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Radio News Reporting

2021 District - Async Round 1

# International

## WHO team in Wuhan visits disease control centers

A World Health Organization team investigating the origins of the coronavirus pandemic visited two disease control centers on Monday that had an early hand in managing the outbreak in the central Chinese city of Wuhan. The WHO investigators arrived in Wuhan, the provincial capital, last month to look for clues and have visited hospitals and a seafood market where early cases were detected. The team on Monday visited both the Hubei Provincial Center for Disease Control and its Wuhan city office, amid tight Chinese controls on access to information about the virus. China has sought to avoid blame for alleged missteps in its early response to the outbreak, while promoting alternative theories that the virus originated elsewhere and may even have been brought to Wuhan from outside the country. Following the visit to the provincial center, team member Peter Daszak told reporters it had been a “really good meeting, really important.” No other details were given. The evidence the team assembles will add to what is expected to be a years-long quest for answers. Pinning down an outbreak’s animal sources requires massive amounts of research, including taking animal samples, genetic analysis and epidemiological studies. In Geneva, WHO officials pushed back Monday against suggestions China is being less than forthcoming about how the pandemic started. At a press briefing, WHO’s COVID-19 technical lead Maria Van Kerkhove said the team has plans to visit the Wuhan Institute of Virology, among other sites. “The more detail you have on the ground, the more questions you have,” she said. “The team will follow the information. They will follow the science and continue to ask questions and analyze data.” Van Kerkhove said it would be up to team members to decide what other field visits were necessary, although China must approve the mission’s ultimate agenda. Dr. Michael Ryan, WHO’s emergencies chief, said WHO was continuing to ask for more data and said anyone with information about how the pandemic started should share it with the organization. “We are in the field with experts from 10 countries looking to find the answers. If you have the answers, if you think you have some answers, please let us know,” he said. He dismissed critics who said any report from the mission would be incomplete and said the team “deserves the support of the international community.” China has largely curbed domestic transmission through strict testing and contact tracing. Mask wearing in public is observed almost universally and lockdowns are routinely imposed on communities and even entire cities where cases are detected. The latest outbreaks have been mostly in the frigid northeast, with 33 new cases reported nationally Monday in three provinces.

## Mexican economy shrinks 8.5% in 2020

Mexico’s pandemic-hit economy shrank 8.5% in 2020, the largest single-year drop since 1932 and the second consecutive year of economic contraction. Mexico’s gross domestic product grew 3.1% in the final three months of the year, according to preliminary data released Friday by the National Statistics and Geography Institute. Growth in the second half of 2020 allowed Mexico to beat projections earlier in the year of a double-digit contraction. The second trimester of the year when the pandemic took hold and much economic activity was frozen saw a contraction of 18.7% compared to the same period a year earlier. Unlike in many of the world’s largest economies, Mexico’s government did little to support businesses or subsidize consumers. President Andrés Manuel López Obrador refused to indebt the country to soften the blow. “The 2020 economic plunge is the reflection of not only the devastating effects of the virus pandemic but also the lack of preparedness and insufficient policy response of the current administration,” Alfredo Coutiño, director of Moodys Analytics, wrote in his analysis Friday. Part of the economy gradually began to open in June and the economy grew 12% in the third quarter, but remained 8.6% below the same period a year earlier. Much of the improvement had to do with U.S. economic activity picking up, Coutino said. López Obrador conceded Friday that the country was still 800,000 jobs short of the employment levels before the pandemic, but he said that “there are encouraging signs in the economy.” The Mexican economy was already in a recession before the pandemic struck. “The government’s decision of not implementing a rescue package to support businesses and mitigate the loss of employment took a heavy toll in terms of business mortality and well-being deterioration,” Coutiño said. Mexico ended 2020 with 840,000 fewer jobs than it had in February before the pandemic hit.

## U.N. Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Takes Effect, Without U.S.,Other Powers

A U.N. treaty outlawing nuclear weapons went into effect on Friday, having been ratified by at least 50 countries. But the ban is largely symbolic: The U.S. and the world's other nuclear powers have not signed the treaty. "For the first time in history, nuclear weapons are going to be illegal in international law," Elayne Whyte, Costa Rica's former U.N. ambassador who oversaw the treaty's creation, tells NPR's Geoff Brumfiel. The ban prohibits countries from producing, testing, acquiring, possessing or stockpiling nuclear weapons. It also outlaws the transfer of the weapons and forbids signatories from allowing any nuclear explosive device to be stationed, installed or deployed in their territory. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted in the summer of 2017, in hopes of bringing new momentum to the push to curb the deadliest armament in the world. But even then, it was seen more as a moral statement than an enforceable ban. The treaty is a 96-page reminder to nuclear weapons states, Whyte said, that "they need to be moving forward" with disarmament. "How did the international community deal with slavery, colonialism? Once you delegitimize that conduct, it completely has an impact on the policymaking process," she said. The problem with the ban, global security analysts say, is that while dozens of countries say an outright prohibition is the best way to move ahead with disarmament, others — particularly those who possess nuclear weapons — disagree. The new treaty has also been seen as potentially undercutting the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty that took effect in 1970. But its backers argue that nonproliferation has stagnated, decades after the U.S. and others agreed to that treaty. "Supporters of the ban treaty say it serves to delegitimize nuclear weapons and reinforce global norms against use," the Nuclear Threat Initiative's Isabelle Williams wrote in 2017. She added later, "the new treaty is clear evidence of the worrying polarization of states — polarization driven, in part, by a perceived complacency among the nuclear-armed states and unwillingness to take serious steps to reduce the risks posed by nuclear weapons." The treaty currently has 86 signatories. It has been ratified in 51 of those member states. Early signatories included the Holy See, New Zealand, Thailand and Austria. In the past year, countries such as Belize, Benin and Ireland have ratified or approved the treaty. Nations that signed the treaty cite "the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons," including by accident or miscalculation, saying those effects would transcend international borders.

## Naked fugitive rescued from crocodile mangroves by Australian fishermen

Two fishermen brought home a bigger catch than they were expecting when they rescued a naked fugitive from a crocodile-infested mangrove in northern Australia. Cam Faust and Kevin Joiner were in a small boat laying crab traps in East Point, a suburb in the city of Darwin on Sunday, when they heard someone calling for help, according to CNN affiliate 9News. "We heard this faint like 'ahhh, ahhhh' -- (I said) to me mate 'is that guy saying help?' So we got a bit closer and said 'I can see you,'" Faust told 9News. The pair then noticed Luke Voskresensky, 40, who was naked and clinging to a tree. He had swollen feet, cuts all over his body and was covered in mud, 9News reported. Voskresensky was wanted for allegedly breaching bail over an armed robbery. He broke free from an ankle bracelet that was monitoring his whereabouts days prior, according to 9News. The two men told 9News that Voskresensky had been living in the mangrove for four days. He begged them for water and told the pair that he had been "living off snails." Voskrensky said that he got stuck after getting lost on his way to a New Year's Eve party, according to 9News. Faust and Joiner told 9News that Voskresensky was happy to be rescued. They gave the fugitive a cold drink, and Faust lent the man his shorts. The waterways around Darwin are known to be inhabited by crocodiles, and the East Point area is a nesting spot for the reptiles. After reaching the shore, the two men called an ambulance, 9News reported. Voskresensky was arrested and is being treated for exposure at Royal Darwin Hospital.

# National

## Disney is closing 60 stores in the US and Canada

The Disney Store, once a mall mainstay, is drastically reducing the number of locations it has in the United States and Canada. Disney said it's closing at least 60 stores in North America, amounting to about 35% of its locations in the region. Moving forward, Disney is placing a larger emphasis on its e-commerce business rather than its brick-and-mortar footprint. "While consumer behavior has shifted toward online shopping, the global pandemic has changed what consumers expect from a retailer," said Stephanie Young, president of Disney's consumer products, games and publishing unit, in a press release. Disney (DIS) said that it's focusing on making its shopDisney platform a more "seamless" and "personalized" experience. That online revamp will be "complemented by greater integration with Disney Parks apps and social media platforms." Covid-19 has spurred more people to move their shopping habits online. Research firm eMarketer recently said e-commerce sales across the world grew nearly 28% in 2020, surpassing $4 trillion. Fans can still buy Mickey merchandise at theme park stores, third-party retailers and Disney shop-in-shops. In 2019, Target opened mini-Disney stores in 25 of its locations. Disney, which didn't release a list of stores that will close, has about 300 locations worldwide. It had nearly 800 locations globally at its peak in 1999.

## Fauci Donates Personal Coronavirus Model To Smithsonian

There may be light at the end of the tunnel for the pandemic, but one piece of the virus will live on. Dr. Anthony Fauci, who became the public face of the government's coronavirus response with daily press conferences and media interviews, on Tuesday donated his personal model of the SARS-CoV-2 virion to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. The model will be housed within the national medicine and science collections. The museum is currently collecting and documenting pieces of the pandemic for a future exhibit "In Sickness and In Health." The exhibit will explore and display more than 200 years of medicine in the United States, including COVID-19. Fauci has used the blue and pink spikey ball as an educational tool over the past 13 months to explain COVID-19 in briefings to members of Congress, journalists, and the public. The model was made with a 3D printer and shows the various components of the complete, infectious form of the virus including the spike protein--a key characteristic of the virus that allows it to penetrate host cells and cause infection. In keeping with social distancing rules, Fauci made the donation virtually during the museum's "Great Americans Program" Tuesday. During the event, Fauci also received the museum's signature Great Americans medal for his work during the coronavirus pandemic and for his work on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, as well as other emerging diseases. "Dr. Fauci has helped save millions of lives and advanced the treatment and our understanding of infectious and immunologic diseases across more than five decades of public service," said Anthea Hartic, the Elizabeth MacMillan Director at the museum. "His humanitarianism and dedication truly exemplify what it means to be a Great American." Fauci, director of the Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, served as the face of the Trump administration's COVID-19 response team and was later retained as the chief medical advisor to the Biden White House. The Great Americans medal has previously been given to Madeleine K. Albright, Cal Ripken Jr., Billie Jean King and others.

## Dr. Oz aids police in resuscitating man at Newark airport

The television personality known simply as Dr. Oz gave details Wednesday about a tense real-life scene in which he helped police save a man’s life at Newark Liberty International Airport as anxious spectators looked on. The incident occurred late Monday night when Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Officer Jeffrey Croissant saw the 60-year-old man fall to the floor near a baggage claim area. Croissant called for backup, and began performing CPR immediately on the unidentified man, who wasn’t breathing and didn’t appear to have a pulse, according to the Port Authority. When another person came over to help, Croissant didn’t immediately recognize it was Mehmet Oz, the cardiac surgeon and longtime host of TV’s “Dr. Oz Show,” who happened to be nearby. “The gentleman had face-planted, and there was a pool of blood like a murder scene,” Oz told The Associated Press. Oz said he tried to rouse him, but the man had no pulse and his face had begun to turn purple. Croissant performed CPR on the man while Oz worked to clear his airway with a face pack and a tongue-depressing oral airway device. Three other officers brought oxygen and a defibrillator for the man, who eventually regained a pulse and was taken to a hospital for evaluation. “What better help than to have a cardiac surgeon?” Croissant said afterward. Oz said that he first became aware of the man’s distress while waiting for baggage at the luggage carousel and his daughter started yelling “Daddy, daddy, daddy!” Oz said his fatherly alarm bells went off thinking she was in trouble, then switched into emergency gear when he saw the man. The defibrillator “diagnosed that his heart had stopped, as I had thought was the case when I couldn’t get a pulse,” Oz said. “It told us to step away. And you’ve seen those movies where the patient gets shocked and they jerk off the ground? That’s exactly what happened. Usually, the heart doesn’t start again ... in this case, like the movies, his heart started.” Oz said the man’s face began regaining its color, and he awakened. “The spectators, you could feel the prayers and energy change,” he said. “Instead of watching a trainwreck it was a miracle.”

## Police: Live pipe bomb found at polling place in Iowa

The discovery of a live pipe bomb at a central Iowa polling place as voters were casting ballots in a special election forced an evacuation of the building, police said. Officers called to the Lakeside Center in Ankeny around 9:30 a.m. Tuesday found a device that looked like a pipe bomb in grass near the center. Police later confirmed in a news release that the device was a pipe bomb. The banquet hall was being used as a polling place for an Ankeny school district special election. Police evacuated the building, and the State Fire Marshal and agents with the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives were called in. Technicians safely detonated the device, and the center was reopened around 12:30 p.m. — about three hours after the device was discovered, police said. No one was injured. Polk County Auditor Jamie Fitzgerald described the device as a metal piece with two end caps, and said in a Twitter post that a couple walking their dog Tuesday morning had discovered the device. “I want to also add that there is no way of knowing how long this device had been at the Lakeside Center,” Fitzgerald said in a tweet, saying officials don’t know whether the pipe bomb was related to the election. Fitzgerald and police said other polling places in Ankeny were checked and no other bombs or suspicious devices were found. An investigation into who left the device is continuing, police said.

# State/Local

## $322M In Rental, Utility Assistance Available For Housing Instability

Renters who lost income during the COVID-19 pandemic could qualify for up to 12 months of federal stimulus funds to help with rental and utility payments. On Thursday, Gov. Tony Evers announced more than $322 million would be available through the Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program. The money can be used for up to 12 months worth of rent, utility payments and other needs. The money comes to Wisconsin as part of $25 billion in rental assistance included in the latest federal stimulus bill approved by Congress and signed by former President Donald Trump in late December. The state Department of Administration will administer the federal funding with direct payments to landlords and utilities. Renters who can demonstrate they are at risk of "housing instability," have lost income due to COVID-19 and have household incomes at or below 80 percent of their county's median income may qualify. "I’m proud of the efforts we’ve made through the Wisconsin Rental Assistance Program to get folks the help they need so they don't have to worry about losing the roofs over their heads, and this program will build on that success," Evers said in a written statement. Kristin Gilkes is the executive director of Customers First Coalition, which advocates for access to affordable electrical service. She said a year-long moratorium on utility shutoffs is set to expire April 15. She said it's possible the state's Public Service Commission could extend that, but some customers' bills have continued to grow. "And if people are underemployed or unable to work because of the pandemic, those bills keep mounting," said Gilkes. Gilkes said the coalition is watching Congress as it crafts a subsequent stimulus bill that could include similar money for homeowners that have fallen behind on mortgage or utility payments. Utilities have said the commission's extension of a moratorium on shut-offs during the COVID-19 pandemic would make it more likely customers would fall further behind on their bills, which could result in utilities passing on those losses to all ratepayers. Citizens Utility Board Executive Director Tom Content said with potential increased utility costs this year, the federal assistance is coming at a good time. "Because on the heating side of our bills we might be seeing some rate pressure just based on the higher prices of natural gas that were felt across the country, not just in Texas last week," Content said. Several counties along with Madison and Milwaukee also received federal funding for rental assistance as part of the latest COVID-19 relief bill, bringing the total amount of money awarded to the state and local governments to nearly $387 million.

## Lake Winnebago Already Seeing Highest Sturgeon Spearing Harvest In 6 Years

The sturgeon spearing season hasn’t ended yet, but the harvest on Lake Winnebago is the highest it’s been since 2015. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources reported that 1,297 sturgeon had been speared as of Wednesday on Lake Winnebago. The season started on Feb. 13 and runs for 16 days or until harvest caps have been reached. Deputy Secretary Todd Ambs said the harvest may have been a little lower at the beginning due to a cold opening weekend. "But, water clarity on Lake Winnebago generally maintained throughout the season right around 12 feet on average," said Ambs. "Spearers have been able to move out deeper in the lake this season while still having the ability to see the bottom." As of Wednesday, a total of 1,661 sturgeon had been harvested across Lake Winnebago and the Upriver Lakes, which include Butte des Morts, Winneconne, and Poyganas. That’s more than double the 811 sturgeon that were harvested on the system last year, according to DNR data. The sturgeon spearing season on the Upriver Lakes lasted for eight days, yielding a harvest of 364 fish. That’s the biggest harvest since a lottery system went into effect in 2007. Spearers have harvested 259 juvenile females, 664 adult females and 738 males across the entire system. So far, 67 sturgeon that weigh more than 100 pounds have been speared this season, which is about 4 percent of the total harvest. "With the spearing effort likely to decrease throughout this week, we anticipate the Lake Winnebago season to last the full 16 days," said Ambs. Ambs said one spearer harvested the longest male sturgeon on record at 73.1 inches. He added there have also been some heavy hitters, with four fish harvested so far this season weighing more than 150 pounds. That includes the biggest fish of the year — a 77-inch sturgeon weighing in at 160 pounds. The heaviest lake sturgeon ever harvested from the Winnebago System was speared in 2010 and weighed in at 212.2 pounds, according to records dating back to 1941. The DNR sold more than 12,000 licenses for the sturgeon spearing season as the agency implemented a contactless registration system this year due to the pandemic. Just before the season began, the agency’s sturgeon biologist, Ryan Koenigs, was charged with obstructing a conservation warden’s investigation into an illegal trade of sturgeon caviar. Since then, three Fond du Lac County residents have been charged in the illegal bartering scheme.

## Madison singer and guitarist Raine Stern 'rare find' on 'The Voice'

Local singer and guitar prodigy Raine Stern dazzled judges on “The Voice” Monday night, prompting country music star Blake Shelton to say, “You’re a rare find. And you’re about to have your moment in the music industry.” Stern, 22, who grew up in New Glarus and moved to Madison when she was 18, made it through the first round of the NBC show’s blind auditions. She chose singer-songwriter and actor Nick Jonas, who gained fame in the Jonas Brothers band, as a coach after he praised her. Jonas will guide her and his team of singers through the rest of the season. Stern and Jonas play all the same instruments: guitar, bass, drums and keyboards. “The Voice” is a singing competition show which started in 2011 and has aired for 20 seasons. The winner, voted on by viewers, receives $100,000 and a record deal. A panel of four coaches critiques each blind audition, where the coaches/judges face the other direction and choose contestants based solely on their sound. After Stern sang “Electric Feel” by the American rock band MGMT, getting three of the four judges to vote her through to the next round, Shelton told her, “You really know how to milk a performance. It just kept getting better and more amplified.” Stern said she flew to Los Angeles to tape the blind auditions last fall and stayed there during all of October. It was a more difficult season for the show because of COVID-19 and its protocols, including seven days of quarantine, and getting tested every other day, Stern said. “It was pretty hard and stressful at times, and lonely,” because the contestants, who stayed in a hotel, weren’t allowed to see each other, she said. Stern, who is working on getting a manager and a publicist, can’t say how far she moves on, but called the critiques from the judges “touching” and “validating.” “It was bigger than just, ‘Oh, you’re really good and you’re talented,’” Stern said. She talked to the four celebrity judges for 15 to 20 minutes, far longer than what was used on the program. Some of the most glowing feedback got cut, Stern said, sharing a full recording with the State Journal. For example, judge and singer-songwriter John Legend told her, “’The Voice’ is lucky to have you on this show … You’re such a light. You have so much flowing from you and that can’t be contained.” After moving to Madison, Stern became a lead guitarist and singer for several local bands. Before the pandemic, she was a regular performer at venues such as the High Noon Saloon, North Street Cabaret, and the Winnebago, now the Bur Oak. The Raine Stern Band, a nine-piece band formed in 2018, made the rounds at festivals including Orton Park and Summerfest (June 2019).

## Waunakee teachers start receiving coronavirus vaccines

SSM Health began vaccinating Waunakee teachers last week at Waunakee High School. "We're very excited here in Waunakee about the partnership," Randy Guttenberg, Waunakee Superintendent, said. The goals is to have 500 staff members vaccinated. "We've been working with SSM Dean since January with regard to plans for how we can move forward with a vaccination clinic to our staff," Guttenberg said. That pre-planning helped SSM health get vaccines available and avoid the uncertainty that came with Public Health Madison and Dane County's mass vaccination site at the Alliant Energy Center, whose opening had to be delayed for lack of vaccine. Educators in Sun Prairie also were vaccinated late last week. Teachers in the Madison school district will start receiving vaccinations March 15.

# Sports

## J.J. Watt agrees to two-year contract with Arizona Cardinals

Free-agent pass-rusher J.J. Watt has agreed to a two-year contract with the Arizona Cardinals, the team announced Monday. Terms were not disclosed, but a source told ESPN's Adam Schefter the deal is worth $31 million and includes $23 million guaranteed. Watt later indicated he and his wife, Kealia, were traveling to Arizona on Cardinals owner Michael Bidwill's plane. He tweeted two photos, one of himself posing with Bidwill and the other of himself and his wife sitting in Bidwill's plane. "I'm excited to get started," Watt said on the tarmac after the plane landed. "Very excited to get started, get to work, get to know the people of Arizona." Watt, 31, was released by the Houston Texans, who granted his request on Feb. 12, ending his 10-year run with the franchise. Four days later, Watt's former Texans teammate and current Cardinals wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins posted on Instagram a photo of himself and Watt edited to be in a Cardinals uniform with the caption: "Let's finish what we started..." Hopkins reacted to Monday's news by tweeting: "Life is good in Arizona!" Watt will reunite with Vance Joseph, the Cardinals' defensive coordinator, who was the Texans' defensive backs coach during Watt's first three seasons in Houston. In Arizona, Watt will be paired with fellow pass-rusher Chandler Jones, who leads the NFL in sacks since he was drafted in the first round in 2012 with 97. Second during that span is Watt with 95.5. Watt's addition meant minimal changes to the Cardinals' odds for the 2021 season from Caesars Sportsbook by William Hill. Their odds to win the Super Bowl remain 40-1 and to win the NFC remain 20-1. Arizona's odds to win the NFC West moved from 7-1 to 6-1, still the longest odds of the four teams in the division. "The one thing I can promise you is I'm going to work my ass off every single day to make you proud," Watt said. "Very proud to be a part of the 'Bird Gang' and the 'Red Sea.'" In 2020, Watt ranked 15th out of 119 qualified pass-rushers in pass rush win rate, according to ESPN Stats & Information research. He finished the season with five sacks, two forced fumbles and an interception he returned for a touchdown. He has been plagued with injuries recently, having played 16 games in a season only twice since 2015. After the Texans drafted Watt with the No. 11 pick in 2011, he became the face of the franchise, winning three NFL Defensive Player of the Year awards from 2012 to '15. Watt is one of three players to win that award three times. A five-time Pro Bowl selection and five-time first-team All-Pro, Watt was by far the most productive pass-rusher in Texans history with 101 career sacks.

## With contract in hand, Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott must deliver

Gone are the days of Dak Prescott, fourth-round-pick success story. Now that the quarterback has signed a multiyear deal with the Dallas Cowboys, he will be defined by the $160 million contract, which includes $126 million guaranteed, a source told ESPN's Adam Schefter. Prescott's signing bonus is $66 million, the highest in NFL history, a source told ESPN. With this megadeal, he becomes the second-highest-paid QB in the NFL. It is now only about a Super Bowl. There are numerous reasons the Cowboys wanted to sign Prescott, 27, to a long-term deal in each of the past two offseasons. His play on the field (106 touchdown passes, 24 rushing touchdowns and a 42-27 record) and what he means off the field (did you see how things fell apart after he was hurt in 2020?) are the main reasons. Another is fear. Yes, fear. There are only so many top-flight quarterbacks in the NFL. After Troy Aikman retired, the Cowboys started Quincy Carter, Anthony Wright, Ryan Leaf, Clint Stoerner, Chad Hutchinson, Vinny Testaverde, Drew Henson and Drew Bledsoe before they lucked into Tony Romo, a 2003 undrafted free agent who did not throw a pass in a game until 2006. While Romo would become the franchise leader in touchdown passes (248), he went 2-4 in the playoffs and the team struggled when he got hurt. Romo's backups, including Brad Johnson, Jon Kitna, Stephen McGee, Kyle Orton, Brandon Weeden, Matt Cassel and Kellen Moore, had a combined 6-19 record from 2008 to 2015. In 2020, the Cowboys went 4-5 and scored one touchdown in the first three games without Prescott, who dislocated and had a compound fracture of his right ankle in a Week 5 game against the New York Giants. The Cowboys selected Prescott in the fourth round of the 2016 draft. He wasn't even their first pick in the fourth round as a compensatory pick, No. 135 overall. And he wasn't even their first choice. Cowboys owner and general manager Jerry Jones was crushed he could not trade back into the first round to take Paxton Lynch. They wanted Connor Cook in the fourth round. They settled for Prescott and got lucky. Really lucky. Prescott might have been the eighth quarterback selected in 2016, but he is likely to be the last QB standing from that class who is with his original team. Jared Goff, the No. 1 overall pick, will be dealt by the Los Angeles Rams to the Detroit Lions as part of the Matthew Stafford trade. The Philadelphia Eagles have a deal in place to trade the No. 2 overall pick, Carson Wentz, to the Indianapolis Colts.

## Tokyo exec board adds 12 women to reach 42%

The Tokyo Olympics made a symbolic gesture toward gender equality Tuesday by appointing 12 women to the body's executive board. The board will now have 19 women among its 45 members, or 42%. To accommodate the new women, the size of the board was increased from 35 to 45. Several resignations Tuesday also created more space. The move was announced by CEO Toshiro Muto after an executive board meeting. The names of the new members were expected to be announced Wednesday. Seiko Hashimoto, the new president of the organizing committee, prompted the changes. She took over last month after 83-year-old former president Yoshiro Mori was forced to resign after making derogatory comments about women. Essentially, he said they talk too much. "Regarding the promotion of gender equality, we believe that it is necessary to work with a sense of speed and produce solid results in order to restore the trust in the organizing committee," Hashimoto said at the start of the board meeting. Hashimoto, a former Olympic bronze-medal winner in speedskating, promised when she took over to increase female participation in the body's executive board. It had stood at about 20%. Muto also said the board will now have one female vice president among seven. Japan ranks 121st out of 153 in the World Economic Forum's gender-equality ranking, and women are seldom found in leadership roles or in the boardroom. The move is unlikely to have long-term impact. The Tokyo Olympic organizing committee employs about 3,500 people but will be dissolved after the postponed Olympics take place. Hashimoto is scheduled to meet Wednesday in a "five-party meeting" with International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach, International Paralympic Committee president Andrew Parsons, Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike and Olympic minister Tamayo Marukawa. A main item is likely to deal with fans being allowed into Olympic venues, and if any fans from abroad will be permitted to enter Japan. The postponed Olympics are to open on July 23, followed by the Paralympics on Aug. 24.

# Weather

* Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 32. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.
* Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph.
* Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 35. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph after midnight.
* Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 64. South wind 3 to 8 mph.
* Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 42. South wind 6 to 9 mph.
* Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 67.
* Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.
* Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 67.
* Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.
* Saturday: 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 68.

# Commercials

## Disney Plus

Disney Plus invites you to test your Disney and Pixar knowledge. See how many of the following iconic movies you can name?

[voice of Buzz Lightyear, *Toy Story*] “To infinity... and beyond!”

[voice of Mary Poppins, *Mary Poppins*] “We’re on the brink of an adventure!”

[voice of Dory, *Finding Nemo*] “Just keep swimming!”

[voice of Charles Muntz, *Up*] “Adventure is out there!”

[voice of Fairy Godmother, *Cinderella*] “Even miracles take a little time.”

[voice of Olaf, *Frozen*] “Some people are worth melting for.”

[voice of Stitch, *Lilo & Stitch*] "Ohana means family, family means nobody gets left behind."

Whatever your score, you can relive those moments and discover many more with all the best Disney and Pixar movies; all your for only $6.99 a month. Movies and more, streaming now. Disney Plus. Subscription and streaming device required.

## Music in our Schools Month (Public Service Announcement)

Participation in music classes provides lifelong benefits. Through singing, playing instruments, and composing, students learn to express themselves creatively. Studying music provides a deeper understanding of historical and cultural heritages. This March is the 34th anniversary of Music In Our Schools Month. National Association for Music Education hopes you will take time to hear what’s happening in the school music programs in your community!