Just beachy

Fort Frederik Beach on St. Croix enjoys a bit of solitude on a recent day. Gov. Albert Bryan Jr. lifted the moratorium on tourists beginning this week, but the crowds are expected to remain sparse until the cruise industry lifts its no-sail order, expected later this summer.
V.I. Police still using excessive force, according to monitors

By SUZANNE CARLSON
Daily News Staff

In response to worldwide protests over police brutality following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Gov. Albert Bryan Jr. said Monday that “we have had our issues locally with police, and we have undergone significant training and education to ensure they don’t go off the rails.”

But while improvements have been made, the latest report by an independent monitoring team filed on May 20 shows that members of the Virgin Islands Police Department continue to use excessive force — and supervisors are still failing to ensure officers are disciplined and retrained when misconduct occurs.

VI. Police have a long history of excessive force complaints, and the department remains under a federal consent decree as a result of serious civil rights violations.

The independent monitoring team of court-appointed law enforcement experts reviewed 10 use of force incidents that occurred in the previous quarter, and found that only five complied with the decree.

“50% of the force” used by police officers during the incidents was excessive, according to the report.

“Substantial compliance does not require perfection. It does require demonstration of the capacity to recognize performance weaknesses and utilize critical thinking to fix the issues as opposed to continuing to repeat mistakes time and again.”

VI. Police Department is still struggling to fulfill the terms of a federal consent decree meant to reform the department’s use of force.

Despite years under the scrutiny of independent monitors, the VI. Police Department is still struggling to fulfill the terms of a federal consent decree meant to reform the department’s use of force.

Why the off-duty supervisor was in the police station, according to the monitors.

When a supervisor was finally assigned to investigate the matter, the incident occurred during the incident. The supervisor failed to provide a full and accurate description of the incident, according to the report.

“More importantly, the incident was dismissed and no disciplinary action was taken against the off-duty supervisor after a week deadline in the disciplinary process was missed.”

The incident consisted of a “total system failure” of accountability by the VIPD. This included the knowledge and involvement of several sergeants, lieutenants, Internal Affairs Bureau personnel, and district police chief.

“Someone in this unit should have taken the lead and ensured the VIPD’s Policies and Consent Decree Paragraphs were properly met and completed,” the monitors concluded.

While police achieved substantial compliance with the decree in December 2018, the department has failed to maintain that compliance over the last year.

— Contact Suzanne Carlson at 340-714-9122 or email scarlson@dailynews.vi

Man kills self in altercation with security guard

Daily News Staff

A St. Croix man is dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot to the head in an incident Tuesday afternoon at an Estate Plassen business.

According to police, 30-year-old Kacheem Thomas of Canebrake Apartments in Frederiksted got into an altercation with a security guard at the boathouse shortly after 4 p.m.

During the altercation, Thomas disarmed the security guard and turned the firearm on himself, according to police spokesman Toby Derima. Thomas was unresponsive when officers reached the scene and he was transported to St. Croix Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

The investigation into the incident is ongoing, Derima said.

Setting the Record Straight

In the June 2 edition of The Daily News, the relationship between the VI Water and Power Authority and the fuel vessels offshore was misstated. VITOL leases the vessels as part of its fuel supply contract with WAPA.

In the June 1 edition of The Daily News, Naeka Howard-Shill was misidentified. She is an assistant principal at Charlotte Amalie High School.
Lawmakers support proposed St. Thomas water park

By A.J. RAO
Daily News Staff

The territory’s first floating water park is poised to become a reality after lawmakers rallied behind a proposal last week to develop the “Splash Zone Aqua Park” at Lindbergh Bay Beach on St. Thomas.

The inflatable water park, the brainchild of the Olive family and CTC Charters LLC, aims to create a family friendly experience for both locals and tourists, while stimulating economic development and commerce in the surrounding area.

On Friday, CTC Charters owner Thorne Olive and his Director of Communications and Marketing, Tara Olive, appeared before a Committee of the Whole hearing, where they testified in support of a minor coastal zone management permit for the park.

The permit would greenlight the installation of eight attachment moorings for the 7,000-square foot park, with a shallow water mooring and an ingress and egress channel accommodating jet skis.

The park itself would be surrounded by yellow rectangular barriers and consist of 28 pieces, from trampoline, sliding ramps and ladders to frog jumps, a spin door and a high balance among others.

A swimming area is also designated for the perimeter.

The park is expected to generate 15 full-time jobs; operate daily; and have proposed entry pricing of $25-$40 for locals and $45-$60 for visitors.

As for the aquatic environment, Tara Olive said the park will have minimal impact, as it will be “limited to a relatively small sandy near-shore area” that will be monitored by lifeguards who will resolve and report any environmental hazards.

“There are no nets to the water park and minimal components are associated with it, so the entanglement of sea turtles and any marine organisms would not be expected,” she said. “Lindbergh Bay is currently utilized by many people, vessels, hotels, restaurants and watersports businesses that are already in operating status. A significant change in the aquatic environment would not be expected.”

Olive added that CTC Charters intends to preserve the shorelines by conducting daily cleaning operations of any trash or debris that could harm the shore or aquatic environment.

Senators lauded the proposal as an example of local young entrepreneurs being creative to bolster the economy.

“This is pretty much what the Virgin Islands is looking for,” said Sen. Athneil Thomas. “They want local businesses by Virgin Islanders. I am hoping this is the first of many.”

Sen. Janelle Sarauw called the park a “good venture” for Lindbergh Bay.

“Our tourists are looking for an experience and not just to spend money on Main Street all day,” she said. “It’s also nice to have a discussion about something that is sustainable and environmentally-friendly.”

Some senators inquired about the park’s safety considerations.

Olive said six lifeguards will be on duty, each certified to perform first aid and CPR. An automated defibrillator will also be on hand.

Marlon Hibbert, director for the Department of Planning and Natural Resources’ Division of Coastal Zone Management, added that the park will be surrounded by barriers and that the channels for jet skis will be to the west of the park and not disturb swimmers.

Hibbert said an annual rental fee of $6,743 payable in advance has been negotiated with CTC Charters for occupancy of the submerged lands.

“The commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources has deemed that the permit [...] meets the goals and policies of the V.I. Code,” he said.

Lawmakers are expected to vote on the permit at a later legislative session. A date has not been announced.

Daily News Staff

University of the Virgin Islands professor Dr. Marilyn Brandt will give a free online lecture tonight alongside renowned oceanographer, research scientist, and National Geographic explorer-in-residence, Dr. Sylvia Earle.

Marine microbial ecologist Dr. Amy Apprill is the third panelist on the virtual webinar titled “Coral in Crisis: How scientists are racing to stop a deadly disease,” hosted by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts.

Brandt is a research associate professor of marine and environmental science at UVI who has been working on the frontline of the urgent fight to stop the spread of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease, or SCTLD, which has affected the U.S. Virgin Islands, and was recently confirmed in the British Virgin Islands.

The invasive coral disease has been killing corals around Florida and the Caribbean at an unprecedented rate, and the webinar will address ways in which scientists are working to stop the disease.

The webinar is scheduled for tonight from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., and will be broadcast live on the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution’s YouTube Channel, at youtube.com/user/WoodsHoleOceaninst.

— Contact Suzanne Carlson at 340-714-9122 or email scarlson@dailynews.vi.
Elections Board takes action on ballot deadlines

By A.J. RAO
Daily News Staff

The V.I. Elections Board on Tuesday agreed to extend the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot in the upcoming primary election.

Originally, voters both off-island and on-island had until July 21 to request an absentee ballot for the Aug. 1 primary.

Now, off-island voters have until July 24 and on-island voters have until July 31, a day before the election.

V.I. Supervisor of Elections Caroline Fawkes, who recommended the extension, said more people are likely to vote absentee in this election due to the recent passage of Bill 33-0296, a measure that opens absentee voting to any eligible voter — no reason required.

The bill aims to accommodate voters who wish to avoid in-person voting due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fawkes said the extension also gives elections officials more time to coordinate with the Post Office in sending out ballots to off-island voters.

A motion for the extensions had no objections by the board and passed without a vote.

Other business
The board also took action on voter registration protocol.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus and the closure of the Elections office, board members have argued over the correct method of registering voters at off-site locations.

Some members argued that any person or group of people wanting to register should be able to contact a board member at any time.

That board member will then coordinate with another member — two members are required to conduct a registration — and arrange a time and place.

Other members like Frederick Espinosa argued that this method could lead to “chaos” since it allows for last-minute requests and the potential for other board members being caught unaware of a registration event.

“If two people promise to go to an event and one gets a flat tire and we have to find a third person to show up at the last minute, there should be enough forewarning that we know that there was an event going on at that location, so that we can have the flexibility to make sure the event goes forward,” Espinosa said.

The board voted 6-5 in favor of a motion to require a five-day notification in advance of any registration.

Voting in favor were Espinosa; Lisa Harris-Moorehead; Ephraim Joseph; Harriet Mercier; Alecia Wells; and Chairman Raymond Williams.

Voting against were Maurice Donovan; Lydia Hendricks; Barbara Jackson-McIntosh; Shikima Jones; and Atanya Springette.

The board agreed to discuss early voting dates, polling sites, and matters involving the Republican Party at a special board meeting Friday at 1 p.m.

Contact A.J. Rao at 340-714-9104 or email ajrao@dailynews.vi.

Judge issues order in fight over Republican leadership

By SUZANNE CARLSON
Daily News Staff

The battle over leadership of the Virgin Islands Republican party will continue Friday at the Elections Board, after V.I. Superior Court Judge Kathleen Mackay lifted a temporary restraining order blocking the party from cancelling its Aug. 1 primary.

Plaintiffs in the case say current V.I. GOP Chairman John Canegata and party secretary Robert Schanfarber “only decided to cancel the primary after they failed to collect enough valid petition signatures to qualify for the primary ballot.”

Canegata declared victory Tuesday against adversary John Yob, who is not a plaintiff on the lawsuit against Canegata and Schanfarber, but is running against Schanfarber for the position of National Committeeman.

Canegata’s statement recalled Yob’s history in Michigan Republican politics and his move to the Virgin Islands, where the two men faced off for control of the territory’s six delegates to the Republican National Convention during the last presidential election cycle.

Yob’s slate of delegates ultimately won.

Mackay lifted the order Tuesday after spending two full days hearing evidence and testimony from both parties, punctuated by frequent objections from attorneys Michael Sheesley, who represent plaintiffs Gordon Ackley, Antoinette Gumbs-Hecht and Todd Hecht, and defendants’ attorneys Yohana Manning and Akeel St. Jean.

Ackley, Gumbs-Hecht and Yob are the only Republicans to have filed nomination petitions for party offices with the V.I. Elections System, and the plaintiffs have argued that the uncontested candidates should be automatically elected to the seats of chairman, national committeewoman and national committeeman, in accordance with V.I. law.

But Canegata and Schanfarber said they submitted plans for a caucus vote that negates the need for the primary party on Aug. 1, and argued that the plaintiffs can participate and run for offices through that process.

Mackay said in the order Tuesday “that nothing herein constrains the Supervisor of Elections and/or the V.I. Board of Elections from considering the plan” submitted for a caucus, and “a trial on the merits will be scheduled at a later date.”

On Tuesday, the plaintiffs filed a complaint with the V.I. Elections System demanding “a full administrative hearing before the Board of Elections” on Canegata and Schanfarber’s plan to cancel 2020 Virgin Islands Republican primary election.

The board indicated it will take up the matter during a meeting at 1 p.m. Friday. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting via videoconference should contact the Elections System at 340-773-1021.

Any action by the Elections Board might not be the final chapter in this case.

The leadership fight will ultimately be decided by the Republican National Committee between now and the party’s convention in August, plaintiffs Ackley, Antoinette Gumbs-Hecht and Todd Hecht said in a joint statement.
Authorities arrest four men in two recent St. Croix murders

By SUZANNE CARLSON
Daily News Staff

The Police Department announced Tuesday that it has arrested four men in connection with two recent murders on St. Croix.

St. Croix Police Chief Sidney Elskoe said in a press conference that police executed search warrants Friday in connection with the homicides of Gyasi Chiverton and Selena Chitole.

“This is a major victory in the Virgin Islands Police Department’s war on crime,” Elskoe said.

Chiverton, 22, was shot to death near Thomas Bakery in Castle Coakley on Jan. 18. Chitole, 19, and her mother, who survived, were both shot in the neck while driving near Evelyn Williams Elementary School on May 15, according to court records.

Police have previously announced three suspects in the case — Jiovani Smith, 20, of Mount Pleasant; Caliah Brewley, 19, of Marley Homes; and a 17-year-old minor who was detained in connection with the shooting that occurred on May 15, according to Police Department spokesman Toby Derima.

At around 5:50 a.m. Friday morning, officers arrested Jareem Tutein, 23, of La Grande Princesse, and charged him with possession of an unlicensed firearm after police said they found a loaded gun and ammunition in a home, according to Derima.

Oshanie Cornelius, 22, of Castle Coakley, was charged with possession of an unlicensed firearm.

Police said Cornelius was found with a loaded firearm while officers were executing a search warrant.

At around 8:36 a.m. Friday, police arrested Michael Cruz, 21, of Sion Farm, and charged him with possession of an unlicensed firearm.

Cruz was found in possession of two firearms, two loaded magazines and additional ammunition, according to police.

Eastlyn Henrietta Frett-Wells

Eastlyn Henrietta Frett-Wells, daughter of the late Veronica Wilson Frett and Ashley Hamilton Frett Sr., was born Aug. 15, 1953, in St. Thomas, VI. She departed this life May 13, 2020, in New York.

She graduated from Charlotte Amalie High School in 1971. In 1975, she relocated to New York to pursue her career interest. She graduated from the Eugenia Maria de Hostos Community College, where she received her degree in dental hygiene. Upon graduation, she began her career as a dental hygienist. She was a shining example of excellence in the dental hygiene department. Her excellent work ethic and her professional demeanor were acknowledged by her peers and superiors. She enjoyed a successful career that spanned well over 30 years.

Eastlyn possessed a charismatic, enthusiastic, and adventurous personality. She had a smile and laughter that were irresistible. She was always the life of family gatherings, and she enjoyed traveling. She also enjoyed the role of motherhood. She dedicated her life to the well-being of her children, who were the pride and joy of her life.

She was a member of the New Hermann Moravian Church, in St. Thomas, VI., and St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in the Bronx, N.Y.

Eastlyn has left a legacy that reflects diligence and dedication. Preceding her in death were her husband, Raphael Samuel Wells Sr.; two brothers, Avery “TD” Frett and Ashley “Johnny Black” Frett Jr.; and her niece, Ashala Frett.

She leaves to cherish her memory, two children, Reion and Raphael Jr.; her aunt, Everette Trant; her two brothers, Ansley “FuFu” Frett and Ashton “Minus” Frett Sr.; her sister-in-law, Eve “Pinkie” Smith-Frett; nieces, April, Avril, Akeema, Ashana and Ashara Frett; nephews, Ashley III., Ashton, Ashield, Avery, Akeem, Ajonni, A’kim, Avante and Ahmad Frett; special friends, Era Florene, Rabsatt-Montague, Flora Greenway, Dorothy Howze-Michael, Daphne Howe, Edith Fa-hie, Elizabeth Gooden and Foustan Greenway, all in New York; special cousins, Jacqueline Heyliger, Monique Martin, Rochelle Trant, Wayne “Spokey” Heyliger and Jens Hodge Jr.; and other relatives and friends too numerous to mention, including the Gumbs, Estrill, Mulraine, Blackman, Hermon, Frett, Wilson and Carty families.

Services are on Friday, June 5, 2020, with viewing at 11 a.m. at the McCall’s Bronwood Funeral Home, 4053 Bronwood Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. Internment is at Kensico Cemetery in Valhalla, N.Y.

In Loving Memory Of
Lorraine McFarren Joseph

Dec. 25, 1954 to June 03, 2015

I feel a warmth around me, like your presence is so near. And I close my eyes to visualize your face when you were here. I endure the times are spent together, and they are locked inside my heart. As long as I have those memories we will never be apart. Even though we cannot speak anymore, my voice is always there, because every night before I sleep, I have you in my prayer.

Louise Bailey

Your husband
Eddy Joseph

May you rest in eternal peace my love.
Obituaries

Cartwright Odlum

We regret to announce the passing of Mr. Cartwright Odlum, better known as Ben or Ben Cartwright, who passed away quietly May 22, 2020, at his residence at the age of 74.

He was born on June 1, 1945, on the island of Antigua, and he later migrated to St. Thomas where he worked for numerous years in the hotel industry.

Mr. Odlum took great pride working at hotels such as Virgin Islands Hilton Hotel, Sugar Bird (Water Island), Carib Beach, Virgin Islands Hotel, Bolongo Bay, Lime Tree, Elysian, and lastly, at Windward Passage Hotel.

He was preceded in death by brothers, Donald Tonge and Rexford DeSilva.

His pleasant and loving personality endeared him to many. He is survived by his wife, Janet Odlum; sisters, Tulip Richards and Ulinise George; brothers, Collin Baptiste and Cothbert Odlum; adopted brother, Montgomery Jones; sons, Carlton Odlum and Dayne Tonge; daughter, Desi Odlum-Xavier; grandchildren, Dean Matthew, Calvin Matthew, Mahalia Matthew, Ajani George, D'Shaw and D'Vonte Xavier, nephews, Dean Tonge, Louis Tonge and Cleon Liburd; nieces, Elcia Anthony, Kimma Anthony-DeSilva, Sheredeth and Sharnal Baptiste, Carol-Jean, Sharon, Linda Tonge and Sonia Tonge-Paul; sisters-in-law, Mildeline Tonge and Judith Baptiste; brother-in-law, Leon George; and son-in-law, Rogation Xavier.

The first viewing is from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, June 12, 2020, at Turnbull’s Funeral Home. The second viewing is from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday, June 13, at Nisky Moravian Church with the service at 10 a.m. Interment is at Eastern Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements are by Turnbull’s Funeral Home and Crematory Services.
Obituaries

Lucille Perez Solomon

We regret to announce the passing of Lucille Perez Solomon, better known as Ms. Virgin Islands American Classic, who passed away quietly and peacefully at her residence on May 24, 2020, at the age of 80.

Born in Trinidad on Aug. 28, 1939, she later migrated to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, where she resided for more than 57 years.

In 2001-2002 she captured the Ms. USVI American Classic title and was second runner up in the international pageant. She wore the crowns with pride and dignity.

She performed her limbo shows at various hotels such as Carib Beach, Pineapple Beach and VI. Hilton for many years. She worked at The Hole In

COVID-19 statistics

By the numbers

As reported by Johns Hopkins University.

World
Total cases: 6,372,447
Total deaths: 379,709

United States
Total cases: 1,831,435
Total deaths: 106,180

Virgin Islands
V.I. cases reported by V.I. Health Department.
V.I. cases as reported by VI Ministry of Health.
Total USVI cases: 70
Total deaths: 6
St. Croix cases: 30 confirmed cases, 1,162 negative tests, 4 deaths
St. John cases: 2 confirmed cases, 42 negative tests
St. Thomas cases: 38 confirmed cases, 732 negative tests, 2 deaths

Water Island cases: 0 reported
Recovered: 62
British Virgin Islands cases:
8 reported, 1 death

When severe weather strikes, WAPA’s power plants and electric grids may be adversely affected leaving electric and water service interrupted.

After a storm hits, restoring electrical service safely and as quickly as possible is our number one priority, that’s why WAPA never stops preparing. WAPA has the best resources in place so we can be ready to respond in good weather and bad. Storm season is here, we are preparing, and we encourage you to do the same. See how you can prepare for hurricane season,

The latest information can be accessed at:

WAPA's website
www.viwapa.vi
WAPA's telephone
340-773-2260 - STT
340-773-2265 - STX
WAPA ALERTS
sign up today at www.viwapa.vi

Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority
WAPA WORKING FOR YOU
Dean Jerome Vanterpool Sr.

We regret to announce the death of Dean Jerome Vanterpool Sr., who passed away March 23, 2020, in Tampa, Fla., at the age of 69. He was born May 19, 1950, in St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents, Agatha Callwood-Vanterpool and Carl Evert Vanterpool; his siblings, Harold, Tony, Walter Vanterpool, Leonel, Terry and Sherry Lanz; and other relatives too numerous to mention.

Dean is survived by his wife, Paulina Vanterpool, residing in Tampa; son, Dean “Deano” Vanterpool, Jr.; daughters, Deserie Sever Vanterpool and Jasmine Vanterpool; grandson, Ajani Sewer Richardson; grandchildren, Jahmaal, Jahnil and Jahmil Mohammad; great-granddaughter, Jahnice Mohammad; sisters, Eleanor Mitchell, Judith Vanterpool Greene-Smith and Stephanie Vanterpool; brothers, Leo, Earl, and Claude Vanterpool; uncles, Edward Callwood and James Callwood; nieces, Daisy Graham, Geraldine, and Eunice Callwood; brother-in-law, Liston Lans; sisters-in-law, Marjorie “Susie” Lene, Mary, and Sylvia Vanterpool; close friends, Wilbert “Gomie” Gomez, Wilbert Smith, Reynold “Detective” Fraser and Julian “Bulbby” Foey; and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Kevin Phillips

Friends and relatives are advised of the passing of Kevin Phillips, also known as Kermo, on April 16, 2020.

Kevin was born to Earle Orlando Phillips and Alvara Brathwaite Phillips in 1963. He grew up in Mahogany Estate and Smith Bay and attended the Evelyn Marcelli Elementary School and Addelita Camerin Junior High School. Kevin lived on St. Thomas until 2017. After suffering a series of debilitating strokes in 2017, Kevin was moved to New York, N.Y., where he resided in the Susan McKinney Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and was cared for by his sister, Jackie.

Kevin was preceded in death by his father, Earle Orlando Phillips Sr.


Kevin is also survived by the Romney, Brathwaite, Phillips, and Harrigan families and other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Cremation arrangements for Kevin Phillips are under the care of Strawford Home for Funerals and Cremations in St. Thomas, N.Y.

George Greenaway

Family and friends are advised of the passing of George Greenaway, better known as “Father Keeth,” who died May 14, 2020, at Schneider Hospital.

The viewing will be from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, June 5, 2020, at Turnbull’s Funeral Home, with the service at 1 p.m. Interment is at Eastern Cemetery.


The family requests that attendees wear yellow or gold in his memory.

Conrad C.E. Ambrose

Relatives and friends of Conrad C.E. Ambrose, affectionately known as “Connie,” are advised of his passing Monday, May 11, 2020, at his residence at the age of 62.

Conrad C. Ambrose is survived by his children, Patrice Ambrose-Jones, Kadeem J. Ambrose, Aaliyah K. Ambrose, Calida A.C. Ambrose, and Matthew Ambrose Dottin; mother, Vernice Francis-Jervis (Antigua); life partner, Jacqueline P. Francis; grandchildren, Kaimy and Karissa Ambrose; brothers, Everton Jarvis (Fla.) and Ras Ran Amor (N.C.); sisters, Sandra Jarvis-Lang (N.C.) and Norma Williams (Antigua); nieces, Shelly and Llewellyn Lewis Jr.; Brandon Jarvis; nieces, Kia Whittaker, Angie Jarvis, and Isis Amor; special cousins, Barbara Ambrose and Hilroy “Roy” Francis, and the Ambrose family, Francis, Tonge, and Barnes families of Antigua; numerous other nieces and nephews, and a host of cousins and family in—love.

He is also survived by friends and extended families, Pastor Leroy Luke, Elmore “Tamo” Charles, Jerome “Jack” Hylott, Earl King, Ivan Mills, Clifford Callwood, Pat Williams, Charles and Daisy Hamilton and many others too numerous to mention.

A viewing will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. Friday, June 5, 2020, at Turnbull’s Funeral Home. The service will follow at 10 a.m. The body will be cremated.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Calida’s and Aaliyah’s education fund. Donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 305866, St. Thomas, VI 00803. A live stream will be available at www.turnbullsfuneral.com.
OBITUARIES

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

The Virgin Islands Daily News 9

David Blaine Tyler

David Blaine Tyler, born March 1, 1954, died May 21, 2020. He was born and raised in Wisconsin.

While in college, his family moved from their family farm to open a grocery store in Wisconsin. In 1989, they moved to the Virgin Islands, where they became known as “The Professionals”.

David was preceded in death by his mother, Bobbie Lee Tyler, and his siblings, Keith Tyler and Jeff Tyler.

He is survived by his father, Robert Tyler; his sisters, Peggy Tyler and Lisa (Tyler) Bronson; and his daughters, Jill Tyler and Nikki Tyler. Both daughters inherited his fierce intelligence, quick wit, and steadfast dedication to their careers and the communities that come along with careers. Jill inherited his ability to hold court in a room, while Nikki inherited his thriftiness, which some would refer to as cheap.

David is also survived by the thousands of students he taught during his career. They were his pride, joy, and reason for waking up in the morning. His family sends their deep appreciation for sharing your lives with him.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the scholarship fund in David’s name at Antilles School.

GILBERT L. SAMUEL

We regret to announce the passing of Gilbert L. Samuel, also known as Chimie, who died on March 19, 2020. The first viewing will be held Friday, June 12, 2020, from 9 to 10 a.m. with services to follow right after at 10 a.m. at Turnbull’s Funeral Home. Interment is at Western Cemetery No. 1.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Alicia Perceival.


URIC SMITH JR

It is much to our regret that we inform you of the inopportune passing of Uric Smith Jr., also known as Jun Jun, on May 18, 2020. He was called home at the mellow age of 38 years old.

He leaves to mourn his daughters, Latika Smith and UNika Smith; son, Uric Smith III; significant other, Leah Petersen; Leah’s daughter, Azaria Lyons; mother, Marina Diaz; father, Uric Smith Sr.; stepfather, Everton Ralph; sisters, Urica Smith-Lenhart, Eboni Ralph, Sherina Turbe Smith and Keshawna Smith; brothers, Dwwayne Smith and Dwight Smith, brother-in-law, Lee Lenhardt; grand-mother, Eleanor Blackman; grand-fathers, Uele Smith Sr. and Maximo Diaz; godmothers, Joyce Faulkner, Lisa George, and Marva Venzen; aunts, Gloria Diaz, Selina Diaz, Cecelia Diaz, Brenda Venzen, Barbara Venzen, Ureen Smith-Fahie, Phyllis “Kimmy” Blackman Green, Celeste “Shelly” Blackman, Teather “Alicia” Blackman-Mills, Nicole Blackman-Edwards, Annette Smith-Carmine, Smith; uncles, Uele “Butch” Smith Jr., Venn Smith, Uland Smith, Cleve Smith, Chad Smith, Mark “Marcus” Clark, and Hugh “Mickey” Blackman Jr., and many other loving and caring relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

The funeral service will be held June 13, 2020, at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Tutu. The viewing is from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., followed by the service at 11:30 a.m.

The family requests that attendees wear masks and also ask that attendees wear masks upon entry to the church. Interment is at Western Cemetery No. 3.

Arrangements are under the care of Turnbull’s Funeral Home and Crematory Services.
Dispatches from Yosemite:
Alone with the bears and beauty

By JOCELYN GECKER
The Associated Press

The glacier-carved valleys of Yosemite National Park have been closed to the public for nearly three months and a few dozen lucky kids have had it mostly to themselves.

Locked down amid cascading waterfalls and giant sequoias, the kids and their families have passed afternoons hiking empty trails, rafting in the river and walking with wildlife now thriving in the near absence of humans.

Expect to read all about it in the upcoming edition of the Yosemite Valley School newspaper, the product of one of America’s most historic and unique public schools.

The only school inside the 1,200-square-mile park has three classrooms for 35 students in K-8th grades — the children of Yosemite’s essential staff who live in a residential area of the park and are watching over it while it’s closed.

But the pandemic hasn’t stopped the presses on the school year’s last edition of “The Yosemite Eye,” a publication that has so charmed its community it boasts a circulation of 5,000, distributed by a local weekly newspaper.

The young reporters take their mission seriously. “To give the outside world the inside scoop on day-to-day life here,” as eighth grader Gabriela Reyes-Morris puts it.
Common health protocols are the key to tourism’s safe return

Maria Ferreras
Contributing Columnist

Since late April there have been virtually no tourist arrivals in the Caribbean. In the last few days however, several countries have announced plans to re-open to international travel, albeit in a restricted way.

Among those that have established dates and announced strict rules and specific health requirements for tourism, are Antigua, St. Lucia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Others such as the Bahamas, Aruba and the Cayman Islands have indicated tentative dates when they hope again to be able to welcome visitors. For their part, Cuba, Barbados and Jamaica, out of an abundance of caution, have spoken only about the preparations they are making for when tourism might resume.

Much less mentioned is the basis on which air and sea lift will be restored and more importantly in the short to medium term, the role that carriers, airports and countries of origin may have in ensuring no new cases of COVID-19 are imported into the region.

As with all else relating to economic recovery from the virus, there is a tension between public health requirements and avoiding a deep recession. Many governments and international financial institutions now believe that it is quite possible that tourism arrivals into the region could decline by as much as 80% this year and that employment will fall commensurately.

It is therefore scarcely surprising that the industry and every tourism-reliant Caribbean nation is now desperate to reopen in the shortest possible time and see visitors return to jump start rapid economic growth.

Despite this, the industry is unlikely to recover in the same way as other sectors because of its dependence on multiple factors beyond the control of host destinations. As Jamaica’s tourism minister, Edmund Bartlett, recently pointed out, this is because the pandemic will probably have a longer-lasting effect on international tourism due to reduced consumer confidence and the imposition of lingering restrictions on the international movement of people.

What is becoming apparent is that even with the detailed — for some in the industry, controversial — on-island measures that St. Lucia and others have announced, significant issues remain in achieving a common Caribbean health protocol that the airlines and cruise companies can support, along with a standard establishing “safe corridors” for travel to the region.

Speaking recently about the problems the Caribbean is facing in re-opening tourism and restoring airlift, Barbados’ Minister of Tourism Kerrie Symmonds made clear that no definitive region-wide course of action has been agreed.

He told a media briefing that the island’s prime minister, Mia Mottley, and the prime minister of St. Lucia, Allen Chastanet, had chaired a “useful meeting” with air carriers.

In his words, safety was the principal concern of both governments and the carriers. The meeting he said had agreed, “there is no competitive advantage that anybody has over the other in terms of being safe. . . We all want the highest degree of safety that we can have. Nobody feels comfortable in reopening until you have been able to secure, first of all, the well-being of the people in your country and the workers and, secondly, the visitors to the island.”

What is being discussed is the possibility of a regional protocol involving common forms of testing on departure to and from the region plus other in-country measures.

Whether a Caribbean-wide public health standard for travel acceptable to all can be established, or, in its absence it will be, as Mr. Symmonds suggested, for the airlines to determine as “robust partners (that) make sure there is a contaminant free corridor” between the point of departure and the point of arrival, remains to be seen.

Whatever the outcome, it will involve governments somehow balancing national economic and public health interests, verifiable implementation, and the regional goal with what external travel industry partners and travellers may agree to.

It coincides with growing concern among airlines about the plethora of different regulations being adopted by governments around the world, their practicality and commercial viability.

Just a few days ago, Alexandre de Juniac, the director general of IATA, the body brings together the world’s airlines, said that while they are eager to fly, international travel cannot re-start when markets such as the UK impose fourteen day quarantine rules on all arrivals including returning residents.

His emphasis was on a “risk-based framework” to be internationally coordinated globally. This he believes should be undertaken in ways that provide the arriving country with confidence about the procedures on departure from any point of origin, and travellers with reassurance of there being common public health measures in place. The objective, he said was to work with others to put in place quickly an agreed approach that can restore global connectivity safely and efficiently.

IATA’s published outline incorporates pre-flight arrangements at airports, in flight requirements including face coverings, testing before departure with the important caveat, if such tests are “scalable, accurate and fast,” and should they become available, science backed immunity passports.

Although opening Caribbean tourism offers the possibility of driving economic recovery, it will be important that the outstanding and continuing epidemiological and scientific advice provided by the Caribbean Public Health Agency and PAHO is not set aside by governments seeking short term advantage. The willingness of almost every country in the region to act decisively and swiftly on their recommendations is why the Caribbean has by global per capita standards seen such low transmission and mortality rates.

As the pandemic lessens, the challenge will be developing and sustaining a common health framework for tourism that meets national and regional requirements, the concerns of citizens, workers and visitors, and the thinking of external industry partners.

If this is not achievable it is hard to see how the Caribbean’s tourism economy will thrive or the region be able to create the confidence and simplicity necessary for tourists to return in similar numbers to before.

— David Jessop is a consultant to the Caribbean Council and can be contacted at david.jessop@caribbean-council.org.
Cities gripped for more violence as Trump decries ‘lowlifes’

By ZEKE MILLER and MATT SEDENSKY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Tuesday turned up the pressure on governors to quell the violence set off by the death of George Floyd, demanding New York call up the National Guard to stop the “lowlifes and losers.”

As more demonstrations began taking shape around the country during the afternoon, and cities girded for another round of scattered violence after dark, the president amplified his hardline calls of a day earlier, in which he threatened to send in the military to restore order if governors didn’t do it.

“NYC, CALL UP THE NATIONAL GUARD!” he tweeted. “The lowlifes and losers are ripping you apart. Act fast! Don’t make the same horrible and deadly mistake you made with the Nursing Homes!!!”

Protests were held in such places as Orlando, Fla., where more than 1,000 people gathered in the afternoon to decry the killings of black people.

“This has to change,” said 39-year-old Aissia Batiste, an out-of-work massage therapist. “Something has to give. We’re done. This is the beginning of the end of something. It has to be.”

In New York, where crowds of people on Monday night smashed store windows and police made nearly 700 arrests, Mayor Bill de Blasio extended an 8 p.m. curfew all week.

“We’re going to have a tough few days,” he warned, but added: “We’re going to beat it back.” He pleaded with community leaders to step forward and “create peace.”

More than 20,000 National Guard members have been called up in 29 states to deal with the violence. New York is not among them.

De Blasio has said he does not want the Guard, and Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo has said he will not send it into the city against the mayor’s wishes.

Monday marked the seventh straight night of unrest around the country.

In Atlanta, police fired tear gas at demonstrators. In Nashville, more than 60 National Guard members put down their riot shields at the request of peaceful protesters. At a demonstration in Buffalo, N.Y., an SUV plowed into a group of officers, injuring three.

An officer was shot and gravely wounded as police tried to disperse a crowd outside a Las Vegas hotel and casino. Four officers were shot in St. Louis; they were expected to recover.

Philadelphia officials described a chaotic night in which one person was killed trying to use explosives to open an ATM, a gun shop owner fatally shot a would-be thief, and a 19-year-old died of injuries during looting.

About a dozen other deaths have been reported around the country over the past week. And more than 5,600 people nationwide have been arrested for such offenses as stealing, blocking highways and breaking curfew, according to a count by The Associated Press.

“We have been sitting on a powder keg for some time and it has burst,” Philadelphia Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said.

Some protesters framed the burgeoning movement as a necessity after a string of killings by police.

“My fear for my safety every time I get in the car to go for a drive. I fear of getting pulled over. I fear for all 10 of my brothers’ and sisters’ lives, for my parents’ lives!” 19-year-old Amari Burroughs of Parkland, Fla., said Tuesday as she prepared for another protest.

“My goal is to use my voice and my leadership to make this world safer so that one day I can bring children here and won’t have to fear for their safety.”

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PENALTY WAIVER PROGRAMS

Joel A. Lee, CPA, Director of The Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue, informs all taxpayers that the Amnesty Programs, enacted by the 33rd legislature will begin on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 and run for one hundred and eighty (180) days. The Amnesty Programs will end on Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

All outstanding gross receipts tax obligations are eligible for the Amnesty Program. Taxpayers who pay all gross receipts taxes owed, will have the interest and penalties abated under this program. In addition, taxpayers who pay all outstanding income taxes and interest will receive a penalty waiver.

Payments under the Amnesty Program should be made by cash, credit card (visa or mastercard), checks and money orders. Director Lee reminds those taxpayers who have made payments with dishonored checks in the past, that they will be required to pay with bank checks in order to take advantage of the programs.

Further, delinquent taxpayers will be required to file any and all outstanding returns in order to take advantage of the Amnesty.

For more information, please call the delinquent accounts and returns branch on St. Croix at 773-1040, extension 4254, or on St. Thomas, at 715-1040, extension 2232.
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1Subject to Oriental Bank and SBA requirements. The SBA will forgive the loans if all employees remain on the payroll for eight weeks and the money from the Paycheck Protection Program is used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest or profits (at least 75% of the forgiven amount must have been used for payroll). Forgiveness is based on the employer maintaining or quickly rehiring employees and maintaining salary levels. Therefore, forgiveness will be reduced if full-time headcount declines, or if salaries and wages decrease. Payroll costs are limited to $100,000 for each employee. Principal and interest payments on the loan will be deferred for six months. No collateral or personal guarantees are required. The Program will be available until June 30, 2020. Additional program information, like eligibility requirements, can be found at orientalbank.com/usvi/commercialrelief.

To apply for Paycheck Protection Program visit orientalbank.com/usvi/commercialrelief or scan the QR Code.
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Looting devastates businesses already shaken by virus

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Looting and vandalism in cities across the country have dealt another blow to small businesses that were already reeling from the coronavirus outbreak.

Along with big chain stores like Target, Walgreen and Macy’s, independent retailers in neighborhoods and downtown sections were targets of vandals and looters who struck as police mobilized to contain large demonstrations over the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Many businesses had been closed by state and local government orders as officials tried to contain the spread of the coronavirus, leaving owners with little or no revenue since March.

Now, already facing an uncertain future amid ongoing restrictions related to the virus, owners must figure out how to rebuild or relocate their companies.

Over three nights, Ahmed Muhammed’s Minneapolis optician shop was vandalized, looted and burned, leaving Midtown Eye Care in ruins. The store was just getting back to business after having been shut since mid-March by the virus outbreak.

“This has been a difficult couple of months, and now with the protesters and everything that followed — it’s very difficult,” Muhammed said. He’s trying to figure out what to do next, the building, which may not be salvageable, is in a hard-hit area with many minority-owned businesses that were also looted and burned.

“We don’t know where to move,” Muhammed said.

Small businesses employ nearly 60 million people, or nearly half the U.S. workforce. Since the coronavirus brought the U.S. economy to a virtual standstill, the government has loaned businesses hundreds of billions of dollars to help them survive and keep their employees on staff as unemployment soars toward 20%.

But some won’t make it, and bankruptcies are already on the rise.

Even as they pick up pieces of broken glass and try to assess their losses, many owners say they understand the anger over the killing of Floyd, who died after a police officer pressed his knee into Floyd’s neck for several minutes even after he stopped moving and pleading for air.

Owner Johnny Grimes stands outside his salon in Birmingham, Ala., as he works to board up the windows after it was vandalized and looted. Grimes said he was devastated by what had happened to his business but was sympathetic with those who demonstrated against police brutality.

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Johnny Grimes reopened his hair salon in Birmingham, Ala., on Sunday after being closed for two months due to the virus outbreak. That night the windows of the Wheelhouse Salon were shattered and the establishment looted.

As Grimes boarded up the salon Monday, he said he was devastated by what had happened to his business but was sympathetic with those who demonstrated against police brutality.

“I just hope that this isn’t all for nothing,” he said. “I hope that this does spark some kind of national conversation on race, racial reconciliation, police brutality and how the African American, the black community, is treated in America,” said Grimes, who is white.

Sam Mabrouk tried to save his denim clothing store from being vandalized and left barren amid demonstrations Friday in downtown Columbus, Ohio. Mabrouk, who arrived from Egypt over a decade ago, owns two retail stores in the city: one, 89 and Pine, was destroyed.

Mabrouk said he tried to convince the people ransacking his store and other minority-owned businesses nearby that he understood their cause and begged them to leave his store alone.

“I lost everything in one night,” Mabrouk said of the estimated $70,000 in stolen merchandise. “That was my savings from 11 years of working. That’s what hurts more than anything.”

Mabrouk had already lost business due to being shut down amid the virus outbreak but said he wouldn’t give up. “Even if I only have a thousand pairs of jeans to sell and nothing else, I will start from there,” Mabrouk said.

In Boston, vandals shattered the front windows at Clarendon Wines Sunday night and stole much of the alcohol at the front of the shop in the city’s high-end Back Bay neighborhood.

“We never thought this could happen,” said Kayla Levine, a manager at the store that’s been family-owned since the 1940s. “Boston has been good about protests. They’ve been mostly peaceful. We were hoping for the best this time.”

Levine said she supported the mostly peaceful demonstrations but felt other people had taken advantage of Sunday’s protests to cause destruction. “It’s just really sad because the message gets skewed,” she said.

Like other stores, Clarendon Wines has been contending with a steep drop in revenue due to the pandemic. The store normally relies heavily on workers in nearby office complexes for its sales, but those customers have been working from home.

The pandemic remains an issue for businesses that are able to keep operating because of social distancing requirements and weak consumer spending are likely to limit their revenue and income. Many owners, especially restaurateurs, have been uncertain about the future because of the virus and the violence following Floyd’s death has added to that uncertainty.

On Monday, one of Patrick & Co.’s two San Francisco stationery stores was held up at knifepoint; the thief took backpacks and threatened employees but no one was hurt. The attack came after both stores had windows broken and merchandise stolen, not only during the protests, but also twice as they were shut down due to the pandemic.

Owner Jamie Patrick estimates that even with insurance reimbursement, the damage will cost between $15,000 and $20,000, a lot of money in the best of times for a small business, but harder to come up with when revenue is still down because of the pandemic.

“Having to replace windows and deal with everything else at this point is tough. But we stand with all the people who are protesting peacefully,” Patrick said.

Mercado, a Minneapolis marketplace for Latino retailers and restaurants, has been closed since March because of the virus outbreak. The restaurants planned to open for outdoor seating on Monday, but last week’s violence and looting has forced a delay, says Mercado general manager Eduardo Barrera.

The tenants have not yet visited Mercado, and so the damage was still being assessed, Barrera said.

“I have no idea when we’re going to begin coming back,” he said.
Woman discovers alligators fighting by her home 

**The Associated Press**

FORT MYERS, Fla. — A woman en route to get her morning coffee was jolted awake with pounding on her front door, which she discovered to be two alligators fighting in front of her home in Florida.

The video of the surprising encounter in Fort Myers was posted on Facebook last week by Susan Geshel.
Confederate monuments coming down amid protests

By JAY REEVES
The Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Sarah Collins Rudolph thought she’d never see what happened in her hometown: Prompted by protests, the city removed a 115-year-old Confederate monument near where her sister and three other black girls died in a racist church bombing in 1963.

A wave of Confederate memorial removals that began after a white supremacist killed nine black people at a Bible study in a church in South Carolina in 2015 is again rolling, with more relics of the Old South being removed from public view after the killing of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis.

In Birmingham, where Rudolph lives, the graffiti-covered, pockmarked base of a massive Confederate monument was all that remained Tuesday after crews dismantled the towering obelisk and trucked it away in pieces overnight.

Other symbols came down elsewhere, leaving an empty pedestal in Virginia and a bare flagpole in Florida.

Rudolph, whose sister Addie Mae Collins died in the bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church, had to see the sight for herself. She lowered a protective face mask to take in the absence of an edifice she long considered a symbol of oppression.

“I’m glad it’s been removed because it has been so long, and we know that it’s a hate monument,” said Rudolph, 69. “It didn’t represent the blacks. It just represented the hard times back there a long time ago.”

Confederate symbols across the South have been targeted for vandalism during demonstrations sparked by Floyd’s death in police custody in Minneapolis. Now, even some of their longtime defenders have decided to remove them.

In Alexandria, Va., it was the United Daughters of the Confederacy that took action early Tuesday, removing the statue of a soldier gazing south from Old Town since 1889. And outside Tampa, Fla., a Sons of Confederate Veterans chapter lowered a huge Confederate battle flag that has long been flown in view of two interstate highways.

Birmingham took down the obelisk a day after protesters tried to remove the monument themselves, during one of the many nationwide protests. Crews were preparing to finish the job by pulling up the base.

The monument had been the subject of a protracted court battle between the city and state, which passed a law to protect Confederate icons after rebel monuments were challenged and removed following the killings at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.

Alabama authorities said Birmingham would face a $25,000 assessment for violating the state law, but Mayor Randall Woodfin said the fine was more affordable than the cost of continued unrest in the city.

Online fundraising drives raised more than enough money to pay the fine.

Work to remove the monument began Monday, which was Alabama’s holiday honoring Confederate President Jefferson Davis, who was sworn in Montgomery. There, on the same day, someone knocked over a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee outside a mostly black high school named for him.

Four people were arrested on criminal mischief charges, and the toppled statue was removed.
GOP to look at potential alternative sites for convention

By BRYAN ANDERSON and GARY D. ROBERTSON
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Organizers of the Republican National Convention said Tuesday they will begin visiting potential alternative sites after North Carolina’s governor told them the COVID-19 pandemic requires them to prepare for a scaled-back event if they want to hold it in Charlotte.

Gov. Roy Cooper, a Democrat, said in a letter to the top convention organizer and the national GOP chairwoman that “planning for a scaled-down convention with fewer people, social distancing and face coverings is a necessity.”

The letter came on the eve of a deadline from the GOP for assurances that Cooper would allow a full-scale event in August.

Later, Cooper told reporters it’s unlikely that virus trends will allow a full-capacity nominating convention for President Donald Trump to proceed at Charlotte’s NBA arena.

“We think it is unlikely that we would be to the point at the end of August to be able to have a jam packed 19,000-person convention in the Spectrum arena,” Cooper said. “So the likelihood of it being in Charlotte depends upon the RNC’s willingness to discuss with us a scaled-down convention, which we would like to do.”

Republican National Committee Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel, one of the recipients of Cooper’s letter, accused him of “dragging his feet” on giving them guidance for proceeding with convention plans.

She released a statement saying that while the party would like to hold its event in Charlotte, “we have an obligation to our delegates and nominee to begin visiting the multiple cities and states” that have reached out to express interest in hosting.

Republican governors of Tennessee, Florida and Georgia have said they would be interested in hosting if North Carolina falls through. Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee said that GOP officials are coming to scout Nashville on Thursday, calling the city “the best place in America to have a convention.”

Today is the GOP’s deadline for assurances from Cooper. Last week, Trump demanded Cooper that guarantee him a full-scale event or he would be forced to move the event elsewhere.

North Carolina faces an upward trend in its virus cases, reporting about 29,900 cumulative cases and 900 deaths as of Tuesday. Around 700 COVID-19 patients are currently hospitalized. Mecklenburg County accounted for 4,500 cases — more than double the next-highest county — and nearly 100 deaths.

Earlier in the day, North Carolina GOP Chairman Michael Whatley acknowledged some changes would likely be needed, but maintained Republicans want a “full-scale” convention.

“Look, we’re not going to move forward with any activities that do not follow federal, state or local requirements and regulations. So, we need to know what those requirements are going to be,” he said.

Michael Bitzer, a political scientist at Catawba College, said that Cooper’s popularity in North Carolina may give him a stronger position than Trump to convince the public of his approach.

But Bitzer said it’s hard to imagine Cooper and Trump will strike a deal that fully satisfies both sides by today.

“The deadline is gonna push one side to do one thing, and the other side is just going to say, ‘no’ or ‘we can’t,’” he said.

A Charlotte convention could help Trump boost enthusiasm among North Carolina supporters, but he could also frustrate some voters if he pushes too hard during a delicate time for health and public safety, Bitzer said.

Whatley said the convention could generate $200 million for the regional economy, especially in the hospitality industry and in restaurants and bars.

Still, two Charlotte restaurant owners said they didn’t expect a huge hit if the RNC moves or is scaled back.

“I feel like it would be a small impact on our business,” Greg Zautsch, who owns the Fig Tree near the city’s central business district.

When the Democratic National Convention was held in Charlotte in 2012, he said an increase in business from visitors was balanced by the fact that his regulars stayed away.

“So, it was pretty much just a normal weekend. We didn’t see a big increase in business because of the convention,” he said.

Patrick Whalen, owner of 5Choice in Charlotte, said the convention would be good for the city, but he added: “Whether the RNC was going to be here or not, we would have done fine.”

Whalen, whose restaurant’s windows were smashed during recent protests over George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis police custody, said he thinks the RNC could also bring protesters, but that the city is equipped to deal with them.

“So my guess is that will probably happen again during the RNC, but hopefully with less violence,” he said.
Beyond the McMuffin: Make these 6 breakfast sandwiches

By DANIEL NEUMAN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

When anthropologists of the future look back at the last half of the 20th century, they may give credit to McDonald’s for one thing above all else: inventing the breakfast sandwich.

Searching for a way to get customers through the doors in the morning hours, someone at the fast-food giant came up with the perfect solution. They took an English muffin, placed a muffin-shaped egg on top of it along with a slice of Canadian bacon and American cheese, and in a stroke of marketing genius called it an Egg McMuffin. I hadn’t even heard of Canadian bacon before the Egg McMuffin made it famous.

Not only did McDonald’s profits skyrocket with the new product, but that also forced its competitors to come up with breakfast items of their own. And thus the breakfast sandwich became a uniquely American tradition.

But you don’t have to go through the drive-thru to get a breakfast sandwich. They are easy to make at home, and relatively fast.

Breakfast sandwiches require a bread product of some kind, an egg, a breakfast meat (or none at all, as you shall see) and a few complementary ingredients for added flavor.

The variations are endless; you are limited only by your imagination.

Unfortunately, my imagination turns out to be rather limited. So I made six breakfast sandwiches, all based on familiar flavor combinations and ideas. Maybe I added a twist or two, but these recipes are meant to inspire you to create your own breakfast sandwiches.

Unless, like me, your imagination is running a little low. Then you might want to try some of

See BREAKFAST, page 21

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BREAKFAST
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

these recipes, because they are all excellent. That’s what happens when you stick to familiar flavor combinations and ideas.

Perhaps the most familiar is the Sunday-morning standy, bagels and lox. It’s a straightforward bagel-and-lox sandwich, with one of those twists: I added a scrambled egg.

Think of it as an Egg McLox Bagel Sandwich.

There is a trick to making it, though it is easy to master. Ordinary scrambled eggs would be too lumpy; you need to press down on the top, they would squeeze out of the sides. The trick, then, is to make the egg flat.

It’s simple to do. Pour a beaten egg into a well-buttered, medium-hot skillet. Don’t let the egg spread too far. Cook without touching it until nearly all of the liquid on top is done. Use a spatula to fold the sides over toward the middle, and immediately place this flat egg on your sandwich.

My next breakfast sandwich is an even simpler twist on an equally familiar idea: avocado toast. The twist? Bacon. Remember how, a few years ago, everyone started saying that bacon makes everything better?

Bacon really does make avocado toast taste better.

I fried a couple of strips until they were crispy, crumbled them for ease of eating, and sprinkled them over a piece of multigrain toast that I had slathered with smashed fresh avocado. I added some chopped tomatoes and red onion, a healthy squeeze of lemon, and lots of flaky salt and pepper.

Bacon (or sausage, which is what I used) plays a key role in my next variation too, a breakfast burrito. This southwestern classic is more than just bacon and eggs (or sausage and eggs) in a tortilla.

First of all, you need beans. If you don’t have beans in a breakfast burrito, it just isn’t a breakfast burrito. I don’t know what it is, frankly. And you also need potatoes. Potatoes do more than merely add heat and flavor to the burrito; they add a satisfying depth to the flavor, an underlying foundation on which the other ingredients can be built.

Don’t forget the salsa. The salsa is key. It provides the fresh bright top notes that play as a counterpoint to the potatoes.

Next up was a simply wonderful sandwich that is more of a surprise: I made an omelet pita. Which is to say I made an omelet and placed it in a pita.

It was a particularly good pita, which helped. (In contrast, the bagel I used for my Egg McLox Bagel Sandwich was particularly bad. Sometimes, it really helps to buy quality ingredients — or, in the case of the bagel, to avoid buying horrible ingredients.)

Into this pita pan I placed what is probably my favorite omelet combination: mushroom, onion, asparagus and cheese. I loved this sandwich, which makes sense because it was, as I said, my favorite omelet. If you make your own favorite omelet, you will like it as much as I did.

Another vegetarian option was equally good — but then again, I used the same type of pita. I’m calling it an Israeli Salad Sandwich, because the heart of it is an Israeli salad. That is chopped tomato, cucumber, red bell pepper and scallion, tossed with olive oil and lemon juice.

This time, I added two twists. One is a chopped hard-boiled egg, to make it more breakfasty, and the other is hummus smeared on the inside of the pita before it is filled with the salad.

It was bright-tasting and fresh, and remarkably refreshing. Try not to eat it too quickly; you’ll want to savor every bite.

My final breakfast sandwich is based on a classic diner dish that is perhaps more familiar. I made a Steak ‘n’ Eggs Baguette.

The steak ‘n’ eggs part is obvious. I cooked a steak, cut it into bite-size pieces and topped it with a sunny-side-up egg. I wanted the yolks to run all over the rest of the sandwich and down my chin.

Between the steak and the egg, I placed chopped tomatoes and sautéed onions, which added a lovely sweet-caramelized flavor. Shredded cheddar cheese went on top.

The twist here is the baguette part. Typically, a baguette has too much bread to make it of much use in a sandwich. So I used a technique from a French sandwich called a pan bagnat — I hollowed out the baguette before adding the other ingredients.

That trick yielded the perfect ratio of bread to steak ‘n’ eggs, and made it easy to eat.

And was it amazing? How could it not be? It was steak and eggs. In a sandwich.

Somewhere at McDonald’s, someone is jealous.

Omelet Pita

Yield: 1 serving

1/2 tablespoon butter, plus more if needed
1/2 cup sliced onion
3 large (or 4 small) mushrooms, sliced
2 asparagus spears, bottom few inches discarded and the rest cut into 1/4-inch pieces
Salt and pepper
1/4 cup shredded cheese
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1 pita, cut in half

1. Melt butter in skillet over medium-high heat, and add onions. Cook until translucent, 3 to 5 minutes. Add mushrooms and asparagus, and cook until mushrooms lose their moisture, another 3 to 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper, remove and keep warm.
2. Add more butter to skillet if needed. Season eggs with salt and pepper, add to pan and cook, pushing eggs to the middle with a spatula and turning

See BREAKFAST, page 23
Extra Hot Deals!

- **Pepsi 12pk Variety 12 oz**: $2.99
- **Essential Everyday Milk 128 oz**: $5.98
- **Niagara Water Bottles 24 Pack**: $3.19
- **Lotus Plus Juices Assorted Variety 64 oz**: $3.49
- **Dole Juices Assorted Variety 59 oz**: $3.99
- **Kraft Grated Parmesan Cheese 8 oz**: $4.99
- **Essential Everyday Butter Quarters Salted or Unsalted 16 oz**: $4.99
- **Michelob Ultra Beer 6 pk blts 12 oz case of 24**: $24.00
- **Livingston Wines Assorted Variety 3 Lt**: $6.98
- **Cruzan Flavored Rum Assorted Varieties 1 Lt**: $14.99

Meat, Fish & Poultry Deals!

- **Choice Flank Steak**: $9.98
- **Hormel Split Pigs Feet Family Pack**: $8.99
- **Boneless Organic Chicken Breast**: $1.28
- **Chicken Wings, Wingettes & Drumettes, Frozen**: $2.25
- **Turkey Necks Family Pack**: $6.99
- **Fresh Beef Oxtails**: $6.99

Produce Deals!

- **Russet Potatoes 5 lb**: $2.99
- **Grape Red Seedless Large Med 1 lb**: $2.99
- **Yellow Onion 3 lb**: $1.99
- **Papaya 1 lb**: $1.59
- **Cucumber 1 lb**: $0.99
- **Cello Lettuce ea**: $1.49
- **Carrots 2 lb**: $1.79
- **Broccoli ea**: $2.89

Groceries!

- **Chicken Of The Sea Smoke Oyster 3.38 oz**: $2.99
- **Carmela Vienna Sausage 5 oz**: $3.12
- **Rico Medium San Marzano Whole Tomato 31 oz**: $3.15
- **Essential Everyday Ketchup 35 oz**: $1.99
- **Essential Everyday Whole Tomato Paste 10 oz**: $1.79
- **Essential Everyday Whole Kernel Corn 15.25 oz**: $1.79
- **Muellers Macaroni & Cheese 16 oz**: $1.99
- **Heinz BBQ Sauce Assorted Variety 18.6 oz**: $2.99
- **Maxwell House Coffee Original 30.6 oz**: $9.99
- **Maxwell House Coffee Original 30.6 oz**: $3.99
- **Hawaiian Punch Fruit Juicy Red 128 oz**: $2.99
- **Pringles Mega Crisps Assorted Variety 6.86 oz**: $2.69
- **Nabisco Ritz Crackers Assorted Variety 10 oz**: $2.99

Colgate Toothpaste Selected Variety 6 oz
- **Colgate Toothpaste**: $2.49
- **Colgate Toothpaste**: $3.15
- **Colgate Toothpaste**: $3.99

Compare Our Quality!

- **Frozen Sirloin end Pork Chops Family Pack**: $2.29
- **Frozen Whole Chicken**: $2.69
- **Whole Watermelon 1 lb**: $2.69
- **Red Apples 3 lb**: $3.79
- **Pumpkin 3 lb**: $3.79
- **Plantain Green ea**: $0.89
- **Tofu Spicy, Vegi & Firm**: $3.29

Fresh Foods Facial Cleansing Foam 5.91 oz
- **Fresh Foods Face Wipes 60 ct**: $3.99
- **Fresh Foods Everyday Windshield Washer Fluid 128 oz**: $1.99
- **Aluminum Calderos & Pressure Cooker Assorted sizes and Prices**: $9.99 to 24.99
- **Aluminum Calderos & Pressure Cooker Assorted sizes and Prices**: $29.99 to 40.99
- **Quilt Set 3 pcs Assorted King & Queen**: $25.99
BREAKFAST

continued from page 21

and swirling the pan to fill the gaps until almost completely cooked. Add cheese
to one half of the eggs and top that half
with onion-mushroom-asparagus mixture. Fold the other half of the egg over
that half and remove from heat.

3. Cut omelet in half and place each half inside half of the pita.

Per serving: 415 calories; 17 g fat; 7 g saturated fat; 387 mg cholesterol; 22 g protein; 48 g carbohydrate; 8 g sugar; 7 g fiber; 642 mg sodium; 96 mg calcium

Avocado-Bacon Toast

Yield: 1 serving

1 slice multigrain toast
1/2 ripe avocado
1 slice bacon, crumbled
2 tablespoons chopped red onion
2 tablespoons chopped fresh
tomato
1 lemon wedge
Salt and pepper

Mash the avocado and spread it onto the toast. Sprinkle with bacon, red onion
and tomatoes. Squeeze the lemon wedge over the top and season with plenty of salt — flaky salt, if you have it — and pepper.

Per serving: 397 calories; 16 g fat; 3 g saturated fat; 187 mg cholesterol; 16 g protein; 51 g carbohydrate; 8 g sugar; 635 mg sodium; 74 mg calcium

Recipe by Daniel Neman

Egg Melt Bagel Sandwich

Yield: 1 serving

1 bagel, savory flavors only
1 tablespoon cream cheese
2 slices smoked salmon
1 slice red onion
1/2 teaspoon capers, optional
1/2 tablespoon butter
1 egg, beaten

1. Toast bagel if desired. Spread
cream cheese on both cut sides of ba-
gel, and top one side with smoked
salmon, red onion and optional capers.
2. Melt butter in skillet (nonstick is
best) over medium heat. Add beaten
egg, trying to keep it from spread-
ing too much in the pan. Gently cook
without touching until the liquid on
top is almost completely cooked.
Fold up the sides toward the center
until the egg is the approximate size
of the bagel. Place the egg on top of
the other ingredients, and top with
the other half of the bagel.

Per serving: 334 calories; 19 g fat; 9 g saturated fat; 229 mg cholesterol; 21 g protein; 20 g carbohydrate; 2 g
sugar; 1 g fiber; 1,440 mg sodium; 80 mg calcium

Recipe by Daniel Neman

Breakfast Burrito

Yield: 1 serving

2 slices bacon or 2 ounces (scant
1/2 cup) sausage
1 tablespoon butter, divided
1/2 cup potato cut into 1/2-inch dice
Salt and pepper
1/4 small or medium onion, sliced
2 eggs, beaten
1/2 cup black beans, rinsed and drained
1 flour tortilla
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1/4 cup salsa
Sour cream, optional

1. Cook bacon or sausage. Crumble
bacon or cut sausage into small pieces.
Clean pan.
2. Melt 1 teaspoon (1/3 tablespoon)
butter in skillet over medium-high heat.
Add cubes of potato, sprinkle liberally
with salt, cover and cook, tossing fre-
quently, until potatoes are browned and
cooked all the way through, about 10
minutes. Remove from pan.
3. Melt remaining 1/2 tablespoon
butter over medium heat. Gently crack
eggs into pan, season with salt and pep-
per, and fry or cook sunny-side up so
that the yolk is runny. Trim eggs and
place in each sandwich; cover with top
piece of baguette.

Per serving: 240 calories; 20 g fat; 9 g saturated fat; 262 mg cholesterol; 32 g protein; 263 g carbohydrate; 3 g
sugar; 2 g fiber; 514 mg sodium; 224 mg calcium

Recipe by Daniel Neman
England, West Indies set for 3 cricket tests in July

The Associated Press

LONDON — England and the West Indies will play three cricket tests in 21 days next month provided the British government gives the go-ahead for the matches to take place in “bio-secure environments” without spectators.

The West Indies squad will arrive in England on June 9 — nearly a month before the proposed first test of the series in Southampton from July 8-12 — so the squad can quarantine and train in Manchester, England, the England and Wales Cricket Board said Tuesday.

The other tests will be played in Manchester, starting on July 16 and July 24.

“We are in daily dialogue with the government and our medical team, who have been incredibly supportive during this period,” said Steve Elworthy, the ECB’s director of events. “These are our proposed dates and they remain subject to U.K. government approval.”

No domestic cricket will be played in Britain before Aug. 1 at the earliest because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Cricket West Indies agreed in principle to tour last Friday.

England said the venues — the Ageas Bowl in Southampton and Old Trafford in Manchester — were chosen because they had hotels attached or nearby and could be turned into bio-secure environments. The ECB said a decision about a test series against Pakistan, and limited-overs matches Pakistan, Australia and Ireland, will be decided later.

The test series against the West Indies was originally scheduled to begin on Thursday.

NFL tells teams they must hold training camps at home

By BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

All 32 NFL teams have been told by Commissioner Roger Goodell to hold training camps at their home facilities this summer because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most NFL teams stay at their training complexes year-round, but Dallas, Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Buffalo, Indianapolis, Carolina, Washington and the Los Angeles Rams are among those that stage portions of training camp elsewhere.

The Cowboys and Steelers are scheduled for the Hall of Fame game in Canton, Ohio, on Aug. 8 and will be the first two teams to report in late July.

Dallas usually trains in Oxnard, Calif., and Pittsburgh in nearby Latrobe, Pa.

The Cowboys have never held their entire pre-season at home. The Steelers have trained at St. Vincent College in Latrobe for more than a half-century.

The league has canceled all in-person workouts at team facilities, which only in the past two weeks have begun opening on a limited basis. No coaches nor players other than those undergoing medical treatment and rehabilitation have been allowed into those facilities.

Soon, the NFL is hopeful of having club complexes fully open, but under strict medical guidelines including social distancing protocols.

One team in something of a limbo: the Raiders. Their move to Las Vegas has been complicated by the pandemic, of course. They had been working out of their Oakland-area complex in Alameda, and had been planning to hold training camp as usual in Napa, about one hour north of the Bay Area. But they could decide to move it to their new facility in Henderson, Nev.

The Bills have gone to St. John Fisher College outside of Rochester, N.Y., since 2000, though they have decreased the time they’ve spent away for camp in under coach Sean McDermott.

The Bills have expanded practice facilities at and around their headquarters, and last year unveiled a new training facility/weight room featuring state-of-the-art equipment and costing about $18 million as an addition to their headquarters.

Carolina has spent all 25 previous training camps at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., about 90 minutes from Charlotte. Wofford was former owner Jerry Richardson’s alma mater.

One team that usually traveled for training camp, the Bears, previously announced they would not be going to Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill., where they spent the past 18 years.
A quiet, measured response from golf on civil unrest

By DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

Golf has never been known to move quickly.
Harold Varner III illustrated as much with thoughtful observations he posted on social media after civil unrest in America over the weekend reached levels not seen in more than 50 years.

“I’ve received more messages than ever before, mostly from people who wanted me to speak up immediately because of who I am, I AM BLACK,” his post began. “But it’s not helpful to anyone when impulsive, passionate reaction takes precedence over clear-minded thought.”

What followed from Varner, one of three PGA Tour members of black heritage, was just that.
He referred to the “senseless killing” of George Floyd, the handcuffed black man who died last week when a white police officer in Minneapolis put a knee to the back of his neck until he stopped breathing. “To me, it was evil incarnate,” Varner said.

“There are objective truths in life. I think that’s one of them,” he wrote when he was asked during a news conference what concerned him about the plight of black Americans. “Woods was smart in his delivery, short on substance, when he said African Americans have had their share of struggles, it has gotten better and there’s room for improvement.”

Accurate and safe.
His tweet Monday night arrived shortly before 10 p.m. in Florida. It began with his heart going out to Floyd, his loved ones and “all of us who are hurting right now.” And while he said he has “the utmost respect” for law enforcement and the training involved to know how, when and where to use force, “This shocking tragedy clearly crossed that line.”

Woods referenced the Rodney King riots in Los Angeles in 1992, and said “education is the best path forward.”

“We can make our points without burning the very neighborhoods we live in,” he said. “I hope that through productive, honest conversations we can build a safer, unified society.”

Whether he said a little or a lot, Woods said something. That was important.

Voices need to be heard, especially relevant ones. Golf doesn’t have many of those. It has a shabby history of inclusion, particularly when it comes to blacks, starting with the PGA of America taking until 1961 to drop its “Caucasian-only clause.”

The PGA Tour resumes next week at Colonial, back to its familiar world with little controversy and ample privilege. No other sport does charity as well as golf. This issue requires more than that.

If the best it can do is listen and commit to understand, that’s OK.
UNSELD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28
and MVP honors in the same season, Unseld instantly made the team then known as the Baltimore Bullets into a winning franchise after it selected him No. 2 overall in the 1968 draft.

A decade later, he was the MVP of the NBA Finals as the Washington Bullets beat the Seattle SuperSonics in a seven-game series best known for coach Dick Motta’s proclamation: “The opera ain’t over until the fat lady sings.”

Listed at 6-foot-7 and 245 pounds, Unseld overcame taller players and bad knees with a strong work ethic and lots of grunt work in the paint. He was a tenacious rebounder and strong passer.

Unseld was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988, his first year of eligibility.

“I never played pretty,” Unseld said on the day he was elected. “I wasn’t flashy. My contributions were in the things most people don’t notice. They weren’t in high scoring or dunking or behind-the-back passes.”

Wesley Sissel Unseld was born March 14, 1946, in Louisville, Ky., where he won two state championships at Seneca High School and then stayed home for college, attending the University of Louisville.

He averaged 20.6 points and 18.9 rebounds over his four years with the Cardinals, earning him the prime draft spot right behind No. 1 selection — and future teammate — Elvin Hayes.

In the NBA, Unseld averaged 10.8 points and 14 rebounds for his career. His aching knees finally forced Unseld to stop playing in 1981, but he remained with the franchise that would eventually retire his No. 41 jersey.

Unseld initially worked in Washington’s front office, then was head coach for nearly seven seasons from 1987-94, compiling a 202-345 record with one playoff appearance. He also had a seven-year stint as general manager from 1994-2001, when the team made one other trip to the playoffs.

“He was the rock of our family — an extremely devoted patriarch who revealed in being with his wife, children, friends and teammates,” the family’s statement Tuesday said. “He was our hero and loved playing and working around the game of basketball for the cities of Baltimore and Washington D.C., cities he proudly wore on his chest for so many years.”

A car passes The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass. The induction ceremonies for the Hall of Fame’s Class of 2020 was to be the unveiling of a $23 million renovation. Because of the coronavirus outbreak, the reopening has been pushed back two months to July 1 and the induction ceremony has been postponed to next spring.

Hoops Hall mulls date for Class of 2020 induction

By JIMMY GOLEN
The Associated Press

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame was gearing up for a great year: not just the all-but-certain election of NBA superstar Kobe Bryant, Kevin Garnett and St. Croix native Tim Duncan, but also a chance to unveil a completely renovated museum.

Because of the coronavirus outbreak, the reopening has been pushed back two months to July 1 and the induction ceremony — which will posthumously honor Bryant along with longtime college coach Eddie Sutton — has been postponed, possibly to next spring.

“All of these things are going to happen. It’s just a matter of the timing’s going to be delayed,” Hall president and CEO John Doleva said Tuesday in an interview with The Associated Press.

“We will have the most remarkable class ever, when that happens. We didn’t plan it this way and it’s not the way we would have chosen to do it,” he said. “But we’re fortunate that our plans were able to remain in place, even though the timing has changed.”

The Hall’s Class of 2020 includes Bryant, Garnett, Duncan and WNBA star Tamika Catchings — all elected in their first year of eligibility. Also to be honored by the Springfield, Mass., shrine are Sutton, who died last month, and fellow coaches Rudy Tomjanovich, Kim Mulkey and Barbari Stevens, along with former FIBA Secretary General Patrick Baumann.

Doleva confirmed that induction weekend will not be held on Aug. 28-30, as originally planned; the Hall is hoping to announce a new date by mid-June. Complicating the potential possibility of a spring 2021 induction: The Hall doesn’t know what the NBA and college basketball seasons will look like then.

“Finding a date in that period of time that’s going to work in the new basketball schedule is a bit of a trick,” Doleva said. “It is correct that the August date is done. The October date is still in play and the spring is the backup for that.”

At least one thing will be different for this year’s ceremony: The Hall will “break protocol a little bit” and allow family members to speak on behalf of honorees who are being inducted posthumously. Previously, they were presented only on video.

Although Bryant, a five-time NBA champion who is No. 4 on the NBA’s all-time scoring list, was already the biggest star in this year’s class, his death at the age of 41 guaranteed that his induction would dominate this year’s ceremony.

“It’s not going to be all about Kobe,” he said. “What I’ve found is that these classes bond together. ... And I’m hoping that it’s that this will do with Kobe and his family and Eddie Sutton and his family and those that are still living, they will have that bond.

“It may be a little heavily weighted towards Kobe, frankly, and that’s for obvious reasons. But it will be a memorable ceremony and we’re going to celebrate everybody equally in terms of their accomplishments. They’re all Hall of Famers, and all Hall of Famers are equal in the eyes of the museum.”
ATHLETES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

action to register their discontent.
Dismayed by the death of Floyd
and inspired by the actions of Colin
Kaepernick, athletes from around the
world have come together during one
of the most politically charged periods
in modern history.

“Can’t tolerate. I won’t tolerate.
WE WON’T TOLERATE.” Manchester
United midfielder Paul Pogba, one
of the world’s most famous soccer
players and a World Cup champion
with France, wrote on his Instagram
to his 41 million followers along-
side a picture of him looking to the
sky with a clenched right fist.

It was powerful image to accompa-
nny the picture of 29 Liverpool players
kneeling around the center circle at
Anfield Stadium at the end of a prac-
tice session on Monday. Or the entire
Chelsea squad kneeling down and
forming the letter “F” — for humans
-— during training on Tuesday.

Their actions mimicked the one
made by Kaepernick during the na-
tional anthem in 2016 in silent protest
of police brutality and racism while
then playing for the San Francisco
49ers.

Kaepernick’s gesture kicked off

a period of pregame activism in the
NFL and other sports but it didn’t gain
a strong hold worldwide.

Not like the killing of Floyd, a black
man and former community college
basketball player who died after a
white police officer pressed his knee
into Floyd’s neck for several minutes
even after he stopped moving and
stopped pleading for air.

“It hit a nerve in this very particular
time, which I think made people all
around the world reflect on the envi-
ronment we live, not only in the US,
but in all kinds of places where there
is a perpetuation of discrimination and
equality,” Jonas Baer-Hoffmann,
secretary general of global soccer
players union FIFPro, told The As-
sociated Press.

“We’re seeing a generation of
players right now moving into the
steps of athletes in the past who were
socially quite engaged and willing to
put themselves behind because they
care about. I think it’s incredibly
empowering to see these players step
forward and share in that fight for a
better society.”

Things have escalated so much that
FIFA, the governing body of world
soccer, took the rare step of urging
competition organizers to consider
not sanctioning players who support

justice for Floyd during matches.
The laws of the game prohibit “any
political, religious or personal slogans,
statements or images.”

“The application of the laws of the
game … should use common sense
and have in consideration the context
surrounding the events,” FIFA said,
acknowledging “the depth of senti-
ment” regarding Floyd’s death.

English soccer leaders have already
said players will be able to show
solidarity without the prospect of
facing sanctions when games resume
this month after a three-month break
because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Emboldened soccer players appear
to be more confident in speaking
out about racism than ever before,
including Jadon Sancho, who revealed
a handwritten “Justice for George
Floyd” message on his undershirt after
scoring a goal for Borussia Dortmund
on Sunday, openly and knowingly
floating the rules.

Marcus Rashford, a black striker for
Manchester United, called for justice
for Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Tay-
lor — two other black people killed
in shooting incidents in America this
year — on Twitter in the wake of
Floyd’s death.

Soccer players may also take what
has happened to Floyd more person-
ally because of how often black play-
ers have been abused inside stadiums
around Europe in recent years.

The sanctions for racism — if they
are handed out at all — can often
be dispiriting. As their own form of
protest, some black players have taken
to walking off the field after being
racially abused by fans because many
have little faith in authorities and gov-
erning bodies to effect change.

That’s the position many protest-
ers in the United States are finding
themselves in.

Baer-Hoffmann said the reaction
of sports stars was a reflection of uncer-
tain times around the world since the
outbreak of the coronavirus.

“Maybe it’s because we are living in
a time where the interconnected
ness of people through the pandemic has
become more conscious to us all,” he
said.
NBA

Wes Unseld, Rookie of the Year, MVP in ‘69, dies at 74

Hall of Famer named one of pro basketball’s 50 greatest players

By HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Wes Unseld, the workmanlike Hall of Fame center who led Washington to its only NBA championship and was chosen one of the 50 greatest players in league history, died Tuesday after a series of health issues, most recently pneumonia. He was 74.

Unseld’s family announced his death via a statement released by the Washington Wizards, the franchise he played for throughout his entire 13-season career.

A five-time All-Star and, along with Wilt Chamberlain, one of only two players to win NBA Rookie of the Year

Protesting The Racial Divide

The Sports World Reacts

‘We won’t tolerate’ Athletes unite behind Floyd

By STEVE DOUGLAS
The Associated Press

Players who scored in the German and Hungarian soccer leagues removed their jerseys to display undershirts with the words “Justice for George Floyd.”

Others from English soccer clubs Liverpool, Chelsea and Newcastle dropped to one knee during practice in a clear gesture of support.

In New Zealand, a Nigerian-born UFC fighter addressed a crowd of 4,000, imploring those listening to “speak up” and take peaceful measures.

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Borussia Dortmund forward Achraf Hakimi Mouh celebrates scoring a goal by displaying a “Justice for George Floyd” undershirt during Sunday’s Bundesliga match against SC Paderborn 07 at Benteler Arena in Paderborn, Germany.

Photo by ASSOCIATED PRESS