



Follow us online:



facebook.com/theworldnewspaper



twitter.com/TheWorldLink



instagram.com/theworldlink

Coos Bay native vies for baking honor

ZACK DEMARS

The World

For Amiee Blevins, “life is what you bake of it.”

Now, the Coos Bay native and Oregon Bakery owner is hoping to make a winner out of what she bakes.

As part of the annual online “Greatest Baker” competition, Blevins is competing against bakers from around the country to raise donations for No Kid Hungry, a nationwide nonprofit fighting childhood hunger.

She’s also hoping that the prize money could help her come to the city she calls home.

“I miss family,” Blevins said. “2020 has been very challenging with Jason, have lived outside the area — 10 years ago, they started a bakery in Portland, before moving it to The Dalles, where they’ve been since.

There, they ran the bakery, SweetHeart Bakeshop, out of the ground floor of their home, and gained quite a following, as well as some accolades along the way, Blevins said.

But now, with some of Blevins’ family planing to move back to the area, they’re headed back to Coos Bay — and they’re bringing their bakery, too.

“We decided this is not only a

The SweetHeart Bakeshop



Contributed by Amiee Blevins

Amiee Blevins, the owner of SweetHeart Bakeshop in The Dalles, is planning a move to Coos Bay.

celebration coming home again, but a chance to do something new, fun and different with our bakery,” Blevins said, adding that she’d be adding a “big surprise” to the new location.

The online bakers’ competition comes with a \$10,000 prize that would help with the bakery move, Blevins said. But she’s also excited about the prospect of being named the winner of the nationwide competition.

“It would help validate my life’s work that I’ve been dedicated to for the past 10 years,” she said.

Votes can be cast in the third round of the competition until 9 p.m. Thursday. If Blevins is in her group’s top spot then, she’ll move on to the final round, which ends at 9 p.m. Nov. 26.

Votes and donations to No Kid Hungry can be made online at greatestbaker.com/2020/amiee-blevins.



Contributed by Amiee Blevins

Amiee Blevins, the owner of SweetHeart Bakeshop in The Dalles, is planning a move to Coos Bay.

Democrats nominate Pelosi to remain leader of House

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans seeking unemployment aid rose last week to 742,000, the first increase in five weeks and a sign that the resurgent viral outbreak is likely slowing the economy and forcing more companies to cut jobs.

The Labor Department’s report Thursday showed that applications for benefits rose from 711,000 in the previous week. Claims had soared to 6.9 million in March when the pandemic first intensified. Before the pandemic, applications typically hovered about 225,000 a week.

The economy’s modest recovery is increasingly at risk, with newly confirmed daily infections in the United States having exploded 80% over the past two weeks to the highest levels on record. More states and cities are issuing mask mandates, limiting the size of gatherings, restricting restaurant dining, closing gyms or reducing the hours and capacity of bars, stores and other businesses. At least 15 states have tightened curbs on businesses to try to slow infections.

Evidence is emerging that consumers are losing confidence in the economic outlook and pulling back on shopping, eating out and other activities. Spending on 30 million credit and debit cards tracked by JPMorgan Chase fell

7.4% earlier this month compared with a year ago. That marked a sharp drop from two weeks earlier. Consumer sentiment also declined in early November and is down nearly 21% from a year ago, according to a University of Michigan survey.

The number of people who are continuing to receive traditional unemployment benefits fell to 6.4 million, the government said, from 6.8 million. That shows that more Americans are finding jobs and no longer receiving unemployment aid. But it also indicates that many jobless people have used up their state unemployment aid — which typically expires after six months — and have transitioned to a federal extended benefits program that lasts 13 more weeks.

The worsening viral outbreak coincides with the impending expiration of two federal unemployment programs at year’s end that could eliminate benefits for 9.1 million people, according to a report from The Century Foundation. Congress has so far failed to agree on any new stimulus package for jobless individuals and struggling businesses. The cutoff of aid will sharply reduce income for the unemployed, force a further reduction in their spending and perhaps weaken the economy.

One of those programs is Pan-

demic Unemployment Assistance, which made self-employed and contract workers eligible for unemployment aid for the first time. PUA was established by a multi-trillion-dollar aid package that Congress enacted in the spring.

The second measure in the stimulus package provided the additional 13 weeks of benefits for unemployed people who have used up their state benefits.

When those two programs expire on Dec. 26, the Century Foundation estimates that 12 million people will lose their benefits. About 2.9 million might be able to transition to a state extended benefit program that can last from six to 20 weeks, the report said. But the rest will lose benefits that average about \$320 a week nationally.

The expiration of benefits will make it harder for the unemployed to make rent payments, afford food or keep up with utility bills. Most economists agree that because unemployed people tend to quickly spend their benefits, such aid is effective in boosting the economy.

Cutting off benefits with several million people still unemployed would be unusually early compared with previous recessions. In the Great Recession of 2008-2009, the government extended unem-

ployment benefits to 99 weeks, and the additional aid lasted through 2013. When that program ended, about 1.3 million people lost benefits — a fraction of the number who would lose their aid at the end of this year.

“We’re still down 10 million jobs since the pandemic began,” said Elizabeth Pancotti, co-author of the Century Foundation report and a policy advisor at Employ America, a left-leaning think tank. “We’re heading into the winter, we’re seeing additional business closures, consumer demand is already falling...Cutting off benefits seems inhumane to me.”

In March and April, when the pandemic erupted in the United States, tens of millions of people applied for jobless aid. Though many of them have been rehired or have landed new jobs, those who haven’t found work began exhausting their six months of state aid as early as September.

Most of them would then shift to the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, which provides 13 additional weeks. Yet the Century Foundation estimates that 3.5 million people will have used up all of those 13 weeks before the year ends. An additional 950,000 people will have run out of the 39 weeks provided by the PUA program by then, too.

Obama memoir off to record-setting sales pace

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Barack Obama’s “A Promised Land” sold nearly 890,000 copies in the U.S. and Canada in its first 24 hours, putting it on track to be the best selling presidential memoir in modern history.

The first-day sales, a record for Penguin Random House, includes pre-orders, e-books and audio.

“We are thrilled with the first day sales,” said David Drake, publisher of the Penguin Random House imprint Crown. “They reflect the widespread excitement that readers have for President Obama’s highly anticipated and extraordinarily written book.”

The only book by a former White House resident to come close to the early pace of “A Promised Land” is the memoir by Obama’s wife, Michelle Obama, whose “Becoming” sold 725,000 copies in North America its first day and has topped 10 million worldwide since its release in 2018. “Becoming” is still so in demand that Crown, which publishes both Obamas and reportedly paid around \$60 million for their books, has yet to release a paperback.

As of midday Wednesday, “A Promised Land” was No. 1 on Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com. James Daunt, CEO of Barnes & Noble, said that the superstore chain easily sold more than 50,000 copies its first day and hoped to reach half a million within 10 days.

“So far it has been neck and neck with Michelle Obama’s book,” he said.

By comparison, Bill Clinton’s “My Life” sold around 400,000 copies in North America its first day and George W. Bush’s “Decision Points” around 220,000, with sales for each memoir currently between 3.5 and 4 million copies. The fastest selling book

Jobless claims increase to 742,000

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans seeking unemployment aid rose last week to 742,000, the first increase in five weeks and a sign that the resurgent viral outbreak is likely slowing the economy and forcing more companies to cut jobs.

The Labor Department’s report Thursday showed that applications for benefits rose from 711,000 in the previous week. Claims had soared to 6.9 million in March when the pandemic first intensified. Before the pandemic, applications typically hovered about

225,000 a week.

The economy’s modest recovery is increasingly at risk, with newly confirmed daily infections in the United States having exploded 80% over the past two weeks to the highest levels on record. More states and cities are issuing mask mandates, limiting the size of gatherings, restricting restaurant dining, closing gyms or reducing the hours and capacity of bars, stores and other businesses. At least 15 states have tightened curbs on businesses to try to slow infections.

Evidence is emerging that consumers are losing confidence in the economic outlook and pulling back on shopping, eating out and other activities. Spending on 30 million credit and debit cards tracked by JPMorgan Chase fell 7.4% earlier this month compared with a year ago. That marked a sharp drop from two weeks earlier. Consumer sentiment also declined in early November and is down nearly 21% from a year ago, according to a University of Michigan survey.

The number of people who are

continuing to receive traditional unemployment benefits fell to 6.4 million, the government said, from 6.8 million. That shows that more Americans are finding jobs and no longer receiving unemployment aid. But it also indicates that many jobless people have used up their state unemployment aid — which typically expires after six months — and have transitioned to a federal extended benefits program that lasts 13 more weeks.

The worsening viral outbreak

Please see **Jobless**, Page 2

Please see **Memoir**, Page 3

Oregon nears 60,000 COVID-19 cases

THE WORLD

Oregon closed in on the 60,000-mark for coronavirus cases when the Oregon Health Authority reported 1,099 new and confirmed cases Wednesday.

Hospitalizations in the state also hit a new record.

The new cases included five in Coos County, three in Curry County and 33 in Douglas County, which also had another death among the 10 new deaths reported by Oregon Health Authority.

In all, 32 of Oregon's 36 counties had new cases, including: Baker (9), Benton(13), Clackamas (82), Clatsop (4), Columbia (6), Coos (5), Crook (6), Curry (3), Deschutes (40), Douglas (33), Gilliam (2), Grant (6), Harney (3), Hood River (11), Jackson (108), Jefferson (15), Josephine

(20), Lake (8), Lane (115), Lincoln (5), Linn (30), Malheur (33), Marion (84), Morrow (2), Multnomah (210), Polk (9), Tillamook (4), Umatilla (29), Union (3), Wasco (4), Washington (171), and Yamhill (26).

The cases brought the state's total to 59,669 as of 12:01 a.m. Wednesday.

The state's death toll is 788.

Oregon's 779th COVID-19 death is a 65-year-old woman in Yamhill County who tested positive on Nov. 12 and died on Nov. 14, at Willamette Valley Medical Center. She had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 780th COVID-19 death is a 75-year-old woman in Multnomah County who tested positive on Nov. 11 and died on Nov. 15, at Legacy Mount Hood

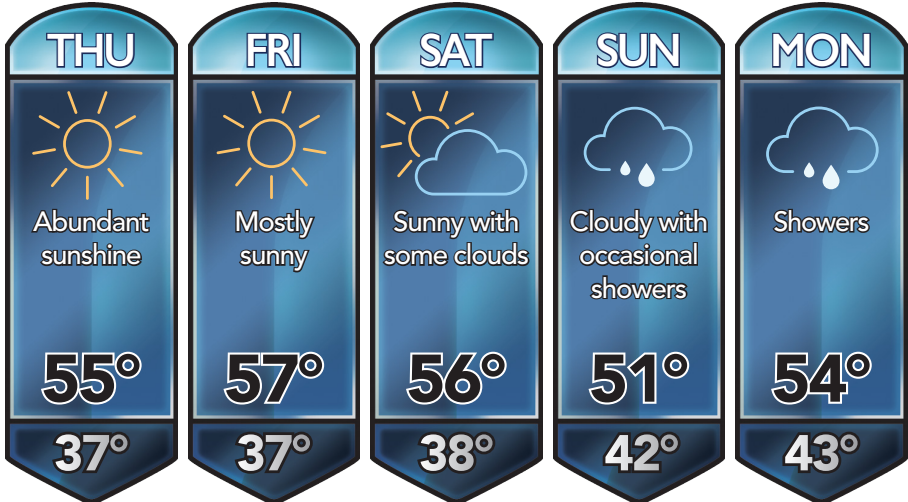
Medical Center. Presence of underlying conditions is being confirmed.

Oregon's 781st COVID-19 death is a 92-year-old man who tested positive on Oct. 16 and died on Nov. 8, at OHSU. Presence of underlying conditions is being confirmed.

Oregon's 782nd COVID-19 death is an 86-year-old man in Douglas County who tested positive on Nov. 10 and died on Nov. 17. Place of death and presence of underlying conditions are being confirmed.

Oregon's 783rd COVID-19 death is an 80-year-old man in Multnomah County who tested positive on Sept. 20 and died on Nov. 15. Place of death is being confirmed. He had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 784th



COVID-19 death is a 77-year-old man in Crook County who tested positive on Nov. 3 and died on Nov. 17. Place of death is being confirmed. He had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 785th COVID-19 death is an 85-year-old woman in Washington County who tested positive on Nov. 9 and died on Nov. 17. Place of death and presence of underlying conditions are being confirmed.

Oregon's 786th COVID-19 death is an 84-year-old woman in Jackson County who tested positive on Oct. 30 and died on Nov. 12,

in her residence. She had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 787th COVID-19 death is an 86-year-old man in Washington County who tested positive on Nov. 2 and died on Nov. 15, at Tuality Community Hospital. He had underlying conditions.

Oregon's 788th COVID-19 death is a 76-year-old man in Lane County who tested positive on Oct. 22 and died on Nov. 17, at McKenzie Willamette Medical Center. Presence of underlying conditions is being confirmed.

COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to rise

The number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients across Oregon rose to 406 today, marking a new record for the pandemic. The largest increase was in Region 1, which includes the Portland metropolitan area, and in Region 2, which includes the Willamette Valley, and in Region 5, which encompasses Jackson and Josephine counties.

There are 94 COVID-19 patients in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds, two fewer than yesterday. More information about hospital capacity can be found here.

Rotary veterans tourney moved to Nov. 21

ZACK DEMARS

The World

Bandon-By-The-Sea-Rotary Club's fourth annual Veterans Golf Tournament to benefit Coos County Veterans has been moved to Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Bandon Crossings Golf Course.

The tournament format will be a four-person scramble, but to meet new COVID-19 restrictions, instead of a traditional shotgun start, tee times will be assigned, with the first

group starting at 9:30 a.m.

Also, instead of a post-tournament barbecue, the event will feature box lunches that will be placed in the carts.

The entry fee is \$85 per person and includes green fees, range balls, golf cart and the boxed lunch.

Hole-in-one prizes include a \$10,000 cash award sponsored by Bain Insurance and a 2020 Toyota Tundra 4x4 pickup truck sponsored by Coos Bay Toyota. Prizes will be awarded for closes to the pin on all five par-3 holes,

as well as for the longest drive for men and women.

All net proceeds go to veterans organizations serving Coos County.

No handicap is required to enter. The tournament is described as a fun day and great way to honor our veterans.

Registration is done through the Bandon Crossings pro shop at 541-347-3232 and preregistration is encouraged.

For more information, contact Dave Buche at 541-572-2017.

Les Schwab will pay \$16 million to Oregon employees over lunch breaks

PORTLAND (AP) — Thousands of Les Schwab Tire Centers employees in Oregon will receive \$2,500 checks this month as part of a settlement over a lawsuit that said the chain hadn't given workers enough time for lunch.

The suit alleged the Schwab employees hadn't received the full, 30-minute lunch breaks that Oregon law requires for hourly employees, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported.

The Bend-based company continues to maintain that it provides the requisite lunch breaks but agreed

to pay \$16 million to over 3,700 employees to settle the case.

The two plaintiffs who brought the case in 2017 will receive \$15,000 each. Twenty-five others who submitted declarations in support of the lawsuit will receive a \$1,000, in addition to the regular \$2,500 payment. The plaintiffs' attorneys will receive \$3.9 million.

"At Les Schwab, we believe in treating our employees fairly and providing opportunities for them to not just have a job, but also to build a career

with our company. Our employees are at the center of what we do and the reputation we have built," Dale Thompson, Schwab's chief marketing officer, said in a written statement.

Les Schwab is one of Oregon's biggest companies, with annual sales of \$1.8 billion. It has nearly 500 stores in 10 western states. In September, the family-owned company announced plans to sell to a California investment firm.

The court will mail the settlements directly to eligible employees and former employees.

Jobless

From Page 1

coincides with the impending expiration of two federal unemployment programs at year's end that could eliminate benefits for 9.1 million people, according to a report from The Century Foundation. Congress has so far failed to agree on any new stimulus package for jobless individuals and struggling businesses. The cutoff of aid will sharply reduce income for the unemployed, force a further reduction in their spending and perhaps weaken the economy.

One of those programs is Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, which made self-employed and contract workers eligible for unemployment aid for the first time. PUA was established by a multi-trillion-dollar aid package that Congress enacted in the spring.

The second measure in the stimulus package provided the additional 13 weeks of benefits for unemployed people who have used up their state benefits.

When those two programs expire on Dec. 26, the Century Foundation estimates that 12 million people will lose their benefits. About 2.9 million might be able to transition to a state extended benefit program that can last from six to 20 weeks, the report said. But the rest will lose benefits that average about \$320 a week nationally.

The expiration of benefits will make it harder for the unemployed to make rent payments, afford food or keep up with utility bills. Most economists agree that because unemployed people tend to quickly spend their benefits, such aid is effective in boosting the economy.

Cutting off benefits with several million people still unemployed would be unusually early compared with previous recessions. In the Great Recession of 2008-2009, the government extended unemployment benefits to 99 weeks, and the additional aid lasted through 2013. When that program ended, about 1.3 million people lost benefits -- a fraction of the number who would lose their aid at the end of this year.

"We're still down 10 million jobs since the pandemic began," said Elizabeth Pancotti, co-author of the Century Foundation report and a policy advisor at Employ America, a left-leaning think tank. "We're heading into the winter, we're seeing additional business closures, consumer demand is already falling.... Cutting off benefits seems inhumane to me."

In March and April, when the pandemic erupted in the United States, tens of millions of people applied for jobless aid. Though many of them have been rehired or have landed new jobs, those who haven't found work began exhausting their six months of state aid as early as September.

Most of them would then shift to the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, which provides 13 additional weeks. Yet the Century Foundation estimates that 3.5 million people will have used up all of those 13 weeks before the year ends. An additional 950,000 people will have run out of the 39 weeks provided by the PUA program by then, too.

Warming Center to open Friday, seeking donations

THE WORLD

COOS BAY — With temperatures projected to drop, the Warming Center at Coos Bay's Devereux Center will open Friday for the second time this winter, according to the organization.

The center offers a meal, hot beverages and warm shelter when temperatures drop to 36 degrees or below. It'll be open from 6

p.m. Friday night to 8 a.m. the next morning.

Temperatures are expected to dip down to around 36 degrees Friday night, according to the National Weather Service. Temperatures will remain in the upper 30's and lower 40's through the weekend.

The center is located at the lower level of the Devereux Center, at the "Y intersection" of Newmark Avenue in Coos Bay (1200

Newmark Avenue).

Center leaders are seeking donations for the winter season, they said in a press release. They're currently in need of hot cocoa, rain gear, coffee creamer, protein items and snacks, which can be dropped off at the center. Monetary donations are accepted through the organization's Facebook page, as well as in-person at the center or online at www.thedevereuxcenter.org.

NORTHWEST STOCKS

Closing and 8:30 a.m. quotes		
Stock	Close	8:30
Intel	45.05	46.16
Kroger	32.04	32.90
Microsoft	210.97	211.12
Nike	131.66	131.40

NW Natural	48.34	47.41
Skywest	38.55	38.73
Starbucks	97.98	97.48
Umpqua Hldgs	14.29	13.99
Weyerhaeuser	28.77	28.87
Xerox	21.87	21.64

Levi Strauss	18.72	18.54
Dow Jones closed at 29,434.21		
NASDAQ closed at 11,801.60		
S&P 500 closed at 3,567.53		
Provided by Coos Bay Edward Jones		

LOTTERY

MegaMillions
Nov. 17
8-13-35-46-68
Megaball: 16
Multiplier: x3
Jackpot: \$188 million

Powerball
Nov. 18
4-5-7-17-43-52
Powerball: 5
Multiplier: x2
Jackpot: \$192 million

Megabucks
Nov. 18
10-12-19-23-28-35
Jackpot: \$4.7 Million

Win For Life
Nov. 18
15-19-63-65

Licensed & Bonded CCB# 210749

Branching Out

TREE SERVICE

& Landscape Maintenance

HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL

- Trimming
- Falling
- Limbing
- Hedge Care
- Brush Clearing
- Land Clearing
- Excavator

Free Estimates! Call Today!

541-260-8837

Coastal Window Coverings

Quality Products at Competitive Prices

FREE ESTIMATES

FREE INSTALATION

Blind Repair Available

Knox and Ginny Story

541-271-5058

MAIN ROCK

Coos County Family Owned

Crushed Rock

Topsoil

Sand

Serving Coos Bay, North Bend, Reedsport, Coquille, Myrtle Point & Bandon

Kentuck

541-756-2623

Coquille

541-396-1700

CCB# 129529

Pros to Know

541-266-6060

Advertise Your Business for \$20 per week.

2 Days in The World, and 5 Days in The World Online!

Call today to get your custom ad started!

541-266-6060 www.theworldlink.com

Trump now targeting vote certification

WASHINGTON (AP) — Getting nowhere in the courts, President Donald Trump’s scattershot effort to overturn President-elect Joe Biden’s victory is shifting toward obscure election boards that certify the vote as Trump and his allies seek to upend the electoral process, sow chaos and perpetuate unsubstantiated doubts about the count.

The battle is centered in the battleground states that sealed Biden’s win.

In Michigan, two Republican election officials in the state’s largest county initially refused to certify results despite no evidence of fraud. In Arizona, officials are balking at signing off on vote tallies in a rural county.

The moves don’t reflect a coordinated effort across the battleground states that broke for Biden, local election officials said. Instead, they seem to be inspired by Trump’s incendiary rhetoric about baseless fraud and driven by Republican acquiescence to broadsides against the nation’s electoral system as state and federal courts push aside legal challenges filed by Trump and his allies.

Still, what happened in Wayne County, Michigan, on Tuesday was a jarring reminder of the disruptions that can still be caused as the nation works through the process of affirming the outcome of the Nov. 3 election.

There is no precedent for the Trump team’s widespread effort to delay

or undermine certification, according to University of Kentucky law professor Joshua Douglas.

“It would be the end of democracy as we know it,” Douglas said. “This is just not a thing that can happen.”

Certifying results is a routine yet important step after local election officials have tallied votes, reviewed procedures, checked to ensure votes were counted correctly and investigated discrepancies. Typically, this certification is done by a local board of elections and then, later, the results are certified at the state level.

But as Trump has refused to concede to Biden and continues to spread false claims of victory, this mundane process is taking on new significance.

Among key battleground states, counties in Michigan, Nevada and Wisconsin have all made it through the initial step of certifying results. Except for Wayne County, this process has largely been smooth. Arizona, Pennsylvania and Georgia still haven’t concluded their local certifications.

Then all eyes turn to statewide certification.

In Wayne County, the two Republican canvassers at first balked at certifying the vote, winning praise from Trump, and then reversed course after widespread condemnation. A person familiar with the matter said Trump reached out to the canvassers, Monica Palmer and William

Hartmann, on Tuesday evening after the revised vote to express gratitude for their support.

Time is running short for Trump. Across the nation, recounts and court challenges must wrap up and election results must be certified by Dec. 8. That’s the constitutional deadline ahead of the Electoral College meeting the following week.

Matt Morgan, the Trump campaign’s general counsel, said last week the campaign was trying to halt certification in battleground states until it could get a better handle on vote tallies and whether it would have the right to automatic recounts. Right now, Trump is requesting a recount in Wisconsin in two counties, and Georgia is doing an hand audit after Biden led by a slim margin of 0.3 percentage points, but there is no mandatory recount law in the state. The law provides that option to a trailing candidate if the margin is less than 0.5 percentage points.

Some in the president’s orbit have held out hope that by delaying certification, GOP-controlled state legislatures will get a chance to select different electors, either overturning Biden’s victory or sending it to the House, where Trump would almost surely win.

But most advisers to the president consider that a fever dream. Trump’s team has been incapable of organizing even basic legal activities since the

election, let alone the widescale political and legal apparatus needed to persuade state legislators to try to undermine the will of their states’ voters.

Lawsuits have been filed by Trump allies in Michigan and Nevada seeking to stop certification. Trump personal attorney Rudy Giuliani argued to stop vote certification in Pennsylvania on Tuesday, the first time he’d been in a courtroom in decades. And the same day, the Arizona Republican Party asked a judge to bar Maricopa County, the state’s most populous, from certifying until the court issues a decision about the party’s lawsuit seeking a new hand count of a sampling of ballots.

The party is also putting pressure on county officials across the state to delay certification, even though there hasn’t been any evidence of legitimate questions about the vote tally showing that Biden won Arizona.

“The party is pushing for not only the county supervisors but everyone responsible for certifying and canvassing the election to make sure that all questions are answered so that voters will have confidence in the results of the election,” said Zach Henry, spokesman for the Arizona Republican Party.

While most counties in Arizona are pressing ahead with certification, officials in Mohave County decided to delay until Nov. 23, citing what they said

was uncertainty about the fate of election challenges across the country.

“There are lawsuits all over the place on everything, and that’s part of the reason why I’m in no big hurry to canvass the election,” Mohave County Supervisor Ron Gould said Monday.

Officials in all of Georgia’s 159 counties were supposed to have certified their results by last Friday. But a few have yet to certify as the state works through a hand tally of some 5 million votes.

“They are overwhelmed, and they are trying to get to everything,” said Gabriel Sterling, a top official with the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office. “Some of these are smaller, less resourced counties, and there are only so many people who can do so many things.”

In addition, a few counties must recertify their results after previously uncounted votes were discovered during the audit.

Once counties have certified, the focus turns to officials at the state level who are charged with signing off on the election. This varies by state. For instance, a bipartisan panel in Michigan certifies elections, but in Georgia it’s the responsibility of the elected secretary of state, who has already faced calls by fellow Republicans to resign.

In Nevada, Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske’s role in certification is largely ministerial, but she

still got a batch of emails urging her not to certify “potentially fraudulent election results,” a spokeswoman said Wednesday. The Justice Department had been looking into one potential case of fraud in the state over voter rolls, but an AP analysis found the case doesn’t appear to hold much water.

In Pennsylvania’s Luzerne County, a Republican board member, Joyce Dombroski-Gebhardt, said she will not certify the county’s election without an audit of at least 10% of the votes to ensure that some voters did not vote twice.

Trump won the county, where the election board is made up of three Democrats and two Republicans. A Democrat on the board, Peter Oullette, said he had no doubt that the rest of the board will sign the certification on Monday.

Philadelphia also plans to certify results on Monday.

And some delays could still happen given the crushing workload election officials faced this year during the pandemic, according to Suzanne Almeida with Common Cause Pennsylvania, a good government group that helps with voter education and monitors election work in the state.

“A delay in certification doesn’t necessarily mean there are shenanigans; sometimes it just takes longer to go through all the mechanics to get to certification,” Almeida said.

Trump-friendly Newsmax seeks to cut into Fox’s viewership

NEW YORK (AP) — Now that his largely invisible network has suddenly been flooded by fans of President Donald Trump, Newsmax television personality Grant Stinchfield is puffing out his chest.

“They don’t know what to do with all of us,” Stinchfield said on the air Monday night. “We’re killing it here on Newsmax with a tactic they’ve never tried. It’s called the truth, the stone-cold truth, and once you get a taste of it, you will never tolerate being lied to again.”

The conservative network’s critics suggest the opposite is true, that

Newsmax’s viewers are being presented discredited stories such as a voting system that changed or deleted votes, questions about how closely Republicans were able to monitor vote-counting and the volume of absentee ballots being accepted.

There is no evidence of widespread fraud in the 2020 election. In fact, election officials from both political parties have stated publicly that the election went well and international observers confirmed there were no serious irregularities.

Newsmax’s burst, whether or not it lasts, has

been astonishingly swift and could foreshadow significant competition to Fox News Channel’s dominance with conservative viewers in two decades.

“We’ve really cornered Fox from the right,” said Chris Ruddy, Newsmax founder and friend of Trump. “They’ve never had that.”

From the beginning of July to the week before Election Day, Newsmax averaged 58,000 viewers from 7 to 10 p.m. on weekdays. That jumped to 568,000 the week after the election, the Nielsen company said. In the same period, daytime viewership

increased from 46,000 to 450,000.

For the same dates, Fox News averaged 3.6 million viewers in the evening, Nielsen said. Fox’s prime-time viewership during the two weeks after the election was up 50 percent over last year.

“We love competition. We have always thrived on competition,” Fox Corp. CEO Lachlan Murdoch said on an Election Day earnings call.

Ruddy traced much of Newsmax’s increase to Trump supporters angered by Fox’s election night call that Democrat Joe Biden had won Arizona — ahead

of any other news organization. While that call proved correct, for the president’s backers it was an ill-timed sign of insufficient loyalty from their favorite network.

Trump, who criticized Fox throughout the campaign, has driven the point home with repeated tweets suggesting his followers check out Newsmax or a smaller rival that also presses a conservative viewpoint, One America News Network.

“There’s a large part of the country that wants to have a voice, the same people who gave birth to what turned into a very robust Fox News,” said Michael

Clemente, Newsmax’s CEO until last April and a former Fox News executive. “Now, more than ever, they want to be heard, and have influence equal to their peers on the coasts. Their loyalty is to that voice and not to any place or another.”

Newsmax says it has an editorial staff of 70, including those attached to its website, which at midday Wednesday led with stories about Trump’s press secretary calling restrictions on Thanksgiving gatherings “Orwellian,” and the president’s latest false tweet claiming an election victory.

Memoir

From Page 1

in memory remains J.K. Rowling’s seventh and final Harry Potter novel, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows,” which came out in 2007 and sold more than 8 million copies within 24 hours.

Obama’s 768-page memoir, which came out Tuesday and has a list price of \$45, had unusually risky timing for a book of such importance to the author, to readers and to the publishing industry. It came out just two weeks after Election Day and could have been overshadowed had the race still been in doubt or perhaps unwanted by distressed Obama fans if President Donald Trump had defeated Democratic nominee Joe Biden. But Biden won and his victory likely renews interest in an era when he was Obama’s trusted and popular vice president.

Obama himself acknowledges that he didn’t intend for the book, the first of two planned volumes, to arrive so close to a presidential election or to take nearly four years after he left the White House — months longer than for “My Life” and two years longer than “Decision Points.” In the introduction to “A Promised Land,” dated August 2020, Obama writes that “the book kept growing in length and scope” as he found he needed more words than expected to capture a given moment — a bind many authors well understand. He was also working under conditions he “didn’t fully

anticipate,” from the pandemic to the Black Lives Matters protests, to, “most troubling of all,” how the country’s “democracy seems to be teetering on the brink of crisis.”

Because of the pandemic, Obama will not go on the all-star arena tour Michelle Obama had for “Becoming.” But he benefits from the attention of any memoir by a former president and by the special attention for Obama, who has the rare stature among politicians of writing his own books and for attracting as much or more attention for how he tells a story than for the story itself. Obama has already written two acclaimed, million-selling works, “Dreams from My Father” and “The Audacity of Hope, which came out in 2006. His new book covers some of the same time period as his previous ones, while continuing his story through the first 2 1/2 years of his presidency and the 2011 killing of Osama bin Laden by the Navy SEALs.

Publishers Weekly praised the book as “shot through with memorable turns of phrase,” while other reviews were more qualified, calling the book all too reflective of Obama’s thoughtful, even-handed style. The New York Times’ Jennifer Szalai wrote that the “most audacious thing” about “A Promised Land” is “the beaming portrait” of Obama on the cover. The Washington Post’s Carlos Lozada noted that in “domestic policy and foreign affairs, in debates over culture and race, Obama splits differences, clings

to the middle ground and trusts in process as much as principle.”

“It turns out he is not a ‘revolutionary soul’ but a reformist one, ‘conservative in temperament if not in vision.’ Behind those dreams, the audacity and all that promise is a stubborn streak of moderation,” Lozada wrote.

Obama’s book is the highlight of publishing’s holiday season and for some independent bookstores, the potential difference between remaining in business or closing. Publishing sales have been surprisingly stable during the pandemic, but much of the benefit has gone to Amazon.com as readers turned increasingly to online purchases. The American Booksellers Association, the independent sellers’ trade group, has warned that hundreds of stores could go out of business if holiday sales fall short.

Kris Kleindienst, co-owner of Left Bank Books in St. Louis, anticipates selling around 1,000 copies by the end of the year, a number which makes “a HUGE difference” for annual revenues, she wrote in an email. Sarah McNally, owner of McNally Jackson Books in Manhattan, said she sold around 600 copies in the first 24 hours, a pace exceeded only by the final Harry Potter book.

“It’s not hard to be a bright spot this year, a year when we would have gone out of business without federal aid,” McNally said. “But Obama does feel like a savior, as do our customers for buying this from us.”

DEAR ABBYBy Abigail Van Buren

FAMILY TIES BREAK DOWN AFTER MOM MOVES AWAY

DEAR ABBY: Since I moved eight years ago, my son, “Jim,” has visited me only once, and that’s because I gave his son my car. I rarely hear from him, and when I have visited, we barely talk. We have totally different ideas on life, and it has caused a rift in our relationship.

When I have visited Jim and his wife, they just sit, watch movies and eat takeout food unless I take them out and pay for the meal. Over the years, I have given my son money and housed him when he went through a terrible divorce. His children are grown now, and I don’t hear from them either.

He remarried a woman he met on the internet who has different ideas on things than my family and the way I was brought up. It hurts me very much. What’s your opinion on what to do about this situation? I’m at a loss. -- LET DOWN IN IDAHO

DEAR LET DOWN: It’s sad, but the breakdown in your relationship with Jim started a long time ago. It should have been addressed then.

It’s not uncommon for adults to have ideas that differ from their parents’, but it shouldn’t cause a rift. If your son and his wife are hiding behind their television set rather than conversing, the situation may be as uncomfortable for them as it is for you.

If the dynamics in your relationship are going to improve, you will have to convince them to discuss where things went off track, agree to disagree on certain topics and talk about other things when you see them. From what you have written, it appears you are doing all the work in the relationship, and that isn’t fair to you.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a gay male who has fallen in love with my best friend, who is straight. After months of feeling dishonest in our friendship, I told him how I felt. At first he seemed OK with

it. He told me he couldn’t reciprocate those feelings, but he still loved me as his friend and asked me not to make it “weird.”

A month later, he said if I can’t find a way to fall out of love with him, we could no longer be friends. I didn’t change anything about my relationship with him. I maintained the status quo, and he seemed good with it. I don’t know what to do.

I am extremely sad because I don’t want to lose my best friend. We had a great relationship, which is why I thought he would appreciate my honesty and we could work through the issue. What’s your advice? -- TURNED DOWN IN TENNESSEE

DEAR TURNED DOWN: This person may be wonderful, but he could not handle the responsibility of a close personal relationship with someone who was in love with him if it wasn’t reciprocal. My advice is to accept it and move on. You really have no alternative because the decision has already been made for you. You have my sympathy, but you WILL heal from this. I promise.

DEAR ABBY: All my boyfriend wants to do is clean the house and make love to me. He also cooks for me, massages me, worships my body, insists that I take naps and makes me laugh nonstop. What’s wrong with him? -- PONDERING IN THE SUNSHINE STATE

DEAR PONDERING: What’s wrong with YOU? This must be a new relationship. Give it time, and I am sure you will uncover something.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Follow us online:



facebook.com/theworldnewspaper



twitter.com/TheWorldLink



instagram.com/theworldlink

Pro Picks: Expect Seahawks-Cardinals shootout

BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

There is a word that has become taboo in NFL circles in the Pacific Northwest and in the Valley of the Sun.

Defense.
Sure, Seattle has an established megastar in quarterback Russell Wilson and a budding one in receiver DK Metcalf. And yes, the Cardinals have the reverse in QB Kyler Murray throwing prayers to — and having them answered — by veteran DeAndre Hopkins. What neither of these NFC West leaders (along with the

Rams, all 6-3) possesses is enough defense.

Which means Thursday's night prime-timer should be filled with points that are pleasing to the eye, and defense viewers want to turn away from watching.

The Seahawks rank dead last against the pass, with the Cardinals at the top of the list as a passing threat. And while Arizona is middle of the pack in many defensive statistics, the offense much of the time has to bail out the D.

So yes, both units tend to be Legions of Doom.

This is an absolutely critical contest for both teams in the NFL's best

division. The West members manage to beat up on each other, which could cost all of them the single conference bye in the playoffs. Seattle already lost at Arizona last month, in overtime, and also has fallen to the Rams.

Seattle, No. 13 in the AP Pro32, is a 3-point choice over No. 9 Arizona
UPSET SPECIAL:
CARDINALS, 35-30
KNOCKOUT POOL:
Pro Picks moved along with its selection of Tampa Bay and now tries the VIKINGS.

New England (minus 2½) at Houston: We're still not buying the Patriots as a

contender, but they should handle the Texans ... BEST BET: PATRIOTS, 23-16

Pittsburgh (minus-9) at Jacksonville: The Steelers don't always play their best in Northern Florida. They don't need their best this time ... STEELERS, 26-13

Green Bay (plus 1 1/2) at Indianapolis: If the Colts win, we need to take them seriously as a contender ... COLTS, 26-24

Kansas City (minus 6) at Las Vegas: If the Raiders win, we need to take them seriously as a contender, too ... CHIEFS, 30-20

Tennessee (plus 6 1/2) at Baltimore: These two should be contenders. Should be ...

RAVENS, 20-19

Miami (minus 3) at Denver: Miami is showing impressive consistency, while Denver is the exact opposite ... DOLPHINS, 21-13

Los Angeles Rams (plus 4) at Tampa Bay, Monday night: Bruce Arians is worried about his aged quarterback staying up late to play games ... RAMS, 26-24

Dallas (plus 7) at Minnesota: Take an NFC Least team against a non-division opponent? No way ... VIKINGS, 24-20

Philadelphia (OFF) at Cleveland: Take an NFC Least team against a

non-division opponent? No way ... BROWNS, 27-17

Cincinnati (pick-em) at Washington: Take an NFC Least team against a non-division opponent? No way ... BENGALS, 28-23

New York Jets (plus 9) at Los Angeles Chargers: The Jets belong in the NFC Least — where they would be last, too ... CHARGERS, 34-23

Atlanta (OFF) at New Orleans: This will be no breeze for the Saints without Drew Brees ... SAINTS, 23-21

Detroit (OFF) at Carolina: The Lions actually could reach .500 with a win. So ... LIONS, 20-16

Minnesota makes Edwards top pick in NBA draft

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anthony Edwards paid tribute to his mother and grandmother. Onyeka Okongwu recalled his brother. Obi Toppin thought about coming home.

Tears flowed freely for those and many more players Wednesday night when their long-awaited, months-delayed NBA dreams were finally realized.

Edwards was taken by the Minnesota Timberwolves with the No. 1 pick in an NBA draft delayed multiple times because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Commissioner Adam Silver announced the pick from ESPN headquarters in Bristol, Connecticut. The draft was originally scheduled for June 25 before multiple delays caused by the virus pushed it back and out of its usual home at Barclays Center in Brooklyn. Boxes of hats were shipped to the top prospects to put on the one they needed after their name was called.

Edwards watched while seated next to portraits of his late mother and grandmother. They both died of cancer and he was emotional after his name was announced.

"As far as just being excited and just being happy and ready to go and ready to work and ready to get there as soon as possible, those emotions were overwhelming with just my mother and grandmother being there," Edwards said. "I mean, it was just a dream come true and just a blessing."

And though there wasn't the usual family table in the green room and trip on stage to meet the commissioner, some players still were outfitted in fashionable attire — perhaps none more than No. 12 pick Tyrese Haliburton of Sacramento, whose blue, floral suit had the words "Black Lives Matter" on the inside.

They celebrated with family, friends, coaches — and in Cole

2020 NBA draft picks and trades

Draft picks

FIRST ROUND

1. Minnesota, Anthony Edwards, g, Georgia.
2. Golden State, James Wiseman, c, Memphis.
3. Charlotte, LaMelo Ball, g, Chino Hills, Calif.
4. Chicago, Patrick Williams, f, Florida State.
5. Cleveland, Isaac Okoro, f, Auburn.
6. Atlanta, Onyeka Okongwu, c, USC.
7. Detroit, Killian Hayes, g, Ratiopharm Ulm (Germany).
8. New York, Obi Toppin, f, Dayton.
9. Washington, Deni Avdija, f, Maccabi Tel Aviv U18 (Israel).
10. Phoenix, Jalen Smith, f, Maryland.
11. San Antonio, Devin Vassell, g, Florida State.
12. Sacramento, Tyrese Haliburton, g, Iowa State.
13. New Orleans, Kira Lewis, Jr., g, Alabama.
14. Boston (via Memphis), Aaron Nesmith, f, Vanderbilt.
15. Orlando, Cole Anthony, g, North Carolina.
16. a-Portland, Isaiah Stewart II, c, Washington.
17. b-Minnesota (from Brooklyn via Atlanta), Aleksej Pokusevski, f, Olympiacos U18 (Greece).
18. Dallas, Josh Green, g, Arizona.
19. c-Brooklyn (from Philadelphia via LA Clippers), Saddiq Bey, f, Villanova.
20. Miami, Precious Achiuwa, f, Memphis.
21. Philadelphia (from Oklahoma City via Orlando and Philadelphia), Tyrese Maxey, g, Kentucky.
22. Denver (from Houston), Zeke Nnaji, f, Arizona.
23. d-New York (from Utah), Leandro Bolmaro, g, FC Barcelona II (Spain).
24. e-Milwaukee (from Indiana), RJ Hampton, g, Dallas.
25. f-Oklahoma City (from Denver), Immanuel Quickley, g, Kentucky.
26. Boston, Payton Pritchard, g, Oregon.
27. Utah (from New York through LA Clippers), Udoka Azubuike, c, Kansas.
28. g-LA Lakers, Jaden McDaniels, f, Washington.
29. Toronto, Malachi Flynn, g, San Diego State.
30. h-Boston (from Milwaukee via Phoenix), Desmond Bane, g, TCU.

SECOND ROUND

31. Dallas (via Golden State), Tyrell Terry, g, Stanford.
32. Charlotte (from Cleveland via LA Clippers and Orlando), Vernon Carey, Jr., c, Duke.
33. i-Minnesota, Daniel Oturu, c, Minnesota.
34. j-Philadelphia (from Atlanta), Theo Maledon, g, ASVEL Basket (France).
35. k-Sacramento (from Detroit via Phoenix), Xavier Tillman, c, Michigan State.
36. l-Philadelphia (from New York), Tyler Bey, f, Colorado.
37. m-Washington (via Chicago), Vit Krejci, g, Zaragoza U18 (Spain).
38. n-Utah (from New York via Charlotte), Saben Lee, g, Vanderbilt.
39. o-New Orleans (from Washington via Milwaukee), Elijah Hughes, g, Syracuse.
40. p-Memphis (from Phoenix), Robert Woodard II, f, Mississippi State.
41. San Antonio, Tre Jones, g, Duke.
42. q-New Orleans, Nick Richards, c, Kentucky.
43. Sacramento, Jahmi'us Ramsey, g, Texas Tech.
44. Chicago (from Memphis), Marko Simonovic, c, KK Mega Bemax (Serbia).
45. Milwaukee (from Orlando), Jordan Nwora, f, Louisville.
46. Portland, C.J. Elleby, g, Washington State.
47. Boston (from Brooklyn via Charlotte, Orlando and Philadelphia), Yam Madar, g, Hapoel Tel Aviv (Israel).
48. Golden State (from Dallas via Philadelphia), Nico Mannion, g, Arizona.
49. Philadelphia, Isaiah Joe, g, Arkansas.
50. Atlanta (from Miami via Sacramento, Cleveland and Boston), Skylar Mays, g, LSU.
51. Golden State (from Utah via Dallas, Detroit and Cleveland), Justinan Jessup, g, Boise State.
52. r-Sacramento (from Houston), Kenyon Martin Jr., f, Los Angeles.
53. s-Oklahoma City, Cassius Winston, g, Michigan State.
54. Indiana, Cassius Stanley, g, Duke.
55. Brooklyn (from Denver), Jay Scrubb, g, John A. Logan.
56. Charlotte (from Boston), Grant Riller, g, Charleston.
57. LA Clippers, Reggie Perry, c, Mississippi State.
58. Philadelphia (from Los Angeles Lakers via Orlando), Paul Reed, f, DePaul.
59. Toronto, Jalen Harris, g, Nevada.
60. t-New Orleans (from Milwaukee), Sam Merrill, g, Utah State.

Proposed Trades

- a-Detroit from Houston through Portland.
- b-Oklahoma City from Minnesota.
- c-Detroit from LA Clippers through Brooklyn.
- d-Minnesota from New York.
- e-Denver from New Orleans through Milwaukee.
- f-New York from Oklahoma City.
- g-Minnesota from Oklahoma City through LA Lakers.
- h-Memphis from Boston.
- i-LA Clippers from New York through Minnesota.
- j-Oklahoma City from Philadelphia.
- k-Memphis from Sacramento.
- l-Dallas from Philadelphia.
- m-Oklahoma City from Washington.
- n-Detroit from Utah.
- o-Utah from New Orleans.
- p-Sacramento from Memphis
- q-Charlotte from New Orleans.
- r-Houston from Sacramento.
- s-Washington from Oklahoma City.
- t-Milwaukee from New Orleans.

Anthony's case, even celebrity fans. Movie director Spike Lee jumped up and down with his family when Orlando took Anthony, whose father, Greg played for the Knicks, at No. 15.

Some moments triggered deeper emotions. Okongwu, taken No. 6 by Atlanta, recalled his older brother, Nnamdi, who died after a skateboarding accident in 2014.

Toppin, the national player of the year last season at Dayton, struggled to speak after New

York took him at No. 8, bringing the Brooklyn-born forward to his hometown.

"I'm from New York, that's why it's important," Toppin said. "Me repping my city, it's amazing."

Edwards became the 11th straight one-and-done player to be the No. 1 pick, coming in a year where there was no clear obvious choice. He averaged 19.1 points for the Bulldogs, tops among all freshmen.

The Golden State Warriors,

stung by the news that Klay Thompson sustained another leg injury earlier Wednesday, took Memphis center James Wiseman with the second pick. They stumbled to the bottom of the league while Thompson missed the entire season with a torn ACL in his left knee.

The severity of his injury had not been revealed as the draft began but it didn't persuade the Warriors to take another guard. Instead they went with the 7-foot-1 center who arrived as the No. 1 recruit out of high

school and averaged 19.7 points and 10.7 rebounds in three games before he was suspended for eligibility reasons and eventually left the program to prepare for the draft.

LaMelo Ball then went to the Charlotte Hornets, the next stop on a lengthy basketball journey that sent the guard from high school in California to stops as a professional in Lithuania and Australia. He joined brother Lonzo, taken No. 2 by the Lakers and now in New Orleans, to give the Bulls two brothers taken in the top three picks.

After all his travels, Ball is eager to make a home playing for Michael Jordan's team in Charlotte.

"I feel like I can go out there and play basketball," Ball said. "I feel like I was born to do this."

The newcomers will have precious little time to prepare for their debuts and need to knock off months of rust or more — Wiseman hasn't played an organized game in a year — without the benefit of summer league. Training camps open in early December and the 72-game 2020-21 season is set to begin on Dec. 22.

The Chicago Bulls took Patrick Williams of Florida State, the ACC sixth man of the year as a freshman, at No. 4. Cleveland followed with Auburn's Isaac Okoro, another freshman, to round out the top five.

The latter half of the top 10 featured a couple highly regarded international players in France's Killian Hayes, taken by Detroit at No. 7, and Deni Avdija, the highest player to come from Israel when Washington picked him at No. 9.

San Antonio picked in the lottery for the first time since 1997, when they drafted Tim Duncan No. 1. The Spurs picked Devin Vassell at No. 11, giving Florida State two first-round selections for just the second time in school history.

Blazers draft WSU star Elleby

ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

Portland has a new CJ.

The Trail Blazers selected forward CJ Elleby out of Washington State with the 46th pick in the NBA draft Wednesday night.

Elleby, the first Cougar drafted since Klay Thompson in 2011, averaged 18.4 points and 7.8 rebounds as a sophomore last season.

A 6-foot-6 lefty known as a disruptive defender, Elleby matched his career high with 30 points in his final game with Washington State, an 82-68 victory over Colorado in the opening round of the Pac-12 tournament. He added 10 assists.

His 30 points were the most for a Cougar in the conference tournament since Thompson had 43 points in a game in 2011.

In his two seasons with the Cougars, Elleby averaged 16.6 points and 7.5 rebounds a game. He becomes Portland's second CJ, joining guard CJ McCollum.

Earlier in the draft, the Blazers selected Isaiah Stewart out of Washington with the 16th pick, but the 6-foot-9,

250-pound forward won't be heading to Portland.

The Trail Blazers reportedly traded the pick to Houston along with forward Trevor Ariza on Monday for veteran Robert Covington, according to a report by ESPN. The deal could not be formally announced by the Blazers until after the draft.

A person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press that the Rockets then agreed to trade Ariza and the 16th pick to the Detroit Pistons for a future first-round pick. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the trade had not been announced. Detroit already had the seventh pick in this year's draft.

Covington, who averaged 12.4 points and 6.6 rebounds, will be a key addition for Portland, which finished the coronavirus-shortened regular season 35-39.

Among the teams invited to play in the bubble in Florida, the Trail Blazers made it to the NBA playoffs for the seventh straight season but they were knocked out in the first round by the top-seeded Los Angeles Lakers in five games.

The upcoming season is set to open on Dec. 22.

Celtics pick Pritchard at No. 26

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Celtics loaded up on backcourt depth in the NBA draft on Wednesday night, picking Vanderbilt shooting guard Aaron Nesmith and Oregon point guard Payton Pritchard in the first round.

The Celtics used the No. 14 pick on Nesmith, a 6-foot-6, 215-pound sophomore who was averaging 23 points and shooting 51% before a foot injury ended his season 14 games in. Some analysts called him the best shooter in the draft.

"The shooting is his thing," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said. "When you can put the ball in the basket, that certainly is a benefit."

Nesmith called himself an "absolute sniper" and said he wanted to make life easier for Celtics veterans like Jayson Tatum, Kemba Walker and Jaylen Brown. He described himself as "a guy that's always going to be there, work hard and earn his stripes."

"I want to be great," he said. "I want to be the best player I can be, so that includes defense."

With the 26th overall pick, the Celtics selected Pritchard, who was the Pac-12 player of the year after leading the con-

ference with 20.5 points per game and 5.6 assists. Stevens praised his toughness.

"It should be fun to watch all these guys battle it out for playing time," Stevens said, noting that the pandemic has scrambled the offseason schedule. "It's come and get ready for real basketball in a couple of weeks. That should be a big challenge for all these guys."

Boston traded the No. 30 pick to the Memphis Grizzlies, who used it to take Desmond Bane from Texas Christian. The Celtics added Israeli point guard Yam Madar with the 17th pick in the second round.

"The plan will probably be to keep him overseas for at least another year and watch him over there," basketball boss Danny Ainge said.

Ainge had been working in the days and hours leading up to the draft to package the picks to move up in the first round. But he was unable to find a deal — no one did in the early part of the first round at all, in fact.

"It was not as eventful as we thought," Ainge said. "We did have some discussions about moving up and moving back. We just hung in there and we're fortunate we got our guy."