

## Options shrinking for migrants at border

*Associated Press*

DEL RIO, Texas — The options remaining for thousands of Haitian migrants straddling the Mexico-Texas border are narrowing as the United States government was ramping up expulsion flights to Haiti on Tuesday, and Mexico began busing some away from the border.

More than 6,000 Haitians and other migrants had been removed from an encampment at Del Rio, Texas, U.S. officials said Monday as they defended a strong response that included immediately expelling migrants to their impoverished Caribbean country and faced criticism for using horse patrols to stop them from entering the town.

That was enough for some Haitian migrants to return to Mexico, while others struggled to decide on which side of the border to take their chances.

Jean Claudio Charles, 34, his wife and their 1-year-old son were stretching at dawn on Tuesday after sleeping on cardboard in a park by the river with 300 others who chose to return to Mexico from the U.S. side, some for fear of being deported and others be-

cause of a lack of food.

Charles said he did not want to leave the area, which is gradually becoming a new camp on the Mexican side, for fear of arrests.

“They are grabbing people, they bother us, especially Haitians because they identify us by skin,” he said.

On Monday, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas conceded it was a “challenging and heartbreaking situation,” but he issued a stark warning: “If you come to the United States illegally, you will be returned. Your journey will not succeed, and you will be endangering your life and your family’s life.”

Mexico’s Foreign Relations Secretary, Marcelo Ebrard, said Tuesday that he had spoken with his U.S. counterpart, Antony Blinken, about the Haitians’ situation. Ebrard said most of the Haitians already had refugee status in Chile or Brazil and most weren’t seeking it in Mexico.

“What they are asking for is to be allowed to pass freely through Mexico to the United States,” Ebrard said.

On Monday, officials from Mexico’s National Human Rights Commission walked among the migrants signing up those interested in applying for asylum in Mexico. So far this year, more than 19,000 Haitians have opted to do so, including some now at the border.

At the same time, Mexican authorities were detaining some migrants. The first busloads pulled out Sunday and more empty buses arrived Monday.

Some humanitarian workers said Monday they had seen Mexican National Guard troops help immigration agents detain a group of 15 to 20 migrants in Ciudad Acuña.

Overnight, an Associated Press journalist saw National Guard, immigration and state police vehicles make at least one raid in the center of Acuña and its surroundings, and at least six people were placed in a van. A Haitian man, who was holding bags of food, was told by agents that they planned to transfer him to an office to review his papers.

Mexico so far has only made small-scale arrests both in Acuña and in other parts of Mexico where Haitians are in transit.

## At UN, Biden calls for unity to address global crises

*Associated Press*

UNITED NATIONS — President Joe Biden summoned the world’s nations to forcefully address the festering global issues of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and human rights abuses in his first address before the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday. He decried military conflict and insisted the United States is not seeking “a new Cold War” with China.

The president said the halting of U.S. military operations in Afghanistan last month, ending America’s longest war, set the table for his administration to shift its attention to intensive diplomacy at a moment with no shortage of crises facing the globe.

“To deliver for our own people, we must also engage deeply with the rest of the world,” he said.

He added: “We’re opening a new era of relentless diplomacy, of using the power of our development aid to invest in new ways of lifting people up around the world.”

Biden offered a robust endorsement of the U.N.’s relevance and ambition at a difficult moment in history, and sought to reassure wary allies of U.S. cooperation after a disagreements in recent months.

He also pledged to double U.S. financial aid to poorer countries to help them switch to cleaner energy and cope with the “merciless” effects of climate change.

That would mean increasing assistance to about \$11.4 billion a year. This comes after doubling the amount to \$5.7 billion a year five months ago.

As part of the fight against climate change, rich nations for many years have promised to spend \$100 billion a year in climate help, but a new study shows that they’re \$20 billion a year short.

Biden said his new commitment would help rich nations reach their goal. The \$100 billion goal is key because there’s a dramatic rich-poor nation gap in climate negotiations. Developing nations and others are re-

luctant to curb emissions further of heat-trapping gases without help from developed nations, which in the words of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, are “the guys that created the problem.”

Biden is facing a healthy measure of skepticism from allies during his week of high-level diplomacy.

The opening months of his presidency have included a series of difficult moments with friendly nations that were expecting greater cooperation from Biden following four years of Donald Trump’s “America first” approach to foreign policy.

Eight months into his presidency, Biden has been out of sync with allies on the chaotic ending to the U.S. war in Afghanistan. He has faced differences over how to go about sharing coronavirus vaccines with the developing world and over pandemic travel restrictions. And there are questions about the best way to respond to military and economic moves by China.

# Mixed response in Southeast Asia for AUKUS pact

By **SETH ROBSON**  
*Stars and Stripes*

TOKYO — Some Southeast Asian nations are concerned a new security agreement between the U.S., Australia and the United Kingdom could lead to an arms race and more aggression in the region.

The three allies announced the AUKUS alliance last week to help Australia build its first nuclear-powered submarines with assistance from the United States and Britain. The deal provoked an angry response from China, widely seen as the threat that the nations are focused on, but leaders in Indonesia and Malaysia have also expressed concerns.

Indonesia's Foreign Ministry, in a statement Friday, called on Australia to continue meeting nuclear nonproliferation obligations. It said Indonesia "is deeply concerned over the continuing arms race and power projection in the region."

Malaysian Prime Minister Ismail Sabri

Yaakob told Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Friday that "AUKUS could potentially provoke other powers to act more aggressively, especially within the South China Sea region," Japan's NHK broadcaster reported Monday.

Some Southeast Asian nations, including Thailand and Vietnam, didn't immediately comment on AUKUS. Singapore, however, issued an upbeat statement Thursday, detailing a phone call that day between Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Morrison.

Loong told Morrison that he hoped the new deal would "contribute constructively to the peace and stability of the region and complement the regional architecture," according to the statement.

Philippine National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana in a call with Australian Defence Minister Peter Dutton on Friday acknowledged Australia's right to improve its submarine defense and noted that the Philippines is also building capability to

protect its territories, according to a statement from the Philippines' Department of National Defense.

China has occupied and built military facilities on South China Sea islands claimed by its neighbors, including the Philippines — acts deemed a violation of international law by a United Nations tribunal.

However, Lorenzana told Dutton that Manila wants good bilateral defense relations with all countries in the region, according to the statement.

The U.S. military believes the agreement with the Australians and the British will add to deterrence in the Indo-Pacific, Pentagon press secretary John Kirby told reporters during a briefing Monday.

"It'll improve the Australian navy's reach and their warfighting capability, their defensive capability," he said. "And that's all to be welcomed in that particular part of the world. Given the dynamic, intense security environment that exists."

# Sailor dies 14 days after positive coronavirus test

By **CHAD GARLAND**  
*Stars and Stripes*

A Navy petty officer based in Virginia died Sunday of complications related to the coronavirus at a Norfolk hospital, the service said.

Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan L. Crosby, a gas turbine system technician, is the 13th sailor to die of causes related to COVID-19. The 39-year-old was assigned to the Navy's Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Atlantic in Virginia Beach.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the

family, friends and coworkers of Petty Officer Crosby during this extremely difficult time," Marine Col. Christopher Browning, the group commander, said in a statement.

A colleague described Crosby on Facebook as someone whose commitment to his wife and daughters was "a model most could follow for a happy family."

Crosby received a positive test result for COVID-19 on Aug. 26, said Lt. Cmdr. Laura K. Stegherr, a spokeswoman for Carrier Strike Group Four. He was admitted to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth on Sept. 8

and transferred the following day to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, where he died.

The sailor's death comes a little over a week after three Navy civilian employees died of complications related to the disease.

A civilian employee with Naval Air Station Oceana and Dam Neck Annex in Virginia Beach died Sept. 10. Two others died Sept. 12 — one with the Navy Information Warfare Center, Atlantic in Charleston, S.C., and another with Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla.

# Drone strike kills at least 1 in northwestern Syria

*Associated Press*

BEIRUT — A drone strike hit a vehicle traveling on a rural road in rebel-controlled northwestern Syria on Monday, killing at least one person, rescue workers and a war monitor said.

The Civil Defense team, known as White Helmets, said the unidentified body was lifted from the car along the Idlib-Binnish road east of Idlib province. The charred vehicle, split in

the middle, lay on the side of the rural road in an orchid.

Spokesman Col. Wayne Marotto said the coalition was not behind the attack.

But U.S. Central Command said later that American forces conducted a "kinetic counterterrorism strike" near Idlib province targeting a senior leader of the militant group al-Qaida.

"Initial indications are that we struck the in-

dividual we were aiming for, and there are no indications of civilian casualties as a result of the strike," said Navy Lt. Josie Lynne Lenny in a statement. No additional details were released.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, based in Britain, said the vehicle carried a militant from one of the radical groups operating in the province. The Observatory didn't identify the group but said it was linked to al-Qaida.

# GOP digs in as Dems link bills on debt, funding

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Democratic congressional leaders backed by the White House say they will push ahead with a vote to fund the government and suspend the debt limit, all but daring Republicans who say they will vote against it despite the risk of a fiscal crisis.

Congress is rushing headlong into an all-too-familiar stalemate: The federal government faces a shutdown if funding stops at the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30. At the same time, the U.S. risks defaulting on its accumulated debt load if the borrowing limits are not waived or adjusted.

All this while Democratic lawmakers are laboring to shoulder President Joe Biden's massive \$3.5 trillion "build back better" agenda through the House and Senate with stark opposition from Republicans.

"The American people expect our Republican colleagues

to live up to their responsibilities and make good on the debts they proudly helped incur," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer in a joint statement Monday.

From the White House, the president backed the congressional leaders' plan to hold the votes.

"This is a bipartisan responsibility, just as it was under my predecessor," Biden said in a tweet. "Blocking it would be inexcusable."

The magnitude of the challenges ahead and the speed required to accomplish the job are like nothing Congress has faced in recent memory, situating Biden's domestic agenda and the political fate of his Democratic Party at a crucial moment.

As Democrats charge ahead, the Republicans as the minority party in Congress hoping to regain control in the next election in 2022 plan to sit back, watch-

ing and waiting to see if Biden and his allies can succeed against the odds — or spectacularly fail.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said he's not about to help pay off past debts when Biden is about to pile on more with a "reckless" tax and spending package.

"Since Democrats decided to go it alone, they will not get Senate Republicans' help with raising the debt limit. I've explained this clearly and consistently for over two months," McConnell said Monday on the Senate floor.

The vote this week on funding to keep the government running past Sept. 30 and allow more borrowing will force the political stalemate into the open.

The Treasury Department warned that it will soon run out of cash-on-hand, and have to rely on incoming receipts to pay its obligations, now at \$28.4 trillion. That could force the Trea-

sury to delay or miss payments, a devastating situation.

"Doing so would likely precipitate a historic financial crisis," wrote Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen in *The Wall Street Journal*.

Stocks on Wall Street closed sharply lower Monday, handing the S&P 500 index its biggest drop in four months as worries about heavily indebted Chinese real estate developers rippled across markets and investors have concerns that the U.S. Federal Reserve could signal that it's planning to pull back some of the support measures it's been giving markets and the economy.

Once a routine matter, lifting the debt ceiling has become a political weapon of choice for Republicans in Washington ever since the 2011 arrival of tea party lawmakers who refused to allow it. At the time, they argued against more spending and the standoff triggered a fiscal crisis.

## 4 famous trees unharmed by Sequoia National Park fire

*Associated Press*

THREE RIVERS, Calif. — Four famous giant sequoias were not harmed by a wildfire that reached the edge of Giant Forest in California's Sequoia National Park, authorities said.

The Four Guardsmen, a group of trees that form a natural entryway on the road to the forest, were successfully protected from the KNP Complex fire by the removal of nearby vegetation and by wrapping fire-resistant material around the bases of the trees, the fire-fighting management team said in a statement Sunday.

The KNP Complex began as two lightning-sparked fires that eventually merged and has scorched more than 37 square miles in the heart of sequoia country on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada.

There was no immediate word, however, on the full extent of damage in several other sequoia groves reached by a separate blaze, the Windy Fire, in the Giant Sequoia National Monument area of Sequoia National Forest and the Tule River Indian Reservation.

The Windy Fire has burned through the Peyrone and Red Hill groves, as well as a portion of the Long Meadow Grove along the Trail of 100 Giants.

A portion of one giant sequoia along the trail was confirmed to have burned, said Thanh Nguyen, a spokesman for the fire command.

Fire crews with hoses and water-dropping helicopters were working to limit damage to the giant sequoias in the groves, where there are also other types of trees.

## 2 file suits against doctor who defied abortion law

*Associated Press*

DALLAS—A San Antonio doctor who said he performed an abortion in defiance of a new Texas law all but dared supporters of the state's near-total ban on the procedure to try making an early example of him by filing a lawsuit — and by Monday, two people obliged.

Former attorneys in Arkansas and Illinois filed separate state lawsuits Monday against Dr. Alan Braid, who in a weekend Washington Post opinion column became the first Texas abortion provider to publicly reveal he violated the law that took effect on Sept. 1. Neither ex-lawyer who filed suit said they were anti-abortion. But both said courts should weigh in.

The Texas law prohibits abortions once medical professionals

can detect cardiac activity, which is usually around six weeks and before some women even know they are pregnant. Prosecutors cannot take criminal action against Braid; the law explicitly forbids that. The only way the ban can be enforced is through lawsuits brought by private citizens, who don't have to be Texans and are entitled to claim at least \$10,000 in damages if successful.

Oscar Stilley, of Cedarville, Ark., who described himself in court paperwork as a disgraced former lawyer who lost his law license after being convicted of tax fraud, said he sued to force a court review of Texas' law, which he called an "end-run."

Felipe N. Gomez, of Chicago, asked a court in San Antonio in his lawsuit to declare the new law unconstitutional.

# Taliban government expands; still no women

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban expanded their interim Cabinet by naming more ministers and deputies on Tuesday, but failed to appoint any women, doubling down on a hard-line course despite the international outcry that followed their initial presentation of an all-male government lineup earlier this month.

The international community has said that it will judge the Taliban by their actions, and that recognition of a Taliban-led government would be linked to the treatment of women and minorities.

In their previous rule of Afghanistan in the late 1990s, the Taliban, who adhere to a harsh interpretation of Islam, had barred girls and women from schools, work and public life.

At a news conference Tuesday, Taliban government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid held out the possibility of adding women to the Cabinet at a later time, but gave no specifics. He also said the Taliban are preparing rules for allowing teenage girls and women to return to schools and jobs in line with Islamic law, but did not say when that might happen.

Mujahid defended the latest additions to the Cabinet, saying they included members of ethnic minorities, such as the Hazaras. He said the deputies were chosen for their technical skills.

He bristled at international conditions for recognition, saying there was no reason for withholding it.

“It is the responsibility of the United Nations to recognize our government (and) for other

countries, including European, Asian and Islamic countries, to have diplomatic relations with us,” he said.

The Taliban seek international support as they grapple with the daunting challenges of governing a nation shredded by four decades of conflict. The U.S.-backed government deposed by the Taliban in a rapid military campaign last month had depended heavily on foreign aid. Even before the Taliban takeover, the economy was in deep trouble. Now Afghanistan’s new rulers face an economic meltdown and growing poverty.

Mujahid played down the financial problems, saying that much of the foreign aid to the previous government — widely seen as corrupt — was spent on funding America’s 20-year war

against the Taliban.

He suggested Afghanistan could manage without that aid, saying the country had sufficient resources.

“According to our inspection, Afghanistan is not a failed country, financially,” he said. “We have revenue, and if it is controlled and collected properly, it can solve our current problems.”

It wasn’t clear, however, how the Taliban government expected to raise sufficient tax revenue from a population the U.N. said would see 97% living below the poverty level by the end of the year.

The Taliban have framed their current Cabinet as an interim government, suggesting that change is still possible, but they have not said if there would ever be elections.

## Defense calls on R. Kelly’s allies as prosecution rests

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Prosecutors at the R. Kelly sex trafficking trial ended their case Monday after calling dozens of witnesses over the past month who detailed the government’s sweeping allegations against the singer in lurid detail.

The defense began its case later in the day by starting to call Kelly loyalists to the witness stand in an effort to cast doubt on some of the accusers’ accounts.

A New York City jury has heard several women and two men who were in Kelly’s celebrity orbit tell the panel that he groomed them for unwanted sex and psychologically tormented them — mostly when they were teenagers — in episodes

dating to the 1990s. Their accounts were backed at least in part by former Kelly employees whose own testimony suggested they were essentially paid off to look the other way or actively enable the 54-year-old recording artist.

Kelly’s lawyers must find ways to counter testimony from accusers alleging perverse misconduct spanning three decades. Among the troubling tableaux: his entourage locking a radio station intern in a room where he sexually assaulted her while she was passed out, witnesses claiming that he gave them herpes without disclosing he had an STD and Kelly shooting a shaming video of one alleged victim showing her smearing feces on her

face as punishment for breaking arbitrary rules meant to protect his fragile ego.

On Monday, Larry Hood, a childhood friend who worked security for Kelly as an off-duty Chicago police officer in the early 2000s, claimed he never witnessed Kelly misbehaving with underage girls. A defense attorney also asked if he saw his friend lock anyone in a room.

“No, sir,” Hood responded. If he saw that, he added, “As a police officer, I would have had to take action against that.”

On cross-examination, Hood admitted the police department fired him in 2007 after a guilty plea in a counterfeit money case, though he got to keep his pension.

## Threat of earthquakes, lava keep Spanish island on edge

Associated Press

EL PASO, Canary Islands — Several small earthquakes shook the Spanish island of La Palma off northwest Africa, keeping nerves on edge as rivers of lava continued to flow toward the sea Tuesday and a

new vent blew open on the mountainside.

After moving downhill across the island’s countryside since Sunday’s eruption, the lava is gradually closing in on the more densely populated coastline.

Officials said a river of lava was bearing down on the neighborhood of Todoque, where more than 1,000 people live and where emergency services were preparing evacuations.

About 6,000 people on La Palma have been evacuated so far

and 183 houses damaged, government spokeswoman Isabel Rodríguez said after a Cabinet meeting in Madrid.

The new vent opened after what the Canary Islands Volcanology Institute said was a 3.8-magnitude quake late Monday.

**AMERICAN ROUNDUP**

**Man sentenced for using missing brother's ID**

**WA** TACOMA — A 74-year-old man was sentenced to two years in prison for using his missing brother's identity to collect up to \$500,000 in Social Security disability payments, but officials still don't know what happened to the brother, last seen in 1988.

Chris Harvey Saylor pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to wire fraud and aggravated identity theft based on an investigation that started in 2013 when state Department of Licensing facial recognition software flagged ID photos seemingly of the same person but with two different names: Chris Saylor and Jarvis Saylor, the Kitsap Sun reported.

Chris Saylor was accused of claiming his disabled brother's benefits starting as early as 1998.

**Officers said justified in shooting man 58 times**

**TN** MEMPHIS — Five Tennessee officers who fatally shot a man 58 times after he wounded a sheriff's deputy inside a trailer did not break the law during the shooting, a prosecutor said.

Members of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office Fugitive Apprehension Team went to a trailer park in Memphis to look for Willie Hudson Jr., who had a felony arrest warrant for attempted first-degree murder, Shelby County district attorney Amy Weirich said.

Hudson, 33, was found hiding behind a bookcase in a trailer and refused orders to come out, authorities said. Hudson began shooting as officers pulled back the bookcase, authorities said.

In a statement, Weirich said the number of shots doesn't affect

whether the shooting was legally justified. Weirich said the officers were there to make a lawful arrest during an "unexpected, life-or-death gunfight in close quarters."

**Restaurant uses robots to boost staffing**

**CT** NEW LONDON — A Connecticut restaurant is taking an unorthodox approach to addressing staff shortages: robot servers to serve meals.

The operator of the New London location of the Shaking Crab told The Day that the ocean-themed restaurant will use regular waiters and waitresses to explain the menu and take orders but that the robots will deliver the meals to the tables.

Gulshan Soni told the newspaper the robots can be summoned with a bell, and said the innovation is partly for showmanship and to draw in customers with something unique, and partly to address staffing shortages.

**Police car stolen, man jumps into harbor**

**MD** BALTIMORE — A Baltimore police car was stolen by a man who led police on a wild chase and jumped into the harbor before being apprehended.

The Baltimore Sun reported that the chase began when officers attempted to pull over a stolen vehicle. Police said the driver refused to stop and fled, striking and damaging several cars along the way. The driver crashed, then fled on foot, and got into a police car that had been stopped by an officer who was chasing the suspect on foot.

The driver eventually stopped and got out of the police car. Officers then chased the suspect on

foot to the Tide Point area, where the suspect jumped into the harbor.

Police said the suspect was taken into custody.

**Officer catches infant dropped from balcony**

**NJ** JERSEY CITY — A New Jersey police officer safely caught a 1-month-old baby dropped off a second-floor balcony, authorities said.

The Hudson County prosecutor's office said Officer Eduardo Matute was among those called to the Jersey City residence after reports that a man was threatening the baby.

NorthJersey.com reported that he and several officers were positioned below the second-floor balcony as the child was dangled over the balcony railing.

Officials said the man dropped the infant after a lengthy standoff, and Matute caught the child.

City spokesperson Kimberly Wallace-Scalcione said the child was taken to the hospital as a precaution. Wallace-Scalcione said the man who dropped the baby was immediately arrested and charges are pending.

**FBI investigates 2 bombs found near stores**

**MI** CHEBOYGAN — The FBI said two explosive devices recently found outside cellphone stores in northern Michigan are believed to be linked to letters found last month in the Upper Peninsula.

The bombs, which were discovered and defused, were found in suspicious packages left outside a Verizon store in Cheboygan and an AT&T store in Sault Ste. Marie.

The letters claimed to be from the "Coalition for Moral Telecommunications" and made de-

mands of telecommunications companies. They were found at several telecommunications tower sites, according to the FBI.

**Woman hit by truck after chasing down money**

**ME** WINDHAM — A woman got out of a vehicle to chase down some money that blew out the window before she was struck and killed, police said.

Lisa Reynolds, 47, of Windham, exited the vehicle after the driver stopped alongside the four-lane Route 302, according to the Portland Press Herald, which obtained the crash report.

Although the crash is still under investigation, charges are not expected, said Windham Police Capt. Bill Andrew.

**City may be considered town after census count**

**LA** JEANERETTE — A city in southwest Louisiana could be losing its city status after population loss in the latest Census.

According to the Louisiana Directory of Cities, Towns and Villages, the population must be more than 5,000 to be considered a city. The 2020 Census count for the City of Jeanerette was about 200 fewer people, officials said.

According to the Census Bureau, the population was 5,385 in 2019; in 2020, it was 4,813. Mike Hefner, chief demographer for Geographic Planning and Demographic Services, said it is likely more than 5,000 people live in Jeanerette; however, not everyone filled out a census survey.

Hefner said fewer people living in an area means fewer police officers, fewer emergency services, and less assistance from the state.

— From wire reports



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**Reporting World, National and Military News**

# Linebacker says Georgia can get better

Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — Adam Anderson believes No. 2 Georgia's defense hasn't come close to realizing its potential.

Anderson said the Bulldogs can generate much more havoc.

"We can get so much better," Anderson said Monday before Georgia (3-0, 1-0 Southeastern Conference) began its practice schedule for Saturday's visit to Vanderbilt (1-2, 0-0).

"Most people would say we are doing well, but there are still things we can improve on."

South Carolina coach Shane Beamer didn't see much room for improvement in the Georgia defense following the Bulldogs' 40-13 win over his Gamecocks on Saturday night.

The Bulldogs were dominant even while allowing their first touchdown of the season on defense. Following the game, Beamer just shook his head and said, "They're big and physical and fast. I mean, other than that, they're really freaking

good. That's why they have the top defense in the country."

Anderson, a senior outside linebacker, leads the defense with three sacks and nine pressures. The defense already has 13 sacks and five interceptions but Anderson wants to see even more of those "havoc plays."

"I think there are still things to work on," Anderson said. "For one, getting more turnovers. ... We're trying to make more havoc plays. How can we help our offense out by getting them on the field even more?"

In Georgia's season-opening 10-3 win over Clemson, the defense also took care of most of the scoring. Cornerback Christopher Smith's 74-yard interception return provided the game's only touchdown.

Linebacker Nolan Smith, who forced a fumble against South Carolina and has two sacks this season, joins Anderson as leaders of the defense at linebacker.

"My brother. Part of my wolf-pack," said Anderson of Nolan

Smith.

Beamer was astonished at Georgia coach Kirby Smart's long list of top-rated players, including the massive duo of Jordan Davis (6-6, 340) and Devonte Wyatt (6-3, 315) on the defensive line.

"They've got like 100 5-star football players on their defense," Beamer said.

Sometimes the depth may make it difficult for a backup to earn significant practice time behind the starters. Smart says that may mean those backups volunteer to work on the scout team defense against Georgia's top offensive linemen.

"And when you've got players in your program texting you, 'Coach can I get some good work against Warren McClendon or Jamaree Salyer?' that's when you know you got a good culture," Smart said Monday.

"They're trying to get reps against better people rather than staying down with the defense. ... For me, that is every-

thing we're about, that's what our culture is built on. It's built on how you go against better players so that you get better and that's how we get depth because they practice against good people."

It may be difficult to stand out in the crowd of defensive players expected to draw attention in the next NFL Draft. Sacks are one way to gain attention.

Anderson set a preseason goal of 20 sacks. That number sounded unrealistic when it is remembered Jarvis Jones set the school record of 14½ in 2012. Azeez Ojulari led the Bulldogs with 8½ sacks in 10 games last season before being a second-round draft pick by the New York Giants.

Anderson said Monday he didn't want to set his sights too low.

"That's a record I want to break," Anderson said of Jones' mark. "I'm excited to see what I can do."

## Feedback expected from commissioners on CFP expansion

Associated Press

The College Football Playoff management committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday to discuss the feedback members have received from campuses since a 12-team expansion plan was unveiled in June.

After the 10 major college football conference commissioners and Notre Dame's athletic director get together this week, they plan to reconvene early next week in Chicago with the university presidents who make up the CFP's board of managers.

"As you know, we spent the summer talking to our constituents and anybody that had a dog in the the fight, trying to take their temperature and determine the feasibility of moving forward with what has been recommended. And probably not only the feasibility but the desirability," Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby

said Monday.

"I imagine a fair amount of the meeting on Wednesday will be reporting out on that and working on reconciling whatever differences there may be among the 11 members of the management committee."

Wednesday's meeting is scheduled to be held in North Texas, though some of the participants may join remotely.

Bowlsby was part of a four-person subcommittee that — at the direction of the board of managers — worked on expansion models for about two years. Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick, Southeastern Conference Commissioner Greg Sankey and Mountain West Commissioner Craig Thompson were also on the expansion working group.

What they came up with was a 12-team format that would in-

clude six conference champions and six at-large teams and games played both on campus and at bowl sites. That recommendation was presented to the full management committee and then the presidents in June.

The presidents agreed to proceed with the process while not committing to expansion.

The proposal was mostly met with enthusiasm and praise from the other commissioners, some of whom have publicly called for the playoff to grow from its current four-team format.

But after it was announced in July that Texas and Oklahoma would be moving from the Big 12 to the Southeastern Conference by 2025, leaders in other leagues seemed to take a step back and reconsider what that would mean for the next evolution of the CFP.

Pac-12 Commissioner George Kliavkoff stated his support for

playoff expansion on the day he was hired in May. That has not changed, but he has said there are "issues at the margins" with the proposed 12-team model.

The soonest a new CFP format could be implemented is 2023 and the current 12-year television contract with ESPN runs through the 2025 season.

Bowlsby continues to call expansion "inevitable."

More clarity on how much and how soon could be sorted out over the coming eight days, with the presidents ultimately making the call on what's next.

"They could choose to act on it. They could choose to act on it with a deferred implementation date. They could tell us they want more information," Bowlsby said. "They could kick the can to January to their board meeting around the national championship game."

# NHL returns as training camps open

*Associated Press*

Every offseason feels short to Philipp Grubauer, though this one was a doozy.

After playing the most games of his NHL career, the German goaltender saw his season end with Colorado in June, waited for a new contract and, by the end of July, joined the expansion Seattle franchise. He had new Kraken gear before a new place to live.

“Training camp comes around, it’s like, ‘Oh, I guess it’s time to go back now,’” Grubauer said. “It was an incredibly busy summer: still looking for a house, still moving. But we love playing.”

Training camps open around North America this week after the shortest off-season in NHL history. It has been less than 80 days since the Tampa Bay Lightning hoisted the Stanley Cup — their second title in 10 months — and the league is now 32 teams strong, with everyone jumping back on the ice to do it all over again.

“It’s been short, that’s for sure,” Lightning captain Steven Stamkos said. “But I think when you win, you don’t complain about it as much because you won and

you’re just kind of celebrating all summer.”

The summer of celebration started July 7 when the Lightning wrapped up the final by beating the Montreal Canadiens in Game 5. By the time the calendar flipped to August, Seattle picked players in the expansion draft and added Grubauer in free agency, while Tampa Bay’s roster was hit because of the salary cap.

Coming off a 105-point season in just 56 games, reigning MVP Connor McDavid did not waste time getting back on the ice to train for another shot at the playoffs. Honing his game was more important than an extra bit of rest with an eye on Edmonton making a deep run.

“Obviously the important thing is being on the ice and skating and feeling good out there, so I try to put a lot of focus on that,” McDavid said.

McDavid and the Oilers were swept by Winnipeg in the first round, so they had more down time than others. Like McDavid, Florida Panthers captain Aleksander Barkov would prefer less time off.

“I wish we could do that every year: going as far as possible,” Barkov said. “I had

enough rest — mental rest, physical rest — and ready to get back to play.”

While Stamkos and the Lightning could hope that drinking from the Stanley Cup heals their playoff wounds, Montreal players who fell just short refused to wait to get back on the ice to take another shot at it. Nick Suzuki got up to speed quickly because the guys he trains with were already in midsummer form, and fellow Canadiens forward Tyler Toffoli talked himself out of a long break.

“When I got home, I started working out like a week after, where normally I would probably take three weeks-ish before I started getting back into it,” Toffoli said. “I was basically right back in the gym.”

Those workouts complete, players report for physicals Wednesday, with the first practice sessions scheduled for Thursday. Ahead is what’s set to be the first 82-game regular season since 2019-20 before the pandemic derailed the NHL and the rest of the world, and the schedule will also be condensed to fit in an Olympic break in February so hockey’s best can go to Beijing.

## Jones, Packers bounce back to beat Lions

*Associated Press*

GREEN BAY, Wis. — While celebrating one of his four touchdowns, Aaron Jones lost a necklace he wears with a little black football containing some of the ashes of his late father.

That was just about the only thing that went wrong for Jones and the Green Bay Packers against the Detroit Lions.

Jones caught three of Aaron Rodgers’ four TD passes and rushed for a fourth score, and the Packers had a welcome return to normal, dominating the second half in a 35-17 win over the division rival Lions on Monday night.

Green Bay, which got thumped 38-3 by the New Orleans Saints in Week 1, looked more like the team that went 13-3 in each of coach Matt LaFleur’s first two seasons. The team (1-1) won its ninth straight home opener.

“I think that there’s, even more now than when I started playing, there’s so many overreactions that happen on a week-to-week basis,” Rodgers said. “So it’s nice to come out and have a good performance and get the trolls off our back

for at least a week.”

Jones became the first Packers running back to catch three touchdown passes in a game since Andy Uram against the Chicago Cardinals in 1942. He had 17 carries for 67 yards and six catches for 48 yards.

As for the missing necklace, he was hopeful he’d see it again.

“I think the grounds crew is about to go out there and look right now,” Jones said. “But if there was any place to lose it, that’s where my dad would’ve wanted me to lose it, so I know he’s smiling.”

Jones’ father, Alvin Jones Sr., died on April 8.

“My dad’s always taught me as a man, it’s how you respond to adversity, how you respond is what makes a man, really,” Jones said. “I think we came out and did a great job of responding. We played well. We played at a high level.”

Rodgers went 22-for-27 for 255 yards and surpassed John Elway for 10th all-time in passing yards with 51,633. Rodgers has followed up each of Green Bay’s last five regular-season losses by throwing four touchdown passes and no inter-

ceptions in his next game.

Detroit’s Jared Goff completed 13 of his first 14 passes but struggled the rest of the way as the Lions (0-2) blew a 17-14 half-time lead. Goff finished 26-for-36 for 246 yards. He connected on touchdown passes to Quincey Cephus and T.J. Hockenson but also threw an interception and lost a fumble.

The Packers scored touchdowns on their first three second-half possessions to seize control.

“We just kind of kept shooting ourselves in the foot there,” Goff said.

Green Bay faced third-and-12 on their opening series of the second half when Rodgers threw a 50-yard completion to Davante Adams, who ended the night with eight catches for 121 yards.

Lions rookie cornerback Ifeatu Melifonwu injured his thigh on the play, weakening a secondary that already lost cornerback Jeff Okudah to a ruptured Achilles tendon in Detroit’s season-opening loss to the San Francisco 49ers.

The Packers dominated the rest of the way.

# DeChambeau brings game, baggage to Ryder Cup

Associated Press

It's one thing for Bryson DeChambeau to try to change golf when he's doing it only for himself.

Now comes the Ryder Cup, where the world will get to see how his single-minded pursuit of nonconformity and power fits in the realm of a team competition.

When DeChambeau arrived at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin for the showdown between the United States and Europe that opens Friday, the 6-foot-1, 235-pound disrupter with a world-leading driving average of 323.7 yards will bring with him an epic amount of baggage.

He is in the middle of a months-long feud with one of his teammates, Brooks Koepka, who happens to have three more major ti-

ties than DeChambeau.

He arrives only a few weeks after the PGA Tour's much-discussed update to its policy for fans, which asks for more decorum from spectators, including those who were increasingly shouting out "Brooksy" as a way of taunting DeChambeau.

He's had encounters that range from awkward moments to full-fledged fights with everyone from his equipment reps to photographers to his former caddie to FedEx Cup champion Patrick Cantlay, another longtime foe who, for one week, will be his teammate.

Cantlay is among the many who have been asked to chime in on DeChambeau's impact on the game. He recently suggested some of the antics could be a byproduct of

the PGA Tour's new Player Impact Program, which awards players who "move the needle" on social media and elsewhere.

"I think when you have people that go for attention-seeking maneuvers, you leave yourself potentially open to having the wrong type of attention," Cantlay said.

Rory McIlroy, the European headliner who conceded his own game went sideways earlier this year when he spent time trying to match DeChambeau yard for yard with the driver, said he believes some of DeChambeau's problems could be self-inflicted. But he also said he felt some sympathy for him.

"Because I don't think that you should be ostracized or criticized for being different," McIlroy said.

## Baz-ball: Rays rookie shines in major league debut

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Shane Baz pitched two-hit ball for five innings to win his major league debut and the AL East-leading Tampa Bay Rays cut Toronto's lead in the wild-card chase, holding off the Blue Jays 6-4 on Monday night.

Tampa Bay has a seven-game advantage over second-place Boston with 11 games remaining.

The Blue Jays, who scored twice in the ninth inning and left the bases loaded, had their edge over the New York Yankees for the second AL wild card drop to a half-game.

Baz (1-0) gave up a pair of home runs and little else, striking out five and walking none. The 22-year-old righty, promoted from Triple-A Durham, was on this year's silver medal-winning U.S. Olympic baseball team.

"It was like a dream come true-type thing," Baz said.

Baz threw 51 of 65 pitches (78.5%) for strikes, the highest percentage by a starting pitcher in his MLB debut since pitches were first tracked beginning in 1988, according to STATS.

**Yankees 4, Rangers 3:** Gary Sánchez hit a go-ahead home run, four pitchers combined for

scoreless relief and New York gained in the AL wild-card race with a win Monday over visiting Texas.

Sánchez put the Yankees ahead in the second inning against rookie A.J. Alexy (2-1) with his 22nd home run.

**Marlins 8, Nationals 7 (10):** Jazz Chisholm Jr. homered twice before scoring from third on a wild pitch in the 10th inning and Miami edged visiting Washington.

After Dylan Floro (6-6) pitched a scoreless top of the 10th, Chisholm took his place at second to start the bottom of the inning as the Marlins' automatic runner.

Nationals reliever Sam Clay (0-5) intentionally walked Jesús Sánchez to face Lewis Brinson. Chisholm stole third during the at-bat and raced home after Clay's breaking pitch bounced away from catcher Keibert Ruiz.

**Royals 7-4, Indians 2-2:** Salvador Perez hit his 46th home run, breaking Johnny Bench's record for most by a catcher in a season to highlight the opener, then Kansas City completed a doubleheader sweep at Cleveland.

Perez hit a two-run homer in the fifth inning of the opener,

topping Bench's total from 1970 for the highest total by a player who spent at least 75% of his team's games at catcher. Perez also moved into a tie for the major league lead in homers with Toronto's Vladimir Guerrero Jr. Perez leads the majors with 115 RBIs.

Joel Payamps, Domingo Tapia, Jake Brentz, Josh Statamount and Scott Barlow combined on a four-hitter in the second game for the Royals.

**Braves 11, Diamondbacks 4:** Austin Riley had three doubles and three RBIs, Adam Duvall added a two-run homer and Atlanta extended its lead in the NL East by winning at Arizona.

The Braves pushed their advantage to three games over the Philadelphia Phillies, who lost 2-0 to Baltimore.

**Cardinals 5, Brewers 2:** Jon Lester notched his 200th career win, Nolan Arenado hit a two-run homer and St. Louis won at NL Central-leading Milwaukee for its ninth straight win.

The Cardinals have won nine straight for the first time since 2004 to solidify their grip on the second NL wild card. St. Louis is three games ahead of Cincinnati, four games in front of San Diego and 4½ games ahead of Philadel-

phia for the final postseason spot.

**Orioles 2, Phillies 0:** John Means struck out six as visiting Baltimore slowed Philadelphia's playoff push.

Losers of two straight, the Phillies fell three games behind Atlanta in the NL East. The Phillies are 4½ games behind St. Louis for the second wild card.

**Tigers 4, White Sox 3:** Carlos Rodón was pulled after three rocky innings and Chicago squandered a three-run lead in a loss at Detroit.

**Reds 9, Pirates 5:** Joey Votto tied the game with his second homer of the game, Eugenio Suarez followed with a go-ahead shot and Cincinnati rallied from a five-run deficit in a win over visiting Pittsburgh.

**Astros 10, Angels 0:** Framber Valdez pitched seven innings of six-hit ball, Marwin González hit a grand slam and drove in five runs as Houston moved closer to the AL West title with a victory at Los Angeles.

**Mariners 4, Athletics 2:** Kyle Seager had a two-run single in the decisive third inning among his three hits and three RBIs, and Mitch Haniger added two doubles as Seattle won at Oakland.