

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

RIMPAC ends with sinking of retired ship

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — Ships and aircraft blasted a decommissioned U.S. Navy amphibious cargo ship to the bottom of the sea Sunday during a two-day live-fire drill serving as a finale for the Rim of the Pacific maritime exercise near Hawaii. The two-week exercise, joined by navies from 10 nations with 22 surface ships and one submarine, concluded Monday.

This year's exercise, held entirely at sea due the coronavirus pandemic, included 53 replenishments-at-sea and the distribution of 101 pallets of cargo, according to a Navy statement Monday. More than 16,000 small-arms rounds were shot, with more than 1,000 large-caliber weapons fired and 13 missiles launched, the

statement said.

About 1,100 pounds of mail was delivered to the roughly 5,300 personnel involved in the training.

Participating countries included Australia, Brunei, Canada, France, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore and the United States.

"Our formidable team of capable, adaptive partners has spent the last two weeks demonstrating that we have the resolve and ability to operate together in these challenging times," Vice Adm. Scott Conn, commander of U.S. 3rd Fleet, said in the statement.

"We strengthened relationships and deepened our sense of trust in one another. Each one of our navies has something to offer and that diverse range of knowledge and professional-

ism is what makes us stronger and allows us to work together to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific and, ultimately, our collective prosperity."

This year's exercise marks the first time a non-U.S. female in uniform — Capt. Phillipa Hay of the Royal Australian Navy — led a RIMPAC task force of more than 2,500 sailors, the statement said.

The Royal Canadian Navy frigate HMCS Regina was among the vessels involved in drills, held Saturday and Sunday, that sank the ship formerly designated as USS Durham.

The Regina fired an RGM-84 Harpoon surface-to-surface missile, an anti-ship missile used by most NATO member states, the U.S. Navy said in a statement Sunday.

The decommissioned ship was stripped and cleaned

before sinking to eliminate environmental hazards, the statement added.

"Shooting a Harpoon missile is a difficult and perishable skill, so any opportunity to plan and execute exercises with combined forces increases our skills, proficiency, and overall capability," Lt. Mike Vanderveer, the weapons officer aboard the Regina, said in the statement.

"Simulation is a critical part of our training, but there is nothing better than to conduct live fire training," Hay, commander of the exercise's Task Force One, said in the statement. "Sinking exercises are an important way to test our weapons and weapons systems in the most realistic way possible. It demonstrates as a joint force we are capable of high-end warfare."

COVID-19 is the enemy military cadets aim to defeat

Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Under the siege of the coronavirus pandemic, classes have begun at the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. But unlike at many colleges in the country, most students are on campus and many will attend classes in person.

This is largely due to advantages the military schools have. They're small, each with about 4,500 students who know that joining the military means they're subject to more control and expected to follow orders. Their leaders, meanwhile, are treating the virus like an enemy that must be detected, deterred and defeated. They view the students as the next generation

of commanders who must learn to lead troops through any crisis, including this one.

"If you look at COVID as a threat, it helps you frame it in a way that I think you can then conduct action against it," said Brig. Gen. Curtis Buzzard, West Point's commandant. The cadets, he said, are getting lessons in "leading through uncertainty and adversity. I've had to do that throughout my career in the Army, particularly in combat, and they're getting a little dose of it."

The outbreak sent most academy students home to finish the spring semester online. Air Force seniors stayed and graduated early.

Now students have returned, and 1% to 2% tested COVID-19 positive on arrival and went

into isolation. Since then, officials said they've seen few new cases. The Navy and Air Force will randomly test 15% of students weekly, while West Point will test 15% to 20% monthly.

Because they need dozens of on-campus rooms to potentially isolate COVID students or quarantine those who come in contact with infected persons, the Navy and Air Force academies are renting space off-site for healthy students. The Navy, in Annapolis, Md., is putting 375 students at St. John's College, and the Air Force, in Colorado Springs, Colo., will put 400 in three local hotels.

"We know that with this population, that about 90% of this age group is asymptomatic," said Brig. Gen. Linell A. Letendre, Air Force Academy dean.

"That's what's really scary about this disease. How do we find those individuals who have it when they don't even know they have it?"

To limit any spread, the academies made physical and academic changes. At the Navy's Michelson Hall, blue tape marks seats that must remain empty, red tape forms large arrows on the floor showing students which way to go and stairways are designated up or down. Signs remind students about social distancing.

The Navy has the smallest campus, but two large tents were wedged next to the dorm for dining. The Air Force and Army, however, have been able to create large outdoor classrooms and meeting areas.

Navy again sails through Taiwan Strait

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy has sent another guided-missile destroyer through the Taiwan Strait, its second transit there in less than two weeks.

The USS Halsey on Sunday sailed through the strait on a “routine transit” to demonstrate “the U.S. commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific,” 7th Fleet spokesman Lt. Joe Keiley said in an email Tuesday.

“The U.S. Navy will continue to fly, sail and operate anywhere international law allows,” Keiley said.

The trip came just 12 days after the USS Mustin sailed through the 110-mile-wide strait that separates the island of Taiwan from China. The Halsey’s transit marked the 11th time the Navy has sent a ship through the Taiwan Strait this year.

China regularly objects to Navy trips through the strait. Beijing asserts sovereignty over those waters and over Taiwan, a self-governing island with its own elected

government.

The U.S. regards the strait as international waters and acknowledges China’s claim to Taiwan under its “One China” policy but views the island’s status as unsettled. Taiwan split from mainland China in 1949.

With 11 trips in 2020, the U.S. has nearly met its record of 12 Taiwan Strait transits in a single year. That record was set in 2016, according to data the Pacific Fleet provided earlier this year.

Crew bails out of Navy plane before crash

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

The crew of an E-2C Hawkeye bailed out safely before the aircraft crashed Monday near Virginia’s barrier islands, according to the Navy.

The plane, assigned to Airborne Command and Control Squadron, 120 Fleet Replacement Squadron, at Naval Station Norfolk, went down near

Wallops Island, according to a statement from Cmdr. Jennifer Cragg, spokesperson for Naval Air Force Atlantic.

The two pilots and two crew members were on a training flight when the Hawkeye went down at about 3:50 p.m. Local media reported that part of the plane landed in a soybean field.

All four crewmembers bailed out through the main

cabin door using parachutes, Cragg said. Crewmembers are required to don parachutes when boarding the plane, she added.

The cause of the crash is under investigation, but initial reports indicated “no structures or personnel on the ground were damaged or injured” as a result of the crash, Cragg said.

The Hawkeye — distinctive for its large radar — is a twin-turboprop carrier-capable tactical aircraft used for early warning and command and control.

The Airborne Command and Control Squadron reports to Airborne Command and Control and Logistics Wing commanded by Capt. Michael France, Cragg said.

Allies: Russian jet violated NATO airspace

BY JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A Russian fighter jet followed a U.S. B-52 bomber over Denmark, marking a rare and “significant violation” of NATO airspace, allies said this week.

The incident Friday prompted Denmark to scramble quick reaction aircraft to counter the Russian Su-27, which took off from Russia’s military exclave in Kaliningrad, NATO said.

“The unauthorized intrusion of sovereign airspace is a significant violation of international law,” NATO’s Allied Air Command said in a statement Monday. “Friday’s incident is the first of this kind for sev-

eral years and indicates a new level of Russian provocative behavior.”

On Tuesday, the Danish government summoned Russia’s ambassador to lodge a formal complaint over the airspace intrusion.

The intercept happened during a large NATO training drill in Europe, which involved the U.S. flying six B-52 bombers around European airspace escorted by about 80 fighter jets from allied states. The drill, called Allied Sky, prompted Moscow to scramble jets of its own.

In a separate incident Saturday, the U.S. said a B-52 bomber’s maneuvers above the

Black Sea were restricted by two Russian fighter planes that flew in an “unsafe and unprofessional manner” when they crossed within 100 feet of the Air Force’s strategic bomber.

The intrusion into NATO airspace Friday happened after the Russian jet intercepted the B-52 over the Baltic Sea as it was closing in on Danish airspace near Bornholm island, NATO said.

“The Russian Su-27, flying from Kaliningrad, followed the B-52 well into Danish airspace over the island, committing a significant violation of airspace of a NATO nation,” it said.

The Russian jet turned back before Danish planes could

reach it, NATO said. Danish jets remained airborne to guard the airspace, the statement said.

“This incident demonstrates Russia’s disrespect of international norms and for the sovereign airspace of an Allied nation. We remain vigilant, ready and prepared to secure NATO airspace 24/7,” Gen. Jeff Harrigian, commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe and head of NATO’s Allied Air Command, said in the statement.

There has been an uptick in Russian intercepts of U.S. aircraft in recent months, including confrontations over the Mediterranean Sea and near the United States.

DOD: China planning nuke arsenal increase

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — China likely plans to double its stockpile of nuclear warheads in this decade, including those designed to be carried atop ballistic missiles that can reach the United States, the Pentagon said in a report released Tuesday.

Even with such increases, China's nuclear force would be far smaller than that of the U.S., which has an estimated 3,800 warheads in active status and others in reserve. Unlike the U.S., China has no nuclear air force, but the report said that gap may be filled by developing a nuclear air-launched ballistic missile.

The Trump administration has been urging China to join the U.S. and Russia in negotiating a three-way deal to limit strategic nuclear arms, but China has declined. Chinese Foreign Ministry officials have said China's arsenal is too small to

be included in negotiated limits and that by pressing China to join in such talks the Trump administration has created a pretext for walking away from the existing U.S.-Russia arms treaty known as New START. That deal is due to expire in February but could be renewed for up to five years if Moscow and Washington agree.

In its annual "China Military Power" report to Congress, the Pentagon said the modernization and expansion of China's nuclear forces is part of a broader effort by Beijing to develop a more assertive position on the world stage and to match or surpass America by 2049 as the dominant power in the Asia-Pacific region.

"China's nuclear forces will significantly evolve over the next decade as it modernizes, diversifies, and increases the number of its land-, sea-, and air-based nuclear delivery platforms," the report said. "Over the next decade, China's nuclear warhead

stockpile — currently estimated to be in the low 200s — is projected to at least double in size as China expands and modernizes its nuclear forces."

Within that force, the number of nuclear warheads on land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of threatening the United States — currently about 100, according to the report — "is expected to grow to roughly 200 in the next five years," it said.

Tuesday's report to Congress is not the first time the Pentagon has predicted a doubling of China's nuclear stockpile. In a speech at the Hudson Institute in May 2019, the then-director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Lt. Gen. Robert Ashley, said, "Over the next decade, China will likely at least double the size of its nuclear stockpile in the course of implementing the most rapid expansion and diversification of its nuclear arsenal in China's history."

Officer is removed from duties after TikTok post

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Army officials are investigating an anti-Semitic social media post shared Friday by a second lieutenant based at Fort Stewart, Ga., who said he shared it as a joke.

Army officials said Monday that they had suspended 2nd Lt. Nathan Freihofer from his duties and launched an investigation into a post on the controversial TikTok platform by the 23-year-old field artillery officer. In the short video, Freihofer said he would never become a "verified" user because of the content that he shares be-

fore telling his so-called joke, which was about the Holocaust and Jewish people.

"If you get offended, get the f— out, because it's a joke," he then said in the video. In text alongside the video, he added: "For legal reasons this is a joke."

Maj. Gen. Tony Aguto, the commander of Fort Stewart's 3rd Infantry Division, called the remarks shared in the video "vile."

"The statements made in the video are not indicative of the values we live by, and there is no place for racism or bigotry in our Army or our country," Aguto wrote in a statement posted to Twitter. "An investigation has been initiated into this matter and the soldier has been suspended of

any and all leadership authorities effective immediately, pending the results of the investigation."

Army officials said they were first alerted to the video by journalists. They also said it clearly violated the Army's social media policy, which calls on soldiers to treat others with respect online and forbids racist or discriminatory posts. Soldiers can face discipline, including criminal charges, for posts that violate the policy.

In recent months, the service has taken steps to encourage soldiers to speak openly about diversity and discrimination within the ranks amid a national conversation on race.

US Marines in Australia kick off large-scale exercise

BY SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

More than 1,000 Marines began a field exercise Tuesday with 400 local troops in Australia's Northern Territory, according to the Marine Corps and the Australian Defence Force.

Exercise Koolendong, which will last through Sept. 11, is happening at the Mount Bunday Training Area in the far north of the country, said 1st Lt. Bridget Glynn, a spokesman for the Marines in Darwin. The service has trained Down Under during the southern hemisphere's winter months each year since 2012.

"All of [Marine Rotational Force — Darwin] will participate in Koolendong, totaling just over 1,000 Marines," Glynn said.

That's fewer than the 1,200 the Marines had planned to rotate to Australia and well short of the 2,500 sent there last year.

This year's mission has been curtailed by the coronavirus pandemic, which forced Marines to quarantine for two weeks after arriving.

The last Marines to arrive in country only finished quarantine Aug. 7.

One of those involved in Koolendong, Marine Gunnery Sgt. William Horton, said his unit — Kilo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment out of Twentynine

Palms, Calif. — has been at Mount Bunday, a 290,000-acre former cattle station near Kakadu National Park, since the start of July.

The 60 Marines from the battery who made it to Darwin can operate only three of six M777A2 howitzers that were prepositioned there, Horton said.

Mount Bunday is "mountainous terrain similar to what we have in Twentynine Palms," he said, adding that the Australian conditions are more humid.

The gunners have just finished live-fire training in support of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment and 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, Horton added.

Feds: 70% of payments to the dead recovered

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration says that it has recovered nearly 70% of the government relief payments that went to dead people.

The Government Accountability Office said Monday it had been told by the Treasury Department that nearly 70% of the \$1.6 billion that had mistakenly gone to dead people had been recovered.

The GAO said it could not immediately verify that amount but said its auditors were working with Treasury to determine the exact number of payments that have been recovered.

Treasury is also considering sending letters to request the return of the remaining outstanding payments, but has not moved forward with that effort yet, GAO said. Treasury said it was delaying that move because Congress is considering legislation that would clarify or make changes to payment eligibility requirements.

The Senate passed a bill in June that would allow the Social Security Administration to share its full death data with the Treasury Department to prevent any future payments to dead people.

California

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Californians who haven't paid their rent since March 1 because of the coronavirus could stay in their homes through at least Jan. 31 under a bill the state Legislature passed late Monday — one day before statewide eviction protections were set to expire.

The pandemic has devastated California's economy, causing millions of people to lose their jobs as the government ordered businesses to close for months to slow the spread of the disease. In April, the Judicial Council of California halted most eviction and foreclosure proceedings during the pandemic.

But those protections end Wednesday, meaning landlords could resume eviction proceedings on tenants who haven't paid their rent.

State lawmakers approved a bill Monday that would ban evictions for tenants who did not pay their rent between March 1 and Aug. 31 because of the pandemic. The bill would also ban evictions for those same tenants through Jan. 31, but only if the tenants pay at least 25% of the rent owed during that time.

Florida

MIAMI — Some coronavirus restrictions started easing Monday in parts of South Florida.

In Miami-Dade County, restaurants were allowed to welcome back diners to indoor seating for the first time in almost two months, provided masks were worn and the establishments operated at 50% capacity.

In Palm Beach County, officials issued an order allowing tattoo and body piercing parlors, as well as tanning salons, to reopen starting Monday.

Under the order allowing indoor dining, restaurants will be required to run their ventilation and air conditioning systems with fans "on," keep doors and windows open and limit no more than six people to a table.

Miami-Dade County also is allowing casinos to reopen, provided food and drink are consumed in eating-only designated areas, and drinking and eating is prohibited at gaming tables and slot machines.

Georgia

ATLANTA — Georgia's governor is extending the two main executive orders that govern Georgia's response to COVID-19.

Gov. Brian Kemp on Monday signed a 15-day extension of the order that mandates requirements on social distancing, bans on gatherings of more than 50 people unless there is six feet between each person and lists other rules about operating businesses and non-profit groups. Those who live in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, as well as people deemed medically fragile, must continue to shelter in

place through Sept. 15.

The Republican Kemp also extended the underlying state of emergency, which gives him powers to make other orders, through Oct. 10.

In extending the orders, Kemp made no changes. That means he did not update his previous order to declare teachers as "critical infrastructure workers" which would exempt them from requirements to quarantine for 14 days after exposure to COVID-19. School superintendents have been lobbying for that authority, which could let them order teachers back to work to avoid interruptions to in-person instruction.

Kentucky

FRANKFORT — Kentucky relaxed its rules for child care facilities Monday and offered financial assistance for some in-home centers in moves aimed at increasing capacity as parents return to work.

The policy announcements by Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear's administration come after Republican lawmakers criticized some rules as overly restrictive, warning that many centers wouldn't be able to stay open amid the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

State Health and Family Services Secretary Eric Friedlander said Monday that the changes include allowing child care centers to increase class sizes from 10 to 15.

Michigan

DETROIT — A Detroit island park was transformed Monday into a drive-thru COVID-19 victims memorial as policy makers across the U.S. moved forward with plans to reopen schools and public spaces.

Hearses led processions around Belle Isle Park in the Detroit River, where more than 900 large photos of local coronavirus victims provided by relatives were turned into posters and staked into the ground.

Detroit's director of arts and culture, Rochelle Riley, said officials hope the memorial will "wake people up to the devastating effect of the pandemic"

and also "bring some peace to families whose loved ones didn't have the funerals they deserved."

New York

NEW YORK — The executive board of the teachers' union on Monday told union officials to continue negotiations with New York City over a school reopening plan, but that they could authorize a strike vote if no agreement had been reached by Tuesday afternoon.

New York City has issued a hybrid plan for the 1.1 million children in its schools for the academic year starting Sept. 10.

The United Federation of Teachers union has said there are safety concerns that need to be addressed in any reopening plan, and that it was prepared to go to court or on strike, even though New York state bars teachers and other public employees from striking.

South Carolina

COLUMBIA — The University of South Carolina has suspended six sororities or fraternities, as well as 15 students, for violating COVID-19 safety rules, the school announced Monday.

The announcement came as the number of confirmed cases on campus passed the 500 mark. It also came as some students complained of long lines for testing and as Columbia's fire chief announced an apartment complex had agreed to limit pool attendance after officials broke up a crowded pool party Saturday.

The university said it has now quarantined nine sorority or fraternity houses, up from the previous six. Monday is the first time the university has announced sanctions against organizations and students, citing "unauthorized parties or large gatherings in violation of local ordinances or violating quarantine," according to a news release.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

State Fair is off, but basket tradition stays

WV LEWISBURG — The State Fair of West Virginia is off this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, but the tradition of a limited-edition basket continues, officials said.

The baskets are made by Jamit Baskets of Sinks Grove. Orders are being accepted through the end of September.

This year's basket is available in four different colors and can only be purchased ahead by special order. More information is available through the State Fair Office.

Bow hunter killed by elk that charged him

OR TILLAMOOK — Authorities said a bow hunter was killed when an elk he wounded charged him and gored him in the neck with its antlers.

Oregon State Police said Mark David, 66, of Hillsboro was archery hunting on private property in Tillamook when he wounded a bull elk, but wasn't able to find it before dark.

KOIN reported that the next morning, David and the landowner searched for the bull and wounded it with a bow when they found it. It charged David, however, and gored him in the neck with its antlers.

The elk was killed and the meat was donated to the Tillamook County Jail following the investigation.

Video of subway rape attempt yields arrest

NY NEW YORK — A 31-year-old man was charged with attempted rape in an attack on a Manhattan subway platform that was record-

ed by a bystander as a crowd intervened.

The man, Jose Reyes, has a prior arrest history, including incidents in the transit system, police said. He was identified from a mug shot through facial recognition software, Chief of Detectives Rodney Harrison said.

Harrison said the victim told officers her attacker had been on the subway train smoking a hookah, making strange noises and laughing to himself. He followed her when she got off, knocked her down and climbed on her.

"This heinous and horrendous act was interrupted by a good Samaritan" who took video while he and other commuters yelled at the attacker to stop, Harrison said. After police circulated the video through the media, tips from the public led to Reyes' arrest, he said.

Caregiver arrested and accused of ID fraud

NH CONCORD — A New Hampshire caregiver at a long-term care facility was accused of getting personal identification information for four elderly people without their permission and posing as at least two of them to open financial accounts.

Christina Lariviere, 35, of Bow, was arrested on eight counts of identity fraud, the attorney general's office said.

The charges allege that last summer, Lariviere obtained Social Security numbers, driver's identification and birth dates from the four, who lived at the Londonderry facility and ranged in age from 87 to 100.

The charges also allege that Lariviere posed as two of the residents to open credit and financial accounts in their names.

6 injured in wrong-way crash with ambulance

NC CHARLOTTE — Six people were injured when an ambulance collided with a pickup that was driving the wrong way down a North Carolina road, authorities said.

Four people in the truck were taken to a hospital with injuries that were considered life-threatening after the vehicle hit the ambulance head-on, the Mecklenburg Emergency Medical Services Agency told news outlets.

Two ambulance crew members were hospitalized but were expected to be OK, officials said.

The crew members were driving back to headquarters after finishing their shift and did not have a patient on board when the crash happened near an interstate ramp, news outlets reported.

Man killed when truck rolls on top of him

MT LEWISTOWN — A central Montana man was killed when the pickup he was working under rolled on top of him, police in Lewistown said.

Officers found the man under the pickup in Lewistown, Assistant Police Chief Jon Polich said in a statement.

The man was taken to the hospital where he was declared dead, officials said.

A family member told police the victim was Jason Haivala, 48, of Forest Grove, which is a rural area east of Lewistown.

Historical accuracy is the goal of park update

MS VICKSBURG — A national park on a Civil War battlefield in Mis-

issippi is replacing the carriages of several cannons to make them more historically accurate.

One of the new pieces was installed recently at the Vicksburg National Military Park, the Vicksburg Post reported.

The new ones are called bar-bette carriages — a style that enabled cannons to fire over the parapets of earthen formations built to defend Vicksburg when the city came under siege by Union troops in 1863, said park superintendent Bill Justice.

Justice said a former chief of operations at the park, Rick Martin, started working on this project years ago.

Steen Cannons of Ashland, Ky., built the new carriages. They are being installed by Paul Lynn Construction Co. of Vicksburg.

New school, ballfields to be named after vets

MA MARLBOROUGH — A Massachusetts city is naming a new elementary school and two new ballfields after fallen veterans from the community.

Marlborough city councilors recently voted to name the \$56 million elementary school after brothers Theodore, Andrew and Charles Goodnow, who were all killed during the Civil War, according to the MetroWest Daily News.

Councilors also approved naming the softball field at Marlborough High School after Richard Demers, a Marine killed during the Vietnam War in July 1966, and the baseball field at Whitcomb Middle School after Harold Cole, who died in a plane crash in May 1951 while serving in the Naval Reserve.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

College athletes finding their voices

Associated Press

College athletes come and go, cycling through their programs and campuses in about four years. Organization has been difficult to attain. Motivating people to band together and fight for reforms when they might not be around to reap the benefits is challenging.

This summer there have been signs that is changing.

College athletes have called out coaches and administrators, backed causes both social (Black Lives Matter) and political (changing the Mississippi state flag) and demanded to be part of the discussion about whether sports can be played safely during a pandemic. They have organized campus marches, threatened boycotts and trended on social media without stepping foot on a field.

If this moment spawns a sustained movement, it will be because college athletes have learned to harness their collective power and laid a foundation for their successors.

"We all know that this isn't a movement for the present,"

said Jaydon Grant, an Oregon State defensive back and a leader of the Pac-12 We Are United group. "As far as establishing something that lasts, I know that we'll all be gone in a few years, all removed from college football, but I don't look at it any differently than how you build the culture of a program.

"With good leadership and good morals you build successful programs in college football and college athletics," he said. "And that's kind of the same thing we're trying to do."

We Are United grabbed headlines last month with a bold and broad list of demands and a threat of mass opt outs of practices and games if the Pac-12 did not address them. The coronavirus and athlete compensation issues got most of the attention, but concerns about racial injustice in college sports truly spurred their movement.

Within days, Big Ten United emerged — a group spun out of College Athlete Unity, founded earlier this year by athletes to "address systemic injustices in

our communities."

Within a week, those two groups connected with players in other conferences, most notably Clemson star Trevor Lawrence, to create the social media campaign #WeWantToPlay, which called for, among other things, the formation of a college football players association.

"The scale of the discussions was never what it is right now," said Michigan defensive back Hunter Reynolds, a College Athlete Unity founder. "It's athletes from all across the country, all sports in all divisions kind of talking among themselves now. I think that's probably the biggest takeaway: Starting the connections, like, the nationwide connections."

The specific goals of each group are not perfectly aligned. As some conferences postponed their fall seasons, players pushed to play and some are still doing so.

Still, the players say they don't need unanimity to work together. They have been encouraged to see their efforts

attract a wide range of athletes from future NFL millionaires such as Lawrence and Oregon offensive lineman Penei Sewell to walk-ons and athletes outside of football.

"We all look at each other as equals," Grant said. "We all realize that no man or woman is more important than the other. No sport is more important than the other."

Longtime observers of college sports and the NCAA marvel over what athletes have accomplished this year.

Tim Nevius, an attorney and former NCAA investigator, said too often the debate over whether college athletes should be paid overshadows other issues. That the NCAA made its COVID-19 guidelines to member schools mandatory after athletes pushed for more stringent requirements was a huge win for players' rights, he said.

"I think that the message that the players are sending has staying power," Nevius said. "They're advocating for basic rights and fundamental fairness."

Player's positive test impacts other US Open players

Associated Press

NEW YORK — For all of the obvious concessions to the coronavirus at the no-fans-allowed U.S. Open — near-empty arenas; silence pierced by the occasional clap, sneaker squeak or roaring jet; a lack of line judges — the aftereffects of one player's positive test caused the biggest stir on Day 1.

Yes, plenty of matches were played amid a pandemic at the first Grand Slam tournament in nearly seven full months.

And, yes, first-round matches were lost — by 16-year-old Coco Gauff among the women, and No. 9 seed Diego Schwartzman among the men. And won — by No. 1 seed Karolina Pliskova, 2018 champion Naomi Osaka and 2016 champion Angelique Kerber among the women, and No. 1 Novak Djokovic, No.

4 Stefanos Tsitsipas and No. 5 Alexander Zverev among the men.

But Monday was significant for introducing terms to the tennis lexicon such as "bubble in the bubble" and "fake bubble." That's because seven players were allowed to stay in the tournament while placed under additional restrictions on their movement and subjected to daily COVID-19 testing after coming in contact with Benoit Paire, the Frenchman dropped from the U.S. Open after testing positive for the coronavirus, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press.

The players were not identified to the AP by the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the U.S. Tennis Association did not announce

the names of anyone involved.

But three players from France acknowledged their involvement: Kristina Mladenovic, who is seeded 30th in women's singles; Adrian Panarino, seeded 32nd in men's singles; and Edouard Roger-Vasselin, who is entered in men's doubles.

Mladenovic and Mannarino spoke about the situation after wins Monday, saying they were part of a group that played cards with Paire. Both said it was tough to focus on court.

"I'm kind of exhausted mentally, but I'm still really happy to be able to play," said Mannarino, who will face Jack Sock of the United States in the second round. "I need to enjoy it as much as I can."

Mladenovic said she practiced with Paire for about an

hour and spent 30-40 minutes at a card game in the lobby of a hotel being used by the USTA for what it has called a "controlled environment" — staying away from the word "bubble" used by sports such as the NBA that more closely limit access to athletes.

"I am basically in a new 'bubble in the bubble,' so there's not very much I'm allowed to do, which makes it tough for me to compete and mentally be kind of fresh and ready," said Mladenovic, who doubled over and let out a loud yell after beating Hailey Baptiste of the United States 7-5, 6-2.

Baptiste said she was unaware that her opponent was one of the players who had been in contact with Paire. According to Baptiste, she rode in an elevator with Paire.

Padres, Marlins make moves at deadline

Associated Press

CHICAGO — San Diego acted boldly once again. Miami actually strengthened its roster. Mike Clevinger, Starling Marte, Archie Bradley and Todd Frazier were on the move. Lance Lynn and Dylan Bundy stayed put.

Baseball's pandemic-delayed trade deadline was quite a day.

The contending Padres got Clevinger in a multiplayer trade with Cleveland, bolstering their rotation Monday in a rare deadline deal between contenders. The surprising Marlins reeled in the dynamic Marte for their outfield. There was a lot of

talk about pitchers Lynn and Bundy, but Lynn stayed in Texas and the Angels held onto Bundy.

The trade deadline is normally July 31, but it was pushed back when the start of the season was delayed because of the coronavirus. With the shortened season and financial uncertainty brought on by the pandemic, there was talk that it might be an unusually quiet day. But there was plenty of activity instead, spurred in part by the expanded playoff format for this year.

"It felt like a normal deadline in a lot of ways," Cubs general manager Jed Hoyer

said. "Tons of activity and phone calls and things like that. I think that in the end, you know, with the Padres notwithstanding, I think that there probably wasn't quite as much aggressiveness."

The lack of a minor league season also hurt the market, forcing teams to work off older information on prospects.

Shooting for its first playoff appearance since 2006, San Diego acquired Clevinger in its fifth big trade since Saturday. The cost was a package of young players that included outfielder Josh Naylor, right-hander Cal Quantrill and catcher Austin Hedges, adding to the Indians' depth.

MLB roundup

Glasnow extends Rays' mastery of Yankees

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tyler Glasnow flummoxed the Yankees for six innings, Ji-Man Choi and Kevin Kiermaier homered off Gerrit Cole, and the Tampa Bay Rays extended their mastery of New York with a 5-3 victory Monday night.

The AL East leaders improved to 7-1 against the Yankees this season and stretched their division cushion to 4½ games.

New York had won three straight since snapping a seven-game skid, but crumbled early with Cole on the mound.

Glasnow (2-1) had a no-hitter through five and completed six innings of scoreless, two-hit ball. He struck out nine and walked one.

Gio Urshela hit a solo homer, and Luke Voit added his eighth homer in 12 games for the Yankees.

Diego Castillo stranded a runner in the ninth for his third save. Cole (4-2) labored through five innings, allowing four runs, eight hits and four walks. He struck out seven.

Phillies 8, Nationals 6: Spencer Howard threw five effective innings, Rhys Hoskins homered and drove in three runs and host Philadelphia beat Washington.

Juan Soto hit a pair of two-run homers and Michael Taylor and Trea Turner also went deep for the defending World Series champions, who fell to 12-20.

Howard (1-1) allowed two runs and five hits, striking out four to earn his first major league win in his fourth start.

Cardinals 7, Reds 5: Paul DeJong slugged his first career grand slam, helping Dakota Hudson to his first win of the season as St. Louis held on to win at Cincinnati.

The Cardinals loaded the bases with two outs in the fourth inning on Kolten Wong's single and walks by Paul Goldschmidt and Brad Miller. DeJong capitalized, sending Anthony DeScales' full-count pitch over the center-field fence for his second homer of the season.

Hudson (1-3) finished with a season-high seven strikeouts and no walks. He allowed four hits and two runs, one earned.

Padres 6, Rockies 0: Wil Myers homered and Garrett Richards led a committee of pitchers that scattered seven hits as San Diego won at Colorado.

Even as the Padres capped a series of roster additions ahead of Monday's trade deadline, it was mostly holdovers providing the pitching and pop in the

victory.

Fernando Tatis Jr. hit a two-run triple, Eric Hosmer had an RBI double, and Jurickson Profar delivered an RBI single among his three hits, helping San Diego take three of four in the series.

Orioles 4, Blue Jays 3 (11): Jose Iglesias and Bryan Holaday had RBI doubles in the 11th inning, and Iglesias threw out the potential tying run at home plate as visiting Baltimore ended a five-game losing streak.

Iglesias' leadoff hit, to deep left-center field, scored Anthony Santander, who started the inning at second base. Holaday then doubled to right field to drive in Iglesias. Both hits came off Toronto reliever Anthony Bass (2-2).

Marlins 5, Mets 3: Miguel Rojas hit a tiebreaking RBI single during his team's four-run sixth inning against Jacob deGrom, and Miami won at New York.

Garrett Cooper and Brian Anderson homered for Miami, which had dropped four in a row. Trevor Rogers pitched five effective innings for his first major league win, and Brandon Kintzler worked the ninth for his seventh save.

Mariners 2, Angels 1: Marco Gonzales retired 21 consecu-

tive Angels while throwing a four-hitter, and Jose Marmolejos hit a tiebreaking homer in the sixth inning of Seattle's win at Los Angeles.

Gonzales (4-2) had eight strikeouts and didn't walk a batter until the ninth inning of his second career complete game.

Braves 6, Red Sox 3: Austin Riley had a tie-breaking, bases-loaded triple to help Max Fried improve to 6-0 as NL East-leading Atlanta won at rebuilding Boston.

Adam Duvall belted a homer over the Green Monster and Nick Markakis had three hits and drove in two runs for the Braves.

Brewers 6, Pirates 5: Orlando Arcia's pinch-hit single with two outs in the eighth inning drove in the tiebreaking run as host Milwaukee slipped past Pittsburgh.

Royals 2, Indians 1: Maikel Franco and Bubba Starling had RBI singles in the eighth inning as host Kansas City rallied to beat Cleveland.

White Sox 8, Twins 5: Luis Robert hit a tying homer in the seventh inning and the go-ahead double in the ninth, and Chicago took the AL Central lead by rallying to a win at Minnesota.

NBA roundup

Paul helps Thunder force a Game 7

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Chris Paul and the Thunder had their backs to the bubble, a tougher spot than usual when facing elimination.

This time meant lots of packing, getting ready for a potential return home after a long time away. They weren't interested in their trip — or their season — ending.

"We're not ready to go yet," Paul said.

He made sure they wouldn't.

Paul gave Oklahoma City at least one more game at Disney, scoring 15 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter for a 104-100 victory over the Houston Rockets on Monday night in Game 6 of a Western Conference first-round series.

Paul made two free throws

with 13.1 seconds left and the game tied at 100, and Danilo Gallinari added two more after a turnover by Russell Westbrook to finish it off.

Game 7 will be Wednesday night, with the winner advancing to face the top-seeded Los Angeles Lakers.

It gives the West two Game 7s. Denver and Utah played theirs on Tuesday.

In a game that was close all the way — neither team led by double digits — the Thunder bounced back from a blowout in Game 5. And nobody handles close games better than Paul, who led the NBA with 150 points in clutch situations, defined as the last five minutes of a game in which the point differential is five or less.

"We expect him to make

those shots, especially at the end of the game," Gallinari said.

Gallinari added 25 points.

James Harden had 32 points, eight rebounds and seven assists for the Rockets, while Robert Covington had 18 and Westbrook 17 in his second game back from a right quadriceps strain.

Heat 115, Bucks 104:

Jimmy Butler scored a playoff career-high 40 points, Goran Dragic added 27 and Miami clamped down defensively in the final three quarters to beat Milwaukee in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Bam Adebayo had 12 points, 17 rebounds and six assists for the fifth-seeded Heat, who are 3-1 overall against the

top-seeded Bucks this season. Tyler Herro added 11 points for Miami, which improved to 5-0 in the postseason.

Khris Middleton scored 28 points for Milwaukee, which also dropped Game 1 of its first-round series against Orlando. Brook Lopez had 24 points on 8-for-10 shooting, and Giannis Antetokounmpo had 18 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists for the Bucks.

But Antetokounmpo's night will likely be best remembered by what he did at the foul line: The reigning MVP went 4-for-12 from the stripe, the worst performance by anyone with at least 12 free-throw attempts in a playoff game since Andre Roberson went 2-for-12 for Oklahoma City on April 23, 2017 against Houston.

NHL roundup

Hedman's goal in 2nd OT lifts Lightning past Bruins

Associated Press

TORONTO — The Tampa Bay Lightning remained perfect in overtime and are headed to the NHL's Eastern Conference finals for the fourth time in six seasons.

Victor Hedman scored with 5:50 left in the second overtime to give the Lightning a 3-2 victory over the Boston Bruins, ending their best-of-seven, second-round playoff series in five games on Monday night.

The Tampa Bay defenseman beat goaltender Jaroslav Halak from the left circle, scoring off a pass from Brayden Point.

The resilient Lightning outshot the team with the league's best record during the regular season 7-1 in the second OT, improving to 5-0 in overtime games in this year's playoffs.

"We know what we want," Hedman said. "We're not taking no for an answer."

David Krejci's goal at 17:27 of the third period wiped out a 2-1 lead that Anthony Cirelli gave the Lightning when he redirected Hedman's shot past Halak with just under eight minutes remaining in regulation.

Krejci, limited to one point in the first

four games of the series, also assisted on David Pastrnak's power-play goal in the second period for Boston, which was left wondering might have been if the season had not been put on pause in March because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Clearly we didn't reach our goal," said Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy, who watched his team — a Stanley Cup finalist last season — lose four straight after winning Game 1 against the Lightning.

"I also believe with the turn of events with the pause and stuff going on in the world bigger than hockey ... once we got back here it wasn't the same as a normal season. It just wasn't," Cassidy said, adding that wasn't an excuse for the second-round result.

Cassidy said it was too soon to talk about possible changes to the roster going forward, including whether veteran defensemen Zdeno Chara and Torey Krug will return next season.

"I don't want to speculate if it will be their last game. Those are decisions that will be made by the players and management. ... Both are great Boston Bruins, and

we'll see what happens down the line."

Vezina Trophy finalist Andrei Vasilevskiy had 45 saves and Ondrej Palat scored his fifth goal in four games for Tampa Bay, which is back in the East finals after being swept by the Columbus Blue Jackets in the first round in 2019.

"It's a great feeling to win the first two rounds, especially after last year," said Vasilevskiy, who stopped 147 of 157 shots in the series.

Avalanche 6, Stars 3: At Edmonton, Alberta, Pierre-Edouard Bellemare began a five-goal scoring spree in the first period and Colorado avoided second-round elimination with a victory over Dallas in Game 5.

The Avalanche trail the Stars 3-2 in the best-of-seven series. They've never won a series in team history when facing a 3-1 deficit. Game 6 is Wednesday.

Andre Burakovsky, Nathan MacKinnon, Nazem Kadri and Mikko Rantanen also scored in a 2:36 span for Colorado in a high-flying first period. The five goals sets the franchise postseason record for a period.