



Biden urges Western unity on Ukraine amid war fatigue

By ZEKE MILLER, DARLENE SUPERVILLE and GEIR MOULSON

(AP) — President Joe Biden and Western allies opened a three-day summit in the Bavarian Alps on Sunday intent on keeping economic fallout from the war in Ukraine from fracturing the global coalition working to punish Russia's aggression. Britain's Boris Johnson warned the leaders not to give in to "fatigue" even as Russia lobbed new missiles at Kyiv.

The Group of Seven leaders were set to announce new bans on imports of Russian gold, the latest in a series of sanctions the club of democracies hopes will further isolate Russia economically. They also were looking at possible price

caps on energy meant to limit Russian oil and gas profits that Moscow can pump into its war effort. And following up on a proposal from last year's G-7 summit, Biden formally launched a global infrastructure partnership designed to counter China's influence in the developing world. The initiative aims to leverage \$600 billion with fellow G-7 countries by 2027 for global infrastructure projects. Some \$200 billion would come from the United States, Biden said. U.S. officials have long argued that China's infrastructure initiative traps receiving countries in debt and that the investments benefit China more than their hosts.

Continued on next page



Group of Seven leaders gather for a dinner event at Castle Elmau in Kruen, near Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, on Sunday, June 26, 2022. Leaders clockwise from front left, European Council President Charles Michel, Italy's Prime Minister Mario Draghi, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, U.S. President Joe Biden, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. (AP Photo/Markus Schreiber, Pool)

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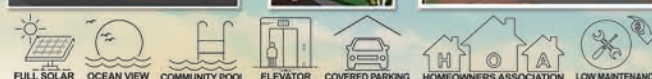
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In a pre-summit show of force, Russia launched its first missile strikes against the Ukrainian capital in three weeks, striking at least two residential buildings, according to Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko.

Biden condemned Russia's actions as "more of their barbarism," and stressed that allies need to remain firm even as the economic reverberations from the war take a toll around the globe in inflation, food shortages and more.

"We have to stay together, because Putin has been counting on, from the beginning, that somehow NATO and the G-7 would splinter, but we haven't and we're not going to," Biden said during a meeting with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, who holds the G-7's rotating presiden-



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz with from left, Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, U.S. President Joe Biden, Mario Draghi, Prime Minister of Italy and Charles Michel, President of the European Council, speaks and formally launches the global infrastructure partnership on the margins of the G7 Summit in Elmau, Germany, Sunday, June 26, 2022. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

cy and is hosting the gathering.

As the G-7 leaders sat down for their opening session, they took a light-hearted jab at Putin. John-

son could be heard asking whether he should keep his jacket on, adding, "We all have to show that we're tougher than Putin." Canadian Prime Minister Jus-

tin Trudeau chimed in: "A bare-chested horseback ride."

Over the years, the Kremlin has released several photos of the Russian leader in which he appears shirtless. Biden and his counterparts were using the gathering to discuss how to secure energy supplies and tackle inflation triggered by the war's fallout.

The leaders also came together on the new global infrastructure partnership meant to provide an alternative to Russian and Chinese investment in the developing world. One by one, the leaders stepped up to the microphone to discuss the partnership and their roles in it — without mentioning China by name.

Ukraine cast a shadow over the gathering, but the leaders were determined to project resolve.

Scholz told Biden that the allies all managed "to stay united, which obviously Putin never expected."

Biden said of Putin's war: "We can't let this aggression take the form it has and get away with it."

Scholz, who has faced criticism at home and abroad for perceived reluctance to send Ukraine heavy weapons, said, "Germany and the U.S. will always act together when it comes to questions of Ukraine's security."

Johnson, for his part, urged fellow leaders not to give in to "fatigue." He has expressed concern that divisions may emerge in the pro-Ukraine alliance as the four-month-old war grinds on.

Asked whether he thought France and Germany were doing enough, Johnson praised the "huge strides" made by Germany to arm Ukraine and cut imports of Russian gas. He did not mention France.

Biden and Scholz, in their pre-summit meeting, agreed on the need for a negotiated end to the Ukraine war, but did not get into specifics on how to achieve it, said a senior Biden administration official, who requested anonymity to reveal details of a private conversation. However, they did not

have an extensive discussion about oil price caps or inflation, the official said.

Other leaders echoed Biden's praise of coalition unity.

The head of the European Union's council of governments said the 27-member bloc maintains "unwavering unity" in backing Ukraine against Russia's invasion with money and political support, but that "Ukraine needs more and we are committed to providing more."

European Council President Charles Michel said EU governments were ready to supply "more military support, more financial means, and more political support" to enable Ukraine to defend itself and "curb Russia's ability to wage war."

The EU has imposed six rounds of sanctions against Russia, the latest one being a ban on 90% of Russian crude oil imports by the end of the year. The measure is aimed at a pillar of the Kremlin's finances, its oil and gas revenues.

Biden and the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan, plus the EU, spent Sunday in both formal and informal settings discussing the war's effects on the global economy, including inflation.

Biden said G-7 nations, including the United States, will ban imports of gold from Russia. A formal announcement was expected Tuesday as the leaders wind up their annual summit.

Johnson said the ban will "directly hit Russian oligarchs and strike at the heart of Putin's war machine." "Putin is squandering his dwindling resources on this pointless and barbaric war. He is bankrolling his ego at the expense of both the Ukrainian and Russian people," Johnson said. "We need to starve the Putin regime of its funding."

Gold, in recent years, has been the top Russian export after energy — reaching almost \$19 billion or about 5% of global gold exports, in 2020, according to the White House.

Of Russian gold exports, 90% was consigned to G-7 countries. □



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Wisconsin Democrats focus ire on Republican Sen. Johnson

By SCOTT BAUER

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Wisconsin Democrats looking to unseat Republican Sen. Ron Johnson focused their attacks on him Sunday, and not each other, as the eight candidates made their case to party activists at the state convention held six weeks before the primary.

The Democratic Senate candidates blasted Johnson for his attempt to deliver fake Republican Electoral College ballots to then-Vice President Mike Pence on Jan. 6, 2021, his skepticism over COVID-19 vaccines, his voting for a tax law that benefited him, and his support for overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

The race in Wisconsin, which Donald Trump carried in 2016 but President Joe Biden won in 2020, could determine which party control the Senate. Polls show a tight Democratic primary between Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes and Alex Lasry, who is on leave from his job as an executive for the Milwaukee Bucks.

Barnes highlighted his upbringing in a "hard working union household" in Milwaukee and contrasted that with Johnson, who is a millionaire and former own-



in this Aug. 27, 2020, file photo, Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes speaks during a news conference in Kenosha, Wis. (AP Photo/Morry Gash. File)

er of a plastics company.

"It feels like the deck is stacked against us," Barnes said at the convention in La Crosse. "We don't want a hand out, we just want a fair shot. And we know we will never get that fair shot as long as Ron Johnson is in the Senate."

Lasry, a millionaire, touted his union support, his work to build the Fiserv Forum where the Bucks play and his role getting the Democratic National Convention to be in Milwaukee in 2020.

He also contrasted himself with Johnson and blasted him for not fighting to persuade Oshkosh Defense to locate 1,000 jobs in Wisconsin rather than South Carolina.

"He's attacked organized labor," Lasry said. "Spread lies about COVID. Tried to overthrow the government. And he's even advocating to ship Wisconsin jobs to South Carolina."

Other candidates include state Treasurer Sarah Godlewski, Outagamie Coun-

ty Executive Tom Nelson, political organizer Steven Olikara, restaurant owner Kou Lee, state emergency management administrator Darrell Williams and attorney Peter Peckarsky. Godlewski, the only woman in the race, said she would work to pass a law legalizing abortion now that the Supreme Court has overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

"If we had more Democratic women at that U.S. Senate table, we would have gotten this done a

long time ago," Godlewski said. Nelson, who has tried to run a humor-infused, folksy campaign similar to former Sen. Russ Feingold's first bid for office 30 years ago, had some of the strongest words for Johnson, calling him a "lying, treason-loving, woman-hating, Putin stooge."

He likened his own candidacy to a "strong Wisconsin beer," holding up a bottle of Spotted Cow from New Glarus Brewing Co. and compared the other Democratic candidates to a bottle of Bud Light.

Olikara, running his first campaign for office, emphasized his work leading the Millennial Action Project, which lobbied Congress to enact bipartisan legislation. He said the best ideas in Congress should be coming from regular people, "not the big money special interests."

The candidate were largely united on the issues, voicing support not for abortion rights, also gun control, ending the Senate filibuster, expanding voter rights and fighting climate change.

The winner of the Aug. 9 primary will advance to face Johnson, who is seeking a third term after previously promising to not run again. □

Pride parades march on with new urgency across U.S

By BOBBY CAINA CALVAN

NEW YORK (AP) — Pride parades kicked off in New York City and around the country Sunday with glittering confetti, cheering crowds, fluttering rainbow flags and newfound fears about losing freedoms won through decades of activism.

The annual marches in New York, San Francisco, Chicago and elsewhere took place just two days after one conservative justice on the Supreme Court signaled, in a ruling on abortion, that the court should reconsider the right to same-sex marriage recognized in 2015.

"We're here to make a statement," said 31-year-old Mercedes Sharpe, who

traveled to Manhattan from Massachusetts. "I think it's about making a point, rather than all the other years like how we normally celebrate it. This one's really gonna stand out. I think a lot of angry people, not even just women, angry men, angry women."

Thousands of people — many decked in pride colors — lined the parade route through Manhattan, cheering as floats and marchers passed by. Organizers announced this weekend that a Planned Parenthood contingent would be at the front of the parade.

In Chicago, Mayor Lori Lightfoot called the top court ruling a "momentary setback" and said Sun-

day's events were "an opportunity for us to not only celebrate Pride, but be resolved for the fight."

"We will not live in a world, not in my city, where our rights are taken from us or rolled back," said Lightfoot, Chicago's first openly gay mayor, and the first Black woman to hold the office.

In San Francisco, some marchers and spectators held signs condemning the court's abortion ruling. U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who rode in a convertible holding a gavel and a rainbow fan, said the large turnout was an acknowledgement that Americans support gay rights.

"Even in spite of the majority on the court that's anti our Constitution, our coun-



Spectators watch as revelers march down Fifth Avenue during the annual NYC Pride March, Sunday, June 26, 2022, in New York. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

try knows and loves our LGBTQI+ community," she told KGO-TV.

The warning shot from the nation's top court came after a year of legislative de-

feats for the LGBTQ community, including the passage of laws in some states limiting the discussion of sexual orientation or gender identity with children. □

Former Iran conscripts say unfairly blocked from US travel

By **AMY TAXIN**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Two years ago, Leili Ghazi quit studying biomedical engineering in Iran and seized the chance to travel to the United States to build a new life for herself and her parents.

Now, the 22-year-old is separated indefinitely from her family because her father performed required military service more than two decades ago as a conscript for a branch of the Iranian armed forces that the U.S. government years later declared a foreign terrorist organization. The designation bars anyone associated with the group from traveling to the United States, including her dad.

"He had to do office work and work on plans of buildings," said Ghazi, who has been anxious and depressed since moving to Southern California. She expected her parents to eventually join her but later learned her father would be forced to stay behind. "He hasn't done any activity of going to war or anything. It was not anything like that."

It has long been a challenge for Iranians to travel to the United States and visa applicants often wait



Leili Ghazi, a 22-year-old immigrant from Iran, sits for a photo in Pasadena, Calif., Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Two years ago, Leili Ghazi quit studying biomedical engineering in Iran and seized the chance to travel to the United States to build a new life for herself and her parents. (AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

months or years for background checks to clear. But since the Trump administration designated Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps a terrorist organization in 2019, it has become all but impossible for anyone who served in the branch, even as a conscript and in a non-combat role, to obtain a visa to travel to the United States. Many Iranian Americans and their families hoped

the Biden administration would reverse course on the designation so those who served as conscripts could still travel. They note Iranian men are compelled to serve if they want to obtain passports to leave the country, have no say over what branch they're assigned to and largely perform basic tasks such as painting or office jobs.

But their hopes were dashed when U.S. Secre-

tary of State Antony Blinken said in late April that barring changes in Iran there was no plan to remove the designation. He acknowledged in remarks before U.S. lawmakers that those most affected are the conscripts while "the people who are the real bad guys have no intention of travel."

"There should be exceptions, and right now we don't have exceptions,"

said Ally Bolour, a Los Angeles immigration attorney whose firm has sued over how the designation is applied. "It is unfair for the U.S. government to just throw a towel over everything and just lump everybody together. That's lazy."

The U.S. has designated a lengthy list of foreign terror organizations dating back to the 1990s, including Hamas and Peru's Shining Path. But the groups are almost entirely private militias, not state-run entities, like IRGC, that enlist conscripts under the law.

The secretary of state designates the groups in consultation with the attorney general and treasury secretary, and with congressional review, and can also revoke designations. For example, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia was listed as a foreign terror organization in 1997 and delisted in 2021.

People who provide support or resources to foreign terror organizations and who aren't U.S. citizens can't legally enter the country and can face deportation. In addition, financial institutions that control funds for these groups must retain possession of the funds and report them to U.S. authorities. □

A roof over their head: Churches use tiny homes for homeless



In this photo provided by The Rev. Lisa G. Fishbeck, Nathaniel "Pee Wee" Lee sits outside his home in Chapel Hill, N.C., on May 23, 2022. (The Rev. Lisa G. Fishbeck via AP)

By **HOLLY MEYER**
Associated Press

(AP) - Churches across the U.S. are tackling the big question of how to address

homelessness in their communities with a small solution: tiny homes.

On vacant plots near their parking lots and steeped

sanctuaries, congregations are building everything from fixed and fully contained micro homes to petite, moveable cabins, and several other styles of small-footprint dwellings in between.

Church leaders are not just trying to be more neighborly. The drive to provide shelter is rooted in their beliefs — they must care for the vulnerable, especially those without homes.

"It's just such an integral part of who we are as a people of faith," said the Rev. Lisa Fischbeck, former Episcopal vicar and the board chair of Pee Wee Homes, an affordable housing organization building tiny abodes in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Fischbeck led the Episcopal Church of the Advocate when it added three one-bedroom units on its 15-acre campus. The first residents, including the organization's namesake, Nathaniel "Pee Wee" Lee, moved into them in June 2019.

Before that Lee, 78, had spent years sleeping in alleys, cardboard shelters and cars after medical issues ended his masonry career. Today he enjoys watching TV in his home, growing tomatoes and fishing in the nearby pond.

"I thank the Lord because this is mine and nobody can run me out," Lee said, breaking out in laughter as he sat on the porch of his little white house.

Fischbeck said tiny homes can fit nearly anywhere, and an advantage to building them on church properties is they already have electricity, water and other infrastructure in place. "I just feel so passionately that churches have space," she said. "Just consider it. It's a dire need."

The embrace of tiny homes as housing solutions can be found in both sacred and secular spaces. Within the Christian sphere, their use spans denominations. Often the tiny homes projects build on related ministries such as providing parking space for people living in their cars. Beneficiaries are generally welcome to attend worship services but not required to do so. □

As summit host, Spain urges NATO to watch its southern flank

By JOSEPH WILSON

Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) —

While Russia's invasion of Ukraine is certain to dominate an upcoming NATO summit in Madrid, Spain and other member nations are quietly pushing the Western alliance to consider how mercenaries aligned with Russian President Vladimir Putin are spreading Moscow's influence to Africa.

As the host of the summit taking place from Tuesday to Thursday, Spain wants to emphasize its proximity to Africa as it lobbies for a greater focus on Europe's southern flank in a new document outlining NATO's vision of its security challenges and tasks.

The Strategic Concept is NATO's most important working document after the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949, which contained the key provision holding that an attack on one member is viewed as an attack upon all. The security assessment is updated roughly every decade to reset the West's security agenda.

The current version, approved in Lisbon in 2010, stated the risk of a conventional war on NATO territory was "low." It did not explicitly mention con-



Spain's Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez speaks at the EU headquarters in Brussels, June 22, 2022. Russia's invasion of Ukraine is certain to dominate an upcoming NATO summit in Madrid. But host nation Spain and other members are quietly pushing the Western alliance to consider how mercenaries aligned with Russian President Vladimir Putin are spreading Moscow's influence in Africa. (AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert, File)

cerns about instability in Africa. At the time, the alliance viewed apathy as its biggest military threat; U.S. complaints that some European members were not paying their due featured heavily in summit talks.

Fast forward a dozen years, and the view looks very different from NATO headquarters in Brussels. After Russia brought war close to NATO's eastern borders,

the alliance has worked to provide Ukraine with an assortment of more powerful weapons and to avoid the very real risk of getting drawn into the fighting.

But there appears to be a consensus among NATO members heading into the Madrid summit that while Russia remains concern No. 1, the alliance must continue to widen its view globally. Spain's position for

an increased focus on "the South" is shared by Britain, France and Italy.

In their view, the security challenges in Africa arise from a Putin apparently dead-set on restoring the imperial glories of Russia as well as from an expansive China. Russia has gained traction thanks to the presence of its mercenaries in the Sahel region, a semiarid expanse stretching from

Senegal to Sudan that suffers from political strife, terrorism and drought.

"Each time I meet with NATO ministers, the support of the allies is total due to the instability that we see on the alliance's southern frontier and especially the situation in the Sahel region right now," Spanish Foreign Minister José Albares said.

The Kremlin denies links to the Wagner Group, a mercenary force with an increasing presence in central and North Africa and the Middle East. The private military company, which has also participated in the war in Ukraine, has developed footholds in Libya, Mali, Sudan and Central African Republic.

In Mali, Wagner soldiers are filling a void created by the exit of former colonial power France. In Sudan, Russia's offer of an economic alliance earned it the promise of a naval base on the Red Sea.

In Central African Republic, Wagner fighters protect the country's gold and diamond mines. In return, Putin gets diplomatic allies and resources.

French President Emmanuel Macron has long called for a "greater involvement" from NATO in the Sahel region. □

Bosnian Serb leader prays for Trump's return, praises Putin

Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) —

The leader of Bosnia's Serbs said Sunday he hoped former U.S. President Donald Trump would return to power and that the Serbs would "wait for appropriate global circumstances" to reach for their goal of seceding from Bosnia, which he called an "unsustainable state."

Milorad Dodik, who was a rare European official to hold talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin since the war in Ukraine started in late February, made the comments at a gathering marking the start of a bloody breakup of Bosnia 30 years ago.

Bosnia went through a devastating 1992-95 war in

which over 100,000 people died before a U.S.-brokered peace deal ended the conflict.

The peace deal, also known as the Dayton Accords, created Bosnian Serb and Bosniak-Croat entities tied together by joint Bosnian institutions and a tripartite presidency of which Dodik is a member. Russia's war in Ukraine has aroused fears that the turmoil could spill over to the volatile Balkans, where Russia has maintained strong influence among fellow-Slavic Serbs.

Dodik, who has led a Bosnian Serb secessionist drive, said he was convinced that Serbs would soon make important decisions about their fate in Bosnia. He also

expressed expectation that Trump would again lead the United States.

"For the first time in history, Serbs are waiting for time," Dodik said. "We must be patient, understand time. Europe is inevitably confused, with its internal problems. I pray to God that Donald Trump comes to power in America again." During his presidency, Trump rarely spoke against the continuous attempts by Bosnian Serbs to destabilize Bosnia. After Joe Biden became president, Dodik was slapped with the U.S. and British sanctions over his proclaimed goal to split about half of Bosnia and join it with neighboring Serbia.

Dodik met Putin in Russia



Bosnian Serb member of the tripartite Presidency of Bosnia Milorad Dodik watches military exercises on Batajnica, military airport near Belgrade, Serbia, Saturday, April 30, 2022. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic, File)

earlier this month, saying Sunday he was proud of the meeting. "He told me only one thing, and that

was, 'We are not leaving our friends.' It is the Russians who have not done us any harm," Dodik said. □

Danish queen opens new museum telling the story of refugees

By JAN M. OLSEN

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark

(AP) — Denmark's Queen Margrethe opened a new museum Saturday that tells the story of the generations of refugees who have shaped Danish society, starting with Germans who fled the Soviet advance during World War II.

Flugt — Refugee Museum of Denmark was created on the site of a camp in Oksboel, a town in southwestern Denmark, that housed up to 100,000 refugees from Germany in the postwar years.

Flugt — which means escape in Danish — also tells the story of immigrants from Iran, Lebanon, Hungary, Vietnam and elsewhere who fled their homelands and found shelter in the Scandinavian country. They tell their stories in their own words on large video screens.

"Being a refugee is not something one decides. It is not one's personal choice, it is something that happens," Sawzan Gharib Dall, a stateless Palestinian who was born in a refugee camp in Lebanon and lived there until she fled and arrived in Denmark in 1985, says in one video.

Curator Claus Kjeld Jensen explained that the aim



The Danish Queen Margrethe and museum director Claus Kjeld Jensen walk during the inauguration of the new museum Flugt, in Oksboel, Denmark, Saturday, June 25, 2022. Flugt — Refugee Museum of Denmark was created on the site of a camp in Oksboel, a town in southwestern Denmark, that housed up to 100,000 refugees from Germany in the postwar years. (Bo Amstrup/Ritzau Scanpix via AP)

of the museum is "to turn numbers into people and convey the completely universal issues, emotions and many nuances associated with being a person on the run."

The museum was designed by prominent Danish architect Bjarke Ingels and consists of a curved modern building of wood and glass that links two older brick annexes that were hospital buildings in the postwar years.

Ingels has said that the new museum has become more relevant as Denmark has recently accepted refugees fleeing Russia's war in Ukraine.

Outside the museum, a path guides visitors past plaques describing the fates of the Germans who sought shelter in the camp, called Oksboellejren, between 1945 and 1949. Most of them eventually settled in West Germany but a cemetery on the site has

become the final resting place for those who died there.

The museum, which opens to the public June 29, was financed by private donations and the German government, and German vice chancellor, Robert Habeck, represented his country at Saturday's opening ceremony.

It is located 275 kilometers (170 miles) west of Copenhagen but just 95 kilometers (60 miles) from the border

with Germany.

Denmark was a haven for refugees in the past. Of Denmark's 5.8 million people, more than 650,000 are immigrants, while 208,000 are listed in the state statistics as descendants of immigrants.

However, the country in recent years, with large-scale migration a source of angst in the Western world, has sought to place limits on the number of newcomers that it accepts. It has at times attracted international criticism for the way it has tried to discourage them from trying to settle there.

Wedge between Germany and Sweden, Denmark only took in a small part of the more than 1 million people who arrived from Africa and the Middle East in the migration crisis year of 2015.

More than 11,500 people applied for asylum in Denmark, while 1.1 million did so in Germany and 163,000 in Sweden. Many saw Denmark only as a transit point because of the tough Danish stance.

In 2016, a law was passed allowing authorities to seize jewelry and other assets from refugees to help finance their housing and other services. In practice, it has been implemented only a handful of times. □

Israeli PM convenes Cabinet before parliament is dissolved



Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett chairs a cabinet meeting at the prime minister's office in Jerusalem, Sunday, June 26, 2022. (Ronen Zvulun/Pool via AP)

Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett convened what is likely his last Cabinet meeting as premier on Sunday, with parliament expected

to dissolve itself this week, triggering new elections in the fall.

Bennett's decision to head to elections puts an end to an ambitious political project that united eight ideo-

logically disparate parties that chose to put aside their differences to oust former leader Benjamin Netanyahu, the current opposition leader, who now has an opening to return to lead the country. The elections, the fifth the country has held in three years, deepen an unprecedented political crisis in Israel.

At the meeting, Bennett listed a series of accomplishments under his year-old government and thanked his coalition partners, which included dovish parties that support Palestinian statehood, nationalist ones who don't, and for the first time in Israeli history, an Arab political faction.

"It was an excellent government that relied, yes, on

a complicated coalition. And here in this room there is a group of people that knew how to put aside ideological disagreements, to rise above, and to work for the state of Israel," he said. As part of the power-sharing agreement that brought Bennett to power, he is set to hand over the premiership to Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, a centrist former broadcaster, once parliament is dissolved. Elections are expected around the end of October and polls show Netanyahu's Likud party is expected to garner the most seats.

But as in most rounds of voting during the current political turmoil, Netanyahu, who is on trial for corruption, has been unable to

muster a majority to form a coalition government, with some of his traditional allies refusing to join him. That could further extend the crisis after the upcoming vote.

While Bennett's government helped steady the economy and navigated the last year of the coronavirus pandemic, it was beset by disagreements over the very issues it sought to avoid, particularly Israel's 55-year occupation of the West Bank. Bennett said he decided to put an end to his political experiment because the government was unable to renew regulations that enshrine separate legal systems for Jewish settlers in the territory and Palestinians. □



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Destruction everywhere, help scarce after Afghanistan quake

By EBRAHIM NOROOZI and
RAHIM FAIEZ

Associated Press

GAYAN, Afghanistan
(AP) —

When the ground heaved from last week's earthquake in Afghanistan, Nahim Gul's stone-and-mud house collapsed on top of him.

He clawed through the rubble in the pre-dawn darkness, choking on dust as he searched for his father and two sisters. He doesn't know how many hours of digging passed before he caught a glimpse of their bodies under the ruins. They were dead.

Now, days after a 6 magnitude quake that devastated a remote southeast region of Afghanistan and killed at least 1,150 people by authorities' estimates, Gul sees destruction everywhere and help in short supply. His niece and nephew were also killed in the quake, crushed by the walls of their house.

The United Nations has put the death toll at 770 people but warned it could rise further. Either toll would make the quake Afghanistan's deadliest in two decades.

"I don't know what will happen to us or how we should restart our lives," Gul told The Associated Press on Sunday, his hands bruised and his shoulder injured. "We don't have any money to rebuild."

It's a fear shared among thousands in the impoverished villages where the fury of the quake has fallen most heavily — in Paktika and Khost provinces, along the jagged mountains that straddle the country's border with Pakistan.

Those who were barely scraping by have lost everything. Many have yet to be visited by aid groups and authorities, which are struggling to reach the af-



Afghan girl carries a donated matress after an earthquake in Gayan village, in Paktika province, Afghanistan, Friday, June 24, 2022. A powerful earthquake struck a rugged, mountainous region of eastern Afghanistan early Wednesday, flattening stone and mud-brick homes in the country's deadliest quake in two decades, the state-run news agency reported. (AP Photo/Ebrahim Nooroozi)

flicted area on rutted roads — some made impassable by landslides and damage. Aware of its constraints, the cash-strapped Taliban have called for foreign assistance and on Saturday appealed to Washington to unfreeze billions of dollars in Afghanistan's currency reserves. The United Nations and an array of international aid groups and countries have mobilized to send help.

China pledged Saturday nearly \$7.5 million in emergency humanitarian aid, joining nations including Iran, Pakistan, South Korea, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar in dispatching a planeload of tents, towels, beds and other badly needed supplies to the quake-hit area.

U.N. Deputy Special Representative Ramiz Alakbarov toured the hard-hit Paktika province on Saturday to assess the damage and distribute food, medicine and tents. U.N. helicop-

ters and trucks laden with bread, flour, rice and blankets have trickled into the stricken areas.

"Yesterday's visit reaffirmed to me both the extreme suffering of people in Afghanistan and their tremendous resolve in the face of great adversity," Alakbarov said, appealing for the repair of damaged water pipes, roads and communication lines in the area.

Without support, he added, Afghans "will continue to endure unnecessary and unimaginable hardship." But the relief effort remains patchy and limited due to funding and access constraints. The Taliban, which seized power last August from a government sustained for 20 years by a U.S.-led military coalition, appears overwhelmed by the logistical complexities of issues like debris removal in what is shaping up to be a major test of its capacity to govern.

Villagers have dug out their dead loved ones with their bare hands, buried them in mass graves and slept in the woods despite the rain. Nearly 800 families are living out in the open, according to the U.N.'s humanitarian coordination organization OCHA.

Gul received a tent and blankets from a local charity in the Gayan district, but he and his surviving relatives have had to fend for themselves. Terrified as the earth still rumbles from aftershocks like one on Friday that claimed five more lives, he said his children in Gayan refuse to go indoors. The earthquake was the latest calamity to convulse Afghanistan, which has been reeling from a dire economic crisis since the Taliban took control of the country as the U.S. and its NATO allies were withdrawing their forces. Foreign aid — a mainstay of Afghanistan's economy for decades — stopped prac-

tically overnight.

World governments piled on sanctions, halted bank transfers and paralyzed trade, refusing to recognize the Taliban government. The Biden administration cut off the Taliban's access to \$7 billion in foreign currency reserves held in the United States.

As he toured the disaster site, Acting Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi urged the White House to release the funds "at a time when Afghanistan is in the grips of earthquakes and floods" and to lift banking restrictions so charities can more easily provide aid.

Western donors have withheld longer-term assistance as they demand the Taliban allow a more inclusive rule and respect human rights. The former insurgents have resisted the pressure, imposing restrictions on the freedoms of women and girls that recall their first time in power in the late 1990s.

Now, around half the country's 39 million people are facing life-threatening levels of food insecurity because of poverty. Most civil servants, including doctors, nurses and teachers, have not been paid for months.

U.N. agencies and other remaining organizations have scrambled to keep Afghanistan from the brink of starvation with a humanitarian program that has fed millions and kept the medical system afloat. But with international donors lagging, U.N. agencies face a \$3 billion funding shortfall this year.

On Sunday, the World Health Organization said it was stepping up surveillance of infections diseases in Afghanistan's earthquake-hit areas. Afghanistan is one of the two remaining polio-endemic countries in the world. □



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your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

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The Special Corps Aruba (CEA) received five transport vehicles from the Netherlands

ORANJESTAD - Recently, the Minister of Justice and Social Affairs paid a visit to the CEA to see the five transport vehicles that recently arrived from the Netherlands.

Based on a long-existing agreement between Aruba and the Netherlands, Aruba receives vehicles from the Netherlands that are in good condition and no longer in use by the authorities. In this case, CEA received these five vehicles used to transport detainees.

During the visit, he received a thorough explanation from the CEA personnel about these vehicles. These vehicles are Mercedes Benz and in excellent condition, fully equipped with the latest technology and indoor security cameras for the safety of the personnel and the detainees while in transport.

The Minister is grateful for the arrival of these vehicles and agrees with CEA Director Ronny Geerman that a structural plan is needed to replace these vehicles in the future.

The negotiations with the Dutch authorities are ongoing for a replacement plan soon. These investments are essential for the personnel.

The priority is to invest more in the personnel and to have the necessary equipment to perform their duties accordingly and safely. □



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Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!



NOORD - It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process.



It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass.

The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass.

The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry!

Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges.

Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass.

Each colored gem on the beach has its

own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink" bottles.

If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day!

Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into treasures!

Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! ☐



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EXPLAINER: What's the impact of a Russian debt default?

By The Associated Press

(AP) - Russia is poised to default on its foreign debt for the first time since the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, further alienating the country from the global financial system following sanctions imposed over its war in Ukraine.

The country faces a Sunday night deadline to meet a 30-day grace period on interest payments originally due May 27. But it could take time to confirm a default.

"While there is a possibility that some magic could occur" and Russia gets the money through financial institutions to bondholders despite sanctions, "nobody's making that bet," said Jay S. Auslander, a top sovereign debt lawyer at the firm of Wilk Auslander in New York. "The overwhelming probability is they won't be able to because no bank is going to move the money."

Last month, the U.S. Treasury Department ended Russia's ability to pay its billions in debt back to international investors through American banks. In response, the Russian Finance Ministry said it would pay dollar-denominated debts in rubles and offer "the opportunity for subsequent conversion into the original currency."

Russia calls any default artificial because it has the money to pay its debts but says sanctions have frozen its foreign currency reserves held abroad.

"There is money and there is also the readiness to pay," Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov said last month. "This situation, artificially created by an unfriendly country, will not have any effect on Russians' quality of life."

Tim Ash, senior emerging market sovereign analyst at BlueBay Asset Management, tweeted that the default "is clearly not" beyond Russia's control and that sanctions are preventing it from paying its debts because it invaded Ukraine.

Here are key things to know about a Russian default:

How much does Russia owe?



Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen arrives to meet with Irish Finance Minister Paschal Donohoe at the Treasury Department, Thursday, June 2, 2022, in Washington. Russia is poised to default on its foreign debt for the first time since the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, further alienating the country from the global financial system amid its war in Ukraine. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, File)

About \$40 billion in foreign bonds, about half of that to foreigners. Before the start of the war, Russia had around \$640 billion in foreign currency and gold reserves, much of which was held overseas and is now frozen.

Russia has not defaulted on its international debts since the Bolshevik Revolution for than a century ago, when the Russian Empire collapsed and the Soviet Union was created. Russia defaulted on its domestic debts in the late 1990s but was able to recover from that default with the help of international aid.

Investors have expected Russia to default for months. Insurance contracts that cover Russian debt have priced a 80% likelihood of default for weeks, and rating agencies like Standard & Poor's and Moody's have placed the country's debt deep into junk territory.

How do you know if a country is in default?

Ratings agencies can low-

er the rating to default or a court can decide the issue. Bondholders who have credit default swaps — contracts that act like insurance policies against default — can ask a committee of financial firm representatives to decide whether a failure to pay debt should trigger a payout, which still isn't a formal declaration of default.

The Credit Default Determination Committee — an industry group of banks and investment funds — ruled June 7 that Russia had failed to pay required additional interest after making a payment on a bond after the April 4 due date. But the committee put off taking further action due to uncertainty over how sanctions might affect any settlement.

What can investors do?

The formal way to declare default is if 25% or more of bondholders say they didn't get their money. Once that happens, provisions say all Russia's other

foreign bonds are also in default, and bondholders could then seek a court judgment to enforce payment.

In normal circumstances, investors and the defaulting government typically negotiate a settlement in which bondholders are given new bonds that are worth less but that at least give them some partial compensation.

But sanctions bar dealings with Russia's finance ministry. And no one knows when the war will end or how much defaulted bonds could wind up being worth. In this case, declaring default and suing "might not be the wisest choice," Auslander said. It's not possible to negotiate with Russia and there are so many unknowns, so creditors may decide to "hang tight for now."

Investors who wanted out of Russian debt have probably already headed for the exits, leaving those who may have bought bonds

at knocked-down prices in hopes of profiting from a settlement in the long run. And they might want to keep a low profile for a while to avoid being associated with the war.

Once a country defaults, it can be cut off from bond-market borrowing until the default is sorted out and investors regain confidence in the government's ability and willingness to pay. But Russia has already been cut off from Western capital markets, so any return to borrowing is a long way off anyway.

The Kremlin can still borrow rubles at home, where it mostly relies on Russian banks to buy its bonds.

What would be the impact of Russia's default?

Western sanctions over the war have sent foreign companies fleeing from Russia and interrupted the country's trade and financial ties with the rest of the world. Default would be one more symptom of that isolation and disruption.

Investment analysts are cautiously reckoning that a Russia default would not have the kind of impact on global financial markets and institutions that came from an earlier default in 1998. Back then, Russia's default on domestic ruble bonds led the U.S. government to step in and get banks to bail out Long-Term Capital Management, a large U.S. hedge fund whose collapse, it was feared, could have shaken the wider financial and banking system.

Holders of the bonds — for instance, funds that invest in emerging market bonds — could take serious losses. Russia, however, played only a small role in emerging market bond indexes, limiting the losses to fund investors.

While the war itself is having devastating consequences in terms of human suffering and higher food and energy prices worldwide, default on government bonds would be "definitely not systemically relevant," International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has said. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 48 Compete in a bee

1 Seaport setting
6 Diner seating choice

11 Spotted horse

12 Boise's state

13 Mayflower name

14 Board, as a bus

15 Mature

17 Take to court

18 Like some G-rated films

22 Ore source

23 Ford follower

27 Goats on

29 Depart

30 Greet a general

32 Passed with ease

33 Sphagnum

35 Had lunch

38 Undiluted

39 Shabby bars

41 Wise words

45 Pal, to Pedro

46 Wall art

47 Honeydew, for one

DOWN

1 Busy one in Apr.

2 Squeak stopper

3 In addition

4 Angry

5 Polynesian nation

6 "So what?!"

7 Keats work

8 Feedbag fill

9 Bible pronoun

10 Sharpen

16 Series-ending abbr.

18 Swiss peaks

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Saturday's answer

19 Nick Charles's wife

20 Pop star

21 Invented

24 Folded food

25 Nights before

26 Some wines

28 Nero, to Augustus

31 Water, in France

34 Street-cars

35 First person

36 Clock reading

37 Wicked of self

40 Sense there yet?"

42 "— we

43 Lass

44 Building wing

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6-27

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

6-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

EYQ CQWE IHEYQZW YHNQ EYQ

WAIEQWE, WDQQEQWE YQHZEW.

SX AEYQZ DAZKW, TZQHE KHKW

HZQ ZQH G UHZWYUHG GADW.

— ZSVYQGGQ Q. TAAKZSVY

Saturday's Cryptoquote: AN OUNCE OF SAUCE COVERS A MULTITUDE OF SINS. — ANTHONY BOURDAIN

After Roe, Dems seek probe of tech's use of personal data



Clinic escort Kim Gibson stands outside the Jackson Women's Health Organization clinic in Jackson, Miss., calling out to incoming patients that the clinic is still open, moments after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe v. Wade was issued, Friday, June 24, 2022. (AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

By MARCY GORDON

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the Supreme Court ending the constitutional protections for abortion, four Democratic lawmakers are asking federal regulators to investigate Apple and Google for allegedly deceiving millions of mobile phone users by enabling the collection and sale of their personal data to third parties.

The decision Friday by the court's conservative majority to overturn Roe v. Wade is expected to lead to abortion bans in about half the states. Privacy experts say that could make women vulnerable because their personal data could be used to surveil pregnancies and shared with police or sold to vigilantes. Online searches, period apps, fitness trackers and advice helplines could become rich data sources for such surveillance efforts.

The request for an investiga-

tion of the two California-based tech giants came Friday in a letter to Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan. It was signed by Democratic Sens. Ron Wyden of Oregon, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Cory Booker of New Jersey, and Rep. Sara Jacobs of California. It was sent shortly before the Supreme Court announced its decision overturning the 1973 precedent and noted that the court was likely to do so. "Individuals seeking abortions and other reproductive health-care will become particularly vulnerable to privacy harms, including through the collection and sharing of their location data," the lawmakers said in the letter. "Data brokers are already selling, licensing and sharing the location information of people that visit abortion providers to anyone with a credit card."

They said prosecutors in

states where abortion becomes illegal could soon be able to obtain warrants for location information about anyone who has visited an abortion provider.

"Private actors will also be incentivized by state bounty laws to hunt down women who have obtained or are seeking an abortion by accessing location information through shady data brokers," the lawmakers wrote.

They asked Khan for an investigation of Apple and Google's practices in mobile phone users' data generally. They accused the companies of engaging in "unfair and deceptive practices by enabling the collection and sale of hundreds of millions of mobile phone users' personal data."

The companies "knowingly facilitated" the harmful practices by building location identifiers used for advertising into their mobile phone operating systems, the lawmakers said.

FTC spokesman Peter Kaplan confirmed that the agency had received the letter but said there would be no comment on it.

Apple and Google didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

The lawmakers' letter noted that Apple and Google now allow consumers to opt out of the data tracking. However, it said that until recently, Apple enabled the tracking identifier by default and required consumers to dig through confusing phone settings to turn it off. Google still enables it by default, and until recently did not even provide consumers with an opt-out, the letter said.

Last month, Wyden, Warren and Booker, along with Sens. Edward Markey, D-Mass., and Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., urged the CEOs of Google and Apple to prohibit apps on the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store from using data-mining practices that could facilitate the targeting of individuals seeking abortion services. □

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24/7

Explorers find WWII Navy destroyer, deepest wreck discovered



In this Wednesday, June 22, 2022, image provided by Caladan Oceanic, the three-tube torpedo launcher that was part of the USS Samuel B. Roberts can be seen underwater off the Philippines in the Western Pacific Ocean. (Caladan Oceanic via AP)

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

A U.S. Navy destroyer that engaged a superior Japanese fleet in the largest sea battle of World War II in the Philippines has become the deepest wreck to be discovered, according to explorers.

The USS Samuel B. Roberts, popularly known as the "Sammy B," was identified on Wednesday broken into two pieces on a slope at a depth of 6,985 meters (22,916 feet).

That puts it 426 meters (1,400 feet) deeper than the USS Johnston, the previous deepest wreck discovered last year in the Philippine Sea also by American explorer Victor Vescovo, founder of Dallas-based Caladan Oceanic Expeditions. He announced the latest find together with U.K.-based EYOS Expeditions.

"It was an extraordinary honor to locate this incredibly famous ship, and by doing so have the chance to retell her story of heroism and duty to those who may not know of the ship and her crew's sacrifice," Vescovo, a former Navy commander, said in a statement.

The Sammy B. took part in the Battle off Samar, the final phase of the Battle of Leyte Gulf in October 1944, in which the Imperial Japanese Navy suffered its biggest loss of ships and failed to dislodge the U.S. forces from Leyte, which they invaded earlier as part of the liberation of the Philippines. According to some records, the destroyer disabled a Japanese heavy cruiser with a torpedo and significantly damaged another. After having spent virtually all its ammunition, she was critically hit by the

lead battleship Yamato and sank. Of a 224-man crew, 89 died and 120 were saved, including the captain, Lt. Cmdr. Robert W. Copeland.

According to Samuel J. Cox, a retired admiral and naval historian, Copeland stated there was "no higher honor" than to have led the men who displayed such incredible courage going into battle against overwhelming odds, from which survival could not be expected.

"This site is a hallowed war grave, and serves to remind all Americans of the great cost born by previous generations for the freedom we take for granted

today," Cox said in a statement.

The explorers said that up until the discovery, the historical records of where the wreck lay were not very accurate. The search involved the use of the deepest side-scan sonar ever installed and operated on a submersible, well beyond the standard commercial limitations of 6,000 meters (19,685 feet), EYOS said. □

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Mishael Morgan is 1st Black lead winner at Daytime Emmys

By BETH HARRIS

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) —

Mishael Morgan of "The Young and the Restless" won as lead drama actress, becoming the first Black actor to win in a lead category at the Daytime Emmys on Friday night.

Morgan was previously nominated in the supporting category. The 35-year-old from Trinidad and Tobago plays Amanda Sinclair on the CBS soap.

"I am being honored regardless of the color of my skin, regardless of my passport, for being the best at what I do," Morgan said. "Now there are little girls all around the world and they're seeing another step forward and they know that no matter their industry, no matter their vocation, no matter what, they can strive to be the best at what they do. Not only can they achieve it, but they will be celebrated."

John McCook earned lead actor honors for his role as Eric Forrester on CBS' "The Bold and the Beautiful." It was the 78-year-old's first win in four nominations.

"I am so glad to get this Emmy, any Emmy actually," he said.

"General Hospital" won daytime drama honors, the ABC show's 15th triumph in the category. It was the fifth trophy earned by the show Friday.

Morgan is in her second



Mishael Morgan accepts the award for outstanding performance by a lead actress in a drama series for her role in "The Young and the Restless" at the 49th annual Daytime Emmy Awards on Friday, June 24, 2022, in Pasadena, Calif. (AP Photo/Chris Pizzello)

stint on "Y&R." She first joined the soap in 2013 and stayed until 2018. She returned in 2019 as a different character.

"I am so immensely proud of our generation. We are breaking glass ceilings left, right and center, and I am so honored to be a vessel and experience this moment," she said. "It's because of everybody who is out there today who is proving to the world that we can and we will do this thing called equality and unity together."

Three "General Hospital" stars won honors and the soap's directing team won for the third consecutive year.

Kelly Thiebaud was chosen supporting actress for playing Dr. Britt Westbourne and Jeff Kober scored as supporting actor for his role as Cyrus Renault. Nicholas Chavez won as younger performer in the soap.

"Wow!" Chavez said. "Just a little over a year ago I was selling cars in a little beach town in Florida. I always had the love and sup-

port of my family, but none of us had ever dreamed I'd be up on this stage."

A gleeful Thiebaud won on her first nomination.

"I cannot believe this. I am so shocked," she said. "My brother, when I first started acting, he followed my work and he's like, 'You're not that good.' So thank you for giving me something to rub in his face."

Kober is known for his extensive film and prime-time work on such shows as "Sons of Anarchy" and "The Walking Dead."

"Wow, thank you for making me feel so welcome in daytime. What a trip," he said. "I love what we get to do for a living, it's play."

NBC's "Days of Our Lives" won for writing team.

Kelly Clarkson earned her third consecutive trophy as entertainment talk show host. Her eponymous show also won its second straight trophy for entertainment talk show. The singer is spending the summer with her children and didn't attend.

Tamron Hall picked up her second straight trophy as informative talk show host. Steve Harvey of "Family Feud" won as game show host.

"Jeopardy!" won game show honors.

"Jeopardy!" is a show about facts," executive producer Michael Davies said. "Facts, with everything going on in the world, are more important than ever. 'Jeopardy!' is the last place where everyone agrees about facts."

Daytime doyenne Susan Lucci, who starred on "All My Children" during the show's entire 41-year network run, received a standing ovation.

She introduced the In Memoriam segment, which included a photo of her husband, Helmet Huber, who died in March. Michael Bolton crooned his hit "How Am I Supposed to Live Without You." □

BET Awards return Sunday with Doja Cat as leading nominee



Doja Cat performs at the Coachella Music & Arts Festival at the Empire Polo Club on Sunday, April 24, 2022, in Indio, Calif. The BET Awards return Sunday, June 26, with a live show that could see Doja Cat, Drake and Ari Lennox snag some trophies. Doja Cat enters the show as the leading nominee with six. (Photo by Amy Harris/Invision/AP, File)

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The BET Awards return Sunday with a live show that could see Doja Cat, Drake and Ari Lennox snag some trophies.

Doja Cat enters the show as the leading nominee with six. The chart-topping performer is up for best female R&B-pop artist, best female hip-hop artist, album of the year for her No. 1 hit "Planet Her" and BET Her for "Woman." Her "Kiss Me More" with SZA is nominated for video of the year and best collaboration.

Taraji P. Henson will host the show from the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Sean "Diddy" Combs will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award — one of the highest honors at the ceremony. The music mogul is the founder of Bad Boy Records, has his own television network, fashion line and is a three-time Grammy winner who has worked with a slew of top-tier artists including Notorious B.I.G., Mary J. Blige, Usher, Lil Kim, Faith Evans and 112.

Drake and Ari Lennox are the second-most nominated acts, scoring four nods

each. Three nominations went to several others including Baby Keem, Silk Sonic, Chloe Bailey, Future, H.E.R., Jazmine Sullivan, Ye (formerly known as Kanye West), Kendrick Lamar, Lil Baby, Mary J. Blige and Tems.

Performers include Lil Wayne, Chance the Rapper, Ella Mai, Roddy Ricch, Lizzo and Kirk Franklin.

The winners in the 19 categories, including film and sports awards, will be selected by BET's Voting Academy, comprised of entertainment professionals and fans. □

Could this be the year for a new Wimbledon men's champion?

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)

— It's been two decades since the Wimbledon men's singles championship was won by someone outside the quartet of Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray. Could this be the year someone else earns that trophy?

"Yeah, why not? What Roger, Rafa, Andy and Novak have done for this sport is really incredible, and they've had so many battles. But the time is definitely coming for new faces," said Hubert Hurkacz, a 25-year-old from Poland who beat Federer a year ago on Centre Court en route to the semifinals at the All England Club.

"We're coming out and playing some really good tennis. It's definitely getting more competitive. We're starting to catch up a little bit," added Hurkacz, who is seeded No. 7 and will face Alejandro Davidovich Fokina as the grass-court Grand Slam tournament begins Monday. "And it's interesting for the fans, as well."

If that streak of titles collected by the so-called Big Four of men's tennis does come to an end following this fortnight — no sure thing, certainly, because even though Federer, who turns 41 on Aug. 8, isn't in the field after a series of knee operations, and Murray, 35, is no longer the player he was before two hip operations, Djokovic, 35, and Nadal, 36, are seeded 1-2 and have combined to win 14 of the past 16 major trophies overall — Hurkacz has demonstrated he's among the contenders with a chance.

He prepared for Wimbledon by beating top-ranked Daniil Medvedev, who won't be at the All England Club because all players from Russia and Belarus are banned over the war in Ukraine, in the final of the grass-court event at Halle, Germany, on Saturday.

Other names to keep an eye on are Matteo Berrettini, the big-hitting runner-up to Djokovic a year ago who is seeded No. 8 this



Spain's Rafael Nadal, right, greets Serbia's Novak Djokovic during a practice session on Centre Court ahead of the 2022 Wimbledon Championship at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, in London, Thursday, June 23, 2022. (Steven Paston/PA via AP)

time and picked up two grass titles in recent weeks; a pair of Canadians, No. 2021 quarterfinalist, and 6 Felix Auger-Aliassime, a No. 13 Denis Shapovalov,

a 2021 semifinalist; and No. 4 Stefanos Tsitsipas, whose career record at Wimbledon includes three first-round losses and one run to the fourth round but who believes he can adjust his game to the surface and eventually make his way to the final days of the tournament. "My tennis is suited for that. I'm a person that likes to work hard, so I see no reason not to get there — because I'm capable with my tennis, I'm capable with my mind, I'm capable with my abilities as a tennis player," said Tsitsipas, the runner-up to Djokovic on clay at last year's French Open and the champion on grass at the Mallorca Championships on Saturday. "I absolutely think that I can get there one day." □

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