roughly double the number of people eligible to receive immunizations against COVID-19 next month even though there's still not enough vaccine for everyone who qualifies for a shot, the head of the state health agency said Friday.

Dr. Scott Harris, the state health officer, said everyone 65 and older; educators; court officials; corrections officers; postal employees; grocery store workers; some manufacturing workers; public transit workers; agriculture employees; state legislators and constitutional officers will be eligible to get vaccinations when the program expands on Feb. 8.

Currently, only people 75 and older; first responders, health care workers and long-term care residents are eligible.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Viral TikTok signs cranberry juice bottle for museum

ID IDAHO FALLS— An Idaho man who rode to fame on TikTok after casually singing “Dreams” by Fleetwood Mac and drinking cranberry juice while longboarding will have a symbol of his success on display at the Museum of Idaho.

Nathan Apodaca, also known as Doggface, signed a bottle of Ocean Spray cranberry juice for the museum, the Post-Register reported. In exchange, Apodaca and his family received membership cards to the museum.

Since posting the viral video on social media four months ago, Apodaca was asked to record a video for President Joe Biden’s virtual “Parade Across America” on Inauguration Day and saw the city of Idaho Falls officially declare a “Nathan Apodaca Day” last week.

Gas station manager fired for offensive signs

AZ PRESCOTT — The manager of a gas station near downtown Prescott was fired for posting signs outside the business that made a baseless sexual derogatory claim about President Joe Biden and were racially offensive.

Joanne Selena Lopez said she was terminated as manager of the Shepherd Express gas station after the signs went viral on social media. She said she considered her sign saying “March is white pride month y’all” to be a joke.

Lopez said she put up the signs after watching the news and later received calls from people who called her a racist.

Woman’s 63 dogs lived in unsanitary conditions

KY BOWLING GREEN — A Kentucky woman is facing animal cruelty charges after 63 dogs were found living in unsanitary conditions, police said.

Donna Byard was charged with second-degree cruelty to animals after an animal control officer responded to a tip in Alvaton,

the Warren County Sheriff’s Office said in a statement.

Feces clogged a drain and covered the floor in a barn where the dogs and puppies lived, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported.

The dogs were removed from the property. They are not available for adoption, the sheriff’s office said.

Nurse fired, accused of giving inmate cigarettes

GA MACON — A nurse working at a Georgia jail was fired and is facing charges for allegedly bringing contraband to an inmate.

Investigators were told that Brandi Thompson, 47, was speaking to the inmate while working at the Bibb County jail and had planned to bring him cigarettes while he was working at the car wash detail in downtown Macon. Authorities monitored the car wash and saw Thompson drop off the cigarettes to inmate Presley Lee Middlebrooks.

Thompson was later interviewed and arrested on a charge of giving inmates liquor, drugs, weapons, telecommunications devices etc. without consent of the warden.

Teen arrested for role in carjacking spree

IL CHICAGO — A boy, 14, was arrested for taking part in multiple carjackings including one involving an off-duty police officer, Chicago police said.

The boy’s arrest comes during a surge of carjackings that have alarmed both residents and city officials. Chicago police say carjackings rose about 135% last year to 1,415 and continue at a high pace this year.

The arrested teen, unnamed because he is a juvenile, is suspected of being involved in as many as nine carjackings and robberies that occurred between July and this month. Police allege that the boy, who was on home electronic monitoring for another charge, also carjacked an off-duty Chicago police officer.

The teen, who was arrested after a brief

foot chase, is charged with aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm, armed robbery, unlawful use of a weapon, possessing a stolen vehicle, robbery and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, authorities said.

District will honor snow days for remote classes

MI FLINT — Online learning from home doesn’t mean an end to snow days in Flint.

The Flint school superintendent told families that she’ll cancel remote classes if too much snow makes roads hazardous, MLive.com reported.

“Growing up as a student at Flint Community Schools, I remember the excitement I would carry every time a large snow fall was predicted,” Anita Steward wrote. “I would barely sleep a wink, waiting to find out whether school might be canceled. When it was, I would play outside in the snow, building snowmen and carving snow angels in the yard.”

Lemma Shomali, who has two children in Grand Blanc schools, said snow days are good for mental health.

Ex-fire captain sentenced for illegally selling guns

MO KANSAS CITY — A former fire department captain in Kansas City was sentenced to six years in federal prison for illegally selling guns, including to convicted felons.

James Samuels, 55, will be required to serve three years of supervised release once he gets out of prison.

Samuels pleaded guilty to several gun charges in August, admitting he bought 77 guns from November 2013 to August 2018, and transferred 47 of the guns to third parties. He made a profit of \$40 to \$50 per firearm, prosecutors said.

Authorities said 10 to 20 of the guns were sold to people forbidden to possess firearms.

Samuels also was ordered to pay a fine of more than \$11,000 — the amount of cash seized at the time of his arrest.

— From The Associated Press

STARS AND STRIPES®

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

Reporting
World, National
and Military News

College bluebloods struggling this year

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Bill Self had never found himself in this position in nearly two decades as the head coach at Kansas.

Sure, there have been teams that have struggled to assimilate new players. Teams with deficiencies on offense or defense. He's had teams that flamed out the first weekend of the NCAA Tournament, despite having one-and-done prodigies on the roster.

But this is different. Entering the final week of January, the Jayhawks are staring at a stretch run in which they could be a non-factor in the Big 12 race — the by-product of both a brilliant rival in No. 2 Baylor and their own shortcomings.

"We're trying to gear ourselves up to have a storybook or a very happy end to our season and you can't do that unless you play well in the postseason," Self said. "The only thing that's changed is the disappointment being midway through your league play, you're already significantly behind your league leader, and they're probably not

going to lose much, if any."

It's a situation a lot of perennial powerhouses are facing as the calendar flips to February.

Duke, North Carolina and Kentucky are all facing the very real possibility of not making the NCAA Tournament and the last time that happened in the same year was 1974.

The Blue Devils (6-5) finally snapped their three-game losing streak with a win over Georgia Tech, but coach Mike Krzyzewski's team has struggled to incorporate its talented freshmen, it is still working Jalen Johnson into the mix after a foot injury and it ranks 281st in field-goal percentage defense.

The Wildcats (5-10) have struggled to score. Their poor shooting combined with a penchant for turnovers has Kentucky in danger of its first losing season since 1988-89, when Eddie Sutton was in charge.

Don't talk to Tom Izzo about struggling to score. Michigan State (8-5) came back from a 20-day pause because of COVID-19 and was promptly walloped 67-37 by Rutgers — a team that had

never beaten the Spartans.

"If you look across America, it could be any blueblood — any school at all — they have gone through this, some grind, dog-type days," said Self, whose Jayhawks narrowly beat TCU to avoid their first four-game skid in 32 years. "The next big thing is the postseason. You're probably playing for seeding, if you're fortunate to get in — we're playing for seeding much more than in years past, because in years past we controlled our own destiny."

There are plenty of reasons the bluebloods can point to for being beaten so often.

Most rely on one-and-done stars or, at most, two-year players who have a narrow window for reaching their ceiling in college. Duke's had 19 players leave after one season over the past decade, and most of the 21 lottery picks that Wildcats coach John Calipari has produced in the past 11 seasons have departed after their freshman or sophomore seasons.

"This has been a long journey and every team goes through it differently," Krzyzewski said.

"We have not had a positive case yet ... knock on wood, but we've had interruptions. It's long for anybody, but for a young group it's really long."

Indeed, the pandemic has caused havoc with teams trying to find their footing. That was evident in the performance by the Spartans against Rutgers, and by Kansas during a three-game skid that included a pair of unranked opponents; the Jayhawks had a potential get-right game against lowly Iowa State postponed in the midst of it.

One blueblood, UCLA, is doing fine at 12-3 so far this season. And there are plenty of reasons to believe its brethren are going through a temporary lull.

Each of the schools has another group of talented players arriving in the fall, with Kentucky and Michigan State both ranked in the top 10 for 2021 recruits by 247 Sports. Vaccinations have begun amid hope that next season will look a whole lot more like normal — and normal would mean college basketball's bluebloods back in the national title mix.

Former Temple coach Chaney dies at age 89

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — John Chaney's raspy, booming voice drowned out the gym when he scolded Temple players over a turnover — at the top of his basketball sins — or inferior effort. His voice was loudest when it came to picking unpopular fights, lashing out at NCAA policies he said discriminated against Black athletes. And it could be profane when Chaney let his own sense of justice get the better of him with fiery confrontations that threatened to undermine his role as father figure to scores of his underprivileged players.

Complicated, cranky, quick with a quip, Chaney was an imposing presence on the court

and a court jester off it, all while building the Owls perched in rugged North Philadelphia into one of the toughest teams in the nation.

"He wrapped his arms around you and made you a part of his family," said Chaney's successor, Fran Dunphy.

Chaney died Friday, just eight days after his 89th birthday, after a short, unspecified illness.

Chaney led Temple to 17 NCAA Tournament appearances over 24 seasons, including five NCAA regional finals. Chaney had 741 wins as a college coach. He was twice named national coach of the year and his teams at Temple won six Atlantic 10 conference titles. He led Cheyney, in suburban Philadel-

phia, to the 1978 Division II national championship.

When Chaney retired in 2006, the scowl was gone, the dark, deep-set eyes concealed behind sunglasses, and the over-the-top personality turned subdued: "Excuse me while I disappear," he said.

He became a de facto father to dozens of his players, many coming to Temple from broken homes, violent upbringings and bad schools. He often said his biggest goal was simply to give poor kids a chance to get an education. He said the SAT was culturally biased and he joined Georgetown's John Thompson — another giant in the Black coaching community, who died in August — in denouncing

NCAA academic requirements that seemed to single out "the youngster who is from a poor, disadvantaged background."

Eddie Jones and Aaron McKie, perhaps Chaney's two best players, were Prop 48 recruits who parlayed their Temple years into successful NBA careers. McKie is now Temple's coach and leaned on his mentor when he had to shape the program.

"Coach Chaney was like a father to me," McKie said. "He taught not just me, but all of his players more than just how to succeed in basketball. He taught us life lessons to make us better individuals off the court. I owe so much to him. He made me the man I am today."

No. 19 Illinois knocks off No. 7 Iowa

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Ayo Dosunmu scored 25 points, Trent Frazier had 24 and No. 19 Illinois upset No. 7 Iowa 80-75 on Friday night.

In one of the most entertaining games of the Big Ten season, the teams traded leads for most of the game. Illinois finally took command in the final two minutes but was up by only three points when Iowa's Jordan Bohannon missed a hurried three-pointer with 11 seconds left.

The Illini's Kofi Cockburn was immediately fouled and missed his free throw but grabbed the rebound. Cockburn was fouled again with 2 seconds left and sank both shots to seal the win.

"Great win against a great team," Illinois coach Brad Underwood said. "That was a heck of a college basketball game."

Luka Garza and Joe Wieskamp each had 19 points for Iowa (12-4, 6-3 Big Ten). Garza was called for his third foul early in the second half and spent more than seven minutes on the bench. He was flagged for his fourth with 4 minutes left and the score tied at 69.

"I've never been one to make excuses," Garza said. "I've got to be better for my team and not put myself in position to be in foul

trouble."

Jacob Grandison had 11 points and 10 rebounds for Illinois (11-5, 7-3). Cockburn added nine points and 11 rebounds.

Illinois led 43-41 at the half, thanks to a long three-pointer by Frazier with 7 seconds left. Neither team led by more than six points in the back-and-forth half.

Dosunmu had 19 points at the midpoint and Garza had 13 for Iowa.

The Hawkeyes were without shooting guard CJ Fredrick, who averages 9.1 points and is a leader on the court. Fredrick has been battling a lower leg injury and is considered day-to-day.

"Obviously, we'd love to have him," Iowa coach Fran McCaffery said.

Big picture

Neither team looked rusty, despite long layoffs. Iowa hadn't played since losing to unranked Indiana on Jan. 21. Illinois' last game was Jan. 19, a home victory over Penn State. Both teams had a game postponed in the interim due to COVID-19 protocols.

No rust

Neither team had played in a week or more, yet both looked sharp from the opening tip.

"That first half was fast and up-tempo,"

Underwood said. "Two very well-rested teams. The second half was just grind-it-out, smash-mouth basketball."

Not happy

McCaffery wasn't happy after the game and it showed in his Zoom press conference.

When asked why his team hadn't made many free throws down the stretch, he snapped, "I guess I've got to do a much better job of getting Luka Garza to the free-throw line, apparently. I'm just a horrendous coach."

Still, McCaffery thought the game was in reach until the bitter end.

"We were in a position to win the game," he said. "We had a chance."

He said it

Ayo Dosunmu: "It was great to get this win. I'm really proud of the team and how we responded after 10 days off."

Poll implications

Iowa will likely drop out of the top 10 after the loss to Indiana and now Illinois. The Illini should edge closer to the top 10 with the win.

Up next

Iowa: Hosts Michigan State on Tuesday.

Illinois: Travels to Indiana on Tuesday.

Jazz rout Mavericks for 11th straight victory

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Bojan Bogdanovic scored 32 points and the Utah Jazz ran their NBA-best winning streak to 11, routing the Dallas Mavericks 120-101 on Friday night to sweep the two-game series.

With Donovan Mitchell missing his second game because of concussion protocol, the Jazz improved to 15-4 with their 10th victory by double digits in the streak.

Mike Conley added 22 points, Jordan Clarkson had 18 and Rudy Gobert added 17 points and 12 rebounds. Juwan Morgan had career highs of 12 points, seven rebounds and three steals.

Luka Doncic scored 25 points for Dallas. The Mavericks have lost four in a row.

Hawks 116, Wizards 100:

Trae Young scored 41 points, Atlanta held NBA scoring leader Bradley Beal to a season-low 26 points and the Hawks beat host Washington in a game that saw Rajon Rondo, Russell Westbrook and Robin Lopez get ejected.

Beal drew one of no fewer than six techs whistled on Washington. Westbrook, who scored 26 points but repeatedly jawed with Rondo, and Lopez each drew a pair and were sent to the locker room in the second half. Rondo was ejected in the fourth quarter after his second technical of the game.

John Collins added 17 points for Atlanta.

76ers 118, Timberwolves 94: Joel Embiid had 37 points and 11 rebounds in 27 minutes, leading visiting Philadelphia past depleted Minnesota.

Malik Beasley led Minnesota with 22 points.

Clippers 116, Magic 90: Paul George had 26 points, nine rebounds and five assists, Kawhi Leonard added 24 points and Los Angeles routed host Orlando in the two All-Stars' returns following two-game absences because of COVID-19 protocols.

Terrence Ross led Orlando with 24 points. Once 6-2, the Magic lost for a 10th time in 12 games.

Nets 147, Thunder 125: James Harden and Kyrie Irving each scored 25 points and visiting Brooklyn rolled past Oklahoma City without star forward Kevin Durant, who was resting.

Pelicans 131, Bucks 126: Lonzo Ball highlighted a season-best 27-point performance with seven three-pointers and

host New Orleans held off a furious Milwaukee rally.

Spurs 119, Nuggets 109: DeMar DeRozan had 30 points and 10 assists, Dejounte Murray scored 26 points and San Antonio ended visiting Denver's winning streak at five.

Hornets 108, Pacers 105: P.J. Washington had 19 points and nine rebounds to help host Charlotte avenge a loss to Indiana two nights earlier.

Knicks 102, Cavaliers 81: Rookie guard Immanuel Quickley scored 25 points off the bench, helping New York beat visiting Cleveland to snap a three-game losing streak.

Kings 126, Raptors 124: At Tampa, Fla., Harrison Barnes scored 26 points, De'Aaron Fox added 24 and Sacramento beat Toronto for its third straight victory.

Source: Rockies trading All-Star 3B Arenado to Cards

Associate Press

The St. Louis Cardinals have agreed to acquire All-Star third baseman Nolan Arenado from the Colorado Rockies in a trade needing approvals before it can be finalized, a person familiar with the swap tells The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Friday night because the trade had not yet been finalized.

Arenado, an eight-time Gold Glove winner, signed a \$260 million, eight-year deal with Colorado in February 2019 and is owed \$199 million for the six remaining seasons.

Colorado would reportedly pay St. Louis a large amount of cash as part of the deal, and Major League Baseball must approve cash transactions of more than \$1 million.

Arenado's contract has a no-trade provision that requires his approval for any assignment.

He may restructure his contract as part of a trade, the person said, which could require approval of the players' association. The trade agreement was first reported by The Athletic.

The 29-year-old Arenado has hit .293 with an .890 OPS over eight seasons, averaging 35 home runs and 114 RBIs per 162 games. Aided in part by hitter-friendly Coors Field, he's led the National League in home runs three times and led the majors in RBIs twice.

The Cardinals finished second in the NL Central last season and lost a first-round playoff matchup against the San Diego Padres. Arenado will bump Matt Carpenter out of his role as the starting third baseman and

play in an infield with All-Stars Paul DeJong at shortstop and Paul Goldschmidt at first base.

Arenado slumped during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season, hitting .253 with eight home runs and a .738 OPS over 48 games.

Colorado general manager Jeff Bridich acknowledged last offseason that he was listening to trade offers on the five-time All-Star, and Arenado said in February of 2020 that "there's a lot of disrespect around there" and "there is no relationship anymore" between him and Bridich.

Like Troy Tulowitzki and Matt Holliday before him, Arenado grew tired of losing, especially in an NL West division ruled by the Los Angeles Dodgers every year he's been in the big leagues.

Arenado would be the latest established star acquired by St. Louis in his prime.

Mark McGwire came over from Oakland in July 1997 and agreed two months later to a \$28.5 million, three-year contract rather than test the market. Jim Edmonds was obtained from the Angels in March 2000 and reached a \$57 million, six-year deal that May. Matt Holliday arrived in a swap with the Athletics in July 2009, became a free agent and agreed in February to a \$120 million, seven-year deal.

Most recently, the Cardinals acquired Goldschmidt, a six-time All-Star, from Arizona prior to the 2019 season, and he signed a \$130 million deal to stay with St. Louis through 2024.

Korpisalo, Blue Jackets hold off Blackhawks

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Columbus Blue Jackets had tired legs and a fresh Joonas Korpisalo.

On Friday night, at least, it was enough.

Korpisalo made 31 saves and Oliver Bjorkstrand had a goal and an assist, sending Columbus to a 2-1 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks.

"We weren't as sharp as we like to be, but Korpisalo was easily our best player," coach John Tortorella said.

The Blue Jackets have one of the NHL's best goaltender tandems in Korpisalo and Elvis Merzlikins, and that duo played a key role in consecutive wins. A night after Merzlikins had 33 saves in a 3-2 shootout victory over Florida, Korpisalo took over.

He stepped up as Chicago pushed for the tying goal, denying Patrick Kane in front about seven minutes into the third. He also caught a break when Carl Soderberg's shot through the goaltender's legs was just wide with a couple of minutes left.

"Korpy made some huge saves," Bjorkstrand said.

Eric Robinson also scored for Columbus, helping Korpisalo get the win against good friend and fellow Finn Kevin Lankinen. The Blue Jackets extended their point streak to seven.

Lankinen made 25 saves in his fifth career start — all this season.

"That was really fun," Korpisalo said. "I think it's been like six or seven years since we played against each other. He won that one, so that was great to win today."

Dylan Strome scored for Chicago, which had recorded at least one point in five straight games.

"It's tough to come from behind against a team like that and they've got really good goaltending," coach Jeremy Colliton said. "But I thought we did a

lot of good things, and we did more than enough to score more than one goal."

The Blue Jackets jumped in front on Bjorkstrand's power-play goal 8:53 into the first period. Mattias Janmark had a chance to clear the puck out for Chicago, but Columbus kept it in and Cam Atkinson found Bjorkstrand in the left circle for a one-timer.

The Blackhawks pushed for the tying goal early in the second, but Strome had a wrap-around attempt knocked away by Blue Jackets defenseman Vladislav Gavrikov.

"It was a game I thought we played well enough to win," Strome said. "Did a lot of good things and felt like we had the puck quite a bit but came up short."

After Chicago had an extended stay in Columbus' zone, the Blue Jackets got it out and the speedy Robinson skated out on a breakaway. He beat Lankinen on the glove side for his second goal of the season and a 2-0 lead at 3:39.

Bjorkstrand got the only assist on the play. He has three goals and five assists in his last seven games. He almost picked up another goal in the third, but Lankinen used his glove to push away his shot from right in front.

Chicago got on the board when Kane found Strome in the slot for the center's third goal, making it 2-1 midway through the second. The connection gave the Blackhawks at least one power-play goal in eight of their nine games this season.

Happy birthday

Columbus forward Jack Roslovic played 14 minutes on his 24th birthday. The Columbus native was acquired in a blockbuster trade with Winnipeg last week that also moved Patrik Laine to the Blue Jackets in exchange for Pierre Luc-Dubois and a third-round draft pick.