

Marine general suspended after AAV sinking probe

BY SARAH CAMMARATA
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A Marine Corps major general has been suspended from his duties after an investigation into the deadly sinking last year of an amphibious assault vehicle determined he was in part responsible for the accident, a service official said Monday at a House hearing.

Gen. Gary Thomas, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, told members of a subpanel of the House Armed Services Committee that Maj. Gen. Robert Castellvi, who oversaw the ground combat unit that was involved in the training when the accident happened, had been placed on administrative leave last week from his duties as the service inspector general.

At the hearing, lawmakers probed service officials about the results of an internal investigation into the accident that found it was preventable after roughly six months of failures by Marine Corps leadership to uphold training standards and address maintenance shortfalls.

Eleven Marine Corps members in the chain of command have been disciplined so far for their roles in the accident. Review boards are still considering some of them for separation from the service, Thomas said at the hearing.

Last July, eight Marines and a sailor from the Battalion Landing Team 1/4 of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit drowned as

their assault amphibious vehicle sunk off the coast of California during a training exercise ahead of a deployment.

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

Castellvi, the commander of 1st Marine Division at the time, was responsible for the initial readiness of the division units forming the ground combat element, Thomas said at the hearing.

In the initial aftermath of the incident, disciplinary action was not taken against Castellvi by the commander of the Marine Corps Forces Pacific, Lt. Gen. Steven R. Rudder, though Rudder found Castellvi was in part to blame for training lapses that led to the accident.

Rudder found in his investigation, which was released in late March, that the AAV platoon had not completed a Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation, which is required to be conducted before a platoon deploys.

The evaluation is designed to provide insight into the effectiveness of the service members to perform their mission, according to the service. Units undergo simulated combat problems, and their performance is observed by evaluators from within the service.

Navy, Marine officials vow culture of safety

BY SARAH CAMMARATA
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Marine Corps and Navy officials told House lawmakers Monday that they are looking at ways to create a culture of safety following the sinking of an assault amphibious vehicle that killed nine service members last year.

"The sinking of this AAV and the deaths of eight Marines and one sailor were preventable. Preventable in so many ways. But we failed," Gen. Gary Thomas, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, told members of a subpanel of the House Armed Services Committee.

A "confluence of human and mechanical failures" caused the sinking of the AAV off the coast of California in July, according to a nearly 2,000-page internal investigation released in March that found the deadly training accident was preventable.

The unit's vehicles were in "horrible condition" and 12 out of 13 were inoperable, though they should have been ready for land and water operations, the investigation concluded.

Thomas and other military officials spoke at the hearing about lessons learned after the investigation, how to lower the risk of preventable accidents and build a culture of safety within the Marine Corps and Navy.

"If we can, with our education system, our reporting systems create an environment where people are comfortable, I think we'll make a lot of headway toward the safety culture that we need," he said.

That includes looking at how to instill in leaders the importance of conducting oversight, identifying risk, stopping operations and rewarding hazard re-

porting.

Last month, Thomas also directed Lt. Gen. Carl Mundy III to lead a new investigation into the forming of the Marine Expeditionary Unit, including training and readiness oversight. It was unclear Monday what led to the latest probe.

The Navy, including a panel of 16 subject-matter experts within and outside both services, is conducting a separate investigation into the incident. It will provide findings on planning, Navy and Marine Corps integration, and training and operational safety.

That investigation is expected within 30 days, said Vice Adm. Roy Kitchener, commander of Naval Surface Forces. The Navy has not resumed waterborne AAV operations since a safety pause after the accident.

A subsequent investigation into AAVs directly after the accident found the majority of the vehicles failed inspection and should not be in use. The mechanics who had been inspecting the vehicles returned them, up to code for land operations, but not waterborne operations.

"We had a problem across the fleet with our watertight integrity. Some 54% of the vehicles that were inspected had failures in the watertight integrity of their plenum doors, that's the large intakes of the front, to permit air to come in and out of an engine that's underwater," said Maj. Gen. Gregg P. Olson, staff director of the Marine Corps.

Olson said they have upgraded manuals and instructions to ensure the vehicles are inspected to the highest level of detail necessary to determine discrepancies in whether the vehicle is safe for both types of operations.

Milley open to change to sex assault policy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a potentially significant shift in the debate over combating sexual assault in the military, the nation's top general said he is dropping his opposition to a proposal to take decisions on sexual assault prosecution out of the hands of commanders.

Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, stopped short of endorsing the changes recommended by an independent review panel. But in an interview with The Associated Press and CNN, Milley said he is now open to considering them because the problem of sexual assault in the military has persisted despite other efforts to solve it.

"We've been at it for years, and we haven't effectively moved the needle," he said. "We have to. We must."

The comments by Milley, as arguably the most influential officer and as the senior military adviser to Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and to President Joe Biden, are likely to carry con-

siderable weight among the service chiefs and add to momentum for the change.

Austin, himself a former senior commander and former chief of the Army, has not publicly commented on the review commission's proposal, but it is his creation and thus its recommendations are seen as especially weighty. Lawmakers are also stepping up pressure for the change.

Milley said he would reserve judgment on the proposal to take prosecution authority on sexual assault cases away from commanders until the review commission has finished its work and its recommendations are fully debated within the military leadership.

The review commission submitted its initial recommendations to Austin late last month. Officials have said they expect him to give service leaders about a month to review and respond.

The review panel said that for certain special victims crimes, designated independent judge

advocates reporting to a civilian-led office of the Chief Special Victim Prosecutor should decide two key legal questions: whether to charge someone and, ultimately, if that charge should go to a court-martial. The crimes would include sexual assault, sexual harassment and, potentially, certain hate crimes.

This goes against long-standing and vehement Pentagon opposition to such moves.

"I was adamantly opposed to that for years," Milley said, speaking during a military flight Sunday. "But I haven't seen the needle move" — referring to a failure to reduce the number of reported sexual assaults.

Indeed, in response to policy questions for his July 2019 Senate confirmation hearing, Milley wrote: "Commanders must retain the ability to hold all service members in their formation accountable for their actions. The authority to discipline service members, to include convening courts-martial, is an important tool that enables commanders to

fulfill their responsibility to their people and to establish an appropriate culture where victims are treated with dignity and respect."

Since then, Milley has gained a new boss with the election of Biden, and the president's defense secretary moved quickly to make combating sexual assault in the military a top priority.

In his comments Sunday, Milley said he has shifted his thinking in part because he is concerned by indications of a lack of confidence by junior enlisted service members in the fairness of sexual assault case outcomes. He said this amounts to an erosion of confidence in the military chain of command.

"That's really bad for our military if that's true, and survey and the evidence indicate it is true," he said. "That's a really bad situation if the enlisted force — the junior enlisted force — lacks confidence in their chain of command to be able to effectively deal with the issue of sexual assault."

Navy commander: Virus restrictions may hit retention

By SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

Coronavirus restrictions have hurt sailors' morale and may prompt some to jump ship when their terms of service expire, a Navy commander wrote recently in an independent journal.

Cmdr. Matt Wright, a 2002 U.S. Naval Academy graduate who leads Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 22 at Norfolk, Va., brought up his concerns in the April edition of the U.S. Naval Institute's monthly magazine, *Proceedings*.

"COVID-19 remains a real threat, both to the health of sailors and to fleet readiness," he wrote, referring to the respiratory disease caused by the coronavirus.

"However, it is far past time to update the Navy's defensive posture."

Pandemic restrictions ordered by the Navy last summer eliminated many outlets for stress relief and were still in place last month, according to Wright.

"I can clearly see the results of those restrictions on the morale and mental health of my squadron, but more important, I am concerned that Navy personnel have already suffered significant and unnecessary damage to their long-term health," he wrote.

The Navy lowered the risk level on Saturday at bases around Hampton Roads, Va., including Naval Station Norfolk, where Wright is stationed, to Health Pro-

tection Condition-Bravo, according to the local ABC TV affiliate. That may lead to relaxed measures at those bases. Bravo represents a moderate risk of the virus spreading; condition Charlie represents a substantial risk.

On Friday, the Navy also updated its guidance to commanders on adjusting health protection conditions and base services during the pandemic, according to a statement on Monday. Vaccinated sailors will be subject to conditions no more stringent than those in condition Bravo, no matter their assigned installation's status, the statement said.

"I expect we will continue to improve services available for our Sailors and their families

while protecting the force as the number of personnel vaccinated grows," Vice Adm. Phil Sawyer, the Navy's operations chief in charge of coordinating the service's response to the pandemic, was quoted as saying. "The key is for everyone that is eligible to get vaccinated."

In his *Proceedings* article, Wright said sailors may cite the pandemic restrictions as a reason for leaving the Navy in the event of a booming, post-pandemic economy. Wright cited the case of a promising naval MH-60S Seahawk pilot who plans to quit the Navy, writing that, "the preceding year's restrictions on his individual liberty played a significant part in his desire to leave."

Deadly, widespread storms pummel South

Associated Press

YAZOO CITY, Miss. — Much of the South faced more severe weather Tuesday that has killed at least three people, spawned tornadoes Sunday night and Monday and damaged homes and uprooted trees from Mississippi to West Virginia.

Parts of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee, as well as corners of Arkansas and Georgia were at enhanced risk for the worst weather, according to the national Storm Prediction Center.

That zone is home to more than 11 million people and includes the cities of Nashville, Tenn.; Birmingham, Ala.; Baton Rouge, La.; and Jackson, Miss.,

forecasters said.

“We’ll see all three threats as far as hail, wind and tornadoes on Tuesday,” said Mike Edmonston, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Mississippi.

A Tennessee woman died when a tree fell on her home as storms moved through the state Tuesday, Weakley County Emergency Management Director Ray Wiggington told WKRN-TV. He said at least six mobile homes were damaged by the falling tree around 4 a.m.

Hail and high winds buffeted north Texas, where just before midnight on Monday, powerful winds from a likely tornado flipped three semi-trailers on Interstate 35 in the driving rain,

authorities said. Three people were taken to hospitals but their conditions were not immediately known, Dallas TV station WFAA reported.

Tuesday’s storms could include wind gusts of up to 70 mph and hail to the size of golf balls, forecasters said, noting that “tornadoes are likely Tuesday into Tuesday evening” in parts of Mississippi.

Multiple tornado warnings were issued Tuesday morning in rural areas east of Nashville, Tenn.

A tornado warning in Atlanta forced thousands to seek shelter Monday and one man was killed when a falling tree brought power lines onto his vehicle in Dou-

glasville, Ga., west of Atlanta, Douglas County spokesman Rick Martin said.

And in middle Georgia, Carla Harris, 55, was killed after a tree fell onto her Bonaire home, Houston County emergency officials said.

More than 100,000 people were without electricity early Tuesday in states from Texas to Kentucky, according to power-outage.us, which tracks utility outages.

In South Carolina, at least one tornado was reported Monday afternoon in Abbeville County. The tornado appeared to be on the ground for several miles, according to warnings from the National Weather Service.

Biden quadruples refugee cap after backlash for delay

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden formally raised the nation’s cap on refugee admissions to 62,500 this year, weeks after facing bipartisan blowback for his delay in replacing the record-low ceiling set by former President Donald Trump.

Refugee resettlement agencies have waited for Biden to quadruple the number of refugees allowed into the United States this year since Feb. 12, when a presidential proposal was submitted to Congress saying he planned to do so.

But the presidential determination went unsigned until Monday. Biden said he first needed to expand the narrow eligibility criteria put in place by Trump that had kept out most refugees. He did that last month in an emergency determination. But it also stated that Trump’s cap of up to 15,000 refugees this year “remains justified by humanitarian concerns and is otherwise in the national interest,” indicating Biden intended to keep it.

That brought sharp pushback for not at least taking the symbolic step of authorizing more refugees to enter the U.S. this year. The second-ranking Senate Democrat, Dick Durbin of Illinois, called that initial limit “unacceptable,” and within hours, the White House made a quick course correction. The administration vowed to increase the historically low cap by May 15 — but the White House said it

probably would not hit the 62,500 Biden had previously outlined.

In the end, Biden returned to that figure. Biden said he received additional information that led him to sign the emergency presidential determination setting the cap at 62,500.

Biden said Trump’s cap “did not reflect America’s values as a nation that welcomes and supports refugees.”

But he acknowledged the “sad truth” that the U.S. would not meet the 62,500 cap by the end of the fiscal year in September, given the pandemic and limitations on the country’s resettlement capabilities — some of which his administration has attributed to the Trump administration’s policies to restrict immigration.

The White House insisted it was unable to act until now because the administration was being taxed by a sharp increase in unaccompanied young migrants from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras arriving at the southern U.S. border, though any link between the border and the government’s decision on refugees was not immediately clear. Refugee advocates, including Durbin, accused Biden of playing politics.

It also paves the way for Biden to boost the cap to 125,000 for the 2022 fiscal year that starts in October.

Biden promotes plan to increase school spending

Associated Press

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — President Joe Biden traveled Monday to coastal Virginia to promote his plans to increase spending on education and children, part of his \$1.8 trillion families proposal announced last week.

Visiting Tidewater Community College with first lady Jill Biden, the president discussed his \$109 billion proposal to provide Americans with two years of tuition-free community college. He’s also seeking over \$80 billion for Pell Grants to help college affordability and \$62 billion for programs that could improve completion rates at community colleges and institutions that predominantly serve disadvantaged students.

The president said that education was the key to the country’s dominance and that people needed classes beyond high school for the nation to be globally competitive.

“When America made 12 years of public education universal in America in the early 1900s, it made us the best educated nation in the world,” Biden said. “The rest of the world has caught up to us. They’re not waiting. And 12 years is no longer enough to compete with the world in the 21st century and lead the 21st century.”

India health official: 'Horrible' weeks ahead

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — COVID-19 infections and deaths are mounting with alarming speed in India with no end in sight to the crisis, and a top expert warning that the coming weeks in the country of nearly 1.4 billion people will be "horrible."

India's official count of coronavirus cases surpassed 20 million Tuesday, nearly doubling in the past three months, while deaths officially have passed 220,000. Staggering as those numbers are, the true figures are believed to be far higher, the undercount an apparent reflection of the troubles in the health care system.

The country has witnessed scenes of people dying outside overwhelmed hospitals and funeral pyres lighting up the night sky.

Infections have surged in India since February in a disastrous turn blamed on more contagious variants of the virus, as

well as government decisions to allow massive crowds to gather for Hindu religious festivals and political rallies before state elections.

India's top health official, Rajesh Bhushan, refused to speculate last month as to why authorities weren't better prepared. But the cost is clear: People are dying because of shortages of bottled oxygen and hospital beds or because they couldn't get a COVID-19 test.

India's official average of newly confirmed cases per day has soared from over 65,000 on April 1 to about 370,000, and deaths per day have officially gone from over 300 to more than 3,000.

On Tuesday, the health ministry reported 357,229 new cases in the past 24 hours and 3,449 deaths from COVID-19.

Dr. Ashish Jha, dean of Brown University's School of Public Health in the United

States, said he is concerned that Indian policymakers he has been in contact with believe things will improve in the next few days.

"I've been ... trying to say to them, 'If everything goes very well, things will be horrible for the next several weeks. And it may be much longer,'" he said.

Jha said the focus needs to be on "classic" public health measures: targeted shutdowns, more testing, universal mask-wearing and avoiding large gatherings.

"That is what's going to break the back of this surge," he said.

The death and infection figures are considered unreliable because testing is patchy and reporting incomplete. For example, government guidelines ask Indian states to include suspected COVID-19 cases when recording deaths from the outbreak, but many do not do so.

Diplomatic contacts fueling speculation on Iran deal

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A flurry of diplomatic contacts and reports of major progress suggest that indirect talks between the United States and Iran may be nearing an agreement.

With the negotiations in Vienna on hiatus, the U.S. and Britain denied Iranian reports that any agreement was at hand with Iran for a swap of American and British prisoners. Such an exchange could be a confidence-building measure to re-

vive the nuclear deal.

A U.S. return to the deal would be the biggest and most controversial foreign policy initiative in the early months of Joe Biden's presidency. It would revive a deal that top Biden aides put together during their years in the Obama administration, only to see former President Donald Trump pull out and try to prevent the U.S. from ever returning. Rejoining it — and making the concessions required to do so — would enrage Republicans and likely

unsettle Israel and Gulf Arab allies.

Even as Secretary of State Antony Blinken and British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab rejected the prisoner swap reports at a news conference Monday in London, senior American diplomats were in the Middle East meeting Gulf Arab leaders.

And two of the nuclear deal's biggest proponents in Congress — Democratic Sens. Chris Coons and Chris Murphy — were touring the region.

Metro collapse in Mexico City leaves dozens dead, hurt

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — An elevated section of the Mexico City metro collapsed and sent the train plunging toward a busy boulevard late Monday, killing at least 23 people and injuring at least 79, city officials said.

Rescuers found four bodies trapped inside a rail car that was dangling from the overpass but were unable to remove them. It was not clear if those dead were included among the 23. A crane was brought in Tuesday to lower the car down.

Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum said one of the concrete beams collapsed as a subway train passed over it in one of the deadliest episodes in the history of the city's subway system, which is among the busiest in the world.

Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Marcelo Ebrard called the collapse "the most terrible accident we have ever had in mass transportation." Ebrard was Mexico City's mayor from 2006 to 2012, when the line in question was built, and the collapse could represent a major blow for him.

"The cause of the collapse of the beam must be established through an expert investigation," Sheinbaum said.

Earlier she said someone had been pulled alive from a car that was trapped on the road below. She said 77 of the injured were hospitalized. She also said children were among the dead.

The overpass was about 16 feet above the road in the borough of Tlahuac, but the train

ran above a concrete median strip, which apparently lessened the casualties among motorists on the road below.

Hundreds of police officers and firefighters cordoned off the scene overnight as desperate friends and relatives of people believed to be on the train gathered outside the security perimeter. Despite the fact that the coronavirus situation remains serious in Mexico City, they crowded together as they waited for news.

The collapse occurred on the newest of the Mexico City subway's lines, Line 12, which stretches far into the city's south side. Like many of the city's dozen subway lines, it runs underground through more central areas of the city of 9 million, but then runs on elevated concrete structures on the city's outskirts.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Boy unhurt after riding airport conveyor belt

MN MINNEAPOLIS — Authorities said a 9-year-old boy who found his way onto the conveyor belt baggage handling system at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport was not injured.

Airport spokesperson Pat Hogan said the incident happened as a group of about 20 people were checking their bags for a trip they were taking together.

Hogan said initially no one in the group noticed the boy was missing, Minnesota Public Radio News reported.

“There was a lot of confusion because there were so many people in the group,” he said. “They were all checking their bags and putting their own bags on the conveyors, so it took a second for them to realize he was missing — but as soon as they did people sprang into action and the police were able to find him quickly.”

Woman pleads guilty for staged kidnapping

IN PRINCETON — An Indiana woman has pleaded guilty to staging her own kidnapping.

The Evansville Courier & Press reported that a Gibson County Judge ordered Hannah Potts, 24, to complete 120 hours of community service after she pleaded guilty to false informing.

According to court documents, Potts told police that she enlisted two other people to help Potts fake the disappearance for a manuscript she was writing. She also told police that she rehearsed for a week before posting a video to Facebook in July claiming a Black man had kidnapped her.

Police found her two days after

the claimed disappearance in the basement of the two other people involved in the staged kidnapping.

Man trapped after tree falls on portable toilet

PA GETTYSBURG — Authorities said a man was rescued after a tree that fell during high winds trapped him inside a portable toilet at Gettysburg National Military Park in south-central Pennsylvania.

The Barlow Volunteer Fire Department said on its Facebook page that the crew was called to Little Round Top. Assistant Chief Joe Robinson told the York Daily Record that they found a tree atop a vehicle but no one inside, and park rangers then told them the tree had trapped a man in the portable toilet.

Robinson said crews treated it like a car entrapment, cutting away the tree with a chain saw and then cutting the portable toilet open with another saw.

Bystander rescues child from bay after car crash

MD OCEAN CITY — A bystander jumped over a highway guard rail and into a Maryland bay to rescue a child who had been thrown from a pickup truck and into the water during a multicar crash, according to authorities.

One car was hanging off the side of the bridge when officials arrived.

The 2-year-old was still in her car seat when she was ejected from the Route 90 bridge in Ocean City and landed in the Assawoman Bay, the Baltimore Sun reported.

Ocean City firefighter Rob Korb, who witnessed the crash,

said the good Samaritan performed CPR on the child in the water.

He said she fell about 30 feet before hitting the water. The two were pulled from the bay by a boater, who took them to shore, Korb said. At least eight people were injured, the Ocean City Fire Department said.

Man pleads guilty to shooting protected eagle

MS OXFORD — A Mississippi man has pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of shooting a protected bald eagle.

Timothy Lee Childers, 69, of Aberdeen, entered the guilty plea in federal court in Oxford, according to a news release from the U.S. attorney’s office in northern Mississippi.

U.S. Magistrate Judge David A. Sanders put Childers on probation for one year and ordered him to pay \$3,500 in restitution to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a fine of \$3,500.

Childers also forfeited the gun and scope used to shoot the mature bird. Those go to Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

4 rescued after becoming stranded in gorge

OR PORTLAND — Crews rescued four people who got stuck on the side of a cliff while exploring canyons in the Columbia River Gorge, authorities said.

The Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office received a report that the group had been stranded for about 10 hours and needed to be rescued, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported.

One canyoneer became separated from the rest of the group when a rope became stuck dur-

ing a descent, the sheriff’s office said. The canyoneer was stranded between two waterfalls, and their companions were not able to get them out of the area safely.

The canyoneers called for help after several hours. Four Portland Mountain Rescue crew members reached the stranded canyoneers, lowered three of them down the side of a 50-foot waterfall and helped the person who was stuck.

The rescuers then helped the group back to the trailhead.

Coast Guard rescues 5 from burning trawler

MA BOSTON — Five fishermen were rescued from their burning fishing trawler in the Atlantic Ocean 85 miles east of Cape Cod, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The Coast Guard received an emergency signal from the 100-foot trawler Nobska.

When Coast Guard air crews arrived on the scene the bow and wheelhouse of the Nobska was on fire and the crew was on the stern.

No injuries were reported.

Pilot, 71, OK after ultralight plane crashes

CA UKIAH — A pilot escaped with only minor injuries when his ultralight plane crashed into a Northern California lake after experiencing engine trouble, authorities said.

The pilot, a 71-year-old man, said the single-engine aircraft lost power about 10 minutes after taking off from Ukiah Municipal Airport, the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office said in a statement.

The pilot escaped the sinking aircraft and made it to shore, sheriff’s officials said.

— From wire reports



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Melo passes Hayes on NBA scoring list

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Carmelo Anthony looked like he was all done just a couple of seasons ago.

Now, he's part of a truly exclusive club in the NBA.

Welcome to the Top 10, Melo. Anthony scored 14 points Monday night in Portland's 123-114 loss to the Atlanta Hawks, moving him past Elvin Hayes for 10th place on the career scoring list with 27,318.

"If you're in the top 10 of anything of all time, it's a special moment," said Anthony, who's in his 18th NBA season and turns 37 before the month is out.

Anthony cruised past Hayes early in the second quarter, hitting a three-pointer while getting fouled by Danilo Gallinari and knocking down the free throw to complete a four-point play.

Anthony was fully aware of how many points he needed to surpass Hayes.

"I knew this moment," he

said. "I didn't know those other moments — 15, 13, 11. But 10 is something I knew."

It appeared Anthony was headed for a forced retirement after he played just 10 games during the 2018-19 season.

He parted ways with Houston, was waived by Chicago and didn't hook up with Portland until the next season was several weeks old.

Even though he went more than a year without playing a game, Anthony found new life and a new role with the Trail Blazers.

A starter his entire career, he's now coming off the bench, playing a supporting role to younger stars, players who still look up to him, such as Damian Lillard.

"Being in the top 10 in a really special accomplishment," Lillard said. "For him, it's probably a little more special. A lot of people counted him out and tried to finish him."

During his time with the Trail

Blazers, Anthony has passed nine players on the career scoring list.

He knocked off Alex English, Kevin Garnett, John Havlicek and Paul Pierce last season. He's taken down Tim Duncan, Dominique Wilkins, Oscar Robertson, Hakeem Olajuwon and now Hayes this season.

Next up for Anthony: Moses Malone at 27,409 points.

Melo's got a good chance at catching him, too, by the end of the regular season.

"For Melo to be out a year and come back makes it even more remarkable," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "I always appreciate greatness, whether it's a player I'm coaching or coaching against. Melo is a great player. He's a Hall of Fame player."

Lillard went on and on about what a pleasure it's been to have Anthony as a teammate, disputing those who have described him over the years as a selfish player who was never quite good enough to lead his teams —

most notably, Denver and New York — to a championship.

"I appreciate him more as a friend than I do as a teammate, and I really appreciate him as a teammate," Lillard said. "I think that really speaks to the kind of person he is."

Afterward, Stotts presented Anthony with a game ball in the locker room.

"We need to acknowledge milestones," the coach said. "This is a big one. Top 10 of all time. That's big time."

After his teammates finished clapping, Anthony said, "A couple of years ago, I didn't think I was gonna be in this moment right now. I was out the league for whatever reason. I'm back. I persevered. I stayed strong, I stayed true to myself and now I'm here in the top 10."

He's not done yet. He'll keep adding to that total.

"I'm still enjoying the game," Anthony said. "I'm still loving the game. I'm still approaching the game the same way."

Davis leads short-handed Lakers past Nuggets

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Anthony Davis came up with a huge game when the Los Angeles Lakers needed it the most.

Davis scored 25 points and had key plays on both ends of the floor in the final minute as the short-handed Lakers snapped a three-game losing streak with a 93-89 victory over the Denver Nuggets Monday night.

The Lakers — who had lost six of their last seven going into the game — won without two key pieces. LeBron James did not play in the second game of a back-to-back after he had ankle soreness during the fourth quarter of Sunday's loss to Toronto. Dennis Schröder will be out more than a week after entering the NBA's health and safety protocol.

Wizards 154, Pacers 141: Russell Westbrook had the third game in NBA history with 20-plus rebounds and 20-plus assists — he and Wilt Chamberlain have the other two — and surging Washington moved closer to visiting Indiana in the Eastern Conference playoff standings.

Westbrook had 14 points to go along with his career-high 21 rebounds and career-high-tying 24 assists, his league-leading 32nd triple-double of the season. He has 178 triple-doubles, three short of Oscar Robertson's record, with seven games remaining for Washington.

Warriors 123, Pelicans 108: Stephen Curry scored 41 points, Draymond Green had 10 points, 15 assists and 13 rebounds, and Golden State won at New Orleans.

The Warriors, who currently occupy a Western Conference play-in position, moved four games ahead of 11th-place New Orleans with seven games remaining. The teams meet two more times this season.

Hawks 123, Trail Blazers 114: Danilo Gallinari made seven three-pointers and finished with 28 points, leading host Atlanta past Portland.

The Hawks snapped the Trail Blazers' four-game winning streak, which had come entirely on the road.

Knicks 118, Grizzlies 104: Julius Randle scored 28 points, Derrick Rose added 25 on 11-for-15 shooting, and New York won at Memphis.

Dillon Brooks scored 25 points for the Grizzlies, while rookie Desmond Bane added 22.

Jazz 110, Spurs 99: Bojan Bogdanovic scored 25 points, Rudy Gobert had 24 points and 15 rebounds, and host Utah beat San Antonio.

Jordan Clarkson added 16 points for the Jazz. Joe Ingles chipped in 13 points and eight assists.

76ers 106, Bulls 94: Tobias Harris scored 21 points, Seth Curry added 20 and Philadelphia beat visiting Chicago.

The 76ers built a big third-quarter lead and then held on for their fifth straight win, staying ahead of the Brooklyn Nets for the top spot in the Eastern Conference.

Magic 119, Pistons 112: Mo Bamba had 22 points and 15 rebounds — both career highs — and Orlando won at Detroit.

Saddiq Bey led the Pistons with 26 points.

Padres ruin no-hit bid, beat Pirates

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Wil Myers had an opposite-field single with no outs in the seventh inning to end Tyler Anderson's no-hit bid and the San Diego Padres beat Pittsburgh 2-0 Monday night, the Pirates' fifth straight loss.

Anderson (2-3) kept the Padres off-balance for six innings before they broke through in the seventh. Anderson issued a leadoff walk to Manny Machado before Myers singled to right field. Until then, Anderson had allowed only three baserunners, two on walks and one on his error in the fifth inning.

After Myers' hit, Tommy Pham hit a sacrifice fly and Austin Nola hit an RBI single with two outs to chase Anderson. San Diego had just three hits.

"In that scenario, especially with the game being close like that, it's finding ways to win, finding ways to get on base," Myers said. "It's shortening up your swing, shortening up your approach and that's what we did there in the seventh inning. We were able to squeak out some runs there to win the ballgame."

Anderson said the walk to Machado hurt because if first baseman Colin Moran hadn't been holding him on, he likely would

have gotten to Myers' ground ball.

"That was a good at-bat by him," Anderson said. "There was a big hole over there with a guy on first and he was just trying to shoot it. He's a good baseball player."

"It would have been a lot more fun if I didn't walk that first guy," he added.

Manager Derek Shelton said Anderson was outstanding.

"Obviously that's a playoff-caliber lineup and probably about as good a lineup as we're going to face, especially for him with all the right-handers in there," Shelton said. "He was outstanding. Six no-hit and he gave up the one ball off the end of the bat."

Wainwright comes off IL, helps Cardinals beat Mets

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Adam Wainwright came off the COVID-19 injured list and hung tough, St. Louis got a lights-out performance from its bullpen and the Cardinals beat the New York Mets 6-5 for their fifth straight win.

After the game, the Mets fired hitting coach Chili Davis and assistant hitting coach Tom Slater. New York has struggled badly with runners in scoring position this season, a trouble spot last year as well when Davis worked remotely because of coronavirus concerns.

Several accomplished hitters are off to slow starts for the Mets, including \$341 million newcomer Francisco Lindor.

The Cardinals were clinging to a one-run lead in the ninth with two outs and a runner on base when the lights at Busch Stadium flickered, then went out for a moment. When play resumed, reliever Alex Reyes walked Pete Alonso before retiring Dom Smith on a flyball for the final out.

Nolan Arenado and Harrison Bader homered to back Wainwright's first win of the season. Four Cardinals relievers combined for 3 1/3 hitless innings. Wainwright (1-3) had been out

because of virus contact tracing. He fell behind 5-2 in the third inning, but didn't give up any more runs before leaving with two outs in the sixth.

Joey Lucchesi (0-2) allowed six runs on seven hits in 2 2/3 innings after being recalled from the Mets' alternate training site to make the start. He has not pitched into the fourth inning in any of his three starts this season.

Rays 7, Angels 3: Willy Adames and Manuel Margot homered, Mike Brosseau had a two-run single and Tampa Bay opened a seven-game California road trip with a victory over Los Angeles.

Tyler Glasnow (4-1) pitched six innings of four-hit ball with three walks for the defending AL champion Rays. The Los Angeles-area native largely dominated the Angels' lineup until a rocky sixth, striking out eight for his fourth win in five starts.

Shohei Ohtani hit his ninth homer after being scratched from his scheduled pitching start earlier in the day for the Angels, who have lost eight of 12.

Anthony Rendon also homered in the sixth, but the slugging third baseman exited in the eighth after sharply fouling a ball off his left knee.

Athletics 5, Blue Jays 4: Ramon Laureano homered for the

third consecutive day and host Oakland beat Toronto, spoiling Marcus Semien's return to the Coliseum.

Stephen Piscotty also went deep for the Athletics. Jed Lowrie doubled twice and had three hits.

Frankie Montas (3-2) pitched six uneven innings to win the first meeting between the teams in more than two years. Jake Diekman worked the ninth for his third save.

Laureano connected on a 1-0 pitch from starter Steven Matz (4-2) to break a 3-all tie in the fifth.

Indians 8, Royals 6: Eddie Rosario watched anxiously as plate umpire Dan Bellino called a ball that could easily have been strike three, then swatted the next pitch into the right-field stands for a tiebreaking three-run homer that sent Cleveland to a win at Kansas City.

Josh Naylor added a two-run shot off Royals reliever Jakob Junis (1-2) two batters later, turning what would have been a scoreless seventh inning with Rosario's would-be punch-out into a five-run frame.

Bryan Shaw (1-0) coughed up a run in relief of Indians starter Aaron Civale, and James Karinchak gave up Hunter Dozier's two-run homer later in the sev-

enth.

Orioles 5, Mariners 3: Cedric Mullins and Freddy Galvis each hit a two-run homer in Baltimore's five-run eighth inning for a win at Seattle.

Shut down by the Mariners' bullpen for seven innings, the Orioles broke loose in the eighth. Mullins got it started with a shot off Anthony Misiewicz (2-1) to right-center field that was nearly stolen at the wall by right fielder Mitch Haniger. The ball appeared to graze the top of Haniger's glove as he crashed into the fence.

Twins 6, Rangers 5: Kenta Maeda steered himself back on track by keeping Texas scoreless into the sixth inning, and host Minnesota won the opener of a four-game series.

Maeda (2-2) had a season-high eight strikeouts in 5 1/3 innings, allowing only two singles and two walks in what was by far the best of his six starts this season.

Phillies 4, Brewers 3: Vince Velasquez threw six sharp innings, J.T. Realmuto hit a two-run homer and host Philadelphia beat Milwaukee.

Velasquez (1-0) allowed one run and four hits, striking out six in his longest outing this season. Hector Neris struck out Lorenzo Cain with the bases loaded in the ninth to preserve the win.

Bruins beat Devils, earn playoff spot

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Not only did the Boston Bruins play like a team looking to nail down its spot in the playoffs a week early, they looked like one capable of going a long way in the run for the Stanley Cup.

Captain Patrice Bergeron scored his 20th goal of the season and the Bruins clinched their fifth straight playoff berth with a dominating 3-0 victory over the New Jersey Devils on Monday night.

Tuukka Rask stopped 20 shots for his second shutout of the season and Nick Ritchie broke a scoreless tie in the second period and the Bruins won their fourth straight game and ended the Devils' three-game winning streak.

"It's always the goal during the regular season to get your ticket, get in, and go from there," Bergeron said. "Obviously, we know we're a great team. I know where we're at. I know we can keep improving and we'll use the last few games to work on our game and make sure we're ready for Game 1 of the playoffs."

Defenseman Matt Grzelcyk scored on a deflection off Devils defenseman Ryan Murray late as the Bruins won for the 10th time in 12 games. Brad Marchand, who was playing in his 800th NHL game, and Bergeron got the assists on the third goal.

Oilers 5, Canucks 3: Connor McDavid had two goals and two assists as Edmonton clinched a playoff spot at Vancouver.

Jesse Puljujarvi had a goal and an assist, Tyson Barrie and Dominik Kahun also scored and Leon Draisaitl added two assists for the Oilers in the opener of a four straight games between the teams.

Capitals, 6, Rangers 3: Daniel Sprong's tiebreaking goal in the third period led visiting Washington past fading New York, which was knocked out of playoff contention.

Nic Dowd, Conor Sheary, Garnet Hatha-

way, Niklas Backstrom and Tom Wilson also scored for the Capitals as they snapped a two-game skid. Vitek Vanecek made 23 saves to earn the 19th win of his rookie season.

Wild 6, Golden Knights 5: Jonas Brodin scored with 1:06 left, 26 seconds after Kirill Kaprizov had tied the game to help host Minnesota beat Vegas.

Nick Bonino added two goals and an assist, while Joel Eriksson Ek and Kevin Fiala also scored for the Wild, who trailed by two goals twice in the game. Cam Talbot stopped 27 shots for Minnesota, which has beat West-leading Vegas five times in the seven matchups this season.

Sabres 4, Islanders 2: Michael Houser stopped 34 shots in his NHL debut, Sam Reinhart scored twice in Buffalo's three-goal third period and the host Sabres rallied from a two-goal deficit.

Tage Thompson and Rasmus Asplund also scored for Buffalo. Houser spent the past 8½ seasons in the minor leagues. It was his first game since March 7, 2020, with Cincinnati of the ECHL.

Flyers 7, Penguins 2: Claude Giroux had two goals and an assist, helping host Philadelphia to an easy victory over the first-place Pittsburgh.

Joel Farabee had a goal and two assists for the Flyers, who snapped a three-game skid and won for just the sixth time in the last 16.

Predators 4, Blue Jackets 3 (OT): Roman Josi scored his second goal of the game 3:24 into overtime and Nashville tightened its hold on a playoff spot with a win at Columbus.

Filip Forsberg and Ryan Johansen each had a goal and an assist, and Juuse Saros had 30 saves for the Predators.

Hurricanes 5, Blackhawks 2: Sebastian Aho scored twice in the second period on the way to a hat trick, helping Carolina roll

past visiting Chicago.

Dougie Hamilton and Martin Necas also scored for the Hurricanes, who entered this game leading the race for the Presidents' Trophy awarded to the team with the league's best regular-season record.

Senators 2, Jets 1: Nikita Zaitsev scored with 1:13 left in the third period to lift visiting Ottawa to its sixth win in eight games.

Goaltender Filip Gustavsson was stellar in the win, stopping 28 shots while the Senators killed off all six of Winnipeg's power-play chances. Connor Brown also scored and assisted on Zaitsev's winning goal for Ottawa.

Canadiens 3, Maple Leafs 2 (OT): Cole Caufield scored at 4:43 of overtime and Montreal beat visiting Toronto.

The rookie took a pass from Jeff Petry and wired home his second NHL goal—and second OT winner in two games.

Panthers 5, Stars 4 (OT): Aleksander Barkov scored 2:50 into overtime to lift host Florida over Dallas.

Jonathan Huberdeau, Nikita Gusev, Gustav Forsling and MacKenzie Weegar also scored for the Panthers, and Owen Tippett had two assists.

Blues 3, Ducks 1: Robert Bortuzzo got his first goal of the season and Brayden Schenn also scored, leading host St. Louis past Anaheim.

Jordan Binnington had 19 saves to earn his 70th career win, becoming the 10th goaltender in Blues history to reach the mark. St. Louis is 5-1-1 this season against Anaheim.

Avalanche 5, Sharks 4 (OT): Andre Burakovsky scored 41 seconds into overtime and visiting Colorado gained ground in the race for first place in the West Division.

Kings 3, Coyotes 2: Anze Kopitar had a goal and an assist to reach 999 career points and visiting Los Angeles put a big dent in Arizona's playoff hopes.

Caps' Wilson fined \$5K for roughing Buchnevich

Associated Press

Washington's Tom Wilson was fined \$5,000 by the NHL on Tuesday for roughing New York Rangers forward Pavel Buchnevich in the teams' game Monday night at Madison Square Garden.

The fine is the maximum allowable for the incident under the league's collective bargaining agreement with players. Wilson's salary

this season is \$4.1 million.

Wilson was given a double-minor penalty for roughing and a 10-minute misconduct after a scrum in which he appeared to punch Buchnevich, who was face down on the ice, and threw Artemi Panarin down to the ice. Panarin was ruled out of the remainder of the game with what the team called a lower-body injury.

"I thought it was just a scrum, like physical

play," Capitals coach Peter Laviolette said. "There was something going on originally with the goalie and they're jamming at the goalie and a bunch of players jump in there. It happens a lot."

Rangers coach David Quinn said Panarin was OK and added of Wilson: "It happens time and time again with him. It's just totally unnecessary."