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Health advisory issued for Sunset Bay

Officials recommend staying out of water due to bacteria levels

THE WORLD

COOS BAY — The Oregon Health Authority issued a public health advisory Wednesday for higher-than-normal levels of bacteria in ocean waters at Sunset Bay State Park in Coos County.

People should avoid direct contact with the water in this area until the advisory is lifted. Higher-than-normal levels of fecal bacteria can cause diarrhea, stomach cramps, skin rashes, upper respiratory infections and other illnesses. This applies especially to children and the elderly, who may be more vulnerable to illness from waterborne bacteria.

Increased pathogen and fecal bacteria levels in ocean waters can come from both shore and inland sources such as stormwater runoff, sewer overflows, failing septic systems, and animal waste from livestock, pets and wildlife.

While this advisory is in effect at Sunset Bay State Park, visitors should avoid wading in nearby creeks, pools of water on the beach, or in discolored water, and stay clear of water runoff flowing into the ocean. Even if there is no advisory in effect, officials recommend avoiding swimming in the ocean within 48 hours after a rainstorm.

Although state officials advise against water contact, they continue to encourage other recreational activities (flying kites, picnicking, playing on the beach, walking, etc.) on this beach because they pose no health risk even during an advisory.

The status of water contact advisories at beaches is subject to change. For the most recent information on advisories, visit the Oregon Beach Monitoring Program website at http://www. healthoregon.org/beach or call 971-673-0482, or 877-290-6767 (toll-free).

World File Photo A health advisory has been issued for Sunset Bay State Park from the Oregon Health Authority due to elevated levels of bacteria.

Sidewalk project making progress

School sign-ups urged

North Bend, Coos Bay, Reedsport and Coquille expect more students to register

JOHN GUNTHER The World

Officials in the North Bend, Coos Bay, Reedsport and Coquille school districts are encouraging parents who haven't yet registered their kids for school to do so.

The school year is fast approaching — Lighthouse Charter School students in kindergarten through third grade already have started and at least one South Coast district, Powers, will start next week — but some parents haven't yet registered their students.

John Gunther, The World

A new stretch of sidewalk was completed Wednesday morning by workers who are building a new sidewalk along Central Boulevard from Coquille High School to Winter Lakes High School. The work continues with some traffic delays and the center lane closed along the stretch between the two schools.

Hospice thrift shop bursting at the seams

Overwhelmed by the generosity of the community

THE WORLD

NORTH BEND — When South Coast Hospice had to close its Thrift Store due to the pandemic back in March, officials had no idea it would not be able to reopen until August. According to Lorell Durkee, CEO of South Coast Hospice, the organization received many calls during that time as to when shoppers could return and donors could drop items off.

"We were humbled by how many people really enjoyed shopping there and conversing with our staff and volunteers," Durkee said.

On its first opening week, it became apparent how many missed the South Coast Hospice Thrift Store, and not just for shopping. Vicki Crawford, manager at the store, reports that the donations of goods have been pouring in from hospice supporters who saved all their donations until the store reopened.

To ensure continued COVID-19 safety measures are in place, the store is quarantining items for three days before placing out for sale. Due to this abundance, Durkee said the store is in need of space to house the items.

"We need either a warehouse, or a plot of land where we could place a connex or two for our truck to access," she said. "To keep our store prices as low as possible, we would be appreciative if the space could be donated or rented at a low rate."

For those who wish to donate, drop-offs are accepted on Tuesdays and Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the store, which is located at 1955 Meade St. Sales from the store help to support South Coast Hospice patient care and grief support for those who have lost a loved one.

To offer support or obtain more information, contact Durkee at 541-269-2986.

New jobless claims fall to 881,000, still high

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of laid-off Americans applying for unemployment benefits fell to a still-elevated 881,000 last week, evidence that the viral pandemic keeps forcing many businesses to slash jobs.

The latest figures, released Thursday by the Labor Department, suggest that nearly six months after the eruption of the coronavirus, the economy is still struggling to sustain a recovery and rebuild a job market that was devastated by the recession. In the previous week, more than 1 million had sought jobless aid.

All told, the government said that 13.3 million people are continuing to receive traditional jobless benefits, up from 1.7 million a year ago.

The nearly 1 million people who keep applying for unemployment aid each week point to a sluggish pace of improvement. Before the pandemic struck the economy in March, the number of people seeking jobless aid had never topped 700,000 in a week, not even during the depths of the 2007-2009 Great Recession. The economy has recovered 9.3 million, or only 42%, of the jobs that were lost in March and April.

"The data show that layoffs remain widespread and the recovery in the labor market is occurring at a frustratingly slow pace," economists Nancy Vanden Houten and Gregory Daco of Oxford Economics wrote in a research note.

Thursday's figure, though historically high, marked the lowest number of jobless claims since the viral pandemic first paralyzed the economy in March. But beginning this week, the department tweaked the way it adjusts its calculations to account for seasonal changes, thereby making it difficult to compare last week's figure with previous weeks'. Unadjusted for seasonal variations, though, the numbers show that 833,000 Americans applied for benefits last week, up from 826,000 the week before.

In addition to the laid-off people who applied last week for state benefits, 759,000 others sought jobless aid under a new program that has made self-employed and gig workers eligible for the first time. That figure isn't adjusted for seasonal trends, so it's reported separately. But including that group, the Labor Department said 29.2 million people are receiving some form of unemployment benefits, though that figure might be inflated by double-counting by some states

On Friday, when the government issues the jobs report for August, it's expected to report that employers added roughly 1.4 million jobs last month. That would still leave the economy about 11 million jobs short of the number it's lost to the pandemic.

Still, the auto and housing industries have made solid gains, bolstered by rock-bottom loan rates. American factories, too, have been on the upswing for three straight months. Yet many companies across the spectrum from small businesses to hotels, restaurants, airlines and entertainment venues — remain deeply hurt by a loss of customers.

A wave of layoff announcements by major companies has heightened concerns that many job losses will end up being permanent. Ford is offering buyouts to try to shrink its U.S. white-collar workforce by 1,400. MGM Resorts is laying off 18,000, about a fourth of its U.S. staff. Coca-Cola, heavily reliant on entertainment venues, is offering buyouts to 4,000.

United and American airlines, hurt by diminished air travel, said they will cut thousands of jobs unless the government provides additional aid to help cover payroll costs. Salesforce is cutting 1,000 jobs, Bed Bath & Beyond 2,800. A report of the opening plans for the various South Coast districts will be included in Saturday's print edition of The World.

"We have a couple hundred families that have not registered," North Bend Superintendent Kevin Bogatin said. "If you haven't, contact your local school and we will get you registered."

North Bend's first day for instruction will be Sept. 14, which is the same for the older students (seventh through 12th grades) in the Coos Bay School District.

Coos Bay Superintendent Bryan Trendell also encouraged parents to sign up and said the schools are trying to contact those they haven't yet heard from.

"If you haven't registered, get a hold of your school," Trendell said.

Coquille's first day of instruction will be Sept. 14 for comprehensive distance learning for the junior and senior high school students and those in fourth through sixth grades and Sept. 21 for students in kindergarten through third grade, with orientation on Sept. 17 and 18.

"We're still missing about 250 registrations we are anticipating," Coquille Superintendent Tim Sweeney said. "We are eager for folks to contact their schools and get us a registration packet and call us and let us know you are coming to school.

"Some people are choosing to physically not come on campus. We have opportunities for them to connect with their teachers through the comprehensive distance learning. We want parents to know we can meet every need they have — we just want to know what those needs are."

Reedsport also plans to start on Sept. 14, with comprehensive distance learning for all students for at least the first few weeks, but the school district doesn't know just who all those kids will be, with many not yet signed up, Superintendent Jon Zwemke said.

<u><u><u>e</u>Edition</u></u>

Oregon reports three more deaths

Weekly case count is lowest since June

THE WORLD

PORTLAND -COVID-19 has claimed three more lives in Oregon, raising the state's death toll to 468, the Oregon Health Authority reported Wednesday.

Oregon Health Authority also reported 140 new confirmed and presumptive cases of COVID-19 on Wednesday, bringing the state total to 27,075.

The new cases are in the following counties: Baker (1), Clackamas (4), Coos (2), Curry (1), Deschutes (1), Douglas (1), Jackson (14), Josephine (3), Lane (11), Lincoln (1), Linn (1), Malheur (8), Marion (19), Morrow (1), Multnomah (32), Polk (7), Sherman (1), Umatilla (13), Wallowa (1), Wasco (1), Washington (16) and

Yamhill (1). Oregon's 466th COVID-19 death is a 71-year-old woman in Polk County who tested positive on Aug. 27 and died on Aug. 29. Location of death

is being confirmed. She

had underlying conditions. Oregon's 467th COVID-19 death is a 73-year-old man in Jackson County who tested positive on Aug. 14 and died on Aug. 29 at Rogue Valley Medical Center in Medford. Presence of underlying conditions is being confirmed.

Oregon's 468th COVID-19 death is an 84-year-old man in Washington County who tested positive on July 29 and died on Aug. 31 in his residence. He had underlying conditions.

Morrow County COVID 19 workplace outbreak

An outbreak of 21 cases of COVID-19 has been reported at Port of Morrow Cold Storage in Morrow County. The case

count includes all persons linked to the outbreak, which may include household members and other close contacts to an employee.

The outbreak investigation started on Aug. 1, but the initial case count was below the threshold for public disclosure. State and county public health officials are working with the company to address the outbreak and protect the health of workers.

COVID-19 daily cases continue to decline

During the week of Monday, Aug. 24, through Sunday, Aug. 30, OHA recorded 1,558 new cases of COVID-19 infection. This is down 8.6% from last week's tally of 1,704 and Oregon's lowest weekly total since the end of June.

The percentage of positive tests also dropped to 4.4 percent, the lowest in two months. Thirty-nine Oregonians were reported to have died, up from 32 last week. The 26,713 cas-

positivity less than 5% in

There is an exception

for students in kindergar-

ten to 3rd grade to return

to in-person instruction if

the following metrics have

been met three weeks in a

· Coos County test posi-

• Coos County case rate

is less than 30 cases per

tivity is less than 5% in the

preceding 7 days.

row

the preceding 7 days

es reported in Oregon as of Aug. 30 equates to about to 631 cases per 100,000 persons. Also, as of Aug. 30, 459 Oregonians have died with COVID-19, a mortality rate of 11 deaths per 100,000 Oregonians.

The age group with the highest incidence of reported infection continues to be 20-29-year-olds, with rates decreasing in subsequent decades of life. Through April 18, 51% of reported cases had been among persons 50 or older and 48 percent of the deaths have involved persons 80 or older.

Stay informed about COVID-19

Oregon response: The Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Office of **Emergency Management** lead the state response.

United States response: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention leads the U.S. response.

Global response: The World Health Organization guides the global response.

Gather safely during the holiday weekend

THE WORLD

SOUTH COAST -As people prepare for the upcoming holiday weekend, it is not easy to decline invitations to the get-togethers they used to have with friends and family. It's hard for many to understand how being with friends and loved ones could be what puts them and those they care about at risk for getting or spreading COVID-19.

Oregon State Health Officer Dr. Dean Sidelinger shared the following story about how COVID-19 spread throughout a community starting from a seemingly harmless family gathering:

Ten people got together for a family party, and two people at the party were likely infectious at the time, though they did not have symptoms. In total, those two cases have led to 20 reported cases spread across 10 households. At least two of the people work with vulnerable populations. One person lived in a multi-generational house with family members with high-risk conditions. So even though the people who went to the party weren't at higher risk for complications, many of the people who got sick potentially exposed people who are more vulnerable.

However when done safely, a small gathering held with plenty of space could be the social boost everyone needs right now, Oregon Health Authority officials said. Here are some keys tips to help people throw a safe and thoughtful Labor Day Holiday gathering for their family and friends: · Limit your social

gatherings outside your household to no more than 10 people in accordance to Phase II guidelines.

• Have guests stay home if sick. Screen guests as they arrive for symptoms or exposure to others that have been sick.

• If possible, host your small gathering outdoors rather than indoors.

• Ensure enough space so everyone is able to social distance from each other.

 Wear a face covering indoors and outside when you can't maintain 6 feet of physical distance from people outside your household.

· Provide hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies, and remind guests to wash hands frequently.

• Sanitize frequently touched items (such as condiments and serving cutlery), especially before eating or drinking.

• Task one person to serve food and limit guests from gathering in food serving areas, such as in kitchens or near grills. Provide single-use condiments, plates and cutlery, napkins. Wash and sanitize reusable items.

• Or serve food that is grab-and-go. Create a menu of single serve foods, like salads and dips that can be served in individual small containers.

• Plan activities where social distance can be maintained and sanitize frequently touched items, like frisbees, balls, or other sports equipment.

• Use touchless garbage cans and sanitize hands immediately after handling trash.

· Keep a guest list for potential contact tracing.

Coos Health & Wellness provides school data for reopening

THE WORLD

SOUTH COAST -Coos Health & Wellness feels that keeping Coos County open and creating a safe environment for the area's children to return to in-person instruction at school are two very important goals. The State of Oregon has set specific data points for both the counties and the state to reach before schools may reopen.

Schools

From Page 1

Each week Coos Health & Wellness will post the newest data on their social media page and send it to local press.

For all schools to return to in-person instruction the following metrics must be met three weeks in a row:

 Coos County Case Rate less than 10 cases per 100,000 population

• Test positivity less than 5% in the preceding 7 days State Metric of test

100,000 population. "It is up to us, as a com-

COVID-19 case count continues to be low enough to meet the governor's metrics for the county. Reedsport hopes to have its youngest students on campus about three weeks into the school year.

North Bend will have

school learning for all its students next week, with kindergarten and seventh-grade students having orientation Monday and the rest of the students joining on Wednesday.

Parents who haven't yet registered there should call the district office at 541-439-2291.

lic health stewards we can be," said Cynthia Edwards, public health information officer for Coos Health & Wellness. "If you have any questions regarding COVID-19, please visit our website at https://cooshealthandwellness.org/ public-health/novel-coronavirus-2019-covid-19/ for the most recent guidance, or email us at covid19. questions@chw.coos. or.us."

munity, to be the best pub-

541-267-1340, Madison School 541-888-1218, **Destinations Academy** 541-267-1485, Resource Link Charter School 541-267-1485 and District Office 541-267-3104.

In Coquille, the numbers are Coquille Junior/Senior

School are about 150 below what the district expected. "The big concern is we are going to start making plans about how to organize kids in the building and if we don't know the kid's name, we might not have space.

"We need to get people

registered," Zwemke said,

adding that the numbers

for Highland Elementary

"It's important to know who you are so we can start planning for you. We want to make sure we do the absolute best for every kid."

The North Bend, Coos Bay and Coquille school districts all plan to have students in kindergarten through third grade on-site, provided Coos County's

half of its students in an afternoon wave (12:45 to 3:45 p.m.) on Mondays through Thursdays and the other half in a morning wave (8 to 11 a.m.) Tuesdays through Fridays.

Coos Bay's kindergarten through third grade will be all Mondays through Thursdays, with half in the morning (8 to 11 a.m.) and half in the afternoon (12:30 to 3:30 p.m.).

Coquille's students in those grade levels will have full-day learning, five days a week.

Powers will start in-

For North Bend, the various numbers are North Bend High School 541-756-8328, North Bend Middle School 541-756-8341, North Bay Elementary 541-756-8351 and Hillcrest Elementary 541-756-8348.

In Coos Bay, the numbers are Marshfield High School 541-267-1405, Marshfield Junior High 541-267-1487, Sunset School 541-888-1242, Millicoma School 541-267-1468, Eastside School High School 541-396-2163, Coquille Valley Elementary 541-396-2914, Lincoln School of early Learning 541-396-2811, Winter Lakes High School 541-824-0115, Winter Lakes Elementary 541-396-2414 and District Office 431-396-2181.

In Reedsport, the number for Reedsport Community Charter School is 541-271-2141 while the number for Highland Elementary School is 541-271-3616. The district office can be reached at 541-271-3656.

Jobless

From Page 1

Many economists warn that mass layoffs will continue and that any recovery will likely falter as long as the virus rages and Congress doesn't extend another round of rescue aid for the unemployed and for state and local governments. The economy, in the meantime, will likely struggle.

The recovery remains fragile because of a still-elevated level of confirmed COVID-19 cases and the

government's failure to enact another emergency rescue package.

A summertime resurgence of COVID-19 cases in the South and West forced many businesses to close again in July, though the data firm Womply has concluded that closings have mostly stabilized over the past month.

Homebase, a provider of scheduling software for small businesses, reports that small business hiring has flat-lined since June. More than 20% of small businesses remain closed, Homebase says.



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©Edition Critics: Eviction ban may only delay homelessness

BOSTON (AP) — Housing advocates say the Trump administration's surprise national moratorium on evictions only delays a wave of crushing debt and homelessness, and an attorney representing landlords questions whether the measure is aimed at voters ahead of the November election.

The White House announced Tuesday that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would act under its broad powers to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The measure would forbid landlords from evicting anyone for failure to pay rent, providing the renter meets four criteria.

Critics call it everything from an empty stall tactic to an outright political ploy.

"My first reaction was, 'Thank God,'" said Matthew Hill, an attorney with the Public Justice Center in Baltimore. But he noted that tenants will be expected to repay their rent when the moratorium expires on Jan. 1, and without some kind of rental assistance, "we are just going to be kicking the can down the road."

Richard Vetstein, the lead attorney representing landlords who are challenging an eviction moratorium in Massachusetts, called the CDC order "convoluted" and poorly drafted.

"It's a pretty blatant political

play by Trump in an election year," Vetstein said. "It purports to apply nationwide to every residential situation for nonpayment of rent, so that would be many, many millions of rental properties."

The move is a good first step, said Bill Faith, executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio. But the order just "puts the problem on pause."

"In January, when this would cease to be in place, all of those tenants would still owe all of the rent they owed to start with," Faith said. "If they are covered by the moratorium and don't pay what rent they can pay, their hole is thousands of dollars deep."

Faith also said implementing the order could be "messy," since it would often fall to local judges to determine if a tenant qualifies. In Ohio alone, that would involve hundreds of housing courts.

The CDC order covers only people who:

— Have an income of \$198,000 or less for couples filing jointly, or \$99,000 for single filers.

— Demonstrate they have sought government assistance to make their rental payments.

— Are unable to pay rent because of COVID-19 hardships.

— Are likely to become homeless if they are evicted. The CDC order comes as many local and state eviction bans are set to expire. California's measure was supposed to end Wednesday, but Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation Monday to extend it through Jan. 31 for people who pay at least 25% of the rent owed during that time.

He described the law as "a bridge to a more permanent solution" from the federal gov-ernment.

"We need a real, federal commitment of significant new funding to assist struggling tenants and homeowners in California and across the nation," Newsom said.

Brian Morgenstern, a deputy White House press secretary, said the administration "has also made federal funds available to alleviate any economic impact to tenants, landlords, and property owners." Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson said his agency had allocated nearly \$10 billion in resources and rental assistance.

Landlords say the order forces them to shoulder a heavy financial burden.

"It's great to say nobody can be evicted," said Mitch Matorin, who is owed \$11,400 in back rent on property he owns in Worcester, Massachusetts. "But all that does is push this large societal cost onto the landlords." Matorin, a lead plaintiff in the case against the state moratorium, said he has had to dip into savings to make monthly mortgage payments.

"If there is a societal interest that requires no evictions, then society needs to step up and fund it," he said. "Otherwise, it is incredibly unfair and untenable to shove the cost on the landlords."

A \$3 trillion coronavirus relief bill passed in May by Democrats in the House would provide about \$175 billion to pay rents and mortgages. A counter proposal from Senate Republicans offers far less. Advocacy groups have sought more than \$100 billion.

Vetstein said there were many questions about the order, including whether it applies to eviction cases already filed in the courts. It is also unclear how the order would affect lawsuits like the one in Massachusetts challenging the state moratorium.

"One of our clients is a nurse," he said. "She is owed over \$20,000, and now she is going to be stuck. Through the end of the year she will be owed \$30,000, and the tenant can just live there for free. It's literally going to cause her financial ruin."

Faith said it's good to see the administration acknowledge the public health threat posed by evictions that could send people into crowded shelters and other housing. But the moratorium is "not the ideal way to proceed." Whatever the order's limitations, renters like Natasha Blunt are relieved.

"Sign me up!" the New Orleans resident said after learning about the government directive.

A GoFundMe campaign and earnings from a part-time housekeeping job helped her catch up on rent through September on the two-bedroom apartment she shares with her two young grandchildren. But she was worried about what would happen after that.

"Oh my God. That would be a blessing for me and my babies," said Blunt, who lost her banquet porter's job at the beginning of the pandemic. "I would be able to buy food. It would just lift a huge weight off my shoulders."

GoFundMe and donations from several community groups helped Amanda Wood of Columbus, Ohio, stave off eviction in August. But Wood, who is 23 and pregnant and has a 6-monthold at home, is scrambling again to pay September's bills.

"It makes me feel good that I can't get evicted," said Wood, who lost her job with a claims-management company in April. But she's still worried about paying all those months of rent in January.

"You could still face eviction after that," she said. "The landlord isn't going to dismiss all the months of rent that has been built up."

Portland protestors set up clash between journalists, police

PORTLAND (AP) — The beam of a police officer's flashlight swept across a group of 15 people standing on the sidewalk in downtown Portland, Oregon, recording and taking photos of the nightly protests that have roiled the city for three months.

Most in the recent group wore helmets, reflective vests or shirts emblazoned with the word "PRESS" and had media badges dangling from their necks. But some were demonstrators, taking cover behind reporters despite orders to go home or face arrest.

"Hey," an officer yelled at his colleagues as they cleared streets and arrested people who weren't leavforcement is hindering that work. Police say protesters have masqueraded as journalists and then set fires or thrown fireworks, making it a struggle to figure out who is a real reporter during the pandemonium.

Suzette Smith, a freelance journalist who has covered the protests, recorded the Aug. 29 encounter between police and reporters. "Blue mask," an officer could be heard saying in the video Smith tweeted. Her mask was blue, and she held up her press badge. At least five people around her were detained, including someone else in a blue mask.

Smith, who was arts editor of the Portland Mer-

in the city and civil unrest around the world. He said reporters have been treated differently during protests over the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Olmos said police went from viewing reporters as professionals and neutral observers to demonstrators. While covering Portland's protests, he says he has been pushed to the ground by police, hit in the lip with a baton and tear gassed.

"(Journalists) who stay out there have made a mental commitment of 'I might get beat or I might get arrested, and that's just the cost of doing this job I guess," "Olmos said. that there is no way we can sit on the sidelines."

In July, the ACLU of Oregon sued Portland police and federal agents on behalf of a group of legal observers and journalists. A freelance photographer covering the protests for The Associated Press submitted an affidavit saying he was beaten with batons, sprayed with chemical irritants and hit with rubber bullets.

A federal judge granted a preliminary injunction exempting journalists and legal observers from orders to disperse after authorities declare a riot. But an appeals court later suspended it.

Police report that people with "press markings"

the past two months and mingled with people in the crowd. In mid-August, police said an officer was seriously injured after a person with "press" on their clothing threw a 9-pound rock.

Police declined requests for an interview. In a June video, Lt. Tina Jones said Portland police "continue to work with our media partners about the importance of following the lawful orders given by the sound truck, officers and social media so they can stay safe and avoid arrest and altercation."

While many reporters clearly identify themselves, officials have discussed if more can be done. U.S. District Judge Michael Simon suggested redefining a journalist as "someone who is authorized by the ACLU," saying the organization "could maintain a list of who they are giving vests to and give them appropriate guidance and instructions. That way we might be able to solve the problem of somebody just putting 'press' on their helmet or their shirt."

Media experts say it's broader than that.

"Who is a journalist and who isn't a journalist? Well, here is my definition: You are a journalist if you are committing journalism — if you are there at the scene of the news to collect information and present it to an audience in journalistic form," said Patricia Gallagher New-

ing. "Half this group is not press. … Purple mask isn't press. Bicyclist not press. … If they are not press, take them into custody."

For nearly 100 days, reporters have been covering protests that often turn violent in Oregon's largest city, and in the chaos, some journalists have been injured or arrested despite press freedoms laid out in the First Amendment. The clash also led to a lawsuit against federal authorities sent in to help local police in July.

Reporters — whether they're from major media outlets, freelancers or self-proclaimed "citizen journalists" — say they are doing their job and law encury alternative newspaper but was laid off during COVID-19 pandemic, said it was the first time she has seen officers approach a crowd of journalists and arrest people around her. But protesters will stay behind reporters to try to blend in, she said.

"Certainly that's annoying as a press person when there is somebody behind you yelling," Smith said. "I have definitely asked them not to yell in my ear or to stand so close."

Sergio Olmos, a reporter for Oregon Public Broadcasting, has been covering the Portland protests for months and has reported from other demonstrations According to the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker, made up of more than two dozen press freedom groups, over 740 aggressions against journalists have been reported during national Black Lives Matter protests this year. That can include attacks, arrests or equipment getting damaged, searched or seized.

"What really has been striking about these weeks of protests is that there has not just been one incident that stands out," said Kelly Simon, interim legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon. "It is such a high volume of concerning abuses of our constitutional rights,

US gives first-ever OK for small commercial nuclear reactor

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — U.S. officials have for the first time approved a design for a small commercial nuclear reactor, and a Utah energy cooperative wants to build 12 of them in Idaho.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Friday approved Portland-based NuScale Power's application for the small modular reactor that Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems plans to build at a U.S. Department of Energy site in eastern Idaho.

The small reactors can produce about 60 megawatts of energy, or enough to power more than 50,000 homes. The proposed project includes 12 small modular reactors. The first would be built in 2029, with the rest in 2030.

NuScale says the reactors have advanced safety features, including self-cooling and automatic shutdown. "This is a significant milestone not only for NuScale, but also for the entire U.S. nuclear sector and the other advanced nuclear technologies that will follow," said NuScale Chairman and Chief Executive Officer John Hopkins in a statement.

Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems already has agreements with the Energy Department to build the reactors at the federal agency's 890-square-mile (2,300-square-kilometer) site that includes the Idaho National Laboratory, a nuclear research facility that would help with the development of the reactors.

The Department of Energy has spent more than \$400 million since 2014 to hasten the development of the small modular reactors, or SMRs.

"DOE is proud to support the licensing and development of NuScale's Power Module and other SMR technologies that have the potential to bring clean and reliable power to areas never thought possible by nuclear reactors in the U.S., and soon the world," said Rita Baranwal, assistant secretary for Nuclear Energy.

The energy cooperative has embarked on a plan called the Carbon Free Power Project that aims to supply carbon-free energy to its nearly 50 members, mostly municipalities, in six Western states. The company plans to buy the reactors from NuScale, then assemble them in Idaho. The company is also looking to bring on other utilities that would use the power generated by the reactors.

Cooperative "members themselves would use a portion of the electricity, but other utilities would become involved and purchase power," said LaVarr Webb, spokesman for the cooperative. have thrown commercial-grade fireworks, rocks and bottles at officers over berry, national president of the Society of Professional Journalists.

DEAR ABBY By Abigail Van Buren

Happy love life turns best friend into a Debbie downer

DEAR ABBY: I have been lucky enough to have fallen madly in love with the most wonderful man in the world. We have been together for two years and living together for almost a year. I'm in my mid-30s; he's in his mid-40s. We both have had plenty of experience in love -- enough to feel sure that we've found the person we want to spend the rest of our lives with.

My best friend has been very disparaging of our relationship and makes rude comments about it. If I tell her how happy we are in spite of the pandemic, she says it's because we're still in the "honeymoon phase." If I describe something kind that my boyfriend has done for me, she adopts a condescending tone and makes remarks about "new love" and that I should enjoy this now because it will change.

She's the same age I am and has been with her fiance for nine years. I have always been very supportive of their relationship, but she seems incapable of offering me the same level of support in my love life. When I try to talk to her about something she has said or done that bothers me, she often becomes aggressive, and I don't know how to approach this subject without getting into an argument or losing our friendship. What should I do? -- PROUDLY LUCKY IN LOVE

DEAR PROUDLY LUCKY: Could your friend be suffering from a touch of jealousy because you constantly extoll your boyfriend's virtues? Her cynicism may have something to do with the fact that she and her fiance have been together for nine years with no marriage in sight.

If you can't talk to her about sensitive issues without her becoming aggressive or you being afraid of losing the friendship, it doesn't take a crystal ball to see the two of you are growing increasingly distant with the passage of time. I do think you should ask your friend why she reacts the way she does and tell her how it makes you feel. It may be the only way to save your friendship.

DEAR ABBY: At what age is it no longer appropriate for children to play naked while outside in their yard?

We are a childless couple in our 60s who live in a suburban neighborhood in the Northeast. A new couple moved here with their children, a boy and a girl, who appear to be about 5 and 8 years old. Both of them often are naked while playing in their yard. This happens in all kinds of weather, not just when it's extremely hot.

We all have fairly large yards, but none of the yards in the neighborhood are private. Neighbors on both sides of this family and anyone walking up or down the street can see the children. We are not prudes, but this happens frequently, and it makes us uncomfortable. Is it time for us to move? -- AVERTING MY EYES

DEAR AVERTING: Five- and 8-year-old minors are too old to be naked in public. Pay a visit to your new neighbors' house and introduce yourself. Ask why the kids play outside with no clothes on. Gauge what you learn, and if you suspect neglect or abuse, report it to Child Protective Services.

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.

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©Edition Trump takes jab at Biden in North Carolina

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP)

— As thunderstorms threatened, President Donald Trump sped through a V-J Day speech on Wednesday, trumpeting American strength and managing to squeeze in a swipe at Democratic rival Joe Biden.

Trump stood before an iconic World War II-era battleship to declare the port city of Wilmington, North Carolina, a World War II "Heritage City." He pointed to a bolt of lightning and said it was God saluting the event.

He honored war veterans, including 97-year-old Hershel "Woody" Williams, the sole surviving Marine from the war to receive the Medal of Honor. The West Virginia native fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima in the Pacific.

"He's 100 percent sharp," Trump said of Williams, who traveled to the key battleground state with the president aboard Air Force One. "I know a 78-year-old who's not so sharp," Trump added, a clear allusion to Biden.

White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany had insisted earlier this week that there was no "political purpose" to Trump's visit to North Carolina. But when the president landed in Wilmington, Trump lost no time in criticizing Biden.

"This is the most important election in the history of our country. I really believe that, because we're running against people that have got some big issues," he told supporters on the airport tarmac. "They have got some big, big problems. They're stone cold crazy."

Trump also encouraged those who cast votes by mail to cast two ballots in November's election, one by mail and another in person as a check to see if the mailed vote was counted.

"They'll go out and they'll

vote and they're going to have to go and check their vote by going to the poll and voting that way because if it tabulates then they won't be able to do that. So, let them send it in and let them go vote," Trump said in an interview with WECT-TV at the Wilmington airport. "And if their system's as good as they say it is, then obviously they won't be able to vote. If it isn't tabulated, they'll be able to vote. So that's the way it is, and that's what they should do."

Trump made a similar appeal in remarks to supporters at the airport. "You can't let them take your vote away; these people are playing dirty politics dirty politics. So if you have an absentee ballot or, as I call it, a solicited ballot ... you send it in, but I would check it, in any event, I would go and follow it and go vote," he said.

Trump won North Carolina

by 3.6 percentage points in 2016, but polls are showing an extremely close race taking shape in a state that generates 15 electoral votes for its winner.

The president's visit to North Carolina comes as county boards start sending absentee ballots to voters on Friday. Vice President Mike Pence will follow the president by visiting Raleigh on Thursday.

Through Sept. 1, more than 591,000 ballot requests had been received, compared with approximately 36,500 through the same period in 2016, the state elections board said Wednesday.

More than half of the absentee ballots, or approximately 313,000, have been requested by Democrats. Republicans have requested more than 93,000 and registered unaffiliated voters account for approximately 183,000 ballot requests.

Biden released a statement in

advance of the trip saying that Trump has not provided North Carolina with the roadmap and resources needed to protect businesses, schools and families from the coronavirus.

"Instead of honoring the sacrifice of our front-line heroes, President Trump has repeatedly ignored public health guidance for political purposes," Biden said.

Wilmington has been home to the Battleship North Carolina since 1962. The ship is now a floating museum. On Sept. 2, 1945, Japan's formal surrender took place aboard the U.S.S. Missouri, anchored in Tokyo Bay.

Congress passed a bill earlier this year that included a provision requiring the secretary of the interior to annually designate one city in the United States as an "American World War II Heritage City." Wilmington is the first city to get that designation.

Biden to test promise to unify nation in Kenosha

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — Joe Biden faces the most intense test yet of his pledge to be a calming, unifying leader for a divided nation when he travels Thursday to Kenosha, Wisconsin, a city now at the center of America's election-year reckoning with systemic racism.

The Democratic presidential nominee, traveling two days after President Donald Trump visited the same city, plans to meet with family of Jacob Blake, who remains hospitalized after being shot seven times in the back by a white police officer as authorities tried to arrest him. Biden also plans a community discussion with business figures, civic leaders and law enforcement officials.

"This is about making sure that we move forward," Biden told reporters Wednesday. He added that he's "not going to tell Kenosha what they have to do" but instead encourage a community to "talk about what has to be done."

Two months before Election Day, the trip presconflict. But the distinction has sharpened over a summer of nationwide protests — most peaceful, but some of them, as in Kenosha, turned violent and destructive.

Biden is a white man propelled to the Democratic nomination by Black voters. Since the May 25 death of George Floyd, a Black man killed by a white Minneapolis police officer, Biden has called for an overhaul of U.S. policing and embraced a national conversation on racism. The significance of the moment was a factor in Biden selecting California Sen. Kamala Harris as the first Black woman to join a major party presidential ticket.

Trump, meanwhile, has countered with sweeping condemnations of protesters, an absolute defense of law enforcement and denials that Americans with black and brown skin face barriers that whites do not — moves aimed at his overwhelmingly white political base.

The president pressed his "law and order" mantra Lives Matter organizers. "These are not acts of peaceful protest but, really,

domestic terror," Trump said. Despite repeated questions from reporters, the president refused to address racism in the country or its police departments. Instead, he asserted anew that a Biden presidency would bring riots and destruction to American cities. Trump falsely claims that Biden backs violent protests and activists' calls to "defund the police."

Bill Stepien, Trump's campaign manager, said Biden's visit to Kenosha was inappropriate.

"The president was there earlier in the week as the president of the United States. Vice President Biden is there today as a candidate, as a political candidate," Stepien told "Fox & Friends" on Thursday "This is not the time to be injecting politics into a really serious situation that president helped solve. I think it very very clearly points out the contrast between the president's leadership and the people

turned into a one-minute digital and television ad. The campaign has spent \$45 million for the spot, which has English and Spanish language versions, to circulate on national cable networks and in local markets across Arizona, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Yet the ad's necessity highlights Biden's tightrope as he discusses the complexities of the moment while running against a president whose brief political career — and his business career before that — has been defined by loud absolutes.

Biden on Wednesday repeated that "to engage in violence — burning, looting, the rest — in the name of protesting is wrong. And that person should be held accountable for their actions." But he stood by First Amendment guarantees that "protest is a right."

He also praised law enforcement, saying "the vast majority of police officers are good, decent honorable women and men. They put

Debate moderators will be from Fox, C-SPAN, NBC

- Representatives from

Fox News, C-SPAN and

NBC will moderate the

tween President Donald

Trump and Democratic

According to the non-

challenger Joe Biden.

partisan Commission

on Presidential Debates,

the moderators will be:

-Chris Wallace of

Fox News for the debate

-Steve Scully of

Sept. 29 in Cleveland.

C-SPAN for the "town

in Miami.

Tennessee.

meeting" debate Oct. 15

-NBC's Kristen

The commission also

announced Wednesday

that USA Today's Susan

Page will moderate the

vice presidential debate

City with Vice President

on Oct. 7 in Salt Lake

Mike Pence and Dem-

The commission makes

its moderator selection

ocrat Kamala Harris.

Welker for the debate

Oct. 22 in Nashville,

upcoming debates be-

WASHINGTON (AP) on live television.

"I'm looking forward to debating the president and I'm going to lay out as clearly as I can my vision for the county," Biden said

Trump's team complained that the moderators were not those "we would have recommended if the campaign had been allowed to have any input," said campaign communications director Tim Murtaugh. "Some can be identified as clear opponents of President Trump, meaning Joe Biden will actually have a teammate on stage most of the time to help him excuse the radical, leftist agenda he is carrying."

Murtaugh noted that Biden, who has not sat recently for an interview with Wallace, will not go face to face with the tough interviewer. Wallace was widely praised for a tough interview with Trump earlier this

ents Biden both opportunity and risks, testing his longstanding promise that he can "unify the country" and find consensus even where it's not readily apparent. The approach is an intentional contrast with Trump, who thrives on during his own Kenosha trip Tuesday. He toured damaged buildings and discussed ways to quell unrest with law enforcement officials. Trump was greeted by supporters who occasionally mixed with — and yelled at — Black in Vice President Biden's party who are encouraging violence in the streets."

In fact, Biden has repeatedly denounced violence, from a June 2 speech after Floyd's death up to a Monday address that his campaign quickly on that shield every morning. They have a right to go home that night safely

— the vast majority." Good officers, Biden said, "want to get rid of the bad cops more than anybody else does, because it reflects on them." independently of the candidates.

Trump and Biden have said they will tr attend the scheduled debates, which are meant th to offer voters to opportunity to see the contrast a between the candidates o

summer.

Trump's team has tried to pressure the commission to move up the debates, citing increased use of early and absentee voting because of the coronavirus.

CDC tells states to be ready to distribute vaccines on Nov. 1

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — The federal government has told states to prepare for a coronavirus vaccine to be ready to distribute by Nov. 1.

The timeline raised concern among public health experts about an "October surprise" — a vaccine approval driven by political considerations ahead of a presidential election, rather than science.

In a letter to governors dated Aug. 27, Robert Redfield, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said states "in the near future" will receive permit applications from McKesson Corp., which has contracted with CDC to distribute vaccines to places including state and local health departments and hospitals.

"CDC urgently requests your assistance in expediting applications for these distribution facilities and, if necessary, asks that you consider waiving requirements that would prevent these facilities from becoming fully operational by November 1, 2020," Redfield wrote.

He wrote that any waivers will not compromise the safety or effectiveness of the vaccine. The Associated Press obtained the letter, which was first reported by McClatchy.

The CDC also sent three planning documents to some health departments that included possible timelines for when vaccines would be available. The documents are to be used to develop plans for early vaccination when the supply might be constrained, according to one of the documents, which outlined a scenario in which a vaccine could be available as soon as the end of October.

"The COVID-19 vaccine landscape is evolving and uncertain, and these scenarios may evolve as more information is available," the document reads.

Another of the documents says that limited COVID-19 vaccine doses may be available by early November and that supply will increase substantially in 2021.

It also states that initially available vaccines will either be approved by the Food and Drug Administration or authorized by the agency under its emergency powers.

The documents encourage health officials to work out now which groups to prioritize for a vaccine, identify providers who will administer vaccine, and take other steps to prepare. The planning documents were first reported by The New York Times.

Redfield told Yahoo Finance that officials were preparing "for what I anticipate will be reality, is that there'll be one or more vaccines available for us in November, December."

James S. Blumenstock, a senior vice president at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, said the CDC was offering "an aggressive but necessary timetable" and that public health agencies were mobilizing to prepare detailed plans.

Several public health experts pointed out that final stage trials of experimental vaccines are still recruiting, and are at best halfway through that process. The vaccines are two doses, and each is given a month apart. The experts told the AP they did not understand how there could be adequate data on whether the vaccines work and are safe before Nov. 1.

"Being ready is reasonable. Cutting short phase 3 trials before you get the information you need isn't," said Dr. Paul Offit, a Children's Hospital of Philadelphia immunization expert who sits on the FDA's vaccine advisory committee.

Peter Hotez, dean of Baylor University's tropical medicine school, said he was "very concerned" about whether the FDA would use an emergency use authorization to approve a vaccine before knowing whether it works and is safe.

Video in Black man's suffocation shows cops put hood on him

Associated Press

A Black man who had run naked through the streets of a western New York city died of asphyxiation after a group of police officers put a hood over his head, then pressed his face into the pavement for two minutes, according to video and records released Wednesday by the man's family.

Daniel Prude died March 30 after he was taken off life support, seven days after the encounter with police in Rochester. His death received no public attention until Wednesday, when his family held a news conference and released police body camera video and written reports they obtained through a public records request.

"I placed a phone call for my brother to get help. Not for my brother to get lynched," Prude's brother, Joe Prude, said at a news conference. "How did you see him and not directly say, 'The man is defenseless, buck naked on the ground. He's cuffed up already. Come on.' How many more brothers gotta die for society to understand that this needs to stop?"

The videos show Prude, who had taken off his clothes, complying when police ask him to get on the ground and put his hands behind his back. Prude is agitated and shouting as he sits on the pavement in handcuffs for a few moments as a light snow falls. "Give me your gun, I need it," he shouts.

Then, they put a white "spit hood" over his head, a device intended to protect officers from a detainee's saliva. At the time, New York was in the early days of the coronavirus pandemic.

Prude demands they remove it.

Then the officers slam Prude's head into the street. One officer, who is white, holds his head down against the pavement with both hands, saying "calm down" and "stop spitting." Another officer places a knee on his back.

"Trying to kill me!" Prude says, his voice becoming muffled and anguished under the hood.

"OK, stop. I need it. I need it," the prone man begs before his shouts turn to whimpers and grunts.

The officers appear to become concerned after he stops moving, falls silent and they notice water coming out of Prude's mouth.

"My man. You puking?" one says.

One officer notes that he's been out, naked, in the street for some time. Another remarks, "He feels pretty cold."

His head had been held down by an officer for just over two minutes, the video shows.

The officers then remove the hood and his handcuffs and medics can then be seen performing CPR before he's loaded into an ambulance.

Spit hoods have been scrutinized as a factor in the deaths of several prisoners in the U.S. and other countries in recent years.

A medical examiner concluded that Prude's death was a homicide caused by "complications of asphyxia in the setting of physical restraint." The report lists excited delirium and acute intoxication by phencyclidine, or PCP, as contributing factors.

Prude was from Chicago and had just arrived in Rochester for a visit with his brother. He was kicked off the train before it got to Rochester, in Depew, "due to his unruly behavior," according to an internal affairs investigator's report.

Rochester police officers took Prude into custody for a mental health evaluation around 7 p.m. on March 22 for suicidal thoughts -- about eight hours before the encounter that led to his death.

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Follow us online: **f** facebook.com/theworldnewspaper **v** twitter.com/TheWorldLink

instagram.com/theworldlink **Baseball great Tom Seaver dies at 75**

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Seaver transformed a franchise and captivated a city, setting enduring standards as he whipped his powerful right arm overhead for the Miracle Mets and dirtied his right knee atop major league mounds for two decades.

A consummate pro and pitching icon, he finished fulfilled after a career remembered with awe long after his final strikeout.

"It is the last beautiful flower in the perfect bouquet," Seaver said on the afternoon he was inducted into baseball's Hall of Fame.

Seaver, the galvanizing force who steered the New York Mets from National League laughingstock to a stunning World Series title in 1969, has died. He was

The Hall said Wednesday night that Seaver died Monday from complications of Lewy body dementia and COVID-19. Seaver spent his final years in Calistoga, California.

Seaver's family announced in March 2019 he had been diagnosed with dementia and had retired from public life. He continued working at Seaver Vineyards, founded by the threetime NL Cy Young Award winner and his wife, Nancy, in 2002 on 116 acres at Diamond Mountain in Northern California.

Seaver was diagnosed with Lyme disease in 1991, and it reoccurred in 2012 and led to Bell's Palsy and memory loss, the Daily News of New York reported in 2013.

"He will always be the heart and soul of the Mets, the

standard which all Mets aspire to," Mike Piazza, a former Mets catcher and Hall of Famer, tweeted when Seaver's dementia diagnosis was announced.

Said ex-Mets closer and captain John Franco: "As a kid, you always wanted to be Tom Seaver."

Nicknamed Tom Terrific and The Franchise, the revered Seaver was a five-time 20-game winner and the 1967 NL Rookie of the Year. He went 311-205 with a 2.86 ERA, 3,640 strikeouts and 61 shutouts during an illustrious career that lasted from 1967-86. He became a constant on magazine covers and a media presence, calling postseason games on NBC and ABC even while still an active player.

"He was simply the greatest Mets player of all-time and among the best to ever play the game," Mets owner Fred Wilpon and son Jeff, the team's chief operating officer, said in a statement.

Seaver was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1992 when he appeared on 425 of 430 ballots for a then-record 98.84%.

"Tom was a gentleman who represented the best of our national pastime," Commissioner Rob Manfred said in a statement. "He was synonymous with the New York Mets and their unforgettable 1969 season."

"After their improbable World Series championship, Tom became a household name to baseball fans — a responsibility he carried out with distinction throughout his life," he said. Seaver's plaque in Cooperstown lauds him as a "power pitcher who helped change the New York Mets from lovable losers into formidable foes."

He changed not only their place in the standings, but the team's stature in people's minds.

"Tom Seaver hated to lose," said Jerry Grote, his longtime Mets catcher. "In May of 1969, we had a celebration in the locker room when we reached .500 for the first time. Tom said, 'We want more than .500, we want a championship."

Seaver pitched for the Mets from 1967-77, when he was traded to Cincinnati after a public spat with chairman M. Donald Grant over Seaver's desire for a new contract. It was a clash that infuriated baseball fans in New York

"My biggest disappointment? Leaving the Mets the first time and the difficulties I had with the same people that led up to it," Seaver told The Associated Press ahead of his Hall induction in 1992. "But I look back at it in a positive way now. It gave me the opportunity to work in different areas of the country."

He threw his only no-hitter for the Reds in June 1978 against St. Louis and was traded back to New York after the 1982 season. But Mets general manager Frank Cashen blundered by leaving Seaver off his list of 26 protected players, and in January 1984 he was claimed by the Chicago White Sox as free agent compensation for losing pitcher Dennis Lamp to Toronto.

While pitching for the White Sox, Seaver got his 300th win

at Yankee Stadium and did it in style with a six-hitter in a 4-1 victory. He finished his career with the 1986 Boston Red Sox team that lost to the Mets in the World Series.

"Tom Seaver was one of the best and most inspirational pitchers to play the game," Reds Chief Executive Officer Bob Castellini said in a statement. "We are grateful that Tom's Hall of Fame career included time with the Reds. We are proud to count his name among the greats in the Reds Hall of Fame. He will be missed."

Supremely confident — and not necessarily modest about his extraordinary acumen on the mound — Seaver was a 12time All-Star who led the major leagues with a 25-7 record in 1969 and a 1.76 ERA in 1971. A classic power pitcher with a drop-and-drive delivery that often dirtied the right knee of his uniform pants, he won Cy Young Awards with New York in 1969, 1973 and 1975. The club retired his No. 41 in 1988, the first Mets player given the honor.

"From a team standpoint, winning the '69 world championship is something I'll remember most," Seaver said in 1992. "From an individual standpoint, my 300th win brought me the most joy."

Seaver limited his public appearances in recent years. He did not attend the Baseball Writers' Association of America dinner in 2019, where members of the 1969 Mets were honored on the 50th anniversary of what still ranks among baseball's most unexpected championships.

Five months later, as part of a celebration of that team, the Mets announced plans for a statue of Seaver outside Citi Field, and the ballpark's address was officially changed to 41 Seaver Way in a nod to his uniform number.

Seaver did not attend those ceremonies, either, but daughter Sarah Seaver did and said her parents were honored.

"This is so very appropriate because he made the New York Mets the team that it is," said Ron Swoboda, the right fielder whose sprawling catch helped Seaver pitch the Mets to a 10-inning win in Game 4 of the '69 Series against Baltimore. "He gave them credibility."

Seaver's death was announced, in fact, hours after the Mets beat the Orioles in an interleague game.

"Just a class act. Just a gentleman in the way he handled himself, and really the way he handled his whole career," said Miami manager Don Mattingly, a former New York Yankees captain. "We just left New York, and every time you walk in a door there, it's like Tom Seaver Hall, with different pictures."

When the Mets closed their previous home, Shea Stadium, on the final day of the 2008 regular season, Seaver put the finishing touches on the nostalgic ceremonies with a last pitch to Piazza, and the two walked off together waving goodbye to fans.

"He was a star. A shining star," Mets teammate Ed Kranepool said. "No one can replace Tom Seaver."

Rockets oust Oklahoma City from NBA Playoffs

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — James Harden made up for a miserable shooting night

Nets hire Hall of Famer Nash as new coach

semifinal series. Butler rattled in the first, hich was the only one that mattered, then made the second for the final margin. He got fouled by Giannis Antetokounmpo with about a tenth of a second left on a jump shot from the left corner. Referees sent Butler to the line, with no one else on the lane, as some Heat teammates knelt at midcourt. And just like that, the Heat became the first No. 5 seed in NBA history to take a 2-0 series lead over a No. 1 seed.

with a big blocked shot, Russell Westbrook scored 20 points against his former team and the Houston Rockets edged the Oklahoma City Thunder 104-102 on Wednesday night in Game 7 of their first-round series.

The Rockets pulled out a tense final game of the first round that lasted long past the final basket as replays and fouls were sorted out.

In the end, Houston prevailed to set up a second-round matchup with the Los Angeles Lakers that begins Friday despite Harden, the NBA's leading scorer, going 4 for 15 from the field.

The frantic final seconds of a game that was tight throughout had Houston take the lead for good at 103-102 when P.J. Tucker scored with 1:25 remaining. After changes of possession, the Thunder got the ball to Lu Dort, who attempted a 3-pointer that Harden blocked with 4.8 seconds left.

Robert Covington made a free throw with 1.4 seconds to go and Harden was whistled for fouling Danilo Gallinari before the ball was inbounded, giving the Thun-

The Brooklyn Nets hired Steve Nash as their coach Thursday, putting the Hall of Fame point guard in charge of the team that hopes to have Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving together next season.

Nash, two-time MVP as the engineer of the high-scoring Phoenix Suns teams under Mike D'Antoni, had been a player development consultant with Golden State, where he worked with Durant.

"Coaching is something I knew I wanted to pursue when the time was right, and I am humbled to be able to work with the outstanding group of players and staff we have here in Brooklyn," Nash said in a statement.

The Nets finished the season under Jacque Vaughn, who they

der one free throw and the ball. But Gallinari missed the free throw and the Thunder turned it over on the last inbounds pass.

Covington had 21 points and 10 rebounds, and Eric Gordon also scored 21 points for the

said would remain on staff as Nash's lead assistant.

The Nets reached the postseason despite having Irving for only 20 games and Durant for none, but the two stars who came to Brooklyn together last summer are expected to be ready for the 2020-21 season.

That made the Nets vacancy an attractive position, and general manager Sean Marks said he met with a number of highly accomplished candidates. There was even speculation the Nets would try to entice Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, for whom Marks played and then worked under in San Antonio.

Instead, Marks turned to one of his former teammates.

"In Steve we see a leader, communicator and mentor who

Rockets. Harden finished with 17 points and nine assists.

Dort scored a career-best 30 points for the Thunder and Chris Paul, swapped for Westbrook over the summer, had 19 points, 12 assists and 11 rebounds.

will garner the respect of our players," Marks said. "I have had the privilege to know Steve for many years. One of the great oncourt leaders in our game, I have witnessed firsthand his basketball acumen and selfless approach to prioritize team success.'

Vaughn finished up the season after the Nets surprisingly parted ways with Kenny Atkinson on March 7. He led Brooklyn to the No. 7 in the Eastern Conference despite coming to the restarted season in Disney without many of his top players and Marks had indicated he would be a candidate to keep the job.

Instead, he goes back to his former position as a Nets assistant.

The Associated Press

HEAT 116, BUCKS 114: Jimmy Butler made two free throws with no time remaining and Miami wasted a six-point lead in the final seconds yet found a way to beat Milwaukee for a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference

Goran Dragic scored 23 points, Tyler Herro added 17 off the bench and Jae Crowder had 16 for Miami.

Bam Adebavo scored 15 points, Butler and Duncan Robinson each had 13 and Kelly Olynyk added 11 for Miami which is 6-0 in this postseason.

Antetokounmpo had 29 points and 14 rebounds for the Bucks, who were down by six with 27 seconds left and tied it. Khris Middleton scored 23 points for Milwaukee, the last three of those coming when Dragic was called for fouling him with 4.3 seconds left.

Game 3 is Friday.

Alaphilippe stripped of yellow jersey at Tour de France

PRIVAS, France (AP) — Julian Alaphilippe's ride in the yellow jersey is over, and his rivals had nothing to do with it.

The Tour de France leader was stripped of the coveted shirt on Wednesday after being handed a time penalty for illegally receiving provisions near the end of Stage 5, which had been largely uneventful until then.

British rider Adam Yates was moved up to first place in the revised general standings after Alaphilippe was docked 20 seconds.

"I don't think any rider would want to take the jersey like this," Yates said. "I just found out. Nobody wants to take a jersey like this."

Only minutes after versatile Belgian rider Wout van Aert won the stage in a sprint finish, TV footage showed Alaphilippe

grabbing a bottle from a staff member of his Deceuninck-Quick Step squad about 18 kilometers (11 miles) from the finish.

Under racing rules, riders are not allowed to receive provisions — either drinks or food during the final 20 kilometers (12.5 miles) of a stage. Deceuninck-Quick Step did not immediately explain why the staff member was posted inside that zone and why he handed out the bottle to the French rider.

Cycling's governing body, the UCI, said in a statement that two other riders, Sepp Kuss and Carlos Verona, were also penalized 20 seconds for the same offense.

"The absence of feeding in the last 20 kilometres is a rule that the teams are familiar with and that prevents that the feeding doesn't disturb the race at the

entrance of the last kilometres," the UCI said.

Alaphilippe's teammate Dries Devenyns said the jury's decision was harsh.

"There is no time gain in taking a bottle from the side of the road," he wrote on Twitter.

Yates now tops the standings with a three-second lead over Primoz Roglic. Tadej Pogacar, another Slovenian rider, stands third, four seconds further back. Alaphilippe dropped to 16th overall, 16 seconds behind the new leader.

Alaphilippe waived to the crowd as he left the finish area without the race leader's jersey he had worn for the last three stages.

"It was a very long and very boring stage, with a very nervous finale. I had to stay concentrated to defend the jersey," said the

Frenchman, who is not seen as a contender for the overall victory. "But if that's how it is, then no worries, tomorrow I'll pick myself up and we won't talk about it anymore."

The jury's decision overshadowed Van Aert's second career stage win at cycling's marquee event, a day after he produced a tremendous effort in the Alps in support of Roglic, his Jumbo Visma team leader.

Van Aert used his power in the slight uphill finish to win by half a wheel ahead of Cees Bol and Sam Bennett.

"It was a heavy finish. It was maybe the most easy stage I ever did in a cycling race because there was no breakaway, not a high pace at all, but then the last hour was really hectic with the wind," Van Aert said.

The Belgian abandoned the

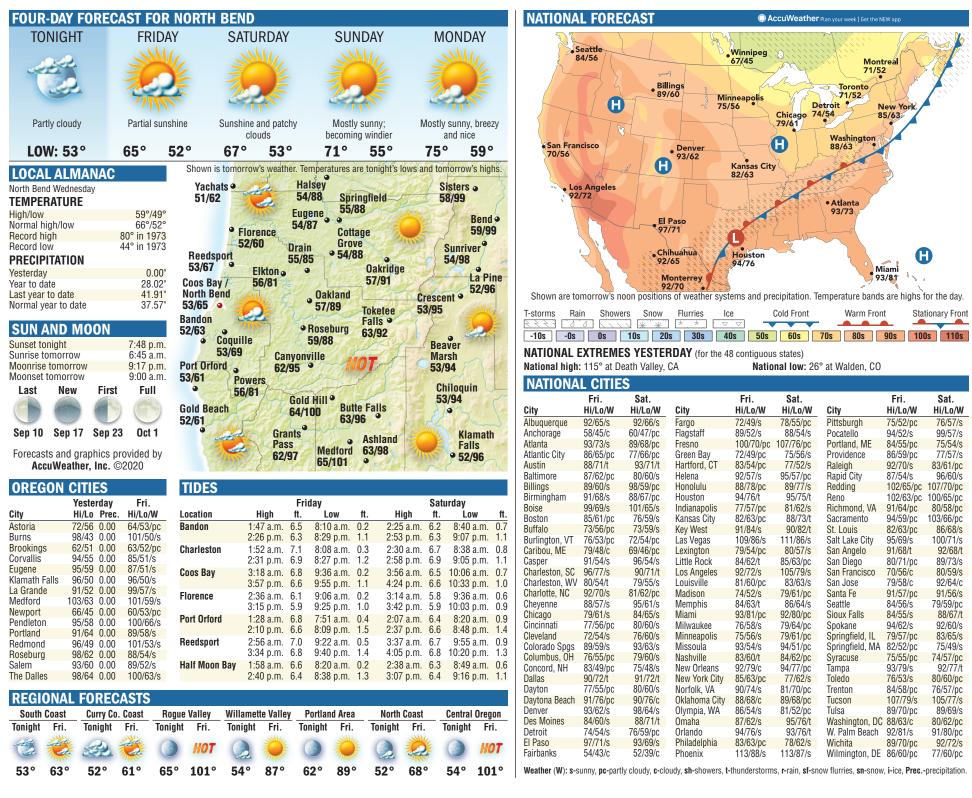
Tour last year with a serious leg injury that kept him sidelined for several months. But the three-time cyclocross world champion has been in superb form since the cycling season resumed last month, posting victories at the Strade Bianche, Milan-San Remo, as well as a stage win at the Criterium du Dauphine.

A humble rider regarded as a future great, Van Aert will now return to his "domestique" role, as a support rider for Roglic and other teammates.

"With a lot of happiness," he said.

Sandwiched between the race's first summit finish in the Alps and Thursday's tough climb up Mont Aigoual, the 183-kilometer stage through the Drome Provencale region gave the peloton a chance to relax a bit.

<u>EEdition</u>



Top women's seed Pliskova ousted from U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — Under normal circumstances, Karolina Pliskova would not have been seeded No. 1 at the U.S. Open and so, while a second-round loss certainly would have been disappointing to her, and noticed by others, it wouldn't have been as newsworthy.

But what's normal in 2020? With the women who are 1-2 in the rankings choosing to skip the trip to Flushing Meadows because of the pandemic, No. 3 Pliskova ascended to the top spot in the draw "I didn't play good," Pliksova said, "so that's it."

When another member of the media said this back-and-forth must be boring to Pliskova, she said, "Yeah, a little bit. Did you see the match or no?" and soon after remarked, "I don't know if you understand tennis well enough."

After a first round that went more to form than ever -- 29 of 32 seeded women won their opening matches, a U.S. Open record since the number of seeds was doubled from 16 in 2001 -- the surprises started in the second round. Three Americans turned in upsets of seeded women. Shelby Rogers, ranked 93rd, beat 11th-seeded Elena Rybakina 7-5, 6-1; Ann Li, who is ranked 128th, topped 13th-seeded Alison Riske 6-0, 6-3 in a matchup between two players from Pennsylvania; and Madison Brengle, ranked 84th, took out 19th-seeded Dayana Yastremska 6-2, 6-3. Other seeded women who were eliminated: No. 12 Marketa Vondrousova, No. 30 Kristina Mladenovic, No. 31 Anastasija Sevastova. Mladenovic's loss was the wildest of them all. She led 6-1, 5-1, then later held four match

points, but never was able to finish things off and ended up on the wrong end of a 1-6, 7-6 (2), 6-0 result against 102nd-ranked Varvara Gracheva.

Two seeded men exited, too: No. 13 Cristian Garin and No. 24 Hubert Hurkacz.

Pliskova had chances to take the second set against Garcia, who had been 0-8 against topfive opponents at Grand Slam tournaments.

Garcia trailed 5-4 in that set while serving at 15-40. Two break points that also were set points. old Garcia only once reached a Grand Slam quarterfinal and never has been past the U.S. Open's third round. To do so this time, she'll need to beat 28th-seeded American Jennifer Brady.

As a teen, Garcia built, albeit lost, a big lead against Maria Sharapova at the 2011 French Open, inspiring Andy Murray to write on Twitter that the Frenchwoman "is going to be No. 1 in the world one day."

Never happened, although she did get as high as No. 4. Pliskova, meanwhile, did get to No. 1 briefly. last season, his winning streak is 28 matches overall.

"I'm actually glad I did drop a set and got tested the way I did today against Kyle. I expected it to be a tough, tough task," said Djokovic, who has won five of the past seven Grand Slam tournaments to raise his major trophy total to 17, three behind Roger Federer and two behind Rafael Nadal.

"I'm really glad having an early kind of tough match in the tournament," Djokovic said, because it kind of serves me better, I think, for the rest of the tournament." Next up for him is No. 28 Jan-Lennard Struff, someone Djokovic dismissed 6-3, 6-1 last week at the Western & Southern Open.

-- and by Day 3, she was gone.

Pliskova, the 2016 runner-up at the U.S. Open, made her mood clear during a 6-1, 7-6 (2) loss to 50th-ranked Caroline Garcia on Wednesday by throwing a racket, then again afterward with a series of clipped responses at her news conference.

Pliskova fidgeted with the microphone. Sighed. Shrugged her shoulders. Rolled her eyes.

When a reporter offered possible explanations for the defeat -- a new, faster surface on the courts, a lack of atmosphere because there are no spectators, the pressure of her high seeding -- Pliskova replied: "Nothing from what you said."

Her reasoning for the result?

On the first, Pliskova got a look at an 89 mph second serve, but she pushed a forehand return wide. On the second, Garcia smacked a quick-strike forehand to a corner and Pliskova's running reply found the net.

Garcia grabbed the next two points with a service winner followed by a gutsy second-serve ace to take that game and then was superior in the tiebreaker.

"I knew she was going to come back and not give me the match. When she came back very well," Garcia said, "I stayed calm and that was important."

Although much has been expected of her, the 26-year-

Couldn't really come up with how to describe why Wednesday's loss happened, but this statistic was telling: Garcia produced 30 winners, more than twice as many as Pliskova.

And another: Pliskova has led the WTA in aces four of the past five years, but she hit only three, the same number as Garcia.

"That's how it is, sometimes," Pliskova said. "I am not a robot, so I don't have to play every day amazing."

Unlike Pliskova, the No. 1-seeded man, Novak Djokovic, only had a brief blip on his way to the third round and a 25-0 record in 2020. Going back to late Other winners Wednesday included No. 4 Stefanos Tsitsipas, No. 5 Alexander Zverev and No. 7 Davis Goffin.

Tsitsipas made it to the U.S. Open's third round for the first time by withstanding the so-rarethese-days serve-and-volley style of his 168th-ranked American opponent, Maxime Cressy 7-6 (2), 6-3, 6-4 after two-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka's 6-1, 6-2 win against Camila Giorgi.

Timbers lose to Galaxy at home

PORTLAND (AP) — Cristian Pavon scored his fifth goal of the season and the LA Galaxy defeated the Portland Timbers 3-2 on Wednesday night.

Efrain Alvarez and Joe Corona also scored for the Galaxy, who have won three straight.

Portland's Diego Valeri scored in stoppage time, becoming only the third player in MLS history to reach 80 career goals and 80 assists.

The Galaxy were knocked out of this summer's MLS is Back tournament in the group stage, but beat both LAFC and San Jose after the league returned to play in local markets.

After winning the MLS is Back tournament title, the Timbers lost to rival Seattle then played to a 4-4 draw to Real Salt Lake last weekend.

Because of the condensed schedule, the Timbers had their regular starters on the bench. That paved the way for goalkeeper Jeff Attinella to make his first start since shoulder surgery last year.

The Galaxy went ahead in the 15th minute when 18-year-old Alvarez scored his first MLS goal in his first start of the season. Pavon added his goal in the 50th.

Felipe Mora closed the gap for the Timbers with a goal in the 67th minute, but Corona answered for the Galaxy less than five minute later.

Jeremy Ebobisse appeared to score for Portland on a header in the 80th minute, but it was flagged as offside and video review did not overturn the close call.

Valeri scored his 80th career goal as Portland scrambled to overcome the deficit. Valeri also has 83 assists. The only two other MLS players to reach the 80-80 mark are Landon Donovan and Jaime Moreno.

The Timbers won the last meeting between the teams 2-1 at the MLS is Back tournament.

The Galaxy were still without Javier Hernandez, better known as Chicharito, who has been out since mid-July because of a calf injury. Coach Guillermo Barros Schelotto said this week he believes Chicharito will return soon.

No fan Triple Crown series: Preakness to be spectator free

BALTIMORE (AP)

— The Preakness Stakes will be run at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore Oct. 3 without fans, making it a spectator-free sweep of the three Triple Crown races this year because of the global pandemic.

The Maryland Jockey Club and Stronach Group that owns and manages Pimlico made the announcement Wednesday that fans wouldn't be allowed in for the Preakness that was rescheduled from its original May 16 date.

Stronach Group chairman and president Belinda Stronach said the company and Maryland racing had been working with state and local health officials to set a plan for the Preakness. Ultimately, the move was made to limit race day to essential personnel only.

"While we had hoped to be able to welcome fans as we have for the past 145 years, the health and safety of our guests, horsemen, riders, team members and the community at large is, and will always be, our top priority," Stronach said in a statement.

The Preakness follows the lead of the Belmont Stakes and Kentucky Derby in not allowing fans to attend. With the races being run out of order, the Belmont took place June 20 in New York without fans, and while Churchill Downs originally moved the Kentucky Derby to Sept. 5 hoping fans could attend, it adjusted to limited attendance and then finally to none.

After winning the Belmont, Tiz the Law is a heavy favorite in the Derby this Saturday. If he wins, he'd be going for the Triple Crown at the Preakness, which is the third of the three American classic races for the first time.

Fans who already bought tickets to the Preakness can transfer them to the 2021 Preakness or get a full refund.

NORTHWEST STOCKS

Closing and 8:30 a.m. quotes:			NW Natural	50.53	50.49
Stock	Close	Open	Skywest	34.47	33.98
Intel	52.25	51.22	Starbucks	88.35	86.58
Kroger	36.60	36.25	Umpqua Hldgs	11.70	11.72
Microsoft	231.39	219.70	Weyerhaeuser	30.76	29.80
Nike	116.82	113.47	Xerox18.73	18.58	

Levi Straus 12.75 12.47 Dow Jones closed at 29,094.78 NASDAQ closed at 12,053.09 S&P 500 closed at 3,580.34

Provided by Coos Bay Edward Jones

LOTTERY

MegaMillions Sept. 1 15-25-26-38-47 Megaball: 22 Multiplier: x4 Jackpot: \$88 million

Sept. 2 1-4-11-20-69 Powerball: 18 Multiplier: x2 Jackpot: \$66 million

Powerball

Megabucks Sept. 2 4-9-22-30-40-48 Jackpot: \$1.4 Millior Win For Life Sept. 2 15-29-44-67