Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria delivered a stern warning on race relations Thursday. “If you can’t treat someone with dignity and respect, get out,” the superintendent of the Air Force Academy told cadets and staff in Colorado Springs, Colo. Silveria’s speech — prompted by racial slurs left on message boards outside the dorm rooms of five black students at the academy’s preparatory school — drew praise as the video went viral.

Silveria warned students that he would not tolerate racism at the academy and invoked some of the racial tensions that have been gripping the country. And he wanted to ensure that his message was clearly heard.

“I want you to videotape this so you have it, so you can use it — so that we all have the moral courage together,” he said, surrounded by 1,500 of the academy’s faculty, administrators and athletic coaches.

Air Force security personnel are investigating the incident after the slurs were discovered Tuesday. Racial slurs are illegal in the military and can bring charges of violating orders and conduct unbecoming an officer.

Officials have said they cannot provide any more information about what happened because of the ongoing investigation. No additional details were released Friday.

The preparatory school has a 10-month program for potential cadets who applied for the academy’s four-year program but were not accepted. The goal is to help them meet academy requirements. The prep school usually accepts about 240 students. The academy, itself, has about 4,000 students.

SEE RACISM ON PAGE 2
Racism: Silveria puts focus on race-related tensions plaguing US military

FROM FRONT PAGE

In his speech, Silveria referred to recent events, such as the racial violence in Charlottesville, Va., and the debate about NFL players kneeling for the national anthem. “We would also be tone deaf not to think about the backdrop of what is going on in our country. Things like Charlottesville, Ferguson (Mo.), the protests in the NFL,” he said.

Silveria’s forceful denunciation has been heard far beyond the walls of the academy in Colorado, introducing the veteran officer to a national audience. Former Vice President Joe Biden tweeted: “There is only one way to confront hatred and prejudice: head on. Well said, Lt. Gen Silveria.”

Also, Sen. John McCain tweeted: “Important statement by Lt. Gen. Silveria @AF_Academy. I agree, there’s no place for racism or bigotry in our military or this great nation.”

“I wanted to have a direct conversation with them about the power of diversity,” Silveria told CNN’s Brooke Baldwin on Friday, referring to the cadets. “Ultimately, these men and women are going to be lieutenants in the United States Air Force.”

Baldwin read Silveria messages of support on Twitter and asked him whether he believed Washington needed better leadership. He replied that his “message to the cadets was not about that.”

He said his speech was intended to show the cadets that they were all united “as an institution protecting these values.” Silveriatook command of the school in August. The academy has struggled with sexual misconduct problems several times in recent years, and the 1985 academy graduate and son of an Air Force master sergeant has repeatedly told cadets and staff that his highest priority is ensuring a climate of dignity and respect.

When Silveria took over as the school’s leader, he told the Colorado Springs Gazette: “My red line is cadets who can’t treat each other with respect and dignity.”

In his 32-year career, Silveria has nearly 4,000 hours of flight time, including combat missions over Iraq and the Balkans, making him one of the Air Force’s most experienced pilots, according to the Gazette.

“When it came time to pick the next superintendent, Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria was the obvious choice,” Gen. David Goldfein, the branch’s chief of staff, said at Silveria’s appointment ceremony, according to the Gazette. “I don’t believe we have an officer serving in the Air Force today with more combat time, more joint credibility, or more operational understanding of the art of modern war.”

Silveria was previously deputy commander of U.S. Air Forces Central Command and deputy commander of Central Command’s Combined Forces Air Component in southwest Asia, according to Military.com.

A video of the speech on the Air Force Academy’s Facebook page has been viewed more than 1.7 million times, and a tweet of the same has been shared more than 22,000 times. Commenters praised the general for his leadership and unequivocal response: “This is how you respond to racism in America.”

The Washington Post and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy who took command of the school in August, was previously deputy commander of U.S. Air Forces Central Command.

Navy funds 2 additional destroyers

Associated Press

BATH, Maine — The U.S. Navy has awarded Maine’s Bath Iron Works funding for the planning and construction of two more Arleigh Burke-class destroyers.

The awards were announced Thursday and were expected but are good news nonetheless.

Bath Iron Works president Dirk Lesko said the contracts “help to stabilize our business.” He thanks Maine’s congressional delegation and the Navy secretary for their efforts and leadership.

There are currently four destroyers in the same class that are in production at Bath Iron Works: Thomas Hudner, Daniel Inouye, Carl Levin and John Basalone.

One of the new ships will be named the Louis H. Wilson Jr. after the late U.S. Marine Corps commandant and Medal of Honor recipient for valor in World War II.

Republican U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, of Maine, secured funding for the projects.

Metal Shark gets up to $90M Navy contract

NEW ORLEANS — A Louisiana company has a $29 million Navy contract to design and build up to 50 patrol boats for the Naval Expeditionary Combat Command.

That will pay for engineering, design, data rights to the design and 11 boats.

The Pentagon said options in the contract with Metal Shark would bring the total value to $90 million.

The work will be done at the Grosvenor Aluminum Boats LLC boatyard in Jeanerette, La.

According to the Pentagon’s daily list of contracts, Gravois, doing business as Metal Shark, was among seven bidders for the contract with the Naval Sea Systems Command.

From The Associated Press

American Roundup: Silveria talks about racism

The Washington Post

Silveria, the new superintendent of the Air Force Academy, said that his speech was intended to show the cadets that they were all united “as an institution protecting these values.”

“I wanted to have a direct conversation with them about the power of diversity,” Silveria told CNN’s Brooke Baldwin on Friday, referring to the cadets. “Ultimately, these men and women are going to be lieutenants in the United States Air Force.”

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The Washington Post
Animal remains in Pendleton water system

BY ERIKA I. RITCHIE
The Orange County (Calif.) Register

CAMP PENDLETON — Base officials say that despite water safety inspectors finding a host of issues, the estimated 25,000-gallon spill that has been a source of public concern was discovered and contained days before it could overflow. About 25,000 gallons were likely the remains of a dead frog and rat in two of the base's systems, water quality in the entire area. They must provide documentation within five days of inspection. The base will be required to submit a progress report, the first due Oct. 15.

"Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is committed to providing safe and compliant drinking water," Carl Redding, a base spokesman, said in a statement Friday. "This is a duty and responsibility that we take very seriously. The EPA and state regulators agree the water was safe and is safe to drink."

The agreement follows a June inspection in which the animal remains were discovered in two water systems that serve more than 55,000 Marines and their families on the base’s north and south ends. They also found hatch doors without sanitary precautions. Spiders and overflow valves that leaked water.

Inspectors also reported a lack of supervision at the reservoirs and a shortage of qualified operators for treatment and distribution at both of its systems. They also found that the advanced water treatment plant had been periodically shut down and that operators were not completing required equipment testing.

Finally, inspectors found that operators did not regularly inspect, maintain, and document monitoring efforts, which resulted in foundational cracks and inadequate seals.

"Public water systems must meet all state and federal requirements to provide safe drinking water to their customers," said Alexis Strauss, the EPA's acting regional administrator for the Pacific Southwest. "Our priority is to ensure the base achieves compliance promptly, to serve those who live and work at Camp Pendleton."

According to documents from the EPA that outlined the chronic failures, officials at the Marine base removed the animal remains and cleaned, refilled, and tested the reservoirs for bacteria and chlorine levels.

Base officials have agreed to conduct ongoing testing to make sure the water is safe to drink.

Under Thursday’s agreement, base officials must also inform the public about their ongoing compliance. This includes shutting down and inspecting all other base reservoirs over the next 180 days. Should any of the sample tests pass, the Marine Corps must issue a public notice and provide affected customers an alternative source of drinking water.

Any reservoir found to be out of compliance will be shut down and must be retested before service until after water safety inspectors have approved it.

Base officials have tested the three impacted reservoirs every two weeks for the past three months and have come back clean and compliant, Redding said. Base officials have circulated a memo saying the water is safe, and that there is no need to boil water or take other precautions.

Navy crash review to include civilian input

BY DAVID SHARP
Associated Press

BATH, Maine — The review of deadly collisions involving two U.S. destroyers will include analysis of best practices outside the Navy, looking to private organizations as varied as British Petroleum and the Mayo Clinic. Navy Secretary Richard Spencer said.

"We are addressing it on multiple fronts," Spencer told reporters at Navy shipbuilder Bath Iron Works, which built both of the warships.

"The Navy secretory's first visit to the shipbuilder that employs 6,000 workers came a day after the Navy and shipyard completed a contract for two more Arleigh Burke-class destroyers.

"I was long-awaited and welcome news for the shipyard."

Sen. Angus King quipped, "Anything I can do to get you to visit Bath, you're welcome. Now that you've established the precedent, bring a couple of strangers with you." Also joining the entourage to the shipyard were U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, who helped obtain funding for the ships, and U.S. Reps. Chellie Pingree and Bruce Poliquin.

Spencer said the Navy needs additional destroyers as it seeks to add more than 50 ships to the fleet in coming years. An additional $5 billion to $5.5 billion in annual spending is needed over 30 years to reach the 355-ship goal, according to the Congressional Research Service.

The Navy is looking at its options, and Spencer acknowledged those include bringing back into service retired frigates and cruisers, if that’s deemed to be a cost-effective means of helping to reach the goal.

He said the Navy is also looking to overhaul its relationship with shipbuilders by working together to both contain costs and to ensure that there’s adequate shipbuilding infrastructure.

Maine’s congressional delegations praised Spencer for the fast pace of contract negotiations on the two destroyers that ensures there will be no disruptions in work at the shipyard.

"Let’s simply sit here and muddle, ‘We want ships built.’ We have to understand what the actual industrial base can support and where capacity is. Where we can help to expand capacity in lockstep with our suppliers, our contractors, we will do so," Spencer said.
WAR ON TERRORISM

Experts: Militant drone attacks might increase

By W.J. HENNIGAN
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — U.S. air strikes and local militias in eastern Syria have hobbled the Islamic State’s deadly drone program, U.S. officials say, but counterterrorism experts warn that the terrorist group’s innovative use of the inexpensive technology may spur other aerial attacks around the globe.

A specially trained unit of ISIS pilots flew small quadcopters and model-plane-sized drones, sometimes a dozen or more at a time, to stream live video of U.S.-backed ground forces and to drop crude munitions on them in both Iraq and Syria.

By evading ground defenses with remote-controlled devices purchased on the internet, the militants pioneered an asymmetric but successful tactic on the battlefield, much as the growing U.S. fleet of missile-firing Predator and Reaper drones has dramatically changed modern warfare.

During the battle for the Iraqi city of Mosul, which government forces recaptured in July, dozens of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded by 40 mm grenades and light explosives dropped from buzzing overhead devices so numerous that one U.S. commander likened them to killer bees.

It was, U.S. officials later acknowledged, perhaps the first time since the Vietnam War that the American military was largely powerless against enemy aircraft — in this case, aircraft only a tiny fraction of the size of U.S. warplanes.

Until now, small drones mostly sparked curiosity in America by flying near the White House, near airports and in other restricted zones. But the growing availability and sophistication of commercial drones now are seen as a threat to the United States, some experts argue.

“We do know that terrorist organizations have an interest in using drones,” FBI Director Christopher Wray told a Senate hearing Wednesday. “We have seen that overseas already with some frequency. I think that the expectation is that it is coming here imminently.”

Nicholas Rasmussen, the director of the National Counterterrorism Center, told the same panel that his agency has been coordinating with law enforcement and aviation regulators to study ways to defend against small drones used in terrorist attacks.

“Two years ago, this was not a problem,” he told the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. “A year ago, this was an emerging problem. Now it’s a real problem.”

ISIS affiliates in the Philippines, Libya and Yemen already have used drones for surveillance. So have the al-Qaida affiliate in Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told Congress on Tuesday that the Pentagon had made slow progress in countering ISIS drones.

“It does create a significant challenge, and we have done all we can to deal with that challenge, as well as develop the capabilities we’ll need tomorrow,” he told the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Drones, he added, are “at the top of our list for current emerging threats.”

The threat spurred the Army to issue a handbook in April to urge commanders to assign dedicated observers to track small drones and to train soldiers in what it called “Counter-Unmanned Aircraft Systems.”

Gen. Raymond Thomas, head of Special Operations Command, said small drones were the “most daunting” threat his commanders faced in Iraq and Syria last year.

He recalled that once, during the battle for Mosul, the Iraqi forces’ “effort nearly came to a screeching halt” because the sky was filled with buzzing robotic aircraft.

“At one point, there were 12 killer bees, if you will, right overhead,” he said during a conference in Tampa, Fla., in May.

The Pentagon has rushed electronic jammers and other specialized equipment to help Iraqi security forces shoot down or neutralize ISIS drones. Also, the Pentagon has launched multimillion-dollar programs to improve defenses, including lasers that can disable a drone in the air and guns that fire small nets to nab them midflight.

Few of the gee-whiz measures have produced tactical success on the battlefield. Iraqis and U.S.-backed Syrian forces instead have tried to shoot them down with automatic weapons — with mixed success.

Christopher Wray, FBI director

FBI Director Christopher Wray at a Senate hearing on Wednesday.

US citizen convicted in 2009 suicide attack in Afghanistan

By TOM HAYS
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A U.S. citizen who joined al-Qaida was convicted Friday of participating in a failed suicide bombing in 2009 at an American military base in Afghanistan.

Farekh, a federal jury in New York reached the verdict in the case against Muhadah Mahmud al Farekh, who’s originally from Houston.

Farekh’s case drew extra attention because of reports that American officials had initially debated whether to try to kill him in a drone strike, a step almost never taken against U.S. citizens. President Barack Obama’s administration ultimately decided to try for a capture and civilian prosecution instead.

Farekh was convicted in Pakistan and brought to the U.S. in 2015.

“Today, an American al-Qaeda member was brought to justice in a U.S. courtroom,” acting U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of New York Bridget Rohde said a statement, using an alternate spelling for the militant group’s name.

She said Farekh faces the possibility of life in prison for “his efforts to murder Americans and his commitment to one of the world’s most infamous terrorist organizations.”

There was no immediate response from Farekh’s lawyer, Sean Maher. He had argued the forensic evidence was too weak to convict Farekh, calling fingerprint experts’ testimony “junk science” in a closing argument.

Most of the charges against Farekh stem from an attack at Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost City, Afghanistan, on Jan. 19, 2009.

The attackers drove two vehicles rigged with explosives. An initial blast injured several Afghans, including a pregnant woman, but a much larger bomb failed to go off, sparing the lives of American soldiers.

The jury heard testimony about how forensic technicians in Afghanistan recovered 18 of Farekh’s fingerprints on packing tape used to bond the detonators on the unexploded bomb.

Farekh was convicted of conspiring to murder U.S. nationals, conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction, conspiracy to bomb a government facility and conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists.

During the trial, the jury also heard testimony from Zarein Ahmedzay, one of three men convicted in a thwarted plot to bomb New York’s subway system.

Ahmedzay, who had trained with al-Qaida in Pakistan, was identified by prosecutors as a co-conspirator of Farekh’s who traveled from Canada to Pakistan in 2007.

Deliberations were briefly interrupted when a juror complained the defendant’s father had encountered four jurors in an elevator and complained to them that he’d been denied direct contact with his son.

The judge decided to replace the jurors with three alternates and ordered the deliberations to continue with a panel of 11 instead of the usual 12.
HHS head resigns in flap over travel

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar and Jonathan Lemire
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump’s health secretary resigned Friday, after his costly travel triggered investigations that overshadowed the administration’s agenda and angered his boss. Tom Price’s regrets and partial repayment couldn’t save his job.

The Health and Human Services secretary became the first member of the president’s Cabinet to be pushed out in a turbulent administration that has seen several high-ranking White House aids ousted. A former GOP congressman from the Atlanta suburbs, Price served less than eight months.

Publicly, Trump had said he was “not happy” with Price for repeatedly using private charter aircraft for official trips on the taxpayer’s dime, when cheaper commercial flights would have done in many cases.

Privately, Trump has been telling associates in recent days that his health chief had become a distraction. Trump felt Price was overlooking the administration’s agenda and undermining his campaign promise to “drain the swamp” of corruption, according to three people familiar with the discussions who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The flap prompted scrutiny of other Cabinet members’ travel, as the House Oversight and Government Reform committee launched a governmentwide investigation of top political appointees. Other department heads have been scrambling to explain their own travel.

Price’s repayment of $51,887.31 for his own travel costs, when cheaper commercial flights would have been available, raised eyebrows on Capitol Hill. Price flew on military aircraft overseas.

Although much of Trump’s ire over the health care failure has focused on the head of the House, lawmakers and advocates familiar with the bill told The Associated Press that the administration’s chief of staff, Reince Priebus, also bore blame.

In what he called an effort at transparency, Priebus informed Cabinet heads and agency leaders in a memo that approval from chief of staff John Kelly will be required for any travel on government-owned, rented, leased or chartered aircraft.

Price rose to Budget Committee chairman in the House, where he was known as a fiscal conservative. When Price joined the administration, Trump touted him as a conservative policy expert who could write a new health care bill in the Obama-era Affordable Care Act.

But Price became more of a supporting player in the GOP’s faltering health care campaign, while Vice President Mike Pence took the lead, particularly with the Senate. The perception of Price jetting around while GOP lawmakers labored to repeal “Obamacare” included the use of private flights in May to Africa and Europe.

The costs of official travel.

Price resigned Friday after his costly travel triggered investigations by the inspector general of the Health and Human Services Department overseeing the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Zinke: Controversy ‘a little BS over travel’

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke is dismissing controversy over his use of charter flights as “a little BS over travel,” but says the American public has the right to know the costs of official travel.

Zinke on Friday disclosed that he has taken three charter flights since taking office in March, including a $12,375 late-night trip from Las Vegas to his home state of Montana in June.

He said no commercial flight was available after 8 p.m. local time, when he planned to fly for a speech to western governors the next day in Whitefish, Mont.

Zinke is one of several Cabinet members facing questions about their travel after Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price came under criticism for using costly chartered planes while on government business. Price resigned later Friday.

Zinke was in Las Vegas to speak to the Vegas Golden Knights, the city’s new National Hockey League team. The team’s owner, Bill Foley, contributed to Zinke’s congressional campaigns.

“As for Priebus? ‘Reince Priebus, a good man,’” Trump repeated.

Trump also had kind words for his national security adviser, Michael Flynn, whose dismissal he has seemed to most regret.

The day after Flynn’s forced resignation, Trump called Flynn “a wonderful man” at a White House news conference and again blamed the news media for treating him “very, unfairly.”

He also defended taking so long to dismiss Flynn after being warned of potential issues.

Zinke’s office did not provide the costs for his Alaska or Virgin Island trips, but said in a statement that commercial flights were not available in either case.

Being called ‘good man’ by Trump is sometimes an omen

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press
BRANCHBURG, N.J. — Sometimes it’s better to not be a nice guy.

President Donald Trump has dismissed and accepted the resignations of a growing list of administration officials, including Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price.

Trump said before the news broke that he was disappointed with Price for reportedly taking numerous, expensive charter flights, when cheaper commercial options were available. But when Price resigned last week, Trump called him “a very, very fine man.”

“He’s a very, very fine man,” Trump said, adding: “He’s a good guy.”

On Wednesday, Trump called Zinke a “great guy.”

It was a similar case for Trump’s chief of staff, Reince Priebus.

Trump announced he was replacing Priebus via tweet from Air Force One in July. Not long after, Trump spoke with reporters on a rainy tarmac, where he repeated his “good man” kiss of death.

“He’s a good man. John Kelly will do a fantastic job. Gen. Kelly has been a star, done an incredible job thus far. Respected by everybody. A great, great American,” Trump said.

As for Priebus? “Reince Priebus, a good man,” Trump repeated.

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He also defended taking so long to dismiss Flynn after being warned of potential issues.
Trump lashes out at San Juan mayor, who asked for help

“‘We are dying, and you are killing us with the inefficiency,’” Cruz said at a news conference. “‘I am begging, begging anyone that can hear us, to save us from dying.’

Trump has pledged to spare no effort to help Puerto Rico recover from Maria’s ruinous aftermath, and Tweeted that military personnel and first responders had done “an amazing job,” despite having “no electric, roads, phones etc.”

Puerto Rico, he said, “was totally destroyed,” and “10,000 Federal workers now on the island are doing a fantastic job.”

Natural disasters often bring the country together. But Trump used Twitter to accuse Cruz of partisan politics.

“The May or San Juan, who was very complimentary only a few days ago, has now been told by the president this week that he should be nasty to Trump,” the president charged, without substantiation.

Trump was scheduled to spend an hour Saturday checking in by phone with FEMA Administrator Brock Long, Puerto Rico’s governor, the state. In Texas, all 12,000 members of the Florida National Guard were activated within two days of Harvey striking the state. In Texas, all 12,000 members of the Florida National Guard were activated within two days of Harvey striking the state.

For New York — Hurricane Maria has thrown Puerto Rico’s already messy economic outlook into disarray.

Friday promised the rebuilding effort “will end up being one of the biggest ever.” With so many unknowns, however, economists are unsure if there will be any silver lining for Puerto Rico.

“It’s still a bit of a mystery,” said David Hitchcock, an analyst with S&P. “Unfortunately, the long-term demands aren’t very clear.”

Puerto Rico’s efforts to put its finances in order were in response to laws and budget protests. Now, the island must rethink everything. The oversight board appointed by Congress approved a 10-year spending plan in March that chipped away at the government’s debt load while cutting employee benefits and raising service fees. The plan now must be revised to take into account unexpected revenue losses and a drop in economic output.

Tax collection is certain to plummet, especially if more Puerto Ricans flee to the mainland. And nobody will be paying their electric or water bills anytime soon. The Puerto Rican Power authority says it could take months to completely restore power.

Revenue from manufacturing and tourism also will fall. Josue Luis Cedeno, a spokesman for the oversight board, said “all options are on the table.”

From the government’s point of view, however, things are even worse. Puerto Rico is still lack adequate food, water and power more than a week since the Category 4 hurricane lashed the island.

But as Puerto Rico emerges from the worst of the disaster, it still will face a $74 billion public debt burden that is expected to cost.

The hurricane has interrupted court proceedings and mediation efforts with creditors aimed at restructuring the debt. The destruction will severely disrupt revenue flows and will for a recalculation of a fiscal plan, painfully negotiated with federal oversight board appointed to oversee Puerto Rico’s finances. While there is some potential for federal recovery money and insurance payouts to jolt a stagnant economy, much depends on how much aid Congress will approve.

President Donald Trump on Thursday, said that about 4,500 or 4,600 National Guard personnel are on duty as of Friday, in addition to 12,000 troops on the island. About half of the 8,000 members of the Puerto Rico National Guard are currently on duty.

Army Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan, the top U.S. officer overseeing military operations on the island, attributed this to a combination of factors. Many personnel are dealing with the devastation in their own lives, he said, and some are responding instead in their full-time jobs as police, firefighters or other first responders.

The island was hit by a Category-4 hurricane, knocking out the electrical grid and leaving people desperate. Power authority says it could take months to completely restore power.

9 days after storm, less than half Puerto Rico’s National Guard on duty

When a natural disaster strikes in the U.S., one of the first lines of defense in calming the chaos is typically the National Guard. The service advertises doing so as a core mission, telling prospective guardsmen and women that, as “citizen-soldiers,” they will be called upon to help friends and neighbors.

But nine days after Hurricane Maria, a striking trend has emerged: Less than half of the 8,000 members of the Puerto Rico National Guard are currently on duty.

By DAN LAMOTHIE

The Washington Post

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But nine days after Hurricane Maria, a striking trend has emerged: Less than half of the 8,000 members of the Puerto Rico National Guard are currently on duty.
Hurdles slow military's effort to help Puerto Rico

By Aaron C. Davis, Dan Lamothe and Ed O'Keefe

The Washington Post

After an earthquake shattered Haiti's capital Jan. 12, 2010, the U.S. military mobilized as if it were a war zone.

Before dawn the next morning, an Army unit was airborne, on its way to seize control of the main airport in Port-au-Prince. Within two days, the Pentagon had 8,000 American troops en route. Within two weeks, 33 U.S. military ships and 22,000 soldiers had arrived. More than 300 military helicopters buzzed overhead, delivering millions of pounds of food and water.

By contrast, eight days after Hurricane Maria ripped across neighboring Puerto Rico, just 4,400 servicemembers were participating in federal operations to assist the devastated island, an Army general told reporters Thursday. About 100 U.S. military helicopters were aiding in delivering food and water to the 3.4 million residents of the U.S. territory, not a foreign nation.

No two disasters are alike. Each delivers customized violence that cannot be fully anticipated, said Gen. P.K. Keen, the three-star Army general who is the top military man in Puerto Rico and military muscle in the initial federal response to Puerto Rico's catastrophe.

"I don't think there's a fair ask why we're not seeing a similar command and response," said Lt. Gen. P.K. Keen, the three-star general who is responsible for the U.S. military effort in Haiti, where 200,000 people died, by some estimates. "The morning after, the president said we were going to respond in Port-au-Prince ... robustly and immediately, and that gave the whole government clarity and urgency system.

Rajiv Shah, who led the U.S. Agency for International Development in Haiti, told reporters Thursday he, too, was struggling to "understand the delays."

"We were able to move more quickly in conducting a variety of missions, including search and rescue, delivery and medical evacuation."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has defended its efforts in Puerto Rico, saying it is coordinating a wide-ranging campaign to simultaneously deliver food, water and shelter to the 3.4 million residents of Puerto Rico, sending in three-star Army general, Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan.

Keen, who was named to lead the efforts in Haiti three days after the quake, pointed to a complicating factor: Puerto Rico is a U.S. territory, and that makes a huge difference in the rules of engagement when it comes to the federal response to Puerto Rico's catastrophe.

"In Haiti, the U.S. was able to deploy active-duty military combat units, to install a military command centre, to mobilize the air space at the invitation of Haitian officials. In Puerto Rico and other U.S. territories, the nearly 140-year-old Posse Comitatus Act limits the role active-duty military personnel can play. A Puerto Rico aid request, made under a mutual-assistance compact among the states and U.S. territories, is in response to the response. In recent days, as criticism of the effort has grown, administration officials repeatedly have acknowledged they were wrong in deciding what Puerto Rico has asked for.

"We of his staff was killed when the hotel where they were staying crumbled.

Fugate said FEMA had not yet to wait for a signal from Puerto Rican authorities before activating more military assets.

"I have two U.S. defense officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive issue, said land inability to communicate readily with Puerto Rican officials immediately after the storm delayed the response. Another defense official, said that FEMA officials did not have a full understanding of the devastation and the challenges until Director Brock Long visited the island Monday. The next day, Long announced a mission to Puerto Rico, the USS Mercy hospital ship USNS Comfort."

At least two other U.S. ships, the USS Iwo Jima and the USS New York, responded to Puerto Rico. The Navy. The supplies, including bottled water, prepackaged meals and fuel, were being disseminated from 11 distribution points set up across the island, officials said.

Puerto Rico National Guard members set up across the island, officials said. Puerto Rico National Guard members were sent back to Mayport, Fla., and remaining on port there on prepare-to-deploy orders. They yet could be called upon to join the response. On the day the quake rocked Haiti, one bit of happenstance may have sped the U.S. response.

Keen began organizing officials to conduct assessments and to distribute food. Three days after the quake, his unofficial role became official — he was named the Joint Task Force commander, is in charge of coordinating the broader government response. Timing magazine editor told Keen the de facto "king of Haiti."

"The real test of leadership," he said, "is now do we work for the people that it's clear that Puerto Rico is going to need help for a long time."

Fear and uncertainty are playing a variety of missions, including search and rescue, delivery and medical evacuation.

"This has been a catastrophic event," Buchanan said. "It's going to take a long amount of time to help the people recover, but I want them to know that we are in it for the long haul to help the people of Puerto Rico recover."
A cloud of dust is seen on El Capitan after a major rock fall Wednesday in Yosemite National Park, Calif.

BY SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. — A geological analysis Friday found there was no more danger than usual of an other giant rock fall after two huge slides, including one involving a slab of granite the size of a 36-story building, occurred last week on the famed El Capitan rock formation in Yosemite National Park in California.

One person was killed and two injured in the successive rock falls on Wednesday and Thursday at the climbing mecca.

“If we felt any area was unsafe, we wouldn’t be allowing people in there,” Yosemite geologist Greg Stock said Friday.

He and a U.S. Geological Service geologist were studying the mountain after the rock falls that awed but did not deter people in the close-knit climbing community. “It’s kind of an innate, dangerous sport,” Hayden Jamieson, 24, of Mammouth Lakes, Calif., told as he prepared to head up El Capitan early Saturday.

The park typically sees about 80 rock falls a year.

Stock said it’s impossible to predict when and where a rock fall will strike. Detecting shifts in rocks could be a sign that one will break loose days or maybe years later, he said.

Geologists don’t think climbers who pound stakes into the granite wall or hang from ropes during their treks have much effect on the stability of the mountainside.

“I am a scientist, so I won’t rule it out entirely,” Stock said. “We don’t see a correlation between climbing and rock falls.”

The slide on Wednesday killed Annette Chadwick, 48, who was hiking with her wife at the bottom of El Capitan.

The massive slab of granite that fell Thursday weighed 35,900 tons, geologists estimate. That fall injured Jim Evans, of Naples, Fla., who was driving out of the national park when rubble broke through the sunroof of his SUV.

No increased danger after Yosemite rock falls

BY DON BABWIN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Illinois authorities refused Friday to release a parole-eligible convicted murderer who is suspected of being part of the notorious “Ripper Crew” that brutally killed as many as 20 women in the 1980s, determining that he lacks an approved place to live.

Thomas Kokorales was scheduled to be released on parole after serving 35 years in prison for the 1982 slaying of a suburban Chicago woman. The Illinois Department of Corrections’ website still lists him as his release date.

Prisoners who are released on parole must have what is called an “approved host site,” meaning an address where parole officers can regularly find them.

The Chicago Tribune reported Kokorales’ older brother said he will not be living with him or any other in the family.

Officials deny Ill. killer parole

Michigan State, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

Morgan Geyser, one of two Wisconsin girls charged with stabbing a classmate to impress the fictitious horror character Slender Man, enters a Waukesha County Court for a status hearing Friday in Waukesha, Wis.

Girl reaches plea deal in Slender Man case

BY IVAN MORENO
Associated Press

WAUKESHA, Wis. — The second of two Wisconsin girls charged with repeatedly stabbing a classmate to impress horror character Slender Man will plead guilty in a deal that will send her to a state mental hospital and bring an end to a case that shocked people in part because the attackers were only 12.

The deal, announced in court Friday, means both girls will avoid prison time for the attack, made bizarre Facebook posts, including one that read: “Every- thing you’ve ever doubted or made to be believe as false, is real & vice versa, B.”

“I know this is terrible,” said Waukesha County District Attorney Mark O’Murphy. “We’re very grateful that the judge allowed them to spend three hours with her before returning her to the mental hospital where she has been receiving treatment.”

Weier urged her on, according to detectives they felt they had to kill Leutner to become Slender Man’s “proxies,” or servants, and protect their families from him.

Weier had been scheduled to go on trial Oct. 16. The plea deal comes after a jury last month determined that Weier was mentally ill at the time of the attack on Leutner.

Weier was at Friday’s hearing but didn’t speak. Afterward, the judge allowed her to spend three hours with her family before returning her to the mental hospital where she has been receiving treatment.

Weier and Geyser told detectives they felt they had to kill Leutner to become Slender Man’s “proxies,” or servants, and protect their families from him.

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The law enforcement officials declined to comment, saying it had not released the information.

The note immediately called to mind the killings at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. But unlike that church, which is mostly black, Burnette Chapel in the Nashville neighborhood of Antioch has a di- verse congregation with people of various ethnicities, a detail noted in the report. Also, church mem- bers told investigators that Sam- son had attended services a year or two ago.

All of the victims in Nashville were white, but it is not clear whether Samson specifically tar- geted them based on their race.

Samson, who is black, came to the United States from Sudan as a child in 1996 and is a U.S. citizen. His past was recently troubled. Police records say he had ex- pressed suicidal thoughts in June, struggled to hold a job and had a volatile relationship with a woman that twice involved police this year.

Officers in Murfreesboro, about 20 miles southeast of the church, responded to a call from Samson’s father, who had reported that his son had texted him June 27 to say: “Your phone is off. I have a gun to my head, have a nice f----- life.”

Hours before the shooting, he made bizarre Facebook posts, including one that read: “Everything you’ve ever doubted or made to be believe as false, is real & vice versa, B.”

It wasn’t clear what precisely Samson is alleged to have written about the Roof shooting or whether his note contained other impor-
Report finds GOP tax plan benefits top 1 percent

By ERICA WERNER and MARY GORDON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The new GOP tax plan delivers a big tax cut to the wealthiest Americans while some in lower tax brackets would end up paying more, according to an analysis Friday from prominent nonpartisan researchers.

The plan being promoted by President Donald Trump as the biggest tax cut ever delivers 50 percent of its total tax benefit to taxpayers in the top 1 percent, those with incomes above $730,000 a year, according to the Tax Policy Center of the Urban Institute and the American Enterprise Institute.

For the top 5 percent of taxpayers, the benefits are far more modest or nonexistent, the report finds. Taxpayers in the bottom 95 percent would see tax cuts averaging 1.2 percent of after-tax income or less.

And about 12 percent of taxpayers would face a tax increase next year, of $1,800 on average. That includes more than a third of taxpayers making between about $150,000 and $300,000, mostly because of the elimination of itemized deductions.

By 2027, taxes would increase for about a quarter of Americans, including nearly 40 percent who would see increases of $3,500 and $10,000 a year, and 60 percent of people making $150,000 to $300,000, according to the analysis.

“The number of taxpayers with a tax increase rises over time,” it said. That’s because the Republican plan would replace personal exemptions, which are tied to inflation, with some tax credits that aren’t tied to inflation.

The findings were certain to fuel the Democrats’ main attack line against the GOP plan: that it’s a giveaway to the rich at the expense of the middle class. Republicans immediately disputed the analysis.

House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, said, “TPC makes a variety of overreaching and unrealistic assumptions about policy decisions members of Congress make as we draft pro-growth tax legislation.”

The Tax Policy Center noted that its analysis was preliminary, based on a proposal that itself lacked key information, such as the proposed income brackets that would correspond to the three new tax rates Republicans envision replacing the current seven.

The findings came as Senate Republicans unveiled a budget plan that lays the groundwork for their effort to overhaul the nation’s tax system. Provisions in the budget would allow Senate Republicans to pass the tax package with a simple majority of votes, preventing Democrats from being able to block the legislation and rendering Democratic votes unnecessary.

The Tax Policy Center’s analysis was based on a proposal Wednesday by the Trump administration and congressional Republicans that aims to recreate the code and dramatically cut corporate rates, from 35 percent to 20 percent.

EPA: Harvey may have washed dioxins downriver

By MICHAEL BIESECKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency says an unknown amount of a dangerous chemical linked to birth defects and cancer may have washed downriver from a Houston-area Superfund site during the flooding from Hurricane Harvey.

The EPA said Thursday night it ordered the companies responsible for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits site to immediately address damage to a protective cap of fabric and rock intended to keep sediments that are highly contaminated with dioxins from spreading.

The company that made the cap, International Paper and the Waste Management subsidiary McGinnis Industrial Maintenance Corp., have made initial repairs to the underwater section of the cap where the protective fabric was missing.

EPA said a sample collected by an agency dive team from the exposed area showed high levels of 70,000 nanograms per kilogram — more than 2,300 times the levels set by the U.S. chemical industry.

Residents in nearby neighborhoods that flooded during the storm are now worried contaminated mud might have been washed into their homes, said Jackie Young, a local environmental advocate.

At least one dozen Superfund sites in and around Houston flooded last month in the days after Harvey’s record-shattering rains stopped.

The San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site is on and around an island that was home to more than 100,000 acres of paper mill waste from 1965 to about the 1970s. The site was completely covered with rolling floodwaters when The Associated Press surveyed it Sept. 1.

About 16 acres of the site were covered in 2011 with an “armored cap” of fabric and rock intended to contain the contamination until it can be removed as part of a proposed $97 million cleanup plan. The cap has required extensive repairs on at least six occasions in recent years, with sections becoming displaced or going missing.

The EPA said additional testing will now be needed to determine whether the contamination spread from the exposed waste material is isolated.

Despite EPA’s statement affirming that contaminated materials were exposed by the storm, International Paper and McGinnis said in a statement that “no evidence exists that there was any release of waste material to the environment as a result of Hurricane Harvey.”

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has called cleaning up Superfund sites a top priority, even as President Donald Trump’s proposed 2018 budget seeks to cut money for the program by 30 percent.

Following AP’s reporting on flooding at Texas Superfund sites, Pruitt flew to Houston and visited the San Jacinto site.

ACLU to challenge latest travel ban

By JESSICA GRESKO
Associated Press

The American Civil Liberties Union said Friday it will challenge the Trump administration’s latest travel ban, the first such legal action to be announced against the new ban.

The ACLU and other groups who had previously sued over the administration’s ban on visitors from six majority-Muslim countries said in a letter Friday to a federal judge in Hawaii that they want to amend their existing lawsuit. The groups say the latest iteration of the ban, the administration’s third, also violates federal law and the Constitution.

Trump announced the latest ban last weekend after the previous ban expired. The restrictions are targeted at countries that the Department of Homeland Security says fail to share sufficient information with the U.S. or haven’t taken necessary security precautions.

The new restrictions impact citizens of Chad, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen — and some Venezuelan government officials and their families — and are to go into effect Monday.

The prior ban also included Sudan but didn’t include Chad, North Korea, and Venezuela.

In their two-page letter, the ACLU and others say they want to amend their existing lawsuit to cover the president’s latest proclamation and seek preliminary injunction “or other relief” for travelers on a visa as well as restrictions in the proclamation.

Justice Department spokesman Ian Prior said in an emailed statement Friday after the ACLU announced its intention to take legal action that the department “will continue to vigorously defend the President’s inherent authority to keep this country safe.”
SpaceX proposes rocket travel between cities

By Marcia Dunn
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — SpaceX chief Elon Musk’s elegant plans to build a travel rocket to carry astronauts to Mars may have some down-to-Earth applications.

At a conference in Australia on Friday, Musk said if you build a ship capable of going to the moon and Mars, why not use it for high-speed transport here at home. He proposes using his still-in-the-design phase rocket for launching passengers from New York to Shanghai in 39 minutes flat.

Los Angeles to New York, or Los Angeles to Honolulu in 25 minutes. London to Dubai in 29 minutes.

“Most of what people consider to be long-distance trips would be completed in less than half an hour,” Musk said to applause and cheers at the International Astronautical Congress in Adelaide, Australia.

A seat should cost about the same as a full-fare economy plane ticket, he noted later via Instagram.

Friday’s address was a follow-up to one he gave to the group last September in Mexico, where he unveiled his grand scheme for colonizing Mars. He described a scaled-down 348-foot-tall rocket and announced that the private space company aims to launch two cargo missions to Mars in 2022.

“That’s not a typo,” he said, pausing, as charts appeared on a large screen. “It’s a philosophical approach.”

Two more cargo missions would follow in 2024 to provide more construction materials, along with two crewed flights. The window for launching to Mars occurs only every 26 months.

For the approximately six-month, one-way trips to Mars, the SpaceX ships would have 46 cabins, ideally with two to three people per cabin for a grand total of about 100 passengers. Musk foresees this Mars city growing, and over time “making it really a nice place to be.”

NASA is charting its own path to what it calls the “Deep Space Gateway,” beginning with expeditions in the vicinity of the moon in the 2020s and eventually culminating at Mars. The space agency has launched a two-year Earth-orbiting work to private industry, including SpaceX, Orbital ATK and Boeing.

Musk intends to finance his $10 billion Mars endeavor by using a rocket that’s smaller than the one outlined last year. Fewer engines would be needed: 31 versus the original envisioned 42. Its lift capability would be 150 tons, more than NASA’s old moon rocket, the Saturn V.

Musk said the same spaceship for moon and Mars trips — long and cylindrical with small shuttlke wings — could fly to the moon and return to Earth. The small rocket could be used to establish a lunar settlement, with spaceships being refueled in Earth orbit versus creating a vital fuel depot at Mars.

Dairy farm oversight in question after deaths

By Tim Craig
The Washington Post

JEROME, Idaho — Alberto Navarro Munoz had been working on the farm for only two weeks when he encountered one of the most gruesome hazards that a dairy worker can face. His tractor tipped over into a pit of cow manure, submerging the Mexican national under several feet of a “loose thick somewhat liquid-like substance,” according to the police report documenting his death in southern Idaho.

Another immigrant laborer jumped in to try to save Munoz, but told authorities “there was nothing he could do.” Munoz, whose body was later retrieved by the fire department, died of traumatic asphyxiation.

Munoz’s death, which occurred in the near-by town of Shelley last September, was one of two fatal accidents last year involving dairymen who either choked or drowned in pits of cow manure. Another laborer from Mexico died last month after he was crushed by a skid loader, used to move feed and manure.

The deaths have rattled Idaho’s dairy industry as well as local immigrant communities that do the bulk of the work producing nearly 15 billion pounds of milk annually in the industrial-sized farms in the state’s southern prairie. As farms have transitioned from family operations into big businesses involving thousands of cows and massive machinery, new safety concerns have emerged.

Agricultural workers suffer fatal on-the-job injuries at a very high rate — far higher than police officers and more than twice the rate of construction workers in 8515, the last year for which comprehensive records are available.

Farms have become increasingly reliant on immigrant workers, who often have minimal training or experience dealing with dangerous equipment and large animals. That has left farm laborers especially vulnerable to workplace deaths. Despite injury rates far exceeding other industries, the agriculture industry receives relatively light federal oversight of worker safety. Regulations established when farms were more likely to be small, family operations haven’t kept up with the rapidly consolidating industry. Historically, the U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration has taken a hands-off approach, conducting inspections only when there is a report of a serious accident or fatality.

The agency imposed fines of about $5,000 on farms involved in the manure pond deaths. Most farms with fewer than 11 employees don’t have to report such incidents.

Particularly on dairy farms, where workers care for 1,500-pound animals that together generate more waste in a day than a medium-sized city, this creates an underclass of workers who spend hours hauling excrement but are largely unprotected by labor safety standards.

In Idaho, dairy industry leaders are rushing to implement new statewide training protocols aimed largely at its Spanish-speaking workforce. About 90 percent of the state’s 8,100 dairy farmworkers were born outside the United States. Nationwide, a little more than half of the dairy farms’ 150,000 employees are immigrants, according to the National Milk Producers Federation.

Farm owner Tony Vander Hulst needs 65 employees to make his 5,500 Holstein cattle feed and milked twice a day, so they can keep producing their daily 500,000 pounds of milk — enough to fill six tanker trucks.

But a chief chunk of his staff’s job is dealing with waste from the animals. Multiple times a day, trucks equipped with suction equipment pass through barns to collect it. Solids are heaped into piles to be dried and used as fertilizer. The liquid remains are diverted into a smelly, 15-acre, 10-foot-deep pond that farmers refer to as “green lagoons.”

When asked how it plans to monitor conditions for farmworkers, OSHA responded in a written statement: “OSHA is dedicated to enforcing safety and health laws that apply to agricultural operations, and when a fatality or serious incident occurs, or when OSHA receives a referral or a worker complaint, it will conduct rigorous inspections and take appropriate measures.”

If oversight were to expand, Idaho dairy farmers and their lobbyists say they’d want to work closely with regulators to limit the financial impact on an industry already battered by fluctuating markets and expensive machinery.

SpaceX chief Elon Musk suggested Friday in an address to the International Astronautical Congress in Adelaide, Australia, that rockets could be used for passenger travel on Earth.

Spokeswoman Ashley Cook, said her agency has not received a transfer request or documents asynchronously.

Simpson becomes eligible for release Sunday but LaVerge said details on where or when it will happen.

He expects to learn more when Simpson notifies him that he is being moved from Lovelock Correctional Center in northern Nevada.

Release plans are in motion but need to be finalized for Simpson to be freed, perhaps as early as Monday in Las Vegas. Nevada prisons official Brooke Keast said.

Citing safety concerns, Keast said Friday the plans were not being made public.

LaVerge said he will begin pressing for answers if Simpson is not out by Oct. 8.

He said he spoke with Simpson by telephone Thursday, and he’s pressing for answers if Simpson is not out by Oct. 8.

“‘He’s really looking forward to the years to more than $65 million,” said “Seeing his family on the outside, spending time with them, eating food that’s not packaged.”

Simpson wants to eat steak and seafood and get a new iPhone, LaVerge told ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

Simpson won parole in July after serving nine years of a possible 33-year sentence for his 2008 conviction on armed robbery, kidnaping and other charges.

The conviction came after a botched effort to retrieve items that Simpson insisted were stolen after his acquittal in the 1994 killings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ron Goldman in Los Angeles.

A Florida Department of Corrections spokeswoman, said her agency has not received a transfer request or documents asynchronously.

Simpson was found liable for nearly doubled with interest over $33.5 million to victims’ families.

A Goldman family attorney said the judgment amount has nearly doubled with interest over the years to more than $65 million, and he continues to seek payment.

By Ken Ritter
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson will live in Florida following his parole from a Nevada prison where the former football star and celebrity was granted after he was convicted of牧场 after serving nine years of a sentence for his 2008 conviction on armed robbery, kidnaping and other charges. The conviction came after a botched effort to retrieve items that Simpson insisted were stolen after his acquittal in the 1994 killings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ron Goldman in Los Angeles.

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**WORLD**

**Irrational people prepare to take control of Kurdish borders**

Associated Press  
IRBIL, Iraq — Iraq’s military prepared Saturday to take control of the international borders of the northern Kurdish region. The move is part of the central government’s stepped-up efforts to coordinate with the Kurds following their vote on independence last week.

The step will be the first movement of troops — outside of joint military exercises held by Turkey, Iran and Iraq — in response to the referendum in which Kurds voted to become independent from Iraq for their self-rule zone and other areas they have captured in the past year.

On Friday evening, Iraq initiated a flight ban that halted all international flights from servicing the territory’s airports.

Iraqi troops now in Turkey and Iran are expected to start enforcing control over the border crossings in and out of the Kurdish region, but are not expected to move into Kurdish territory.

Abdul-Wahab Barzani, director of intelligence at the Kurdish regional government in Turkey, said Iraqi troops will be stationed along the border of the Turkish side of the border.

“So far they have not contacted us,” he told The Associated Press. He said he heard they plan to set up a customs point some 16 yards away on the Turkish side and traffic is expected to continue to be allowed to pass the crossing normally.

The escalation feeds worries in the United States, a close ally of both the Kurds and Baghdad, that the referendum vote could lead to violence, setting off an unpredictable chain of events.

The nonbinding referendum, in which the Kurds voted overwhelmingly in favor of independence from Iraq, will not immediately result in an independent state. But the vote has set off alarm bells in Baghdad, where the government has said it is determined to prevent a break-up of the country, and in Iraq’s neighbors, Iran and Turkey, which fear the vote will fuel similar ambitions among their own significant Kurdish populations.

The Washington Post reported U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Friday, “The United States does not recognize the … unilateral referendum.”

“The vote and the results lack legitimacy,” he said, “and we continue to support a united, federal, democratic and prosperous Iraq.” Tillerson urged both sides to reject the use of force and engage in dialogue, and to remain focused on the fight against the Islamic State, which he said was “not over.”

**Bali officials urge many evacuees to return home**

Associated Press  
KLUNGKUNG, Indonesia — Authorities were trying to convince more than half of the 144,000 people who fled a menacing volcano on the Indonesian island of Bali to return home Saturday, saying they left areas that are safe.

Irianese at Mount Agung volcano on Bali, a tourist hotspot known for its lush interior, Hindu culture and beguiling beaches, has been at its highest alert level for more than a week, sparking an exodus from an officially danger zone and areas farther away.

Authorities say the no-go zone, which in places extends 7.5 miles from the crater, is the area at risk of lava, lahars and stunning heat, clouds of ash, gases and rock fragments if there’s a powerful eruption.

“They who live outside the danger zone, we urge them to go back home and carry on with their daily lives,” said Putu Widi-ada, head of the disaster mitigation agency in Klungkung district south of the volcano where some 22,000 people have fled. “We are trying to identify those who lived outside the danger zone.”

Bali’s governor heads of the groundwork for Trump’s planned visit to China in November that will come just weeks after Xi is expected to receive a new five-year term as leader of the ruling Communist Party.

**Tillerson talks with trade, N. Korea talks**

Associated Press  
BEIJING — U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was in Beijing on Saturday for discussions focused on trade and North Korea, along with preparations for a visit by President Donald Trump in November.

Tillerson is making his second visit in office to the world’s No. 2 economy and chief American rival for influence in Asia, and increasingly, the world. He was scheduled to meet Saturday with top Chinese officials including senior foreign policy adviser Yang Jiechi, Foreign Minister Wang Yi and President Xi Jinping.

Relations between Beijing and Washington are seen as more crucial than ever with the standoff over North Korea’s nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles entering a new, dangerous phase as its leader, Kim Jong Un, and Trump exchange personal insults and threats of war with no sign of a diplomatic solution.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang on Friday said talks would center on “issues regarding the improvement of bilateral ties, President Trump’s visit to China within the year as invited by President Xi, and international and regional issues of common concerns.”

Other than North Korea, the U.S. and China have other security concerns to address. They remain at odds over Beijing’s military buildup and assertive claims over neighboring islands in the South China Sea.

Tillerson is also expected to restate concerns about China’s mass trade surplus with the U.S. — $347 billion last year — and what American companies say are unfair barriers to investment, including pressure to hand over their technology.

Tillerson will also be laying the groundwork for Trump’s planned visit to China in November that will come just weeks after Xi is expected to receive a new five-year term as leader of the ruling Communist Party.

People sit inside the Miquel Tarradell institute, one of the designated polling stations for the disputed Oct. 1 referendum on independence from Spain, in Barcelona, Spain, early Saturday.

**Catalan police tell occupiers to leave schools before dawn**

BY JOSEPH WILSON AND CIARAN GILES  
BARCELONA, Spain — Police in Catalonia issued an ultimatum Saturday: the separatists, parents and children who are occupying schools to use them as polling stations for a disputed referendum on the region’s independence from Spain must leave by dawn.

The police deadline of 6 a.m. Sunday is designed to prevent the vote from taking place, since the polls are supposed to open three hours later.

Spain’s Constitutional Court suspended the independence vote more than three weeks ago and the national government calls it illegal. Police have been ordered to stop ballots from being cast on Sunday and have been cracking down for days, confiscating voting materials.

Catalonia’s defiant regional government is pressing ahead despite the ban and the police crackdown, urging the region’s 5.3 million registered voters to make their voices heard.

Spain’s foreign minister said Saturday the Catalan government’s plan is anti-democratic and runs “counter to the goals and ideals the European Union” is trying to advance.

“What they are pushing is not democracy. It is a mockery of democracy, a travesty of democracy,” Foreign Minister Alfonso Dastis told The Associated Press.

Emotions are running high as the vote nears.

Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy’s conservative government said any vote on Catalan secession would have to be held across all of Spain, not just in Catalonia. The European Union has said that Catalonia would be forced out of the bloc and have to reapply to join if it leaves Spain, an EU member.

Parents supporting the referendum are camping out over the weekend at schools that are among the 2,315 designated voting facilities to keep police from them shutting down.

A top Spanish security official in Catalonia said police have already sealed off more than half of the polling stations and disabled software that was to have been used in the referendum.

Enric Millo, the highest-ranking Spanish official in the northeastern region, said parents and students were found to be occupying 163 schools when police were sealing off facilities on Saturday.

The regional police force has been ordered not to use force, but to vacate the schools three hours before the scheduled opening of polls at 9 a.m.

Millo said anyone remaining in schools after 6 a.m. will need to be removed in line with a judge’s orders, but predicts there won’t be significant problems.

“I trust in the common sense of Catalans and that people will operate with prudence,” he said.

In Madrid, thousands of people rallied Saturday in a central plaza to protest the Catalan independence vote, angry that it could divide Spain. Some shouted “Long live Spain!” and “Puigdemont to jail!”

Catalan regional President Carles Puigdemont, who openly favors breaking away from Spain, is among those promoting the independence vote.
Anthem adds dimension to protests

By Jonathan H. Adler
Special To The Washington Post

I’m a white country singer. I still took a knee

By Meghan Linsey
Special to The Washington Post

I was on my way to Nissan Stadium in Nashville, Tenn., last Sunday morning when I got a call informing me that my performance of the national anthem would be televised nationally later that day. President Donald Trump had already spent the day before attacking the players who’ve been kneeling during the anthem to protest police brutality against African-Americans, so of course news outlets and all of America would be watching.

I started to get nervous, because I knew what I had to do.

I am a country singer in Nashville. I come from a country music background and grew up in and around New Orleans, where all kinds of music and cultures mix. When I was 10, we moved to a tiny Louisiana town called Ponchatoula. I remember hearing the “n-word” for the first time at school in second grade. It still does. I saw racism all around me growing up: I remember getting a homecoming ballot in high school and seeing the names in the yearbook I had to select either “black,” the other “white.” I remember thinking it couldn’t be real. That was in 2002.

Racism is still a huge stain on the heart of this country, and it is very much alive. I see it often when I tour and interact with people. Sometimes we are not afforded the opportunities to be ourselves in the way that other people are. We recently played a venue where I was told that the promoter didn’t want to pay me because my “drummer was threatening.” This was at a country club in the Deep South. I was with my drummer, who is a brother to me, the entire day, and I never saw any type of aggression from him. The only threat she saw was the color of his skin.

This past Sunday, even though I had been looking forward to singing the national anthem at this game for about six months, I knew I had to make a statement of solidarity with my brothers, sisters, fans and friends who live with such toxic hatred all the time and are experiencing an even higher level of anxiety and fear because of the polarizing rhetoric Trump spews out.

I walked out to the middle of the field, sang the song and then peacefully locked arms with my boyfriend and took a knee. I took a knee for those who are mistreated, beaten down and disregarded in this country. I took a knee because every movement needs allies, and I knew that someone who looks like me and comes from my background needed to do it. When you’re white, it’s easy to disregard racism and not see your own privilege. Instead, I wanted to use this platform to shine a light on systemic racism and social injustice.

A lot of people are calling my peaceful protest an un-American, but that could not be further from the truth. I love this country and the men and women who serve and protect us. But the reality is that the flag and the anthem continue to be further from the truth. I was not protesting the military or police or flag. I was protesting in solidarity with those whom the flag also represents: my fellow humans of color.

My decision may hurt my career, but it was the only choice for me. This cause is more important than my record sales.

I walked off the field to mixed reactions. Some people got my attention and shouted “thank you.” A lot of people booed. The boos didn’t bother me so much. What bothered me more is the silence: the silence of millions of white people every day, when they watch a video of a black woman’s son who is murdered simply for reaching for his driver’s license. We have to do better. We have to talk about it, and we have to be allies.

In the past few days, I have received death threats and had cancer wishes upon me by the same people who claim to be great patriots. Some people say they should have executed me on the field. People are threatening my life because the idea that someone who looks like me would act against racism upsets them so much.

I can’t think of anything more un-American than threatening someone for an act of free speech. As I and almost all of these people, because I know that I am living on my mother’s prayers and God will protect me. It just hurts my heart to stand in the face of evil and hear that same hate that so many other people in this country face simply because of the color of their skin.

The only way we can move forward as a nation is if we bring it all back to love. We have to live it and demonstrate it every day. Now more than ever, we need people committed to combusting injustices every time we see them. I am praying for our country. I know that there has to be more love out there, and I pray that we find it and feel it.

Meghan Linsey is a recording artist in Nashville, Tenn.
**By David Ignatius**
Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON

One simple rule for decoding foreign policy is that presidential trips often offer clues to the agenda. So the fact that President Donald Trump is planning to visit Beijing and other Asian capitals in just over a month may tell us more about what's ahead in that region than all the tweets, rumors and palace intrigue.

War with North Korea? It's a scary possibility, for sure. But a president who is preparing for a grand meeting in November will want to fly there through a cloud of nuclear fallout. Will Xi deliver on his promise to pressure Pyongyang beforehand? The trip might be a useful signal to North Korea that there's a man in the White House who wants to make a deal but wants to see some concrete steps first.

And what about Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, the gray man of Trump's foreign policy team and the subject of ceaseless speculation about whether he will be fired? Well, he is in Beijing to prepare the way for the Trump visit. It's unlikely that the Sherra will be thrown off the scent before the president reaches the summit.

The hardest challenge in following this chaotic White House is separating actual policy from the "House of Cards" backbiting that surrounds the president. Trump seems to operate with what might be called an "iron whim," becoming enraged about perceived slights and oversights, fuming one moment and threatening retribution, then turning to something entirely different.

These presidential cycles of favor and disfavor seem to change almost daily: Trumppublicly vouchsafes Attorney General Jeff Sessions but continues to work with him. He rages at Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and flirts with his Democratic rival, Sen. Chuck Schumer, and then a few weeks later discards bipartisanship and panders to his GOP base. Most recently, he was all in for Luther Strange in Alabama's Republican Senate primary until he wasn't.

At the center of this perpetual White House hurricane have been Tillerson and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, who in the administration's first weeks lashed themselves to each other, and to the mast of policy. That alliance seems as steady as ever, even as the rumors fly that the president is about to throw Tillerson overboard in favor of U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley. That Cabinet shuffle may happen eventually, but it's unlikely now, that Tillerson is stewarding the China trip and diplomatic strategy for North Korea.

The politics of travel helps explain another policy knot. Trump's first overseas destination was Saudi Arabia, and he loved the royal pomp that greeted him. He invested heavily in Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman as a change agent—a Trumpian disrupter of the status quo in Saudi Arabia (who delivered "bigly" with the recent announcement that women will be able to drive).

When the Saudis and the UAE decided to squeeze their troublesome neighbor, Qatar, Trump privately sided with Riyadh. Tillerson initially peevved Trump by leaning the other way, arguing that this dispute should be mediated. But by September, Trump seemed to have come around to Tillerson's viewpoint and was talking on the phone to King Salman and in person to Qatar's ruling Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani to say that it was time to resolve the dispute. A recent effort failed, but there will be more.

Trump still leans toward Riyadh, but he knows that Tillerson and Mattis have a united front on this issue, as on most others. The Tillerson-Mattis relationship remains the balance wheel of this administration. Trump may get angry, as after Tillerson's comment that the president spoke for only himself after the Charlottesville, Va., unrest. But it's said that Trump watched the video of Tillerson's remarks three times and decided he didn't want "OK, with them," though he may still be quietly grumbling.

Tillerson remains mystifyingly reluctant to discuss the communications tools that are an essential part of U.S. foreign policy. The latest example was the way he ceded control of refugee policy, a traditional State Department issue, to White House aide Stephen Miller, who set a cap of 45,000, the lowest in decades. Apparent (unfortunate) means-end thinking removes another open dispute with the president.

In Trump world, we're learning to watch what he does, more than just read his inflamed tweets. That lesson has come into his itinerary. Watch where he goes, and some of the policy implications become clear. A president who is about to attack North Korea doesn't schedule a November trip to China.

**The politics of travel and the knot of policy**

President Donald Trump is planning to visit Beijing and other Asian capitals this fall.

Mitch McConnell and flirts with his Democratic rival, Sen. Chuck Schumer, and then a few weeks later discards bipartisanship and panders to his GOP base. Most recently, he was all in for Luther Strange in Alabama's Republican Senate primary until he wasn't.

**Goodbye, Corker; goodbye, Trump Mideast policy**

**By Trudy Rubin**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

On Tuesday, the GOP's survival of foreign policy expert in the Senate, Tennessee's Bob Corker, announced he won't run for re-election 2018. No doubt Corker knew he'd be primaried by pro-Trump populists who have declared war on mainstream Republicans. (See: Alabama.) But his sober signal had probably tired of chairing the once-powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee in the Donald Trump era. Why hold serious hearings on weighty issues when they'll be ignored by a president who makes foreign policy by Twitter?

Corker's decision is one more reminder of the dangerous foreign policy confusion that has emerged under the Trump administration. And, apart from North Korea, there's nowhere that confusion is more risky than in Trump's contradictory policies toward the Middle East.

The regional arms race would have had a tough time with the Mideast mess Trump inherited, the combined product of misfortunes from presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama along with the chaos of the Arab Spring.

And on the surface, Trump would seem to have returned to a traditional Republican approach to the Mideast: unmitigating support for our Sunni Arab allies in the Persian Gulf and Israel, while working to curb Iranian mischief. Add to that “bomb the hell” out of Islamic State and make the deal of the century on Israel-Palestine.

But the president's own lack of discipline and disdain for process have turned his would-be Mideast policy into hash.

Let us count the ways:

Point One. On the Sunni Arab alliance, the president was so entranced by the lavish welcome he got in Riyadh that, becoming enraged about perceived slights and oversight—such as a side in a quarrel with Qatar. Thus, Trump helped split the Sunni alliance and distracts its members from a coherent stance toward Iran.

Point Two. On the fight vs. ISIS, yes, the president intensified the battle already underway under Obama; the jihadis have been mostly routed from Iraq and partly from Syria. But stabilizing Iraq and Syria in the post-ISIS era requires skilled American diplomacy with full presidential backing—or else ISIS 2.0 will emerge.

In Iraq, for example, Washington still has a key role to play in mediating between factions, including Kurds and an angry Baghdad government after the Kurds' Monday independence referendum. Iraqi Sunnis freed from the ISIS thrall also want U.S. mediation help with the Shiite-led government. A failure to provide it will open the door to a new jihadi explosion—and deeper Iranian penetration of Iraq.

However, Trump's military-only focus and indifference to broad long-term strategy offer little hope that proactive diplomacy will be on offer.

Which leads to Point Three. The United States needs to be talking seriously to Russia about how to stabilize post-ISIS Syria lest it become another subsidiary of Iran. Shiite militias run by Iran now have access to the Syria-Israel border.

But Trump has made U.S. dialogue with Moscow impossible by his stubborn refusal to criticize Vladimir Putin or Russia's interference in the 2016 elections. This makes even necessary dialogue with the Russians suspect.

Point Four. Trump seems to view his foreign policy as a solo operation — tweeting as he sees fit, no matter if this contradicts the positions of his top advisers. Moreover, he appears indifferent to the fact that Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is gutting the State Department, leaving few confirmed senior staff to ensure that policy is carried out.

Point Five. Under Trump, foreign policy is a family operation. He appointed his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and a personal lawyer as the gurus supposed to bring peace to Israel and the Palestinians. The State Department and National Security Council are out of the picture.

This is a farce that is going nowhere. Can you imagine the reaction if a President Hillary Clinton had appointed her son-in-law, Marc Mezvinsky, to make Middle East peace? Point Six. Most unnerving, the president's strategic blindness threatens to put the Iranian ayatollahs back on a short-term path to a bomb.

Despite opposition from his top security advisers, Trump is reportedly about to refuse to certify by Oct. 15 that Iran is in compliance with the deal that sharply curtailed their nuclear program for the next decade. That will leave the door open for Congress to reinstate sanctions, which would effectively kill the deal.

America's top military chiefs, along with Tillerson, say Iran is in compliance. The five other participants in the deal—Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China—oppose Trump's stance and would refuse to lift their sanctions. Corker, although an Iran hawk, has said Trump shouldn't "tear up" the deal.

If he does, Washington would be left as the outlier and Iran would have the option to restart its nuclear program. Chances of negotiating a second deal to end Iran's misadventure would extend the deal's time frame would be nil.

Trump is all alone on this one, except for his base and some fellow Republicans. But Trumpian disrupter of the status quo with a president who envisions it in terms of domestic politics—and thinks he has all the answers.

No wonder Corker is planning to retire.
**AMERICAN ROUNDPUP**

**Mystery couple picking up tabs at restaurant**

**PA**  
WASHINGTON — A mystery couple has been picking up the tab for other customers at a southwestern Pennsylvania restaurant.

KDKA-TV reported the couple has been doing that for years at the Applebee's in Washington, Pa., but only recently have their good deeds come to light.

Jolie Welling said she was celebrating her daughter's birthday only to find the couple recently paid the entire tab — for 16 people. Samantha Powell, the waitress for that party, said the gesture almost brought her to tears.

Bernie Lewis, the restaurant's assistant manager, said she has sworn to keep the couple's secret.

**Driver flees police, crashes into 2 homes**

**NY**  
KENMORE — Authorities said a driver is in custody after crashing into two homes in a Buffalo suburb while trying to elude police.

Officers in Amherst said they tried to stop the driver for speeding early Friday morning, but the motorist sped away.

The truck traveled into the town of Kenmore, where the driver lost control and hit a one-story house, then struck a two-story home next door before coming to a stop in front of a third home.

Police said the driver tried to flee on foot but was captured after being hit with a stun gun.

According to police, no one inside the homes was injured.

**Ballet company offers Parkinson’s dance class**

**LA**  
NEW ORLEANS — The New Orleans Ballet Association has begun hosting dance classes for people with Parkinson's disease and their families, caregivers and friends.

The chronic neurological disorder causes tremors and movement difficulties.

Organizers said Dance for Parkinson's instructors will deal with symptom-specific concerns related to balance, cognition, motor skills, depression and physical confidence, but the classes are designed as an enjoyable aesthetic experience rather than therapy.

A spokeswoman said 80 people reacted to the New Orleans' kick-off. There's no limit on the number who can sign up.

The Susan J. Tokars Charitable Trust is presenting the program modeled after the Mark Morris Dance Group's Dance for PD program, which is based in New York with affiliates worldwide.

**Mom flew to Germany, left 4 kids home alone**

**LA**  
JOHNSTON — A mother was jailed after she left her four children home alone while she traveled to Germany for a 12-day vacation, police said Friday.

Johnston police charged Erin Mace, 30, with four counts of child endangerment and one of transferring a firearm to a person under 21. Police said the latter charge was filed because a firearm was left at home within the children's reach.

Police said Mace tried but failed to make child care arrangements for her children — two aged 12, one 7 and the other 6 — before leaving Sept. 20. The father of one of the children was called by his child the next day, and he tipped off police that the children had been left unsupervised, Johnston police spokeswoman Janet Wilwerding said Friday.

Officer went to the residence Sept. 21 and called the Iowa Human Services Department, which took custody of the children. They have been released to the care of relatives, Wilwerding said. Police said Maceke in Germany, demanding she return.

She was arrested on her return Thursday.

**Couple rescued after driving into Atlantic**

**ME**  
TREMONT — Maine firefighters said they had to rescue a New York couple who took a wrong turn and drove into the Atlantic Ocean.

WMTW-TV reported firefighter were called to the docks in Tremont around 8 p.m. Tuesday after there were reports of two people trapped in a car in the water. Officials said the couple’s SUV was in 8 to 10 feet of water after they traveled down a boat ramp into the water.

A video shows extremely foggy conditions in the area.

Rescuers were able to pull the couple onto a skiff, and then pulled the SUV back to shore.

**Backlash for woman selling old gravestone**

**NY**  
DELMAR — An upscale New York woman is creating consternation online by using Facebook to try to sell a tombstone dating back to 1850.

Nicola Crowe said she found the gravestone buried and broken into three pieces while she was renovating the entrance to her home in the Albany suburb of Delmar. Spectrum News reported she has contacted local historical societies, who say the person whose name is on the stone isn’t buried on Crowe’s property.

Crowe has put the tombstone up for sale on several Facebook groups. She said she has received a number of complaints, telling her that she’s disrespectful, or that she’s “going to be haunted.” Crowe said she’s willing to donate the gravestone, but no one seems to want it.

**Police say woman smuggled drugs to jail**

**WV**  
MARTINSBURG — Authorities said a West Virginia grandmother joined her grandson in jail after being accused of smuggling drugs to him.

The Mountain State Fugitive Task Force said Carolyn Lou Gay, 64, was arrested Wednesday on 15 charges related to drug possession and delivery.

A criminal complaint said Gay visited her grandson Sept. 2 at Eastern Regional Jail near Martinsburg. According to a complaint, a guard heard innmate Shawn Douglas Weister tell Gay to “go ahead.” It says Weister was directed to a strip search room, but instead ran away. When guards caught up, he yelled: “Run granney, they caught me.”

The complaint said investigators found 22 sealed drinking straws containing various drugs including heroin in Weister’s possession, and Gay is the only person who visited him.

**School helps clean rainbow parking spot**

**KS**  
MARION — A Kansas high school student who fought to keep his rainbow-painted parking spot found it vandalized last week.

The Wichita Eagle reported Marion High School senior Logan Waner decorated his parking spot with an LGBT pride design. It was covered in black paint or tar Thursday.

Seniors at the school are allowed to paint their parking spots, as long as the designs are approved by administrators. Students and administrators helped Waner clean up his parking spot.

Waner’s parking spot initially drew attention after he was told he had to paint over the design on Wednesday. The school reversed the decision that afternoon.

From wire reports
LIVING HER TRUTH

By Jen Yamato

Los Angeles Times

Half a lifetime ago, Ellen Page figured she had options if the acting thing didn’t go anywhere.

“When I was a teenager, I thought, ‘What if it doesn’t work out?’ I thought I was going to be a cinematographer,” said Page, whose career skyrocketed after her turn as a pregnant teenager in 2007’s “Juno.” “I was also obsessed with movie trailers. I was like, ‘I’ll make movie trailers.’”

“Juno” nabbed her an Oscar nomination at age 20, and now, almost exactly a decade later, Page is busier than ever. Opening this weekend, she stars in the slick studio remake of the 1990 thriller “Flatliners,” about a group of medical students toying with the boundary between life and death.

Earlier this month, she premiered two movies at the Toronto International Film Festival: the Irish zombie thriller “The Cured” and the romantic drama “My Days of Mercy,” about two women on opposite sides of the death-penalty debate who fall in love.

Sipping hot green tea on a brisk Toronto day, Page remarked on how nice it was to be back in the city where she moved from her native Halifax, Canada, to study at age 16.

“There were way fewer condos then,” Page laughed. “It was fun. It was back before smartphones. I was just this kid in ripped Converse, romping around the city.”

Soft-spoken, gracious and direct, she reflected on the course life has charted since those days, cracking the occasional mischievous smile.

“I’m getting old,” joked Page, one of the rare faces in Hollywood that never seems to age. “It’s interesting to look back. I was like to re-watch something like ‘Hard Candy’ now, I’d be like, ‘Look at all this feminist conversation!’ At the time, I was just 17.”

“Hard Candy,” the 2005 thriller directed by David Slade starring Page as a high-school student turning the tables on a sexual predator, marked the first time audiences noticed the nascent activist. “People who just want a chance, and to be able to meet the most resilient people you could ever meet,” she said. “Profound sadness, or profound joy, in terms of watching art.”

Page considered what unites her three most recent screen characters: sadness. “To me, that’s one of the things that connects us the most as people,” she said. “Profound sadness, or profound joy, in terms of watching art.”

“Flatliners” star Ellen Page explores the ‘profound sadness, profound joy’ of art

Dealing with significant trauma and fear, just by walking down the street, especially post-Trump with hate crimes on the rise. Of course, there’s a devastation to it — and then you couldn’t feel more inspired because you meet the most resilient people you could ever meet,” she said.

While she was filming “Gaycation” in India, the script for “The Cured” landed on her radar. Page was intrigued by the intensely emotional family drama in the guise of an apocalyptic zombie flick. She took on the role of Abbie, a journalist and mother to a young son wrestling with grief and forgiveness in a gritty contemporary Ireland where individuals rehabilitated after an outbreak of violent psychosis are reintroduced to society as pariahs.

“The Cured” was filmed just after the presidential election last fall, and real-world anxieties became unintentionally prescient in the movie’s apocalyptic realism.

“It involves populist politics and fear-mongering, (people) utilizing fear for their own advantage, militarized police, lots of things that are going on,” said Page. “But to me, when you read a script — whether it’s genre or whether it’s two people in a house — and it’s good, and whole, and feels honest, it typically always has parallels to what’s going on and to current issues.”

Telling a wide range of LGBTQI stories is of particular priority to Page, who stars in and produced the romantic drama “My Days of Mercy.” In it, she plays a withdrawn anti-death-penalty activist who enters a star-crossed romance with a woman on the other side of the political debate.

“We wanted to do a love story. That was something that we put out into the world,” said Page, who stars and produces with friend Kate Mara. “Blue is the Warmest Color” had just come out, and we both adored it. I just want to play queer characters, to have those story lines and try and have a wider array of what those films can be.

“We wanted to work together, because we love each other and we have a mutual respect for each other’s work,” echoed Mara. Producing the film himself was a necessity, she note: Even for top-tier actresses, finding a project with a strong female lead role — let alone two — is still a rarity in Hollywood.

“It is very rare to find a film that stars three women, you have a female director and female producers,” said Mara, who, with Page, brought Christine Vachon of Killer Films onboard, tapped Tali Shalom Ezer to direct the screenplay by Joe Barton and recruited actress-director Amy Seimetz to play a crucial supporting role as Page’s sister.

“Telling a story as a woman is the role,” Page said. “It’s the role that I want to play, the role that I want to see on screen. ‘Flatliners’ is the same thing. ‘The Cured’ and ‘My Days of Mercy’ have a common thread in her sensitive portrayals, characters processing grief, trauma and loss, fighting to reclaim their optimism in the face of the impossibly bleak worlds they live in. Perhaps surprisingly, Page sees her “Flatliners” character as occupying a similar emotional space.

She’s been through some trauma in her life, which I don’t think is a shock for a ‘Flatliners’ movie,” said Page, who plays the ringleader of a group of med students experimenting with death in pursuit of answers beyond science. “I focused on this person being incredibly traumatized and pretty disconnected. She’s kind of manipulative. I liked exploring what it would mean to convince people to do this and what would it take.”

Page considered what unites her three most recent screen characters: sadness.

“Oh, my God, ‘RuT and Bone’ made me fall to the ground and weep. Why do we strive for that feeling? I think it’s because it helps us, on some level. I think in all of these themes we’re talking about from each film, that’s the commonality in it for me.”

She paused and laughed. “That might say something about me.”
Before heading into the studio for her sixth album, Demi Lovato began to overthink her singing career and she felt burnt out.

What helped her refuel? A Grammy nomination.

The 25-year-old singer, who released her debut in 2008 at 16, earned her first nomination at the 2017 Grammy Awards for her 2015 album, “Confident.”

“I was dealing with a lot of negativity online and I remember I posted a tweet and I said, ‘You know, I’m going to take a break because this isn’t for me.’ … And when I got the Grammy nomination, it kind of renewed that energy and that excitement and it kind of was reassuring,” Lovato said in a recent interview. “So I dove right back into the album even harder and more passionately.”

Though Lovato lost the best pop vocal album award to Adele’s “25,” it helped her find her groove on “Tell Me You Love Me,” her new album out this weekend. The album features the hit “Sorry Not Sorry” as well as soulful tracks — “I wanted to have songs that I could really feel and songs that I could really sing to” — and Lovato said the body of work is her most authentic release.


AP: People were really impressed with your performance during the Lionel Richie tribute at the 2016 Grammys. Do you feel like the respect for you grew after that?

I definitely think that I’ve gained more respect as a vocalist and an artist. I feel like I got recognition from my first Grammys performance and I was so nervous. I was like, ‘This is my opportunity to show people why I deserve to be here.’ And I sang the best that I could. And I used that 30-, 40-second little section of the song to showcase my voice the best that I could. And I just left it all on the stage and I feel like that led to people listening to my album, and then leading to the Grammy nomination, and then the performance the next year.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

By Mesfin Fekadu
Associated Press
A music critic reflects on the past and present of The Killers, considering the band's career and the impact of their latest work, "Wonderful, Wonderful." The review touches on the band's history, from arena-fillers to their current status as a more intimate act, with a focus on the latest album "Wonderful, Wonderful" and its track "The Man." The critic notes the band's evolution and the surprise of Macklemore, known for his collaborations, releasing a solo album, "Gemini," which is reviewed in detail. The review also highlights the work of Demi Lovato, whose album "Tell Me You Love Me" is under scrutiny. The criticism and praise of other artists, such as Rihanna and Adele, are also discussed in the context of the music landscape and the current state of the music industry.
Retired Army officer continues to support, promote military through publishing company, clothing line

By Douglas Gillam
Stars and Stripes

During any servicemember’s time in the military, there’s a decent chance that he or she has crossed paths with at least one project involving Kelly Crigger.

From co-writing a New York Times bestseller (2011’s “Dark World”), to being an invested partner in one of the military’s top apparel companies, Crigger’s presence behind the scenes is pervasive.

After 24 years of service as a lieutenant colonel in the Army, Crigger has chosen to devote his civilian life to serving the military. His résumé is dripping with projects and accomplishments that aim to support and promote servicemembers, such as Ranger Up, Graybeard Publishing, The Veteran Market, and an innovative veteran networking event called Bourbaz.

By starting Graybeard, his own publishing company, Crigger has given fellow servicemembers an opportunity to share their voices and stories.

Stars and Stripes talked to Crigger to learn more about this behind-the-scenes personality.

Stars and Stripes: Tell us a little about your military career.

Crigger: I enlisted in the National Guard for four years during college and then was commissioned into active duty as a chemical officer in 1991. I stayed on for 20 years and had amazing tours of duty with great units like the 3rd Infantry Division and 7th Special Forces Group. The great thing about the Chem Corps is you get to live in several different cultures if you want to. I was in an Aviation Battalion, Special Forces Group, Armor Brigade, and was an O/C at NTC. I got to see how other people operate and think and got a well-rounded education because of it.

Was it always your plan to continue supporting the military after retiring?

I knew I wanted to continue to be part of the Army after retiring, but I wasn’t sure in what capacity. When I first got out, I took a job as a publicist for a sports management company and spent a lot of time with MMA fighters and sponsored over 50 military veterans who wanted to pursue MMA.

What was your first major project catered to the military?

I started a company called Veteran Tech Brigade that went horribly wrong. Or at least the government made sure it did. We started out with the goal of getting transitioning veterans placed into tech jobs and we were doing well until the sequestration of 2013 kicked in. After that, our client base dried up and the company folded. That was a horrible thing to go through, but like all of life’s lessons, you just learn and move on.

You’ve been involved with mixed martial arts, a sport that’s very popular within the military community, written articles on some of the military’s biggest names in the sport. Can you share some of the things you’ve done to promote and connect MMA to the military?

I am a partner in a military apparel company called Ranger Up, and through Ranger Up, I ran a program to sponsor a lot of veterans in the cage, which was very rewarding. The military combatives program (close quarters combat training) is fantastic in my opinion. The Army is a warrior culture and combatives develops that ethos. I think it’s one of the best initiatives the military has ever undertaken.

You started Graybeard Publishing, a publishing and consulting service for military veterans. What encouraged the need for this resource?

Toby Nunn (friend, veteran, and advocate of Veterans Affairs) called me up one day in 2013 and suggested we start a publishing company for veterans so they could tell their stories. So we started Graybeard. Our most recent book, “The Iron Major Survival Guide,” by Dave Dunphy, is now on AAFES’ bookshelves. We have more books by veterans in the works and one graphic novel that I’m really excited about called “SNAFU.” “SNAFU” is a collection of funny stories from combat that we’re putting into graphic novel form, and I can tell you it’s going to be epic.

What advice would you give to any servicemember looking to branch out into self promotion after their time serving?

I would say if you’ve waited until after you got out of the military to set yourself up for a new career, then you’re way behind the power curve. Troops need to start setting themselves up for life after the military around five years before they get out. I would also say don’t be afraid to make a big decision or take a leap of faith. All of my success out of uniform can be traced back to one major moment — the decision to write my first book. After that, all sorts of doors opened up. I wouldn’t have written seven more books, become a partner in Ranger Up or started my own business if I hadn’t taken the plunge and gone on the road to write “Title Shot” in 2007, which was 4 years before I retired. I encourage everyone to have the courage to take those big leaps of faith.

What are some of your recently completed projects and anything new that military community should keep an eye out for?

I released my first novel, “The Comfort Station,” back in December. That book took me 12 years to write, so I’m very proud of it. I just finished my next novel, “Reverse Polarity,” and I’m very involved in a great project to give veteran business owners and military spouses an outlet for their products called The Veteran Market.com. My biggest project right now is DASH Survival Kits. I don’t want to let the cat out of the bag too far, but I’m going to revolutionize the way bug out bags and disaster survival kits are made and marketed. I’m very excited about it.
NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

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37 Walker, Dodgers owner who moved the team from Brooklyn to L.A.
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118 Tour de France time
119 "Who’s that guy?"

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE

GUNSTON STREET

"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com and visit gunstonstreet.com.

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VIRGINIA'S TOWN OF TRIPPTON, MINNESOTA

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Navigating has become a skill few hikers, cyclists or walkers employ anymore in the world of car GPS units, Google Earth and other technology.

Don’t count on cellphone while hiking

**By Jenny Rough**

Special to The Washington Post

Sarah Savage was alone in the woods on the Appalachian Trail and didn’t know which way to turn. Not long after she took off from the trailhead, the path branched in different directions. She wasn’t carrying a cellphone or a map. Nervous, she turned back.

“I was afraid of getting lost. I didn’t know how to read a map or even that maps existed for where I was hiking,” said Savage, 49.

But like many of the physical and emotional benefits of being out there, she kept going back. She brought a map and followed the trail as best she could, yet she still felt apprehensive. “I had no sense of direction,” she said. “I wasn’t paying attention to north, south, east or west.”

Navigating is a use-it-or-lose-it skill and one that few hikers, cyclists or walkers employ anymore because of their increased dependence on GPS units, Garmin computers, Google Earth and similar technologies. According to a 2015 Pew Research Center survey, nine of 10 smartphone users own a device that is used to navigate or for other location-based services, up from 74 percent in 2013. That heavy reliance on devices can give people a false sense of security.

Nobody knows how many U.S. hikers get lost each year, according to Robert J. Koester, an instructor for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the chief executive of dBS Productions, which conducts search-and-rescue training and publishes related information.

While a database that Koester created shows 24,000 formal search-and-rescue efforts a year, it’s impressive, he said, given that many hikers get lost for only a short time. “Many are able to eventually reorient themselves, or are lucky enough to stumble across someone else,” he said. But for some hikers, the wrong turn proves deadly.

Preventing such tragedies is one reason that Stacy Boone teaches land navigation classes through her company, Step Outdoors. She says knowing how to follow a map while traversing a trail, how to orient a map north and how to set a bearing are critical skills that have helped her no matter how many twists and turns she has taken.

People tend to panic when they’re lost or think they’re lost, Boone said. Panic leads to irrational behavior. Her first rule: Just stop. Drink water. Eat a snack. Doing so will help you calm down. It will also help you slow down.

“The classic behavior when you get lost is to speed up,” said Jamie O’Donnell, a field instructor with the National Outdoor Leadership School, a nonprofit based in Wyoming. “People think, ‘Oh, I need to work hard to get myself out of this.’ In doing that, they often make the situation worse by hiking fast. They quit paying attention to terrain features.”

Once you’ve stopped and rephrased your body, you can think more clearly.

“Then and only then, pull out your map,” Boone said.

Although many trail users frequently rely on electronic prompts to provide a sense of direction, a GPS device is not a magic box, O’Donnell said. It’s important to understand its limitations.

“The GPS won’t tell you there is a mountain in the way or there is a huge river that won’t be safe to cross, but a map will,” he said. GPS units break. Batteries go dead. Phones get dropped in streams.

And hikers should always make a plan. “Let someone know you’re going out and when you’ll be back,” said Brian Schachter, an instructor at the Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School. “If you’re not back by that time, they’ll know you’re lost.”

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And hikers should always make a plan. “Let someone know you’re going out and when you’ll be back,” said Brian Schachter, an instructor at the Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School. “If you’re not back by that time, they know to contact authorities.”

Game Informer Magazine ranks the top 10 Switch games for September:

1. “Mario + Rabbids: Kingdom Battle,” Ubisoft
2. “NBA 2K18,” 2K Sports
4. “Splatoon 2,” Nintendo
6. “Sonico Mania,” Sega
7. “Arms,” Nintendo
8. “Severed,” Drinkbox Studios
10. “Cave Story+,” Nicalis

The 8 and 10 models have many of the same features described minus the laptop compartment.

Online: thinktankphoto.com

CanvasPop’s new custom photo pillow line will make your pillows the talk of your family room. The 18-by-18-inch pillows are soft and snuggly, guaranteeing your comfort. What makes the pillow unique is the image you select to be printed on the front and back of the pillow. The quality is outstanding; CanvasPop runs your image through quality control testing to make sure you’ll be happy with the results. Designing your pillow is simple. Just choose your photo and upload it to the CanvasPop site. You’ll be able to zoom and rotate your image to get it exactly how you want it positioned with a live preview. You can customize your image on a color pallette with any custom color. I used white to get the full impact of my sunset image. You’ll have your choice to put the same image on the front and back, or you can just have it on one side with the other a black or white finish.

It’s really simple and cost-friendly at $39.

Online: canvaspop.com

Charging cables are a must-have in today’s life, but it’s easy to have a love/hate relationship with them. You love them when you need a charge but hate them when they are tangled together. TwelveSouth has a clever solution for the tangle problem with the new CableSnap. The genuine leather straps snap closed to keep charging cables (or any cable or umbilical for that matter) neatly coiled and tangle free. They come in packs of three — two small and one large cable manager.

Online: twelvOUTH.com; $19.99 available black, cognac or marsala

The Spectral 15 Shoulder Bag will hold everything you need, and so much more than you think it will.

ThinkTankPhoto/TNS

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**ITUNES MUSIC**

The top 10 songs on iTunes for the week ending Sept. 14:

1. “rockstar” (feat. 21 Savage), Post Malone
2. “Look What You Made Me Do,” Taylor Swift
3. “Bad New Yellow,” Cardi B
5. “My Time,” Khalid
6. “Dusk Till Dawn” (feat. Sia), ZAYN
7. “Mi Gente,” J Balvin

**SPOTIFY MUSIC**

The top 10 songs on Spotify through Sept. 25:

1. “rockstar” (feat. 21 Savage), Post Malone
2. “Too Good at Goodbyes,” Sam Smith
3. “Mi Gente,” J Balvin
5. “Feel It Still,” Portugal. The Man
6. “1-800-273-8255” (feat. Alessia Cara and Khalid), Logic
7. “ Đường Sal Dinh” (feat. Sia), ZAYN
10. “Silence,” Marshmello

**ITUNES MOVIES**

The top 10 movies on iTunes for the week ending Sept. 24:

1. “Wonder Woman”
2. “The Big Sick”
3. “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales”
5. “The Mummy”
6. “Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie”
7. “Baby Driver”
8. “Baywatch”
9. “xx: Return of Xander Cage”
10. “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2”

**VIDEO GAMES**

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7. “Arms,” Nintendo
8. “Severed,” Drinkbox Studios
10. “Cave Story+,” Nicalis

**APPS**

The top paid iPhone apps for the week ending Sept. 24:

1. “Minecraft”
2. “NBA 2K18”
3. “Heads Up!”
4. “Toca Life: Vacation”
5. “Plague Inc.”
6. “Bloom’s TD”
7. “Schedule”
8. “Sky Guide AR”
9. “Facetune”
10. “Geometry Dash”
Dubai dreams of taxis flying amid its skyscrapers

**By Jon Gambrell**

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — With a whirring buzz from 18 rotors, the pilotless helicopter gently lifted off the ground and soared up into the afternoon sky, the spire of the world’s tallest building visible behind it.

The recent unmanned flight by the German-made electric Volocopter represents the latest step in Dubai’s pursuit of flying taxis, which would not seem out of place among the Gulf city’s already futuristic skyline — imagine “Blade Runner” with less rain.

Dubai already has invested in another model of a flying, autonomous taxi and is working to design regulations for their use. Putting more passengers in the air could free its already clogged highways and burnish the city’s cutting-edge image of itself.

“It’s public transportation for everybody, so you can use, you can order it, you can pay for the trip, and the trip is not much more expensive than with a car,” said Alexander Zosel, Volocopter’s co-founder. “If you build roads, you build bridges. It’s a huge amount of money. It’s public transportation for everybody.”

Driving in Dubai already makes one yearn for the open skies. Rush hour on Sheikh Zayed Road, a dozen-lane artery running down the length of the city, alternates between dense gridlock and sports-car slalom. Over 1.5 million Dubai-registered vehicles ply its roads, not counting those crowding in from the United Arab Emirates’ six other sheikhdoms.

The Volocopter’s designers envision the electric, battery-powered, two-seat helicopters taking off and landing from pads set up across the city. The prototype used in Dubai has a maximum flying time of 30 minutes at 31 mph, with a maximum airspeed of 62 mph. Batteries charged in climate-controlled areas near the pads would be swapped in as needed.

“I believe (the) urban air taxi will contribute an interesting addition to the existing transportation modes,” Volocopter CEO Florian Reuter said. “There are certain routes that are just extremely beneficial if you can go to the third dimension.”

In practice, however, there’s a long way to go. Convincing white-knuckled flyers to get into a buzzing, pilotless helicopter is just the beginning. Unpiloted passenger flights represent a new frontier for regulators. Dubai’s Road and Transportation Authority, which has invested an undisclosed sum in Volocopter, says it will work the next five years to come up with laws and develop safety procedures.

That’s a longer time frame than Dubai’s ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, says he wants 25 percent of all passenger trips in the city to be done by driverless vehicles by 2030. The city has a deal in place with Los Angeles-based Hyperloop One to study the potential for building a hyperloop line between it and Abu Dhabi, the Emirati capital. That technology has levitating pods powered by electricity and magnetism hurrying through low-friction pipes at a top speed of 760 mph.

For now, the Volocopter’s brief flights in Dubai drew VIP crowds and film crews making advertisements. But its executives say after rules are in place, they will be ready for mass production.

Already, Volocopter has drawn the interest of automobile manufacturer Daimler AG, which was part of a consortium that put up $30 million in capital for Volocopter. Even Airbus, a major airplane manufacturer, is looking at building its own flying taxis.

“We’ve proven that it works,” Zosel said. “At the end of this five years, Dubai will be ready.”

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Zimbabwe kids hunt mice, sell them as tasty snacks

**By Tsvangirayi Murwazhi**

Associated Press

CHIDZA, Zimbabwe — With headlamps to peer through the darkness, children in rural Chidza village in central Zimbabwe scamper through the night to trap mice, which they roast and sell to motorists on the road to neighboring South Africa.

Considered a delicacy, the field mice are hunted in cornfields where they have grown plump on the grains, grass and wild fruits.

The children use old-fashioned traps — wooden rectangles with spring-loaded bars — and bait them with seeds of grain. They strategically place the traps on little paths used by the mice as they look for food.

Skewered mice are shown to passing motorists for sale after the rodents were caught in a cornfield in Chidza, Masvingo province, Zimbabwe.

Sometimes, within minutes of laying the trap, a mouse is caught. The snapping sound of a trap alerts the kids who rush to retrieve their catch.

On a good night, the children say they can catch between 50 and 100 mice. The night hunting comes with risk as snakes also are on the prowl for the rodents.

By the end of their trapping adventures, the children will have the mice heaped in dishes. The mice are then roasted over an open fire, salted and left to dry before finding their way to the market.

Standing by the roadside, the children attract travelers by holding up skewers of the mice. They sell 10 mice for a dollar and say they are doing a brisk business.
Regulators remove AIG from tougher oversight

By Martin Crutsinger
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A panel of federal regulators has voted to remove insurance giant American International Group from the tougher government oversight framework that had been imposed on the company in the wake of its near collapse in 2008.

The Financial Stability Oversight Council said late Friday it had voted 6-3 to rescind the designation that AIG could pose a threat to the U.S. financial system if it faced financial distress in the future. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chairman Janet Yellen supported the move.

The council represents one of the most high-profile examples of the push by the Trump administration to dismantle what it sees as unnecessary regulatory burden following the 2008 financial crisis.

In July, AIG’s near collapse led to the largest government bailout of any financial institution, meaning the designation subjected non-bank financial institutions, meaning the largest government bailout of any financial institution, to the same financial oversight that had previously been granted to banks.

The council said it had voted to remove AIG primarily because it no longer viewed the company as a threat to the financial system if it faced financial distress.

Federal Reserve Governor Lael Brainard, who chairs the council, said the council’s decision to remove AIG’s designation was based on the company’s strong financial condition, its record of good governance and its commitment to improving its risk management practices.

The council said it would continue to monitor AIG’s financial and operational performance and would re-evaluate its designation if necessary.

The council’s decision on AIG was its first since it was created in 2010 to monitor and regulate financial institutions whose failure could pose a threat to the financial system.

The council had designated AIG in 2014, after the company received $85 billion in federal guarantees to help it weather the financial crisis.

Tech firms, small companies lead stocks higher

By Marley Jay
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Large technology and health care companies and smaller U.S-focused firms rose again Friday as stocks finished the third quarter at record highs.

Tech firms, small companies lead stocks higher in the future. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index added 2.08 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,490.86. The Dow Jones industrial average finished with a gain of 23.89 points, or 0.1 percent, at 22,405.09. The Nasdaq composite jumped 42.51 points, or 0.7 percent, to 6,495.96. The Russell 2000 index of small-company stocks added 2.08 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,490.86.

“While it’s an encouraging trend, we are still in the early stages of a recovery,” said Matthew Mezzenga, senior investment strategist at Oakbrook Investments.

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq both closed at all-time highs.

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While Apple has soared this year, it’s down 4 percent since it announced its new line of iPhones in the third quarter.

The decision represents one of the most high-profile examples of the push by the Trump administration to dismantle what it sees as unnecessary regulatory burden following the 2008 financial crisis.

“While Mnuchin, Yellen and four other council members supported the decision, it was opposed by Richard Cordray, director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Martin J. Gruenberg, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., and Melvin Watt, director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

The council’s decision on AIG was its first since it was created in 2010 to monitor and regulate financial institutions whose failure could pose a threat to the financial system.

The council had designated AIG in 2014, after the company received $85 billion in federal guarantees to help it weather the financial crisis.

It was criticized at the time by congressional members of Congress for providing millions of dollars in bonuses to executives even as the company was being propped up by government support.

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Looking for a new field where you can stand out?

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Find your next opportunity with employers who actively seek the experience of former military.

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**Sports on AFN**

**NFL injury report**

**New York** – The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league, is as follows. This report is for the week of Friday, October 13 and will not play on Thanksgiving Day. (Full participation, Full participation).

**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS at MIAMI DOLPHINS**


**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS**

QANTABLE: S Roman Harper (ankle), S Detron Lewis (ankle), WR Mike Thomas (ankle), WR Harry Springs (ankle), LB Antonio Morrison (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: S Roman Harper (ankle), S Detron Lewis (ankle), WR Mike Thomas (ankle), WR Harry Springs (ankle), LB Antonio Morrison (ankle). OUT: S Roman Harper (ankle), S Detron Lewis (ankle), WR Mike Thomas (ankle), WR Harry Springs (ankle), LB Antonio Morrison (ankle).

**NEW YORK GIANTS at PHILADELPHIA EAGLES**

QANTABLE: S Trumaine Johnson (ankle), S Jahlani Tavai (ankle), S Donte Deayon (ankle), S Michael Thomas (ankle), S Deiondre' Hall (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: S Trumaine Johnson (ankle), S Jahlani Tavai (ankle), S Donte Deayon (ankle), S Michael Thomas (ankle), S Deiondre' Hall (ankle). OUT: S Trumaine Johnson (ankle), S Jahlani Tavai (ankle), S Donte Deayon (ankle), S Michael Thomas (ankle), S Deiondre' Hall (ankle).

**NEW YORK GIANTS at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS**

QANTABLE: S Mike White (groin), WR Mike Thomas (ankle), WR Harry Springs (ankle), LB Antonio Morrison (ankle), LB Michael Nunn (ankle), LB Brandon Copeland (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: S Mike White (groin), WR Mike Thomas (ankle), WR Harry Springs (ankle), LB Antonio Morrison (ankle), LB Michael Nunn (ankle), LB Brandon Copeland (ankle). OUT: S Mike White (groin), WR Mike Thomas (ankle), WR Harry Springs (ankle), LB Antonio Morrison (ankle), LB Michael Nunn (ankle), LB Brandon Copeland (ankle).

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Reigning MVP Westbrook signs OKC extension

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — A person with the knowledge of the agreement tells The Associated Press that Russell Westbrook has signed a contract extension to remain in Oklahoma City.

The person spoke Friday on condition of anonymity because the team had not disclosed the deal. ESPN first reported the agreement and said it would be for five years and worth $205 million. The agreement is reportedly worth about $228 million.

Thunder fans feared the reigning MVP might leave, as Kevin Durant did during the summer of 2016 when he and Russell Westbrook both signed the Golden State Warriors. Westbrook signed the extension on Durant’s 29th birthday.

The move is also critical for new Thunder players Paul George and Carmelo Anthony, who both have player options on their deals after this season. Westbrook said this week that Oklahoma City is where he wants to be.

In other NBA news:

• San Antonio Spurs star Kawhi Leonard will miss the entire preseason because of a thigh injury. Leonard averaged 22.5 points and 9.4 rebounds for the Spurs last season. He got his second straight All-Star nod, but his injury has put his availability for the opening game of the year in doubt.

• The Orlando Magic’s five-man frontcourt of Nikola Vucevic, Nikola Milutinovic, Jonathan Isaac, Terrence Ross and Cole Anthony could provide a unique look for the Magic. The Magic will start the preseason game against the New Orleans Pelicans on Saturday night.

• The Los Angeles Lakers have signed a one-year deal with free agent James en route to the Los Angeles Lakers.

• The New Orleans Pelicans have signed a one-year deal with forward Anthony Davis on a one-year deal. The Pelicans have signed Davis, who averaged 28.4 points and 11.8 rebounds per game last season for the Pelicans.

• The Golden State Warriors have re-signed guard Alec Burks to a one-year deal. Burks averaged 6.5 points and 3.4 rebounds per game last season for the Warriors.

• The Houston Rockets have signed guard Christian Wood to a two-year deal. Wood averaged 14.8 points and 9.6 rebounds per game last season for the Rockets.

• The Miami Heat have signed guard Tyler Herro to a two-year deal. Herro averaged 20.7 points and 5.6 assists per game last season for the Heat.

• The Brooklyn Nets have signed guard Caris LeVert to a one-year deal. LeVert averaged 17.5 points and 4.5 assists per game last season for the Nets.

• The Boston Celtics have signed guard Marcus Smart to a one-year deal. Smart averaged 13.1 points and 4.1 assists per game last season for the Celtics.

• The Utah Jazz have signed guard Mike Conley to a one-year deal. Conley averaged 12.9 points and 4.7 assists per game last season for the Jazz.

• The Los Angeles Clippers have signed center DeAndre Jordan to a one-year deal. Jordan averaged 12.8 points and 10.9 rebounds per game last season for the Clippers.

• The Charlotte Hornets have signed guard Jeremy Lamb to a one-year deal. Lamb averaged 13.5 points and 4.0 rebounds per game last season for the Hornets.

• The Dallas Mavericks have signed guard Jalen Brunson to a one-year deal. Brunson averaged 12.6 points and 3.2 assists per game last season for the Mavericks.

• The Denver Nuggets have signed guard Malik Beasley to a one-year deal. Beasley averaged 18.8 points and 4.7 assists per game last season for the Nuggets.

• The Minnesota Timberwolves have signed guard Josh Okogie to a one-year deal. Okogie averaged 10.1 points and 3.3 rebounds per game last season for the Timberwolves.

• The Toronto Raptors have signed guard Fred VanVleet to a one-year deal. VanVleet averaged 14.3 points and 6.0 assists per game last season for the Raptors.

By DOUG FERGUSON

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Phil Mickelson and Kevin Kisner rehashed the dance from “Three Amigos.”

The only question was whether to use it at the Presidents Cup, and as the veteran of 23 team events, Mickelson concluded it would need to be a big moment.

Their match was all square on the 18th hole Friday. Mickelson was 12 feet away for birdie. A victory would give the Americans a record lead.

“If this putt goes in,” Mickelson said he told his rookie partner, “we’re going to dance.”

This turned out to be one big dance party for an American team that has gone nearly two decades without losing. They hampered the International teams on the back nine to go unbeaten in fourballs and build an 8-2 lead, the largest margin after two sessions since the Presidents Cup began in 1994.

Mickelson had his 24th match victory to tie the Presidents Cup record held by Tiger Woods, and he set a record with his 10th victory in fourballs.

As for that dance?

It looked a little awkward, though Mickelson did slightly better than when he crashed most of his face out of a selfie he took during the opening ceremony with the last three U.S. presidents.

“I’m clearly the worst selfie taker. I’m the worst ‘Three Amigos’ dancer,” Mickelson said. “But I can paint.”

So can his teammates, who have followed the script set out by U.S. captain Steve Stricker to win every session. They won handily in the other three matches. The other match was a halve, but even

in that one, Hideki Matsuyama and Adam Hadwin had a 2-up lead with four holes to play until Jordan Spieth and Patrick Reed rallied. The Americans nearly won that one, too, except that Spieth narrowly missed birdie putts on the last two holes.

“Our guys stepped up again,” Stricker said. “They have a knack for doing that. To finish like that is huge for us going into tomorrow.”

Mathematically, the International team could be done Saturday, the first day of a double session — four matches of four-somes in the morning, following by four matches of fourballs in the afternoon. The Americans are 7 1/2 points away from clinching the cup.

“I think we saw the strength of the U.S. team come out today,” Price said.

He also saw his team play its worst golf on the back nine at Liberty National. The Americans won 13 holes on the back nine. The Internationals won three.

Price was not about to give up, hopeful of gaining some momentum in the morning and riding it into the afternoon after the 12 singles matches on the final day.

“We’re only 10 points through 30. There’s 20 points left,” Price said. “We are not laying down. These guys are going to come out fighting over the next two days and, especially tomorrow.”

Justin Thomas, already with a big year behind him as a major champion and the FedEx Cup championship, teamed with Rickie Fowler for another easy victory.

They have trailed only one hole in their two matches, and they became the first partners to beat Louis Oosthuizen and Branden Grace, International, halved with Justin Thomas and Rickie Fowler, United States.

They took the lead for good when Fowler made a 15-foot birdie putt on the third hole, and then Thomas produced the loudest cheer of the afternoon at a pivotal moment on the 14th hole. Oosthuizen hit his approach to 6 feet, while both Americans missed the green. From the left bunker, Thomas blasted out perfectly and watched it drop in for a birdie that kept the International team from cutting the deficit to 1 down.

Thomas birdied the next hole, and his bunker shot on the 16th hit the pin and somehow stayed out.

The shortest match of the day belonged to a pair of American rookies, Kevin Chappell and Charley Hoffman, who sat out the foursomes matches in the opening session. They were 3 up after four holes against Charl Schwartzel and Anirban Lahiri and never let up in a 6-and-5 victory.

Dustin Johnson and Brooks Koepka, close friends and the last two U.S. Open champions, took their first lead on the par-3 10th with Koepka’s eagle, and Johnnie showed rare emotion on his final two birdies in a 3-and-2 victory over Adam Scott and Jhonattan Vegas.
The season home run record of 5,649, which had stood since 2004 at the height of the Steroids Era, was shattered with nearly two weeks left. Cleveland's Roberto Perez hit No. 60 on Thursday as the race to top 6,000 was effectively over.

"If you're striking out, you're not hitting into a lot of double plays. It was like 10 years ago when I think the analytical people started saying that strikeouts aren't really that bad," Kansas City Royals manager Ned Yost said. "They would much rather have one out than the chance for two.

Boston's Chris Sale has 308 strikeouts, the most by a big league pitcher since Arizona's Randy Johnson had 334 in 2002 and Diamondbacks pitchers have reached double digits in strikeouts 90 times, the most in Major League Baseball history.

"They have determined the importance of hitting the ball to the opposite field, getting home runs, and I think players have bought into it," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "I think you can be extremely productive striking out 150 times a year. If you can drive 100 and you can score 100, there's a lot of things that you can do. So I think the game has shifted a little bit.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred and his staff are concerned about the decrease in action, especially at an era that had professional sports competing with screen time for the attention of youth.

The league averaged 3 strikeouts per game when the Yankees' Murderers' Row ruled baseball in 1927. The average in 2014 was 4 until 1952, 5 until 1959 and 6 until 1954. It passed 7 in 2010 and 8 in 2011.

"Everybody digs the long ball. If you struck out that many times back in the day (your (butt) would probably be back in the league," said Gossage, who advocates small-ball to defeat opposing pitchers and infield shifts. "I think these computers got these kids right — all they're like robots. They're telling me that's professional and a hitter can't hit a ball the whole left or right side of an infielder's gone! How about laying down five or six bunts for the Big Boog Powell would have done!"
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The above table includes the scores, winning and losing pitchers for each game of the 2017 Major League Baseball season.
Red Sox fail to clinch AL East, fall to Astros

By Kyle Hightower  Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox are running out of chances to wrap up the AL East title.

Boston once again failed to clinch the division crown, losing to the Houston Astros 3-2 Friday night as Alex Bregman homered and drove in three runs.

The Red Sox’s magic number remained at one to close out the New York Yankees, who beat Toronto 4-0. Boston leads the Yankees by two games — both teams have two games left and they’re each assured playoff spots.

After going 8-1 in their final road trip of the season, the Red Sox have slumped at home, losing two in a row and falling to 1-4 on their homestand. But Mookie Betts said no one is panicking inside the clubhouse.

“It’s just go win one game,” the star outfielder said. “Nobody said it’s going to be easy. If it was easy, it wouldn’t be fun. We just got to go win one game.”

If Boston and New York wind up even, they will play a one-game tiebreaker Monday at Yankee Stadium for the division crown. The loser would go to the wild-card game.

Hanley Ramirez doubled with two outs in the Boston ninth. But with the Fenway Park crowd rooting for a rally, Rafael Devers flied out and J.D. Martinez grounded out to end it, with Ken Giles getting his 34th save.

The AL West champion Astros won their fifth straight game and posted their 100th victory of the season. They are one game behind AL Central champion Cleveland for the second playoff spot.

Boston’s magic number remains at one to close divisional crown

Rockies hit 4 HRs in win over Dodgers

DENVER — Nolan Arenado hit the first of Colorado’s four home runs in a 9-1 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chad Bettis picked up his second win since his return from testicular cancer.

The Rockies have two games remaining and hold a two-game lead over Milwaukee for the second NL wild card.

Mark Reynolds, Charlie Blackmon and Trevor Story also connected for Colorado. Bettis (2-4) allowed one run over seven innings.

Los Angeles’ Hyun-Jin Ryu (5-9) allowed five runs over two innings. It was his shortest outing this season.

Brewers 5, Cardinals 3: Stephen Vogt homered and drove in three runs, Chase Anderson pitched seven solid innings, and visiting Milwaukee kept its playoff hopes alive.

The Brewers entered two games behind the Rockies for the second NL wild card. Milwaukee has won four of its last six games.

Twins 6, Tigers 3: Brian Dozier hit a three-run homer in the second inning, leading host Minnesota to the victory.

Yankees 4, Blue Jays 0: Masahiro Tanaka struck out 15 over seven innings, his highest total since coming to the major leagues, and host New York won for the fourth time in five games.

Did you know

Morton allowed four hits in 5 1/3 innings. Four relievers combined to blank Boston on one hit.

A day after the Astros routed Boston 12-2, they took a 1-0 lead in the third on Bregman’s RBI single off Doug Fister (5-9). Bregman, who had three hits, had a two-run homer in the fifth.

“The obvious thing is to go out and put together a solid game and win,” Boston manager John Farrell said. “Our destiny is controlled by us, particularly as it relates to the final two days in the division. We’ve got to go out and win a game.”

Close calls: Boston pulled within 3-2 and had the bases loaded in the sixth, but Ramirez grounded out. Dustin Pedroia got aboard with a walk in the eighth, but pinch-runner Brock Holt was caught trying to advance on aCurveball in the dirt by Chris Devenski. The play was challenged by Boston and held up after review.

Holt said he got exactly the scenario he hoped he would. The play was nullified, allowing him to bounce one, and he bounced one. The catcher made a perfect play.”

Astros second baseman Jose Altuve, right, catches the throw as he sets to tag out the Red Sox’s Brock Holt on an attempt to steal second during the eighth inning of Friday’s game at Fenway Park in Boston.

The Red Sox challenged the play, but the original call was upheld. Houston won 3-2.

Charlie Morton (4-7) retired the first 13 Red Sox batters before Mitch Moreland doubled with one out in the fifth inning.

Charles Krupa/AP

SOURCE: Associated Press

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Rosier, defense propel No. 14 Miami past Duke

BY AARON BEARD
Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Malik Rosier got off to a fast start to help Miami take an early lead. The 14th-ranked Hurricanes’ defense took care of just about everything else.

Rosier threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score and Miami shut down Duke 31-6 on Friday night.

Rosier completed 15 of 26 passes for 270 yards, including a 49-yard catch-and-run score by Ahmmon Richards early in the fourth quarter to break the game open for the Hurricanes (3-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference). And Miami’s defense kept Duke out of the end zone, repeatedly getting the better of the Blue Devils on seemingly every key-moment snap.

“Our defense gave up some yards and grass between the 20s,” Miami coach Mark Richt said. “But when it got in the red zone, we found ways to force field goals…I thought our defense finished extremely well.”

It started well, too. Duke’s first drive marched to within reach of the end zone and had a fourth-and-1 from the Miami 13, but starting offensive linemen, Darold and Ronald Jones for a possession-ending sack.

“We wanted to come here and make this our house, so we had to set a tone,” linebacker Shaquille Quarterman said. “That fourth down was monumental to the whole game.”

Rosier completed his first nine passes and led Miami to touchdowns on its first two drives. He then shook off a rough stretch through the second and third quarters by connecting with Richards for the 24-6 lead with 11:02 left.

Duke’s offense, meanwhile, repeatedly stalled across midfield after halftime. The Blue Devils (4-1, 1-1) finished with 349 yards but converted just 5 of 19 third downs.

The takeaway
Miami: Two years ago, the Hurricanes escaped Durham with a win on an eight-lateral kickoff return for a final-play touchdown. The Hurricanes needed no such theatrics this time, getting off to a fast start behind Rosier and then leaning on that defense in a matchup of unbeaten Coastal Division teams.

Duke: The Blue Devils simply have to get better in the red zone. They twice settled for field goals of 36 yards or closer after drives stalled and also took Pinckney’s sack on a fourth-and-1 from the Miami 13 to open the game. Duke came into the game ranked in the bottom third nationally in red-zone efficiency, and now has scored nine touchdowns and nine field goals in 23 trips.

“I think it just came down to third downs,” said Jones, who completed just 21 of 41 passes for 166 yards. “We weren’t executing, we weren’t able to stay on the field on some of those.”

Miami’s Travis Homer, right, runs for a touchdown while Duke’s Jeremy McDuffie chases during the second half.

Miami quarterback Malik Rosier passes against Duke during Friday’s game in Durham, N.C.
Tanner, Nebraska cruise past Illinois

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — When Nebraska ended its non-conference schedule with a loss to Northern Illinois, it didn’t just drop the Cornhuskers to 1-2. It also served as an early turning point in the season and cost athletic director Shawn Eichorst his job.

Life in the Big Ten has been much easier.

Last week, the Cornhuskers pulled out a back-and-forth victory against Rutgers. But on Friday, they were in total control.

Entering the matchup, Tanner Lee led the FBS with nine interceptions and was held to 109 yards by the Scarlet Knights. Against Illinois, he threw for 246 yards and three touchdowns, helping lead Nebraska to a 28-6 win.

“I think it’s coaching,” Lee said. “The looks we were expecting, the looks we got, the plays we were running were things we practiced all week at practice. ... I’m glad that we got into a rhythm there. We just looked good.”

The Cornhuskers (5-2, 2-0) led wire to wire, scoring on their first possession, a quick 88-yard drive capped by a 45-yard touchdown pass from Lee to De’Mornay Pierson-El.

Pierson-El finished the night with four receptions for 94 yards and one score. Stanley Morgan Jr. also had a big night with a career-high eight receptions for 96 yards and a score.

“I think (Lee) passed well,” Morgan Jr. said. “He did an excellent job, just finding open receivers and getting the ball to us.”

Morgan Jr.’s strong outing also moved him up the list of Cornhuskers greats. He now has 84 high school yards on 21 carries.

“I think (Lee) passed well,” Morgan Jr. said. “He did an excellent job, just finding open receivers and getting the ball to us.”

Led by running back Devine Ozigbo, Nebraska also dominated Illinois on the ground. Ozigbo had 106 yards on 18 carries. His 15-yard touchdown run in the second quarter was his first score of the season.

Illinois (2-2, 0-1) continued to struggle behind run-first quarterback Chayce Crouch. He made several plays with his legs, including an impressive 19-yard tackle-breaking scamper just before the half, but he threw for only 99 yards. Crouch has yet to eclipse 150 passing yards this season.

The Illini’s struggles showed after they kicked a field goal to cut the deficit to 21-6 midway through the third quarter. Patrick Nelson forced an Ozigbo fumble that was recovered by Stanley Green on the Nebraska 28. But the team lost 14 yards in three plays and was forced to punt.

**Utah State 40, BYU 24**

Jalen Davis had three interceptions, returning two for touchdowns, as the host Aggies forced seven Cornhuskers turnovers.

Kent Myers threw for two touchdowns and ran for a third for Utah State (3-2) but the defense took over after BYU (4-0) opened a 21-7 lead early in the second quarter. The next 13 BYU possessions produced four interceptions, three lost fumbles, two punts, three turnovers on downs and a field goal.

Davis started the comeback with a 30-yard pick-6 off Beau Hoge and iced the game by returning a Kyle Dtemer Jr. interception 50 yards with three minutes to play.

Myers was 16-for-27 for 176 yards with a 32-yard scoring pass to Dax Raymond on the game’s opening possession and a 36-yarder to Ronquivion Tarver that tied the game at 21. An interception by Dallin Leavitt led to a Dominik Eberle field goal and a 24-21 Utah State lead three seconds before the half.

Suli Tamaivena, who had 13 tackles, recovered a fumble late in the third quarter that led to Myers’ 19-yard TD run in the fourth quarter.

Ula Tohotau ran for a career-high 102 yards on 21 carries for BYU.

**Redskins free safety D.J. Swearinger, center, motivates his team in the huddle before Sunday’s game against the Oakland Raiders.**

BY STEPHEN WHYN

Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — When the Washington Redskins turned over almost half their starting defense from last season, coach Jay Gruden didn’t know how it would go.

“You’re never quite sure until they get here,” Gruden said. “The Redskins’ defensive newcomers are here, and so far they’re spectacular.

After adding safety D.J. Swearinger, linebacker Zach Brown and defensive linemen Stacy McGee and Terrell McClain in free agency, drafting lineman Jonathan Allen, linebacker Ryan Anderson, safeties Montae Nicholson and corners Fabian Moreau and Dax Raymond on the game’s opening possession and a 36-yarder to Ronquivion Tarver that tied the game at 21. An interception by Dallin Leavitt led to a Dominik Eberle field goal and a 24-21 Utah State lead three seconds before the half.

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**Newcomers help solidify stout Redskins defense**

“You’ve got to stop the run, first and foremost, and make teams one-dimensional and that’s what we’re going to try to continue to do.”

Kansas City’s Kareem Hunt, who’s averaging 8.3 yards a carry and has four rushing touchdowns, is the next challenge for this defense, which is dealing with a hamstring injury to Swearinger and shoulder injuries to Allen and linebacker Mason Foster.

Of course Washington has already dealt with missing pieces on defense after second-year safety Su’a Cravens left the team to contemplate retirement and Foster missed its Week 3 game against Oakland.

Defensive coordinator Greg Manusky has been able to mix and match all over as the unit has coalesced earlier than expected. Playing the high-octane Raiders so early had a silver lining.

“With the perfect preparation, anything can happen,” Swearinger said. “I think with the stakes, with us having to play a big game so early, I think it was mandatory that it came early.”

Gruden hoped Allen, a first-round pick, would be able to contribute right away, though Moreau (third round) and Nicholson (fourth) have exceeded expectations. Second-year defensive lineman Matt Ioannidis, a 2016 fifth-round pick, has also made impressive strides.

The Redskins’ free-agent signings have also delivered, and Gruden thinks there’s a common theme.

“The good thing is that they all played,” Gruden said about McCoy, McClain, Brown and Swearinger. “Those guys aren’t like they are brand-new guys who haven’t played a lot of football. These guys have played a lot of football. It is just a matter of getting together with the terminology and playing well with your teammates. What drew us to those guys ... was their work ethic, how hard they played. They all seemed like smart guys, and they fit in well.”
Patriots 24-20, Nov. 18, 2013.

Three of six games between Panthers and Patriots have been decided by seven or fewer points. ... Ravens QB Trevor Siemian has six TD throws, three interceptions at home this season. He's thrown for 1,259 yards with nine TDs vs. four interceptions for 100.6 passer rating in last five games at Sports Authority Field. ... Oakland native C.J. Anderson has 310 scrimmage yards, four TDs in last three meetings. ... RB Jamaal Charles had first TD run with Broncos last week. In dozen career games against Raiders, Charles has 962 scrimmage yards with 11 TDs (six rush, five receiving). Charles needs 134 scrimmage yards to becoming 11th active player with 10,000.

— Associated Press

Also on AFN:

- New Orleans Saints (1-2) vs. Miami Dolphins (1-1) at London, AFN-Sports, 3:30 p.m. Sunday CET
- San Francisco 49ers (0-3) at Arizona Cardinals (1-2) (joined in progress), AFN-Atlantic, Midnight Sunday CET

### Expanded Standings

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### Mark Tenally/AFN

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**Notes:**

- Panthers and Patriots have been with 31 TDs and 21 INTs. ...  Ravens one of two NFL teams with three RBs over 100 yards.

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**San Francisco 49ers (0-3) at Arizona Cardinals (1-2) (joined in progress), AFN-Atlantic, Midnight Sunday CET**

# Gameday Week 4

## Monday's Games

- **Denver at New England Patriots (1-3) at Gillette Stadium, Noon Monday CET**
- **Washington at Kansas City Chiefs (1-3) at Arrowhead Stadium, Noon Monday CET**
- **San Francisco at Philadelphia Eagles (2-2) at Lincoln Financial Field, 1 p.m. Monday CET**
- **Detroit at New York Giants (1-2-1) at MetLife Stadium, 1 p.m. Monday CET**
- **New Orleans at Atlanta Falcons (1-2-1) at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, 1 p.m. Monday CET**

## Rest of the Schedule

- **Arizona at Los Angeles Rams (2-2) at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, 4 p.m. Monday CET**
- **Tennessee at Buffalo Bills (2-1) at New Era Field, 4 p.m. Monday CET**
- **Cincinnati at Cleveland Browns (1-3) at FirstEnergy Stadium, 4 p.m. Monday CET**
- **Jacksonville at Miami Dolphins (1-2-1) at Hard Rock Stadium, 4 p.m. Monday CET**
- **Tampa Bay at New York Jets (1-2-1) at MetLife Stadium, 4 p.m. Monday CET**

## Next Week

- **Thursday, Oct. 5**
  - New England at Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1-1) at Raymond James Stadium, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
- **Friday, Oct. 6**
  - Arizona at Philadelphia Eagles (2-2) at Lincoln Financial Field, 2 p.m. Monday CET
  - Tennessee at Buffalo Bills (2-1) at New Era Field, 2 p.m. Monday CET
  - Jacksonville at Miami Dolphins (1-2-1) at Hard Rock Stadium, 2 p.m. Monday CET
  - Tampa Bay at New York Jets (1-2-1) at MetLife Stadium, 2 p.m. Monday CET
- **Monday, Oct. 9**
  - Minnesota at Detroit Lions (2-2) at Ford Field, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
  - Kansas City at Los Angeles Rams (2-2) at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
  - Cincinnati at Cleveland Browns (1-3) at FirstEnergy Stadium, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
  - Jacksonville at Miami Dolphins (1-2-1) at Hard Rock Stadium, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
  - Tennessee at Buffalo Bills (2-1) at New Era Field, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
  - Atlanta at Los Angeles Rams (2-2) at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, 10 p.m. Sunday CET
  - New York Giants at Chicago Bears (1-2-1) at Soldier Field, 10 p.m. Sunday CET

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**Notes:**

- Carr has 13 TD throws, three interceptions in last seven road games. ... RB Marshawn Lynch has 75 TD runs since entering NFL in 2007, second most in league. ... WR Amari Cooper, fourth overall draft pick in 2015, has caught just 10 passes through three games. He's coming off one of worst outings in career when Redskins held him to one catch for 6 yards. Cooper has half-dozen catches, four TDs vs. four interceptions for 100.6 passer rating in last five games at Sports Authority Field. ... Oakland native C.J. Anderson has 310 scrimmage yards, four TDs in last three meetings. ... RB Jamaal Charles has first TD run with Broncos last week. In dozen career games against Raiders, Charles has 962 scrimmage yards with 11 TDs (six rush, five receiving). Charles needs 134 scrimmage yards to becoming 11th active player with 10,000.
Collegiate Football

Washington State stuns USC

By Tim Booth
Associated Press

PULLMAN, Wash. — Mike Leach and his team were engulfed in a sea of crimson on the turf of Martin Stadium, reveling in a rare occurrence for Washington State football.

An upset victory 25 years in the making was worth celebrating in grand fashion. And, it proved that these Cougars are true contenders for a Pac-12 title.

Mike Leach and his team were engulfed in a sea of crimson on the turf of Martin Stadium, reveling in a rare occurrence for Washington State football.

“Trends exciting. I’ll enjoy it tonight. I’ll probably enjoy it a little in the offseason,” Leach said.

Luke Falk threw for 340 yards and two touchdowns, Erik Powell kicked a 32-yard field goal with 1:40 left and No. 16 Washington State beat No. 5 Southern California 30-27 on a wild Friday night.

With the national stage to themselves, the Cougars showed they were legitimate, stopping USC star quarterback Sam Darnold and pulling off their first regular-season win over a top-five opponent in a quarter-century. The last time a top five team was handed a loss by Washington State was 1992 when the Drew Bledsoe-led Cougars rolled rival Washington in a driving snowstorm.

Washington State (5-0, 2-0) had lost 15 consecutive home games against ranked opponents. This was its first win over the Trojans since 2002 — that game also finished in a 30-27 Cougars victory.

“We just showed that we were the better team tonight,” Washington State defensive lineman Hercules Mata’afa said.

SEE PARTY ON PAGE 29

Inside: Lee throws three touchdown passes as Nebraska opens Big Ten play with a rout of Illinois, Page 30