

# MIFA TOURNAMENT

## Elims

The editorial story is boldly outlined.

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### **Supreme Court says unanimous jury verdicts required in state criminal trials for serious offenses**

WASHINGTON D.C. The Supreme Court said Monday that unanimous jury verdicts are required in state criminal trials for serious offenses, handing a victory to criminal defendants including petitioner Evangelisto Ramos, who was convicted of murder in Louisiana on a 10-2 vote.

Ramos argued that Louisiana's non-unanimous jury provision violated his federal constitutional right to trial by jury and that the law had racist roots meant to diminish the votes of minority jurors. Justice Neil Gorsuch penned the opinion and was joined in key parts by Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor, Stephen Breyer and Brett Kavanaugh.

"We took this case to decide whether the Sixth Amendment right to a jury trial -- as incorporated against the States by way of the Fourteenth Amendment -- requires a unanimous verdict to convict a defendant of a serious offense," Gorsuch wrote.

"One of these requirements was unanimity," he said, "a jury must reach a unanimous verdict in order to convict." "The answer is unmistakable," he said.

Justice Clarence Thomas concurred in the judgment on narrower grounds, whereas Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Elena Kagan joined Justice Samuel Alito's dissent.

In general, over time, the Supreme Court has ruled that most of the Bill of Rights applies not only to the federal government but to the states. But in 1972, the court held that while the Sixth Amendment requires unanimous jury verdicts for federal criminal trials, such verdicts are not required for state trials. Only two states allowed non-unanimous jury verdicts in criminal cases, Oregon and Louisiana, and Louisiana changed its law effective January 1, 2019.

### **Hurley: Public safety officer who died from COVID-19 was 'larger than life'**

FLINT, MICHIGAN - The Hurley Medical Center community is mourning the loss of one of its public safety officers.

Wendell Quinn, who worked with the hospital's department of public safety for 26 years, died from COVID-19.

"Wendell was larger than life. Both in stature and in personality," Hurley Public Safety Chief Matthew Murray said in a statement.

Quinn's involvement in his community, both through Hurley and his church, were attributes that will be missed dearly, Murray said.

"I cannot tell you how many different employees of the Medical Center have shared with me their fondest memories of Wendell. The absence of his smile and the humanity that he showed to all whom he came into contact with will leave us grieving for some time and will leave a large hole in our hearts," Murray said.

Murray is asking the public to keep Quinn's family and his work family in their prayers.

"May God take comfort in knowing that he just gained an angel of the highest caliber. An angel that, if we pay attention, I am sure will be with us and watching over us for our coming days, months and years," Murray said.

### **A gunman in Nova Scotia evaded police for nearly 12 hours after killing at least 16 in one of Canada's deadliest mass shootings**

OTTAWA, CANADA - Nova Scotia authorities have begun investigating the shooting of a gunman who may have been disguised as a police officer and went on 12-hour rampage that left 16 people dead in a small town.

A confrontation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police began after a manhunt for the fleeing suspect overnight Saturday. Multiple crime scenes and hours of evasion later, the gunman was killed Sunday in a shootout with police. Nova Scotia's Serious Incident Response Team took over the investigation into the death, according to a SIRT statement.

Gabriel Wortman, 51, was identified as the suspect and was confirmed dead by RCMP Chief Superintendent Chris Leather.

The motive behind the shooting, one of Canada's deadliest, is still under investigation, Leather said. Some victims, he said, "appeared not to have a relationship with the assailant shooter."

The chaos began when police were first called to a property around 10:30 p.m. Saturday in Portapique, a seaside town about an hour and a half's drive north of Halifax. "When police arrived at the scene the members located several casualties inside and outside of the home," Leather said.

One of those killed was Constable Heidi Stevenson. Another officer is in the hospital receiving treatment for non-life-threatening injuries he suffered in the incident, the RCMP said on Facebook.

"It is with tremendous sadness that I share with you that we lost Cst. Heidi Stevenson, a 23-year veteran of the Force who was killed this morning," said Lee Bergerman, the RCMP's commanding officer in Nova Scotia. "I met with Heidi's family, and there are no words to

describe their pain. Two children have lost their mother and a husband his wife. Parents lost their daughter and countless others lost an incredible friend and colleague."

### **Man expecting stimulus check discovers \$8.2 million account balance on his bank receipt**

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA - A volunteer firefighter in Indiana said he got the surprise of a lifetime when he checked his bank account balance.

Charles Calvin said he withdrew \$200 from his checking account at a convenience store ATM in New Chicago, Indiana, on Saturday. When he glanced at his receipt, he noticed the account balance was \$8.2 million.

"I'm like what in the world is going on here?" Calvin said.

He said he put his debit card back in the ATM to double-check the balance, and it still showed millions in his account.

Calvin was expecting a \$1,700 check from the stimulus payments going out to Americans amid the COVID-19 crisis.

By the time he called his bank to report it Monday morning, a representative said the large sum wasn't in his account. It's likely the ATM experienced a glitch.

"It kind of sucks," Calvin said. "You go from being a millionaire one second then back to being broke again. But hey, once you're poor, you don't have anywhere else to go but up."

Despite the glitch, Calvin said he still received his \$1,700 stimulus check.

### **Goodrich coach gets surprise parade after winning coach of the year**

GOODRICH, MICHIGAN - A local head coach earned a big honor from the state and then got another surprise of a lifetime.

"It was unbelievable, I was in shock," said Gary Barns, head Goodrich boys basketball coach.

Earlier this week, Barns walked into his front yard with his wife, Stacey, and couldn't believe what he saw.

"I looked to the left and my goodness, unbelievable," Barns said. "My players, their families, my manager, their families, my assistant coaches, my scorekeeper, guys that do stats for me, it was really cool."

The surprise parade was organized by one of Barns' assistant coaches.

It was done to say thank you to the head coach of 29 years, who was recently honored by the Associated Press as the Division 2 coach of the year.

"This is a huge award for me," Barns said. "This team was very good. They're right there. We really thought the opportunity was there for these boys because they bought in."

The coronavirus cut the boys hoops season short during the district finals.

Barns and his team finished with a record of 21-1, ranked second in the state in Division 2.

**South Korea is holding an election during the coronavirus crisis. Other countries are postponing theirs. Either way, democracy may suffer**

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA - It's just after lunchtime at a central Seoul market and a crowd in hot pink jackets is gathering.

Pink is the color of the country's main opposition party, the conservative United Future Party, and this crowd of supporters is staging a legal campaign rally ahead of Wednesday's election of 300 members of the National Assembly.

Large public gatherings are a jarring sight during a pandemic.

But South Korea has never postponed an election before -- and the coronavirus is not stopping this one.

Like many democracies around the world, South Korea has been faced with a predicament: how to hold an election during a pandemic without spreading the virus.

At least 47 countries have postponed elections due to the coronavirus outbreak, including Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, France and Ethiopia. Others, like the United States and New Zealand, are still deciding whether to proceed with their scheduled votes.

Many of those countries are at different points in the virus outbreak. South Korea peaked early, prompting praise for the government's handling of the pandemic. The country isn't in lockdown, and of the more than 10,500 confirmed cases, more than 7,400 have recovered.

Nevertheless, South Korea has made a number of election concessions for the virus.

More than 11 million people -- or 26.7% of registered voters -- cast their vote in advance to avoid crowds, according to the National Election Commission. Early voters, and those casting their vote on Wednesday, will have their temperature checked at the door. Polling booths will be regularly disinfected and anyone with a temperature of more than 37.5 degrees Celsius (99.5 degrees Fahrenheit) will have to vote in a special booth. About 20,000 additional workers will be dispatched to put in place the extra measures.

Special voting booths have been set up at government-run isolation centers, and those under self-quarantine will be allowed to leave their house to vote after polling booths close to the public at 6 p.m.

**Melting glaciers reveal lost mountain pass and artifacts used by Vikings**

OSLO, NORWAY - The retreat of melting glaciers has revealed a lost mountain pass in Norway -- complete with hundreds of Viking artifacts strewn along it, according to a new study.

Researchers first discovered the pass in 2011 and have been examining it, and the artifacts that have been revealed as more ice melts, ever since. Dating the objects helped them reconstruct the timeline of when this pass was used and its purpose.

The new study published this week in the journal *Antiquity*.

In recent years, climate change has caused mountain glaciers to melt away, revealing well-preserved markers from different periods in history beneath. This is what happened in Lendbreen, Norway.

"A lost mountain pass melting out of the ice is a dream discovery for us glacial archaeologists," said Lars Pilø in a statement. He is the study author and co-director of the Glacier Archaeology Program. "In such passes, past travelers left behind lots of artefacts, frozen in time by the ice. These incredibly well-preserved artefacts of organic materials have great historical value."

The researchers believe the pass was used from the Roman Iron Age in 300 AD to the Viking Age in 1000 AD.

Horseshoes; a horse snowshoe; the bones of packhorses; sled fragments; and a walking stick inscribed with runes all reveal the transportation used on the pass. Other objects discarded along the way include a knife and its wooden handle; a birchbark container; a wooden needle; tinderbox; a wooden whisk; and a distaff, a tool that was used to hold wool as it was spun by hand.

Some of the most remarkable items include blue textile rags, a Viking mitten, shoes and a complete Roman Iron Age tunic.

And some items can't be identified yet because the researchers have nothing to compare them to.

### **Governors in Midwest announce partnership to reopen regional economy**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS - The Midwest governors announced a partnership to reopen the economy in the Midwest region.

The governors include Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, Illinois Gov. Eric Holcomb, and Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear.

The governors made the announcement on Thursday, April 16.

"We are doing everything we can to protect the people of our states and slow the spread of COVID-19, and we are eager to work together to mitigate the economic crisis this virus has caused in our region. Here in the Midwest, we are bound by our commitment to our people and the community. We recognize that our economies are all reliant on each other, and we must work together to safely reopen them so hardworking people can get back to work and businesses can get back on their feet," the governors said in a press release.

Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky will work in close coordination to reopen their economies, the press release said.

"We look forward to working with experts and taking a fact-based, data-driven approach to reopening our economy in a way that protect families from the spread of COVID-19. Our number one priority when analyzing when best to reopen our economy is the health and safety of our citizens. We will make decisions based on facts, science, and recommendations from experts in health care, business, labor, and education," the governors said.

### **Federal judge delays filing deadline for Michigan candidates**

LANSING, MICHIGAN - A federal judge on Monday delayed a deadline by which Michigan candidates must file petitions to qualify for the ballot, citing the state's stay-at-home order that is in place because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The deadline, which is Tuesday under state law, was pushed back 17 days to May 8 by U.S. District Judge Terrence Berg. He said candidates can collect half as many signatures as normal, and he ordered that they be able to gather them by email instead of getting a physical signature.

The ruling was a victory for Eric Esshaki, who is seeking the Republican nomination in the state's 11th Congressional District in suburban Detroit. He and two local judicial candidates had sued Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and other state officials.

The state said Whitmer's emergency declaration on March 10 "should have acted as a wake-up call" to Esshaki to "double down on signature collection efforts" before her March 23 stay-home order.

"This argument both defies good sense and flies in the face of all other guidance that the State was offering to citizens at the time," Berg said.

The state also said candidates could use a mail-in campaign to gather the rest of their signatures.

### **Great Lakes Loons assisting in fight against COVID-19**

MIDLAND, MICHIGAN - Normally, this time of year the Great Lakes Loons are taking the field for the start of the baseball season.

Thursday, April 16, was supposed to be the home opener at Dow Diamond. The Loons were going to take on the White Caps with the first pitch set at 6:05 p.m.

But then came the greatest storm of the century, known as COVID-19. Now America's pastime must do its part for the country.

"We are all a little disappointed. We put in months of work into getting ready for a baseball season, but at the end of the day, safety comes first. And we are trying to do our part," said Matt DeVries, assistant general manager for the Loons.

The Loons have been swinging away as they joined the fight against the virus.

“When we heard that we are not going to be playing baseball for a good chunk of time and that is still an infinite amount of time, we decided to take all of our cleaning supplies that we had, all of our masks and rubber gloves or anything that we could contribute to the cause. We wanted to make sure we donated it back to the community and then we also had a mobile food bank reach out to us about using our back parking lot which is obviously a large space that can handle a lot of vehicles for food distribution center. So we were able to participate in that,” DeVries said.

### **Facebook will take down some, but not all, posts promoting anti-stay-at-home protests**

NEW YORK, NEW YORK - Facebook will remove some posts on anti-stay-at-home protests being organized in California, New Jersey and Nebraska after consulting with officials in those states, a company spokesperson told CNN Monday.

The protests run afoul of the states' social distancing guidelines, Facebook spokesman Andy Stone said.

Protests have erupted around the US in recent days as shutdown orders have been extended, just as record numbers of Americans lose their jobs.

Facebook has come under fire as groups organizing anti-stay-at-home protests have popped up all over the platform. Stone said Facebook would take down posts created through the Facebook Events feature that promote events in California, New Jersey and Nebraska. Other Facebook posts, including Facebook groups about the protests, might not be removed.

One event, which is being promoted on the platform, is due to take place in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on Monday.

A Facebook group for Pennsylvanians against "excessive quarantine" that was set up last week already had more than 66,000 members by Monday morning.

Stone said Facebook is working to get answers from state governments in Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York as to whether anti-stay-at-home protests are also prohibited under their social distancing guidelines.

"Unless government prohibits the event during this time, we allow it to be organized on Facebook," Stone said. "For this same reason, events that defy government's guidance on social distancing aren't allowed on Facebook."

### **Russia intercepts US Navy aircraft over Mediterranean Sea**

WASHINGTON D.C. - A Russian fighter aircraft approached a US Navy aircraft over the Mediterranean Sea Sunday, both governments confirmed while offering different accounts of the incident.

US Naval Forces Europe-Africa/US 6th Fleet said in a statement Sunday the Russian aircraft, a SU-35 jet, "flew in an unsafe and unprofessional manner" while intercepting the US Navy P-8A Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft. The US Navy it said was the second time in four days that Russian pilots made unsafe maneuvers while intercepting US aircraft.

"The unnecessary actions of the Russian SU-35 pilot were inconsistent with good airmanship and international flight rules, seriously jeopardizing the safety of flight of both aircraft," the US Navy said. "While the Russian aircraft was operating in international airspace, this interaction was irresponsible. We expect them to behave within international standards set to ensure safety and to prevent incidents.."

The Russian military said on Monday their aircraft took off from Syria's Hmeimim airbase to identify a target approaching Russian military facilities in Syria.

"The pilot of the Russian fighter after approach identified the tail number of the aircraft belonging to the US Navy, and took it for escort," a statement said, adding that the American reconnaissance aircraft then changed its flight course away from a Russian military facility.

The US has in the past accused Russia of similar such unsafe intercepts of US surveillance aircraft, including over the Mediterranean Sea, but there has been a relative decline in recent years.

### **Australian police seize black box from cruise ship linked to coronavirus outbreak**

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - Australian police boarded the Ruby Princess cruise ship Wednesday night to gather evidence for an investigation into how thousands of passengers were allowed to disembark in Sydney last month resulting in a spike of coronavirus cases.

Over 600 cases and 15 deaths have been linked to the ship, according to public broadcaster ABC.

Last week, police launched a probe into just why the Ruby Princess was allowed to dock in Sydney, dropping off 2,600 passengers, despite widespread concerns over coronavirus and multiple previous outbreaks elsewhere in the world involving cruise ship.

New South Wales police commissioner Mick Fuller said Wednesday that the ship's captain was "extremely helpful," and that the black box, a recorder similar to that found on airplanes, was recovered along with other evidence.

Officers went on the ship under the powers of the NSW coroner who has started a preliminary investigation.

It is expected that the investigation will involve interviewing thousands of witnesses, including the ship's captain, doctors, crew members, and passengers, and officials from the federal and state government.

"After reviewing the information at hand, the only way I can determine whether our national biosecurity laws or our state laws were broken is through a criminal investigation," Fuller said last week.

Sun and clouds mixed. High 57F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph. Higher wind gusts possible.

- WINDSW 18 mph gusts to 25 mph
- HUMIDITY35%
- UV INDEX6 of 10
- SUN6:43 am8:24 pm