Drills delayed in ‘goodwill gesture’ to North Korea

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUl, South Korea — The U.S. and South Korea will postpone a planned joint air exercise that was criticized by the North, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Sunday.

Esper said he didn’t see the move as a concession to the communist state but a “goodwill gesture” that he hopes North Korea will reciprocate by returning to nuclear talks.

The surprise decision came after North Korea issued statements lashing out at the upcoming joint U.S.-South Korean military exercise and warning that it’s running out of patience for Washington to soften its denuclearization demands.

Esper made the announcement at a news conference with South Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeong-doo on the sidelines of a meeting of regional defense ministers in Bangkok.

The allies had announced plans to hold later this month what they said would be a scaled-back combined flying training event in place of the previous annual drills known as Vigilant Ace.

But the North was not satisfied with the changes and warned last week that the U.S. would face “shocking punishment!” if “the hostile provocation is committed.”

Esper and Jeong said Sunday that the decision to postpone the drill was made after “close consultation and careful consideration.” No new date was announced.

“We have made this decision as an act of goodwill to contribute to an environment

SEE DRILLS ON PAGE 3

The hand to beat

Weaponry-themed cards a hit with service members

BY JENNIFER H. SYAN
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — An ace of spades embellished with a Russian-made SA-17 could tip a game of Texas Hold ’em in a soldier’s favor while also helping him identify a surface-to-air missile system on the ground.

The Army has a new line of playing cards featuring military weapons used by Russia, China and Iran — countries the Pentagon has identified as potential threats.

The cards are proving so popular that more than

SEE CARDS ON PAGE 6
Milley declares Pacific top priority in 1st overseas trip

By Wyatt Olson

The Pacific is now the top priority for the U.S. military. Gen. Mark Milley said Thursday in Tokyo while on his first overseas trip since becoming chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in September.

Milley was addressing a group of Japanese and American reporters after concluding a meeting with Japanese leaders, the Pentagon said in a statement.

The U.S. focus on the Pacific region is a result of the emerging power competition among America, China and Russia.

“It is the No. 1 regional priority for the United States military,” he told reporters.

Milley’s weeklong trip to Japan and South Korea comes amid renewed disagreements between the two U.S. allies, disputes arising from Japan’s occupation of the Korean peninsula from 1905 to 1945.

South Korea has announced it is withdrawing from an intelligence-sharing agreement signed with Japan in 2016.

Milley told reporters Nov. 11 that the agreement—which could expire as early as this week—is key for regional stability and security.

Quarrels between Japan and South Korea only serve adversarial interests, he said.

“It is clearly in China’s interests and North Korea’s interests to separate South Korea from Japan and the United States,” Milley said Monday. “It is in our interests to keep all three of us very closely aligned.”

“We’ve got to get past some of these friction points in a way that is helpful to the alliance,” he said.

The alliance needs to resolve such friction points by focusing on common values and security needs, he said.

Milley touted the size and scope of America’s defense presence in the Pacific, with more than 300,000 service members and Defense Department civilians under the umbrella of the U.S.-Indo-Pacific Command.

He spoke pointedly about China with reporters Thursday.

“We need to continue to engage with China,” he said. “China is a strategic competitor to be sure, but it doesn’t necessarily mean that China becomes an adversary in the military sense of the word or an enemy.

“But having said that, it’s important that the United States, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and other friends and allies in the region remain unified.”

China’s extraordinary economic growth over the past 20 years has resulted in the rapid expansion of its military capabilities, he said.

China’s growing military might have emboldened the nation’s sweeping claims of sovereignty over most of the South China Sea, which neighboring nations contest.

U.S. military troops stationed in Japan are essential in projecting power in the region, but restrictions on the available types of training in Japan is a challenge to maintaining readiness, Milley said.

He told reporters he had discussed this topic with Japanese counterparts during the visit.

“I would also say that constraints and restraints on military training [are] not unique to Japan,” he said. “It exists in Korea; it exists in Germany; it exists in the continental United States. Things like environmental issues, issues with the neighboring communities and towns of various military bases.”

associatedpress

ROANOKE, Va. — The mother of a wanted Marine told investigators that she saw her son kill her boyfriend, according to a federal criminal complaint.

The criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Roanoke, Va., on Wednesday shows Vanessa Hanson told a U.S. marshal that she witnessed Michael Alexander Brown, 22, fatally shoot her boyfriend, Rodney Wilfred Brown, Nov. 9 at a home in Hardy.

According to the complaint, Hanson also identified Brown’s getaway vehicle through pictures obtained from a gas station just before the shooting.

The vehicle was later found near Clarendon County, S.C., about four hours southwest of Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, where he had been stationed as a U.S. Marine until leaving his post last month.

Investigators think the Marine deserter was trying to contact his grandmother when a neighbor saw him in Roanoke on Thursday morning. Police Chief Tim Jones said at a news conference. Authorities believe Brown was driving a recreational vehicle, which was discovered by police nearby later that day.

Law enforcement approached the RV, but Brown was not inside. Photos showed the RV suffered significant damage.

The search for Brown began after someone called 911 around 4 a.m. Thursday to report that someone was tapping on the windows of a nearby house. Jones said Brown’s grandmother lives at that house and they believe he was trying to contact her and his mother.

Marine deserter’s mother names him in fatal shooting of her boyfriend

Associated Press

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Esper urges S. Korea to increase share of costs

**By Kim Gamel**

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea is a wealthy country and should increase its share of the cost for stationing some 28,500 U.S. troops on the divided peninsula by the end-of-year deadline, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Friday.

Esper also called on Seoul to reverse its decision to cancel a military intelligence-sharing pact with Japan before the Nov. 23 expiration date. The United States fears the termination of the agreement will jeopardize security as North Korea has resumed weapons testing amid stalled nuclear talks.

Both issues have become major irritants in the long-standing alliance between the two countries, which fought together in the 1950-53 Korean War.

The South Koreans have bristled at the U.S. administration’s reported demand to increase Seoul’s share of the burden fivefold. The current contract, known as the Special Measures Agreement, expires at the end of the year.

CNN, citing an anonymous congressional aide and an administration official, said Thursday that it has confirmed that President Donald Trump has demanded that South Korea pay nearly $5 billion, as other news outlets have reported. The two sides failed to reach agreement in time for the deadline last year but eventually agreed to a retroactive stopgap measure in which South Korea increased its share by about 8.2% to some $920 million. However, that deal was extended for only one year, unlike previous iterations that lasted five years.

“South Korea is a wealthy country and could and should pay more to help offset the cost of defense,” Esper said during a joint press conference with his South Korean counterpart, Jeong Kyeong-doo, after the two sides held annual alliance talks known as the Security Consultative Meeting.

“It is crucial that we conclude the SMA with increased burden-sharing by the Republic of Korea before the end of the year,” he added.

Jeong said he shared the view with Esper that the cost-sharing pact should be fair and mutually agreeable, according to the Yonhap News Agency, but neither official gave specific figures.

Esper also acknowledged that South Korea has provided “a fair amount of support” but said most of the funding ended up back in the local economy.

The SMA funds have been used mostly to offset the salaries of more than 9,000 local employees who provide food and administrative services and other logistical needs, as well as construction costs.

The South Koreans also point out that they funded most of the $11 billion-plus cost of expanding Camp Humphreys, a U.S. Army post south of Seoul that has become the military’s new headquarters base, as part of a separate agreement.

Esper, who arrived in Seoul on Thursday for his second visit to the country since he took office, later met with President Moon Jae-in and several other senior officials.

Drills: Secretary reaffirms US commitment to maintain current level of military personnel in Korea

**FROM FRONT PAGE**

Conducive to diplomacy and the advancement of peace,” Esper said, according to media reports from the press conference.

“We encourage [North Korea] to demonstrate the same good-will,” he added, urging the North “to return to the negotiating table without precondition or hesitation.”

He stressed the decades-old U.S.-South Korean alliance remains “ironclad” and vowed the combined forces would maintain readiness to “fight tonight.”

Esper raised the possibility of a change to the joint training plans last week during a visit to South Korea, were he met with Jeong in the 51st allied Security Consultative Meeting.

He also reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to “provide extended deterrence to [South Korea] using the full range of military capabilities, including U.S. nuclear, conventional and missile defense capabilities,” according to the joint communiqué from the meeting.

The two sides also noted the “critical role” played by some 28,500 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, which remains technically at war with the North after their 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

“Given the current security environment, the secretary also reaffirmed the commitment to maintain the current level of the U.S. military personnel in [South Korea] and to enhance combat readiness,” they added.

The allies have canceled or reduced the scope of many of their joint military exercises after President Donald Trump announced he was “stopping the war games” after his first summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last year.

Commanders insist the lack of massive combined drills has not harmed defense capabilities as they continue to conduct low-profile tactical training.

Talks aimed at persuading the North to give up its nuclear weapons have faltered due to sharp disagreements over the extent of sanctions relief in exchange for disarmament measures.

Kim has given the U.S. an end-of-year deadline to offer a more flexible approach to negotiations, hinting that he may resume long-range missile or nuclear tests if that doesn’t happen.

The North already has conducted several missile and rocket tests this year, raising worries that it is improving its arsenal amid the deadlock.

Trump has dismissed such concerns, insisting that the launches didn’t pose a threat to the U.S. and he maintains a good relationship with Kim.

North Korea also staged a military air show with Kim in attendance, state-run media reported this past weekend.

“Our pilots have to try to fight the enemies armed to the teeth ... under any circumstances,” Kim was quoted as saying by the Korean Central News Agency.

“He stressed that however loudly the enemies may brag about their technological advantages, they can never overwhelm the politico-ideological and combat and moral advantages of our service personnel,” it added.

The report released several photos but didn’t provide details about the aircraft involved in the demonstration.

A senior State Department official, meanwhile, called on China to take action to prevent efforts to evade sanctions against the North such as ship-to-ship transfers of coal and oil they said takes place in Chinese waters.

On North Korea, I urged Beijing to maintain pressure on the regime, noting the space for a diplomatic solution is quickly closing,” the official told reporters during a briefing, according to a transcript provided by the State Department.

In this undated photo provided on Saturday by the North Korean government, leader Kim Jong Un, front center, poses with pilots during his inspection of a flight demonstration of military aircraft at an airfield in North Korea.
US Army plans Big Isle drill in Hawaii with Chinese soldiers

By William Cole
The Honolulu Star-Advertiser

An opening ceremony will be held Monday on Hawaii island for a military exercise with China that will involve about 100 People's Liberation Army soldiers training alongside U.S. Army counterparts.

This comes after Adm. Phil Davidson, head of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, spoke on Veterans Day at Punchbowl Cemetery about the "rules-based international order" that followed U.S. victory in the Pacific in World War II, and China's attempts to "create a national security risk" due to its growing military power.

"We said a prayer for him every night," said Wronka, a librarian. "Our mother never remarried. She said no one could measure up to him," said his son, Martin Hintz, 73, a Wisconsin farmer who was born two months after his father died. "Hintz's life and death also intrigued his grandson, Hans Wronka. A geologist, Hans pored over archived military reports and maps as he searched for surviving members of Hintz's former unit.

"We finally met him in 2016,“ said Wronka, a librarian. "The Hintz family said their loss was "prepared to assist our global partners in the event of a major disaster." About 100 U.S. participants will join the like number of Chinese soldiers and bring to the exercise medical, search and rescue and engineering personnel with humanitarian assistance and disaster relief experience, said Maj. Oliver Schuster, a spokesman for the 8th Theater Sustainment Command in Hawaii.

"The 15th iteration of the exchange, which is now rotated annually between China and the United States. Last year, U.S. Army Pacific troops traveled to Nanjing, China. The training at Kilauea Military Camp will center on a volcanic eruption in a no-man's-land, said Wronka.

"It's so important we remember people who've gone before," Martin Hintz said. "Never leave anyone behind."
Afganistan prisoner swap delay slows restart of Taliban talks

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE

The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — A planned prisoner swap between the Afghan government and the Taliban intended to restart peace talks between the warring sides and the United States has been delayed, according to Afghan and Taliban officials.

The emergence of significant snags early on highlights the difficulty of getting the two sides back to the negotiating table. The Taliban has long refused to engage the Afghan government with the Taliban.)

But days after Ghanî’s announcement, none of the prisoners have been released and the government and Taliban officials are trading blame.

A spokesman for Ghanî, blamed the Taliban for the delay, saying the insurgents “failed to observe the conditions of the swap and caused the disruption of the exchange process,” according to a tweet Saturday. Saddiqi did not elaborate.

A spokesman for the Taliban said the United States was to blame. Zabïullah Mujahid said on Twitter that the agreement fell apart when the Taliban-linked militants were not transferred to a second location in the then they were to be flown out of Afghanistan to Qatar, where the Taliban has an office.

U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistân John Bass declined to comment on the details of the proposed deal, but he tweeted his support for the delay and suggested it may be linked to recent attacks in Afghanistan that have killed civilians.

Airstrikes kill at least 9 in northwest Syria

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Airstrikes on rebel-held areas in the northwest Syrian province of Idlib killed at least nine people Sunday, an opposition war monitor and a paramedical group said.

The attacks came just hours after a cease-fire between Turkey and rebels in Idlib took effect, although the truce has been repeatedly violated.

Syrian President Bashar Assad said his forces will soon retake Idlib. In a recent interview with a Russian TV station, Assad said that they are now giving civilians some time to leave the area.

The Syrian Civil Defense said five people, including three women, were killed in the village of Mallaja while four others were killed in airstrikes on the northern outskirts of the town of Saraqeb, a major town on the highway linking the capital Damascus with the northern city of Aleppo, Syria’s largest.

The highway has been closed since 2012, when rebel forces, backed by five others killed in Mallaja. It added that six other people were killed in the province, including two fighters.

In an area controlled by Turkey in the neighboring province of Aleppo, opposition activists said a group of fighters who were demanding a suspected car bomber be executed.

The Observatory said the protesters tried to storm a police station in the town of al-Bab, and that one protester was killed. The protesters were reportedly calling for authorities to execute a man detained on suspicion of setting off a car bomb in al-Bab on Saturday. That blast killed 19 people.

Turkey’s Defense Ministry said the suspect detained in connection to Saturday’s bombing was a member of the main Kurdish militia, according to Turkey’s official Anadolu news agency.

Iraqi protester killed amid clashes on Baghdad bridge

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — An anti-government protester in Iraq was killed Sunday by a direct hit to the head from a tear gas canister amid fresh clashes on a strategic Baghdad bridge, security and medical officials said.

At least 32 others were wounded in violent clashes with security forces, just hours after protesters retook control of half of Ahrar Bridge. The protesters now hold three bridges spanning the Tigris River toward the heavily fortified Green Zone, the seat of Iraq’s government. Security forces had deployed Sunday on the other side of the bridge and erected concrete barriers to keep protesters from pushing into Green Zone.

Two Katyusha rockets also fell in the vicinity of the Green Zone on Sunday, but caused no casualties. One hit the Tigris River and the other fell on an empty soccer stadium, security officials said. The officials all spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Elsewhere in parts of central and southern Iraq, protesters blocked roads with burning tires, halting traffic and paralyzing work following a call for a national strike.

Since the protests began Oct. 1, at least 320 people have been killed and thousands wounded in the capital and the mostly Shiite southern provinces. Protesters have taken to the streets in the tens of thousands over what they say is widespread corruption, lack of job opportunities and poor basic services despite the country’s oil wealth.

The leaderless, mass protests are demanding a return of Baath-era reasons. “Only then we will pull out from here.” The roadblocks are partly in response to a call by influential Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr for a voluntary strike to keep up the pressure on politicians.

There will be no offices open until the last corrupt person is removed,” one protester said, declining to be identified for security reasons. “Only then we will pull out from here.” The roadblocks are partly in response to a call by influential Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr for a voluntary strike to keep up the pressure on politicians.
China sends 1st domestically built aircraft carrier through Taiwan Strait

By JESSE JOHNSON
Japan Times, Tokyo

China sent its second aircraft carrier, the first to be built domestically, through the Taiwan Strait on Sunday, the Defense Ministry in Taipei said, with the carrier group shadowed by U.S. and Japanese naval vessels.

The carrier, known as the Type 002 and accompanied by a battle group, sailed through the waterway from the East China Sea into the strait, the ministry said.

It said the Taiwanese military scrambled fighter jets in response and monitored the situation. No further details were immediately available.

The move came as Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen named former Prime Minister William Lai as her running mate in January’s elections. Lai last year angered Beijing by voicing support for the island nation’s formal independence.

“Just as @iingwen names her running mate & the campaign shifts into high gear, PLA sends its new 002 aircraft carrier battle group into the #TaiwanStrait,” Taiwan Foreign Minister Joseph Wu wrote on Twitter. “#PRC intends to intervene in #Taiwan’s elections. Voters won’t be intimidated! They’ll say NO to #China at the ballot box.”

PRC is the acronym for China’s formal name, the People’s Republic of China.

Taiwan, a democratically governed island, split from Communist-ruled mainland China after the civil war ended in 1949. Beijing views Taiwan as a renegade province that must be brought back into the fold — by force if necessary.

Beijing has called Taiwan “the most important and sensitive issue in China-U.S. relations” and has bolstered its military presence near the island, holding large-scale “encirclement” exercises and bomber training throughout last year and into this year.

China sends 1st domestically built aircraft carrier through Taiwan Strait

By Seth Robson
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Smart watch data suggests a Marine Corps pilot who ejected from his F/A-18 Hornet after colliding with a KC-130J tanker last year off the coast of Japan was alive on the surface of the ocean for nearly 10 hours before he drowned.

The heart rate data is included in a command investigation report on the incident, which claimed the life of Capt. Jahmar Resilard, 28, along with five Marines in the tanker. The group flew out of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, near Hiroshima.

Resilard — referred to as “MP2” by investigators — was wearing a Garmin Fenix 3 smart watch when he ejected from the fighter jet at 1:44 a.m. on Dec. 6, 2018, according to the command investigation report released Sept. 26.

“The data from the watch indicated that MP2’s heart was beating at an average of 86 beats per minute until approximately 11:30,” the report stated.

“MP2’s Garmin smart watch indicates that MP2 was alive on the surface of the ocean from approximately 0145 until approximately 1130 (nine hours and 45 minutes) in 68 degree Fahrenheit water,” said in the report.

Resilard’s body was brought on board a Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force ship, the JS Seto Yuki, at 12:22 p.m., the report states. An autopsy report showed the downed aviator had cuts and bruises, a head injury and appeared to have drowned.

Investigators noted that neither Resilard nor his weapons system, which also ejected but was rescued from an inflatable raft, were wearing anti-exposure suits and had more than a 30-degree-long survival in cold water.

Marine and Navy aviators are given the option of wearing the suits, which are designed to help likely rescue response time, water temperature and their body fat.

None of the witnesses interviewed from the downed Hornet’s unit — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 — told investigators he wouldn’t have worn one during a night mission over 68-degree water.

“I wouldn’t wear it. They’re a huge unnamel pilot said in the report.

The downed Hornet’s weapons officer was recovered alive at 5:43 a.m. by a Japanese military SH-60 helicopter, four hours after ejecting, and taken to Komatsu-shima, Japan, the report states.

In his interview, the officer talked about struggling to survive, shivering and bailing water from a raft while awaiting rescue.

He told investigators he assessed his survival chances within 30 minutes, later amending his answer to 50 minutes.

“Tears from the watch indicate that there will be follow-up exercises,” the investigators noted.

In April, the wing conducted a search-and-rescue tabletop exercise with pilots from the Air Force, Navy and Japan Self-Defense Forces, Block said, adding that there will be follow-up exercises.

The Marine Corps doesn’t have search-and-rescue capability at MCAS Iwakuni, investigators noted.

In 2000, the commander of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing determined that Japanese search-and-rescue assets provided adequate coverage for the Iwakuni-based Marine Aircraft Group 12 and removed the Marines’ in-house capabilities, according to the report.

Japanese forces can launch search-and-rescue assets within 15 minutes of notification if they are already out conducting operations, the report states. Otherwise, the response time can be more than two hours.

Four officers from Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 — its commander, executive officer, operations officer and aviation safety officer — were fired as a result of the investigation.

It uncovered a number of problems in the unit such as wrongful use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs by officers, including two involved in the fatal training exercise.

Investigators’ recommendations included that the 1st Marine Air Wing conduct annual full-spectrum search-and-rescue exercises with all available host nations and joint assets.

The wing said it also developed a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Japanese government to define roles and responsibilities associated with search and rescue.

The Marines should also establish their own search-and-rescue capabilities at MCAS Iwakuni, investigators said.

Marine Corps (MCAS) and Navy units are required to conduct search-and-rescue tabletop exercises every six months, Block said.

As a supplement to the physical cards, a digital card-memory product that gamers can select on their devices is also available at TRADOC’s App Gateway, located at https://public.tag.army.mil.

“My goal, as we print and deploy the cards, is to make it as our ‘Red Army’ card,” Block said.

Cards: Decks can be ordered through installation training support centers

FROM FRONT PAGE

70,000 decks have been distributed since they first were printed that are available for purchase through the Army’s Training and Doctrine Command’s intelligence branch developed “Worldwide Equipment Identification” cards to help soldiers learn about the weapons and vehicles, the Army said in a statement last week.

The program includes an initial print run of 9,800 packs of cards featuring Chinese vehicles and weapons in July. Supplies ran out after only three weeks.

“There’s been a lot of interest from units since Oct. 9,” the report said.

More decks could be printed in the future, including some featuring vehicles and weapons belonging to friendly forces and adversaries, Block said.

Soldiers and units can order the cards through their installation training support centers.

Playing cards has long been a favorite pastime for U.S. troops in major conflicts. The decks have changed as U.S. adversaries have changed.

During the Iraq War, the Pentagon’s “SS most wanted” comprised a deck of key Iraqi leaders U.S. troops were supposed to pursue, kill or capture. Saddam Hussein was depicted on the ace of spades.

As a supplement to the physical cards, a digital card-memory product that gamers can select on their devices is also available at TRADOC’s App Gateway, located at https://public.tag.army.mil.

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Dems call for probe into border deployment

BY COREY DICKSTEIN Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — House Democrats on Friday charged that President Donald Trump’s decision last year to send thousands of American troops to the U.S.-Mexico border was politically motivated and rooted in racism as they renewed a call for the Pentagon inspector general to probe its legality.

Four representatives, each from southern border states, fingered Miller by name during a news conference just ahead of the November 2018 midterm elections. The House members — Arizona’s Raul M. Grijalva and Californians Barbara Lee, Judy Chu and Juan Vargas — labeled Miller a white nationalist, citing emails recently leaked to and partially published by the nonprofit Southern Poverty Law Center that were labeled Miller a white nationalist, citing emails recently leaked to and partially published by the nonprofit Southern Poverty Law Center. “We question the motivation, the legality and the political optics that are being created by Miller through his decision to send thousands of troops just ahead of the November 2018 midterm elections. The House members — Arizona’s Raul M. Grijalva and Californians Barbara Lee, Judy Chu and Juan Vargas — labeled Miller a white nationalist, citing emails recently leaked to and partially published by the nonprofit Southern Poverty Law Center.

“Make no mistake, this decision by Trump to deploy troops to the border was not only alarming, it was unnecessary, and there are serious legal questions that administration has refused to answer [for] almost a year since the previous press conference that the first deployment.”

The representatives said they sent 11 other lawmakers a letter to the Pentagon IG in late September requesting an investigation. On Friday, they announced they had delivered Trump’s emails supporting such a probe to the IG.

“I agree, Grijalva said, is whether the deployment violates long-standing federal law barring U.S. troops from conducting domestic law enforcement operations. The 1878 Posse Comitatus Act forbids American military personnel from performing civil law enforcement duties on U.S. soil, outside military installations.

“We feel this is an important question from the American people that deserves to be answered,” he said. “Congress deserves to know what legal questions the probe in late September is forcing them to raise. We’re going to argue that this is a question that the IG needs to answer.”

The Defense Department’s IG office received the letter requesting the probe in late September and it is “considering the request,” Dzwena Allen, an IG spokesman, said Friday.

In October 2018, Trump ordered an active-duty deployment of troops to the southern border, warning of an impending crisis as a so-called caravan of Central American migrants approached the U.S.-Mexico border. Human rights groups and journalists traveling with the group reported the caravans consisted primarily of children and families seeking asylum.

The next month, Trump said he was conducting drills to treat any asylum-seekers who threw rocks the same as they would an enemy combatant.

“We’re not going to put up with that,” Trump said on Nov. 1. “They want to throw rocks at our military. We’re ready to fight back. We’re going to consider — I told them, ‘Consider it a rifle.’”

Chu on Friday labeled such rhetoric from Trump “phony” and “clearly a lie” designed to stoke fear of immigrants to support his calls for a border wall and the military deployments.

“We have strong reasons to believe [the deployment is not] legal,” the congresswoman said. “Immigrants are not dangerous, and refugees who run to border agents in hopes of reaching safety are not a threat. But those facts do not miss Donald Trump’s narrative.”

After initially pushing back against Trump’s inclination to send large formations of armed troops to confront migrants, then-Defense Secretary Jim Mattis approved a deployment of troops in support of short-handed U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents. Those troops were not authorized to conduct law enforcement duties, Mattis said, defending the order as legal.

Since then, tens of thousands of troops have cycled through deployments at border locations in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, where they have served several roles, including constructing temporary barriers, shutting CBP agents, conducting surveillance and providing logistical support to CBP.

American troops have conducted similar missions under deployments ordered by recent presidents including Barack Obama. However, those missions lasted less than one year.

Pentagon officials, some of whom have been at times publicly questioned the necessity of the border deployment, have long maintained troops have little, if any, contact with migrants, rarely carry weapons and have only been authorized to use force for self-defense.

“DOD is providing support to the Department of Homeland Security and is not performing any law enforcement functions,” Army Lt. Col. Chris Mitchell said Friday. Those functions are carried out by DHS law enforcement personnel.

DHS officials have praised the military deployments. Border Patrol Chief Carla Provost in June testified U.S. troops had aided her officers in apprehending some 100,000 migrants, primarily through their surveillance role, calling the Pentagon support invaluable.

Some 2,900 active-duty troops and another 2,200 National Guard members are deployed now in support of Trump’s border mission, and Defense Secretary Mark Esper has authorized the deployment of up to 5,200 troops to continue through the end of fiscal year 2020.

Lee, the California representative who grew up along the border in El Paso, Texas, vowed to continue to fight against the deployment and the Trump administration’s immigration policies.

“Make no mistake, Trump has sent these troops to the border for one reason and one reason alone — to terrorize immigrants and refugees,” she said. “Mr. Trump is making it clear that immigrants are not welcome in his America. We cannot let that become our America.”

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Unit in S. Korea remembers soldier, 20, killed in rollover

BY MATTHEW KEELER Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — Members of the 1st Cavalry Division Combat Team gathered Friday to remember Spc. Nicholas C. Panipinto, a young soldier who had promised to share his outdoor adventures one day with all his friends.

Panipinto, 20, of Bradenton, Fla., died Nov. 6 at Camp Humphreys after the M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle he was driving rolled over during a road test, according to a report by the Army Combat Readiness Center. Panipinto was airifted to a local hospital, where he later died. Four other soldiers were injured.

Not a seat inside the Warrior Chapel on Camp Humphreys, where room for 759 was empty, and soldiers of the rotational brigade from Fort Hood, Texas, lined the walls to bid Panipinto farewell.

“The loss of anyone so young is a tragedy,” said Lt. Col. Edward Kennedy, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment. “The loss of a soldier that was so promising sent shockwaves through the company and the battalion. He aspired to become more than just a National Guard soldier.”

Kennedy said during his tribute, “He did his absolute best every day defending our free nation, motivating others to do the same. He lived up to every challenge those he faced challenges of life with.”

On Wednesday, American flags and crowds had lined the roads of his hometown in Manatee County, Florida, as a hearse bearing his remains passed by, according to the Bradenton Herald newspaper.

Panipinto enlisted on Jan. 9, 2018, and completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga., as an infantryman on April 27, 2018. From there, he joined Arrowhead Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry.

At Friday’s memorial, a family member described Panipinto as a man of simple taste.

“He enjoyed hunting, fishing, guns, Tacos and playing games in his free time,” Spc. Luis Cortes told the crowd.

“He would share his life with pictures of all his hunting and fishing trips,” Cortes said.

“Being a kind friend, he often told us that one day we would all go to his house and fish and hunt together in his favorite places.”

The death of his friend brings a heavy weight, Cortes said. He urged his audience to truly love and care about the ones who mean the most to them, whether a co-worker, a teacher, a teammate or a family member.

“Nicholas was my co-worker, my teammate and my friend. He was the best friend that I’ve ever had. There’s nothing else I could see him again,” he said.

“Pinto, if you can hear me, I miss you and I love you and I hope you are doing well.”

Challenge coins placed by service members surround boots that belonged to Spc. Nicholas C. Panipinto. A memorial service for Panipinto was held inside the Warrior Chapel at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on Friday.

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After tributes from Cortes and the unit leaders, Sgt. 1st Class Martin Delafuente performed a last roll call, summoning Panipinto three times to no avail. The gathering concluded with a rifle salute and the playing of taps.

As service members exited the chapel, each had the chance to render a final salute at a battlefield cross — an M-4 standing muzzle down, a helmet on the butt end and a blanket folded over the top. Many, including Eighth Army commander Lt. Gen. Michael Bills, placed challenge coins next to his boots.

At his hometown in Florida, Panipinto was saluted by local government officials, veterans, friends and family as a motorcycle that included his head was placed by. Law enforcement officers and the Patriot Guard Riders, a veterans’ band of motorcycle riders, escorted the body from Tampa International Airport, the Herald reported.

“I thought he was safe, absolutely, for sure. I never in a million years thought this could happen to us,” his father, Anthony Panipinto, told TV station WTSP in Tampa.

Panipinto’s awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korea Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and M4 Carbine Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge.

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MILITARY

Judge: Mass arrest of Marines unlawful

July action in front of battalion at Camp Pendleton ruled violations unlawful

By Andrew Dyer

The July arrests of 16 Camp Pendleton Marines in front of their 800-person battalion was unlawful, a Marine Corps judge ruled Friday.

The ruling was handed down at the end of an all-day motions hearing that saw the battalion commander, a sergeant major and some Camp Pendleton California-based Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents testify about the decision to conduct the mass arrest during a battalion formation on July 25.

On that day, 16 Marines were charged with two counts of unspecified drug offenses. The Marine Corps did not provide a charge sheet to reporters detailing those charges.

Citing that the arrests amounted to unlawful and a violation of their rights, a Marine Corps judge ruled the arrests unlawful and a violation of their rights.

But the judge did not decide the case Thursday, instead setting a new court date for Dec. 6.

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By Caitlin Doornbos

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — A Marine lance corporal who attacked three Japanese citizens with a knife and disoriented in Tokyo’s Shinjuku Ward in May testified Thursday that he took “full responsibility” for his actions.

Kahsil Tyree Hill, 21, assigned to 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment of Camp Lejeune, N.C., admitted in court Tuesday to choking a woman until she fainted and striking a taxi driver and a bystander the morning of May 25.

Hill is charged with two counts of bodily injury to the bystander and the woman. He pleaded guilty in July to a bodily injury charge related to the taxi driver.

Defense attorneys in Tokyo District Court on Thursday said Hill and his family have paid his victims about $15,000 in compensation.

Hill gave his account of the attacks after a psychologist testified that the behavior was caused by “his immaturity” and “inability to control his level of intoxication.” The psychologist also said Hill could suffer from a dissociative disorder, but a diagnosis would require further testing.

Dissociative disorders are characterized by a disconnection between thoughts, identity, consciousness and memory, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Symptoms include out-of-body experiences, detachment from reality and anxiety.

Hill, who said he had his first drink on his 21st birthday six months before the incident, testified that he and other Marines from Camp Fuji’s security team were in Tokyo the night of May 24 to celebrate Memorial Day. He said he had approximately 15 alcoholic drinks that night — “more than I ever drank in my life.”

After exploring bars in Golden Gai — a bar area in Shinjuku that’s popular with tourists — Hill and his friends went to a fast food restaurant around midnight before going to bed. Hill testified that at some point he woke up to find himself walking around outside to explore.

Then, he said, he got lost.

“Terrified”

Hill remembered having another drink with a stranger in the area before passing out. He woke up hours later in an alley and panicked because “the sun’s coming up and I have no clue where I am,” he testified.

The Marine said he felt “terrified” and confused, separated from his friends in a strange city.

“My heart was racing. I shouted for help,” Hill said. “People ignored me, which made me think something I didn’t understand. I started to act recklessly because of that.”

That’s when he saw someone he would later learn was a taxi driver offering him a ride.

Hill said he did not know the man was a cab driver when he got in the front seat. That’s why Hill did not pay the approximately $8 fare when the driver let him out of the car, he said.

“The man started yelling at me, something I didn’t understand,” Hill testified. “I felt in danger and I needed to protect myself.”

Hill then said he hit the driver and ran away.

Hill later struck another man who stopped to help him find his hotel, but the Marine said he did not remember that incident or why he hit him.

“I was dreaming. I started to act before passing out, he testified.

The judge did not decide the case Thursday, instead setting a new court date for Dec. 6.

Hill said he will face disciplinatory action from the Marine Corps after the case is decided. He will be discharged, he said, potential on bad conduct.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hanna Kusumoto contributed to this report.

Twitter: @CaitlinDoornbos
GAO: Navy lacks means to evaluate new training

By Wyatt Olson
Stars and Stripes

Senior Navy officials told a government watchdog agency it could take 16 years or more to know if recent training reforms will lead to greater ship-driving proficiency across the surface fleet.

That is not, however, an acceptable timeline, according to a report released Thursday. The report, produced by the Government Accountability Office, said the Navy lacks a comprehensive plan to evaluate the new training initiatives.

The experts found “concerns” in ship-driving competency in more than 80 percent of those officers. Another 29 officers found to have significant competency problems were likely not qualified to be officers of the deck because “they violated fundamental ship-handling training, rules, among other issues,” the report said.

The study, which began in early 2017 with the completion of two new simulator-based training facilities, with the first in San Diego slated to be complete in 2021 and the second in Norfolk, Va., to be operational in January 2023, said the Navy plans to invest more than $467 million to develop new simulator training programs for its fleet. The simulation training will center on a series of added curriculum-based training and they were just clinking into muscle memory, McCarty said.

During the first three months of 2018, experts from the Navy Surface Warfare Officer School Command conducted ship-driving proficiency checks on 164 surface warfare officers who had recently qualified as officers of the deck during training for their first sea assignment, the GAO report said.

The experts found “concerns” in ship-driving competency in more than 80 percent of those officers. Another 29 officers found to have significant competency problems were likely not qualified to be officers of the deck because “they violated fundamental ship-handling training, rules, among other issues,” the report said.

The report said the Navy developed standards for conducting spot checks on ship-driving competency, but it plans to end them in 2021, the report said.

“Navy officials emphasized the importance of allowing ship Commanding Officers to make their own determination of an officer’s competency to drive a ship, due to their knowledge of the ship’s operating conditions,” the report said.

“The Navy had not also developed a plan for analyzing and using information chronicled by officers in the Surface Warfare Officer School — unlike before, when they were introduced to the system for only about five hours with little hands-on experience, McCarty said.”

Navy operations specialists first to get more simulators

By Caitlin M. Kenney
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Navy is overhauling training schedules for new sailors by incorporating more simulator scenarios at the schools to boost training standards that contributed to two deadly ship collisions in 2017, Navy officials said.

The reform efforts are part of the Navy’s push to modernize training for surface warfare officers to ensure that they maintain their skills.

The Navy’s initial training school, or “A” school, for sailors who are operations specialists is the first of the schools to have its curriculums modernized with the inclusion of more time with simulators. Operations specialists have duties that involve navigation, lookout and shipboard warfare.

The Navy is working toward mimicking the training offered in the initial curriculums of other Navy jobs, Stone said.

“We have some of the other schools that related more to the simulator training for learning the skills required for their jobs,” Stone said.

The experience is “more hands on in the simulator,” according to Apprentice Raychelle Hart, an operations specialist, said about using the simulators.

McCarty said they have found the simulators to be more immersive at the school focus on watch duties and navigation.

Students can don headgear and sit at computer screen panels similar to what they would experience with the job on a ship.

The Voyage Management System lab for ship navigation cost $100,000, and the Ship Self-Defense System lab for training on defending a ship from threats cost $750,000, according to Cmdr. James Stockman, a spokesman for Naval Education and Training Command.

Training for sailors has been scrutinized in the past four years after the USS Fitzgerald and USS McCain, collisions that killed 10 sailors are retaining the information better than before, when they were introduced to the system for only about five hours with little hands-on experience, McCarty said.

New 3D images of scenarios that we might run into, McCarty said.

So far, McCarty said they have found the simulators to be more informative than the training offered in the initial curriculums,学习贯彻肌肉记忆，McCarty said.

Prior to the update to the operation specialists curriculum, instructors had been removed from the front of classrooms, and students were learning skills through a knowledge-based approach with computer-based training and they were just clinking through the lessons, he said.

The pivot toward a performance-based system brought back the instructors and increased the amount of time that students are working on tasks in the classes from 30% to 70%, McCarty said.

McCarty said it’s too early to tell whether sailors are retaining the information better than before due to the simulator training.

According to McCarty, the pool of graduates from the new curriculum is too small and new to the fleet for them to receive enough feedback yet from operations.

Only 150 have gone through the curriculum since it launched as a pilot program in May, with the first official class having graduated in September.

So far, McCarty said they have found there are fewer students who have to come in for additional mandatory studies of the curriculum, and there are more students passing the course.
Military animals awarded medals for their service

By Steve Beynon
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Bass, a Belgian Malinois, served more than six years in Marine Corps special operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia. During his time in Iraq, Bass conducted more than 350 explosive detections with his handler, Staff Sgt. Alex Schnell.

On Thursday, Bass was awarded the Medal of Bravery on Capitol Hill for his work with the Marines. The award, the first of its kind, was issued by Angels Without Wings, a nonprofit aiming to formally acknowledge valor of working animals at home and abroad. The Medal of Bravery was inspired by the Dickin Medal, a British award introduced in WWII to honor brave animals who served in combat.

The efforts of dogs in the military has received greater attention recently with the awarding of Conan, another Belgian Malinois, helped hunt down Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi — the most wanted terrorist in the world. But Bass and Conan are two of many military working dogs who sniff out bombs, track down bad guys and assist troops on a wide range of missions overseas. Dogs and other animals have always supported troops in combat.

Bass was joined Thursday by Bucca, a dog that served with the New York City Fire Department. Bucca also received the Medal of Bravery, and six posthumous medals were awarded to Cher Ami, a pigeon (WWI); Chips, a dog, and GI Joe, a pigeon (WWII); Sgt. Reckless, a horse (Korean War); Stormy, a dog (Vietnam War); and Lucca, a dog (Iraq and Afghanistan wars).

In Somalia, Bass was involved in at least a dozen operations for high-value targets. Special operations units relied heavily on Bass to detect explosives. In Afghanistan, Bass was used to clear 34 raids for high-profile individuals and led troops during dangerous building clearings. Through Bass’ four deployments across three countries, there were no Marine fatalities on his missions, according to the dog’s award citation.

When special operators clear a building, the dog can be the first one through the door to attack and make it safer for troops to enter quickly to kill or detain enemies. The dog is often referred to as the dog’s nose isn’t just for finding stuff; it’s for finding personnel. It’s an awesome capability,” Staff Sgt. Alex Schnell, Bass’ handler.

Beyond attacking terrorists, Bass has also routed out enemy fighters from hiding spots. “His nose isn’t just for finding stuff (explosives, drugs); it’s for finding personnel,” Schnell said. “They (enemies) have hidey-holes and tunnels in these buildings. It’s an awesome capability.”

Bass retired from active duty in October and was adopted by Schnell. However, bringing a military working dog home isn’t for everyone, and Belgian Malinois is a tough, high-energy breed that Schnell doesn’t recommend as a family pet.

“They are definitely not chi-hua-hua,” he said. “They are not for you average homeowners, especially for those that don’t know anything about dog training. If you’re going to buy one of these animals, definitely research fully trained ones and that you know a bit about dog training yourself, or these dogs will control your whole life and possibly lead you to euthanize or get rid of them. That isn’t good for anyone or the dog.”

Here are some of the efforts of the military animals who received awards other than dogs:

During World War I, hundreds of American troops were trapped behind enemy lines without food or ammunition and were beginning to receive friendly fire from artillery units that didn’t know their location. A pigeon named Cher Ami was able to carry a message to stop the artillery despite being shot by German troops. The bird was blinded in one eye and lost a leg.

During World War II, another pigeon known as GI Joe carried a message that prevented a potentially devastating friendly fire tragedy. Allied forces planned a bombing campaign on an Italian town. However, it was occupied by British troops. GI Joe flew 20 miles in about 20 minutes to relay the message, friendly forces occupied the town just before bomb planes took off.

Sgt. Reckless, a pack horse for Marines during the Korean War, quickly became as well treated as the troops. She roamed freely around camp and would even sleep in tents with Marines on cold nights. In one battle, the horse made 51 solo trips, covering more than 30 miles, to resupply front-line units with ammunition. Reckless was wounded twice by shrapnel.

Bass was the subject of a New York Times article that included a picture of him and his handler, but Schnell didn’t recommend as a family pet. "The Battle of the Black Sea was perceived outside the special operations community as a failure. It was not, at least in strictly military terms," Bowden wrote in the epilogue of his book.

“It was a complex, difficult and dangerous assignment, and despite terrible setbacks and losses, and against overwhelming odds, the mission was accomplished.”

**Note:** The photo is not available for this document.
Russia providing mood music for impeachment drama

By Aamer Madhani and Andrew Taylor

WASHINGTON — For all the talk about Ukraine in the House impeachment inquiry, there’s a character standing just off-stage with a dominant role in this tale of international intrigue: Russia.

As has so often been the case since President Donald Trump took office, Moscow provided the mood music for unfolding political drama.

“With you, Mr. President, all roads lead to Russia,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi declared recently, and not for the first time.

The impeachment investigation is centered on allegations that Trump tried to pressure Ukraine’s new leader over the summer to dig up dirt on Trump political rival Joe Biden, holding U.S. military aid to the Eastern European nation as leverage.

In her testimony before the House impeachment panel on Wednesday, Acting Ukrainian Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch suggested that the president’s actions played into the hands of Vladimir Putin, whose government has backed separatists in a 5-year-old war in eastern Ukraine.

Yovanovitch, a 33-year veteran of the State Department known for fighting corruption in Ukraine and elsewhere, was ousted from her position as ambassador to Ukraine after Trump and his allies began attacking her and claimed she was bad-mouthing the president.

Her ouster, she and several Democratic lawmakers argued, ultimately benefited Putin.

“How is it that foreign corrupt interests can manipulate our government?” Witness John Dean, a White House official under Richard Nixon, asked House investigators. “Our country’s secrets are served when the very corrupt behavior we’ve been critical of is allowed to prevail? Such conduct undercuts the very core of U.S., exposes our friends and widens the playing field for autocrats like President Putin.”

After two days of public testimony and the release of thousands of pages of transcripts from witnesses who’ve met with Trump, his personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, and others, Democratic and Republican lawmakers seem further entrenched in their partisan corners about whether the president abused his powers.

Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to do him “a favor” and investigate Biden and his son, Hunter’s, business dealings in Ukraine. At the same time, Ukraine was awaiting nearly $400 million in U.S. military aid.

While Democrats say the request to investigate the Bidens represented a quid pro quo, Republicans argue that Trump did nothing improper.

“Do we need a constitutional convention to discuss the president’s actions as a matter of bribery, which, as Pelosi noted, is mentioned in the Constitution.”

President Biden served on the board of a Ukrainian energy company at the same time his father was leading the Obama administration’s diplomatic dealings with Kyiv. The timing raised concerns among anti-corruption advocates, there has been no evidence of wrongdoing by either the former vice president or his son.

Trump dismissed the impeachment proceedings as a “joke” that denigrate him and Republican lawmakers due process.

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In his July call with Zelenskiy, Trump pushed discredited information that hackers in Ukraine — rather than Russia — interfered in the 2016 elections.

Last month, Trump abruptly moved U.S. Special Forces from northern Syria at Turkey’s urging and as result created a security vacuum for Russia to fill.

Trump has also repeatedly disparaged and even suggested withdrawing from NATO, the military alliance that has served as a deterrent to Soviet and Russia aggression since it was formed after World War II.

“It’s clear that the Trump administration’s foreign policy is chaotic and incoherent with one exception: Many of his actions benefit Russia.”

White House: Trump undergoes an exam at Walter Reed

She did not specify which tests he'd received or explain why the visit had not been disclosed in advance. Trump's 2018 and 2019 checkups, released in December, showed no signs of cardiac issues.

On the ground, Trump's performance varied. In Iowa, he represented himself as a populist who can win in a state Trump won by 20 percentage points. Rispone said he was like Trump, describing himself as a “conservative outsider” whose business acumen would help solve the state’s problems.

The president’s repeated visits appeared to drive turnout for both candidates. The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and Medianum, was of 500 likely Democrat caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points. The margin of error for the four candidates tested. 53% of likely caucusgoers, followed by essentially a three-way tie for second place between Sens. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass.; Bernie Sanders, I-Vt.; and former vice president Joe Biden, who all have about 15% support. None of the other candidates are in double digits. The poll differs from other recent Iowa polls, which showed Buttigieg, Biden, Warren and Sanders knotted closely together. The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and Medianum, was of 500 likely Democratic caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points. The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and Medianum, was of 500 likely Democratic caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points. The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and Medianum, was of 500 likely Democratic caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points. The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and Medianum, was of 500 likely Democratic caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points. The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and Medianum, was of 500 likely Democratic caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points.

Poll finds Buttigieg pushes to the front in Iowa

By Annie Linskey, Chelsea Janes and Scott Clement

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — A new poll of Iowa voters released Saturday night suggests a disruption in the Democratic primary contest in the first voting state, with South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg surging to the front of the crowded pack.

The survey showed Buttigieg with support from 25% of likely caucusgoers, followed by essentially a three-way tie for second place between Sens. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass.; Bernie Sanders, I-Vt.; and former vice president Joe Biden, who all have about 15% support. None of the other candidates are in double digits.

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Lawsuit may force Remington to open its marketing books

Associated Press

A recent ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court has upended a long-standing legal roadblock that has given the gun industry far-reaching immunity from lawsuits in the aftermath of mass killings.

The court last week allowed families of victims of the 2012 Sandy Hook school massacre to sue the maker of the AR-15 used in the shooting. A victory for Remington will now proceed in the Connecticut courts.

Remington is widely expected to win the case, but critics of the gun industry are eying what they see as a significant outcome even in the face of defeat: getting the gunmaker to open its books about how it markets firearms.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs are certain to request that Remington turn over volumes of documents as part of the discovery phase, providing a rare window into the inner workings of how a major gun manufacturer markets its weapons. Those materials might include company emails, memos about corporate strategies, or anything that might suggest the company marketed the firearm in a way that may have compelled the shooter to use the weapon to carry out the slaughter.

The plaintiffs also believe the ruling will put gun companies on notice about how they conduct business — or anything they could wind up in the courts.

“If the industry wakes up and understands their conduct behind closed doors is not protected, then the industry itself ... will take steps to try to help the massive problem we have instead of doing nothing and sit by and cash the checks,” said Joshua Koskoff, a lawyer and school shooting survivor who represents a survivor and relatives of nine victims who died at the Newtown, Conn., school on Dec. 14, 2012.

The Remington name is etched on a model 870 shotgun. A Supreme Court ruling allowing a lawsuit against the gunmaker to continue will force the company to make relevant documents public.

The case hinges on Connecticut state court rulings on whether companies knew or should have known about how the firearm used by Adam Lanza, the Newtown shooter — a Bushmaster XM15-E2S rifle — was marketed, with plaintiffs alleging Remington purposely used advertisements that targeted younger, at-risk males. One of Remington’s ads features the rifle against a plain backdrop and the phrase: “Consider Your Man Card Reissued.”

Remington did not respond to requests for comment after the U.S. Supreme Court denied its efforts to quash the lawsuit.

Larry Keane, senior vice president and legal counsel for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which represents gunmakers, said he anticipates Remington will ultimately prevail.

Anxiety up in Fla. town after judge’s ruling

By Bobby Caina Calvan

MACCLENNY, Fla. — Anxiety multiplied quickly across Baker County, a mostly rural community of 28,000 in northern Florida, when news spread that a 15-year-old had planned a massacre at the county’s only high school.

“MAKE SURE THE TEACHERS ARE DEAD,” he ranted in a notebook. “Then rinse repeat.”

When the sophomore shared his six-page “Massacre Plan” with a classmate in early October, it set in motion what authorities called a “hostile response” to averting another Parkland, Fla., school shooting, which took the lives of 14 students and three school staffers last year.

Within minutes, the student was in custody. By most accounts, parents felt reassured by the swift action of school officials and law enforcement.

But unease resurfaced last month when a judge dismissed second-degree felony charges against the boy and released him into the custody of his parents.

“I have a sense of safety built into this community. We trust each other, and when I drop my kids off at school, I have a feeling they’re going to be safe,” said Macclenny resident Tracy Lamb, whose 15-year-old daughter attends the high school along with about 1,400 other students.

“Our judicial system is dropping the ball. It’s failed us, and the system has failed him. I want this child to receive help,” she said. “Everybody’s left wondering now about what’s going to happen to this particular kid.”

After the Parkland shooting, Florida lawmakers acted quickly to beef up security and improve safety across the state’s 4,300 public schools. The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act widened the authority of schools and law enforcement to act against any threat to campus safety.

To authorities and school officials, one provision in the law seemed clear: Anyone who “makes, posts, or transmits” a threat of mass shooting “in any manner that would allow another person to view the threat” has committed a crime.

Judge Gloria R. Walker saw things differently and dismissed the case because she said prosecutors could not prove the threat had been transmitted as described in the law.

Murder-suicide leaves 5 dead in San Diego

By John Wilkens and Kristina Davis

The San Diego Union-Tribune

SAN DIEGO — When an emergency dispatcher answered the first 911 phone call from a home in Paradise Hills, Calif., on Saturday morning, nobody was on the other end of the line. But an argument was heard in the background.

The second call was from a relative next door, who reported hearing what sounded like the pop-pop-pop of a nail gun.

San Diego police arrived, looked through a window and saw a 3-year-old boy covered in blood. They broke in, and soon all the horrible pieces came together.

A domestic dispute, a gun and five dead from the same family, three of them boys under the age of 12. Another boy was in the hospital on critical condition Saturday night. Their names have not been released.

“A senseless tragedy,” San Diego police Chief David Nisleit said.

The couple at the center of it were estranged, according to police.

The other sons, ages 5, 9 and 11, had obtained a temporary restraining order against the 31-year-old man last year, after he had obtained a temporary restraining order against the same 31-year-old man.

It’s not clear whether he had been served with the papers, but police said they believe he was aware of the order.

Their conflict had brought officers to the house at least once before, two weeks ago, when the man came over to retrieve tools.

Saturday morning, he showed up again, and the shootings happened about 7 a.m. Police said they found the woman, man and 3-year-old son dead at the scene.

The other sons, ages 5, 9 and 11, were taken to the hospital. Two died. Police initially identified the 11-year-old as the survivor but later said they weren’t sure yet which boy was which.

Police said the man shot the others and then turned the gun on himself. It was found at the scene.

“It appears to be a tragic case of domestic violence murder-suicide,” homicide Lt. Matt Dobbs said at a news conference Saturday afternoon.

It unfolded in a working-class neighborhood of single-story stucco and wood-sided homes that date to the 1940s, built to accommodate a World War II population boom.

The woman and four children lived in a garage flat adjacent to a house occupied by members of their extended family.

Neighbors said theirs is the kind of street where the kids all get together after school and on weekends, riding bikes and scooters, playing tetherball and shooting baskets at a curbside hoop.

“It’s like ‘The Sandlot,’” Jhoana Cruz said, referring to the 1993 movie about a group of baseball-playing boys.

“Everybody knows everybody.”

She agonized over whether to tell her boys about the shootings.

“I had to,” she said. “Lots of horrible things happen in the world, and it’s better to hear it from me, I guess.”

At the Saturday afternoon news conference, Nisleit said domestic violence is a persistent problem in San Diego County and he encouraged victims to use available resources.

According to the San Diego Domestic Violence Council, 17,513 incidents were reported in San Diego County in 2018, up 4% from the previous year.

The council said there were 15 homicides in the county in 2018 in which the suspect was a current or former intimate partner.

Nationwide, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men aged 18 and older have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

6 charged in shooting at NJ high school game

Paradise Hills area of San Diego, Calif., on Saturday.

San Diego Police investigate at the home where two adults and three children died from gunshot wounds during a domestic shooting in the Paradise Hills area of San Diego, Calif., on Saturday.
Study questions use of some heart procedures

By Marilyn Marchione
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — People with severe but stable heart disease from clogged arteries may have less chest pain if they get a procedure to improve blood flow rather than just giving medicines a chance to help, but it won’t cut their risk of having a heart attack or dying over the following few years, a big federally funded study found.

The results challenge medical dogma and call into question some of the most common practices in heart care. They are the strongest evidence yet that tens of thousands of costly stent procedures and bypass operations each year are unnecessary or premature for people with stable disease.

That’s a different situation than a heart attack when a procedure can be right away to restore blood flow.

For nonemergency cases, the study shows “there’s no need to rush” into invasive tests and procedures, said New York University’s Dr. Judith Hochman.

There might even be harm. To doctors’ surprise, study participants who had a procedure were more likely to suffer a heart problem or die over the next year than those treated with medicines.

Hochman co-led the study and gave results Saturday at an American Heart Association conference in Philadelphia.

“This study clearly goes against what has been the common wisdom in the last 30, 40 years and may lead to better testing and invasive treatment for such patients in the future,” said Dr. Glenn Levine, a Baylor College of Medicine cardiologist with no role in the research. Some doctors still may quibble with the study, but it was very well done “and I think the results are extremely believable,” he said.

About 17 million Americans have clogged arteries that crimp the heart’s blood supply, which can cause periodic chest pain. Cheap and generic aspirin, cholesterol-lowering drugs and blood pressure medicines are known to cut the risk of a heart attack for these folks, but many doctors also recommend a procedure to improve blood flow.

Twelve years ago, a big study found that angioplasty was no better than medicines for preventing heart attacks and deaths in nonemergency heart patients, but many doctors balked at the results and quarreled with the methods.

So the federal government spent $100 million for the new study, which is twice as large, spanned 37 countries and included people with more severe disease — a group most likely to benefit from stents or a bypass.

After one year, 7% in the invasively treated group had suffered a heart attack, heart-related death, cardiac arrest or hospitalization for worsening chest pain or heart failure versus 5% of those on medicines alone. At four years, the trend reversed — 13% of the procedures group and 15% of the medicines group had suffered a problem.

Averaged across the entire study period, the rates were similar regardless of treatment.

The bottom line is there’s no harm in trying medicines first, especially for people with no or little chest pain, doctors said.

Telescope protest inspires more Native Hawaiian activism

HINA ASAZUMA-CHENG
Associated Press

KAHUJU, Hawaii — Flapping Hawaiian flags adorn a large canop on the easement of a highway that winds along Oahu’s famed North Shore.

Under the tent, protesters come and go. Some of them keep guard overnight, and some stop by to wave at cars honking in support or to drop off supplies in a make-shift kitchen area stocked with bottled water, instant noodles and canned meat. On cots and on beach chairs, they are discussing strategies and reminding supporters to maintain a philosophy of peace and nonviolence known in Hawaiian as kapu aloha.

They are at the site trying to prevent the construction of eight wind turbines, each taller than downtown Honolulu’s tallest skyscraper.

The ongoing protest by mostly Native Hawaiians stalling construction of a $1.4 billion telescope on the Big Island has inspired protests on Oahu — the state’s most populous island — to block the turbines and the redevelopment of a beach park.

Since July, protesters who call themselves kiai, or guardians in Hawaiian, have gathered on Mauna Kea, Hawaii’s tallest mountain, to keep telescope construction crews away. Dozens have been arrested.

“Borrowing the civil disobedience methods of the protesters against the telescope, opponents try to block construction using turbine parts to the Kahuku wind farm site. Police have made more than 160 arrests since October.”

Hundreds gathered at a storage yard where an equipment convoy began late Thursday, leading to the arrests of 26 people.

“Mauna Kea has emboldened our people to rise up in ways that we have never seen before,” said Hinaleimoana Wong, a Native Hawaiian community leader who has been active in the fight against the telescope.

The Mauna Kea and Oahu movements share several traits.

Like on the Big Island mountain, there are protest camps at the Oahu sites of Kahuku and Waimanalo that feature a large tent, food and supplies and even so-called universities featuring lessons and workshops.

“We’re here to protect our aina and our community,” said Kananiloa’anuenue Ponciano, one of the leaders fighting against the turbines, using the Hawaiian word for land. Some of the leaders against the telescope went to the Kahuku encampment to provide advice and guidance, she said.

Son takes drugs to school; father pleads not guilty

By Verenna Dobnik
Associated Press

A Stradivarius violin stolen nearly four decades ago from the virtuoso Roman Totenberg and recovered with his violin by a federal prosecutor came alive again — at the crime scene.

Star violinist Nathan Meltzer, 19, received a revered instrument of the late Polish-born musician on Friday evening at a public concert in Cambridge, Mass.

He played the same music as Totenberg had minutes before his Stradivarius disappeared one night in 1980. The thief was a former student, and the violin was eventually bought for $100,000.

Recovered by the FBI, it was returned to Totenberg’s three daughters four years ago by the U.S. Attorney in Manhattan at the request of the prosecutor.

“Our father would have been so pleased to hear Nathan, a gifted young violinist, breathe life back into the violin,” said Jill Totenberg, a New York media strategist, who attended the concert with Nina, a National Public Radio legal affairs corre-}

spondent in Washington, and Amy, a federal judge in Atlanta.

“I felt my father was in that hall listening and smiling,” said Jill.

Roman Totenberg didn’t live to see his instrument again; he died in 2012 at age 101. When anyone would ask the Boston University music professor if he thought his violin would ever be found, he said, according to Nina, “After I have kicked the bucket.”

Likely worth millions of dollars, though its value has not been disclosed, the instrument made in Italy by Antonio Stradivari in 1734 is now on long-term loan to Meltzer, who is taking it around the world as he continues his musical education.

Meltzer studies at The Juilliard School in New York with the famed Itzhak Perlman.

In Cambridge, at a performance titled “Homage to Totenberg,” Meltzer offered an audience seated in a circle around him the music Totenberg last played on what he called his “musical partner” that he would never see again: pieces by Bach, Beethoven, the Hungarian composer Bela Bartok and the Frenchman Cesar Franck.

Son takes drugs to school; father pleads not guilty

HOLYOKE, Mass. — A Massachusetts man has pleaded not guilty to drug charg-}

es after authorities said his 5-year-old son took heroin to school and told his teacher that when he tastes the powder he becomes Spider-Man.

The Daily Hampshire Gazette reported that Benny Garcia, 29, of Holyoke, was ar-

raigned Friday in Holyoke District Court. He faces charges of drug possession and reckless endangerment of a child.

Prosecutors say Garcia’s son took a plastic bag decorated with Spider-Man’s kindergarten Thursday and put it in his mouth, telling a teacher eating the powder turns him into the superhero. Authorities say the boy was taken to a hospital but was unharmed.

Police searching Garcia’s home say they found more than 200 bags of heroin and cocaine.

A judge ordered Garcia held without bail until a hearing Wednesday.
VENICE, Italy — Venice was under a state of emergency for the area. They say Venice is both sinking into the mud and facing rising sea levels due to climate change.

Luca D’Acunto and his girlfriend, Giovanna Maglietta, surveyed the rising water from a bridge, wondering how to make their way to their nearby hotel in their colorful yet inadequate rubber boots.

“We made the reservation... before the floods and had paid already, so we came,” said D’Acunto, 28, from Naples. “Instead of a romantic trip, we’ll have an adventurous one.”

Most museums were closed as a precaution, but the Correr Museum, which overlooks St. Mark’s Square in Venice, Italy, on Sunday remained open. Tourists enjoyed a Venetian Spritz — a colorful aperitif with an Italian bitter and Prosecco — as the waters rose.

Officials said 280 civil protection volunteers were deployed to assist as needed. Young Venetian volunteers in rubber boots have also showed up at key sites, including the city’s Music Conservatory, to help save precious manuscripts from the invading saltwater.

### Venice sees 3rd exceptional tide within a week

**By Colleen Barry and Luca Bruno**

Associated Press

VENICE, Italy — Venice was hit Sunday by a record third exceptional tide within a week while other parts of Italy struggled with a series of weather woes, from rain-swollen rivers to high winds to an out-of-season avalanche.

Stores and museums in Venice were mostly closed in the hardest-hit area around St. Mark’s Square, but tourists donned high rubber boots or even hip waders to witness and photograph the spectacle.

People walk on raised gangways in a flooded St. Mark’s Square in Venice, Italy, on Sunday.

Most were disappointed when officials closed down the historic square as winds rippled across the rising waters. The doors of the famed St. Mark’s Basilica were securely shut to the public, and authorities took precautions — stacking sandbags in canal-side windows — to prevent salt-laden water from entering the crypt again.

Venice’s Tide Office said the peak tide of nearly 5 feet hit just after 1 p.m., but a weather front off the coast blocked southerly winds from the Adriatic Sea from pushing the tide to the predicted level of 5 feet, 2 inches.

Still it marked the third time since Tuesday night’s 6-foot flood — the worst in 53 years — that water levels in Venice had topped almost 5 feet. Since records began in 1872, that level had never been reached even twice in one year, let alone three times within a week.

While Venetians had a bit of relief, days of heavy rainfall and snowfall elsewhere in Italy swelled rivers to worrisome levels, triggered an avalanche in the Alps and saw dramatic rescues of people in the countryside who couldn’t flee rising waters.

In Venice, many store owners in the swanky area around St. Mark’s completely emptied their shops, while others put their wares as high as possible and counted on automatic pumping systems to keep the water at bay. In one luxury boutique, employees used water vacuums and big squeegee mops to keep the brackish lagoon waters from advancing.

Venice’s mayor has put the flooding damage at hundreds of millions of euros, and Italian officials have declared a state of emergency for the area. They say Venice is both sinking into the mud and facing rising sea levels due to climate change.

Luca D’Acunto and his girlfriend, Giovanna Maglietta, surveyed the rising water from a bridge, wondering how to make their way to their nearby hotel in their colorful yet inadequate rubber boots.

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### Ayatollah: Protesters are ‘thugs’

**By Jon Gambrell**

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran’s supreme leader on Sunday backed the government’s decision last summer to raise gasoline prices, saying that protesters “thugs” who had been setting fire to public property over the hike were “crazy” and “the most evil enemies of Iran. He specifically elaborating. He called violent protesters “thugs” who had been pushing into violence by country’s armed forces “to implement their tasks” of regime-stacking sandbags in canals and authorities took precautions — stacking sandbags in canal-side windows — to prevent salt-laden water from entering the crypt again.

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### UK media: Prince Andrew’s effort to rebut claims he had sex with teenager a disaster

**By Danica Kirka**

Associated Press

LONDON — British media on Sunday slammed Prince Andrew’s effort to rebut claims that he had sex with a teenager who says she was trafficked by Jeffrey Epstein, branding his televised interview a complete public relations disaster.

In a rare interview with BBC Newsnight that was broadcast late Saturday, Andrew categorically denied having sex with the woman, Virginia Roberts Giuffre. But Britain’s newspapers and social media commentators criticized him for defending his friendship with Epstein and for failing to show empathy for the convicted sex offender’s victims.

“I expected a train wreck,” said Charlie Proctor, editor of the Royal Central website, which covers the British monarchy. “That is a complete public relations disaster.”

Andrew said he had “no recollection” of ever meeting Giuffre, adding that there are “a number of things that are wrong” with her account. He also suggested that a picture showing him with his arm around the teenage Giuffre may have been faked.

There was no immediate comment from Giuffre’s representa
tive about the prince’s interview.

Giuffre had recently challenged the British royal to speak out, telling reporters in New York that he “knows exactly what he’s done.”

“The answer is nothing,” Andrew told the BBC.

The New York medical examiner ruled Epstein’s death a suicide last summer. He had been in prison awaiting trial on federal sex-trafficking charges, which he had denied.
Hong Kong police target protesters at university

BY KEN MORITSUGU  
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Police launched a late-night operation Sunday to try to flush out about 200 protesters out of a university campus on a day of clashes in which an officer was hit in the leg with an arrow and massive barrages of tear gas and water cannons were fired.

Riot police began moving in on one group of protesters outside the campus after issuing an ultimatum for people to leave area. They used tear gas and water cannons on a resistant crowd wearing raincoats and carrying umbrellas. 

Protesters used bows and arrows earlier in the day, and one arrow struck a media liaison officer in the calf. Photos on the department’s Facebook page show the arrow sticking out of the back of the officer’s leg through his pants.

As riot police moved in from all sides, some protesters retreated inside Hong Kong Polytechnic University while others set fires on bridges leading to it. A huge blaze burned along much of a long footbridge that connects a train station to the campus over the approach to the Cross-Harbour Tunnel, a major road under Hong Kong’s harbor that has been blocked by the protesters for days.

The use of bows and arrows, along with gasoline bombs launched with catapults, threatened to escalate the violence in the more than five-month-long anti-government movement. Protesters are trying to keep the pressure on Hong Kong leaders, who have rejected most of their demands.

The protests were sparked by proposed legislation that would have allowed the extradition of criminal suspects to the mainland. Activists saw it as an erosion of Hong Kong’s autonomy under the “one country, two systems” formula implemented in 1997, when Britain returned the territory to China.

The bill has been withdrawn, but the protests have expanded into a wider resistance movement against what is perceived as the growing control of Hong Kong by Communist China, along with calls for full democracy for the territory.

Several hundred people formed a human chain Sunday in central Hong Kong in a peaceful rally in support of the movement.

Police and protesters faced off all day outside Polytechnic, with a pitched battle the previous night in which the two sides exchanged tear gas and gasoline bombs that left fires blazing in the street. The protesters have barricaded the entrances to the campus and set up narrow access control points.

They are the holdouts from larger groups that occupied several major campuses for much of last week.

The Education Bureau announced that classes from kindergarten to high school would be suspended again Monday because of safety concerns. Classes have been canceled since Thursday after the bureau came under criticism for not doing so earlier.

Dubai Airshow kicks off as airlines slow down purchases

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The biennial Dubai Airshow opened Sunday as major Gulf airlines rein back big-ticket purchases after a staggering $140 billion in new orders were announced at the 2013 show before global oil prices collapsed.

The airshow, which runs until Thursday, draws major commercial and military firms from around the world, as well as smaller manufacturers competing for business in the Middle East. The United States has the largest foreign country presence, with over 100 companies represented.

The Chicago-based Boeing was likely to use the airshow to emphasize its dedication to safety after crashes of its 737 Max killed 346 people. The planes have been grounded around the world, affecting customers like flydubai which has more than a dozen of the jets in its fleet and more than 230 on order.

Boeing and Biman Bangladesh Airlines signed a deal for two 787-9s aircraft, which list at $292.5 million apiece. However, buyers often get better deals from manufacturers.

Havana celebrates 500th anniversary

Associated Press

HAVANA — Hundreds of people in Cuba’s capital stood in line to kiss, touch or walk around a towering silk floss tree Saturday in a nod to tradition as they celebrate Havana’s 500th anniversary this weekend.

The event comes as Cuba deals with an ailing economy and increasingly tense relations with the U.S., concerns that were briefly cast aside as residents prepared for a gala event Saturday night featuring fireworks, music and international dignitaries.

As part of the celebrations, officials restored monuments, painted buildings, unveiled exhibitions and held book presentations.

“Havana grows, lives, sings, dances and dreams,” said Felix Julio Alfonso, a professor who spoke before granting the public access to the revered silk floss tree.

Many in the crowd shared their wishes with the tree, including requests for health or financial well-being. Some left money while others wore white as dictated by Afro-Cuban Santeria, the island’s predominant religion.

Report on Russian meddling raises UK election questions

Associated Press

LONDON — Questions about the British government’s failure to release a report on Russia’s interference in the country’s politics continued to dog Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Sunday as critics said leaks from the document raised concerns about the security of next month’s election.

The report from Parliament’s intelligence committee concludes that Russian interference may have affected the 2016 referendum on Britain’s departure from the European Union, though the impact is “unquantifiable,” the Times of London reported without saying how it got the information.

The committee said British intelligence services failed to devote enough resources to counter the threat and highlighted the impact of articles posted by Russian news sites that were widely disseminated on social media, the newspaper reported.

Emily Thornberry, the opposition Labour Party’s foreign affairs spokeswoman, said the leaks raise questions that deserve answers.

“Boris Johnson therefore needs to clear up the confusion, spin and speculation around this (intelligence committee) report by publishing it in full at the earliest opportunity,” she told the Times. “If not, people will rightly continue to ask: What is he trying to hide from the British public and why?”

Johnson’s government has said it needs more time to review the security implications of the report, but it will be released after the election.

Critics have alleged the report is being withheld because it shows Russians have made large donations to the Conservative Party, which is seeking to win a majority that would allow Johnson to push his Brexit deal through Parliament.
Officers growing beards to benefit veterans

VT ST. JOHNSBURY — Officers in a Vermont police department are growing beards to benefit military veterans and their families.

The Caledonian Record reported that the St. Johnsbury Police Department is one of more than 120 across the country participating in the “Home Base No Shave Campaign” to increase mental health awareness and to raise funds to support veterans and military families.

Five of the 11 full-time St. Johnsbury officers will be letting their beards grow throughout November to raise money for veteran clinical and support programs and promote conversation about getting care. Participating officers have pledged $100 while growing beards, mustaches and goatees.

Doctor sentenced for fake breast implants

ID POCKETELLO — A judge has sentenced an Idaho doctor to seven months in prison for receipt and delivery of misbranded breast implants given to patients.

Prosecutors announced Thursday that Temp Ray Patterson, 55, was also sentenced to one year of supervised release after his prison sentence.

U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winnemore ordered jailed pending a Nov. 22 court date.

Last survivor of the Hindenburg fire dies

NH LACONIA — The last remaining survivor of the Hindenburg disaster has died. Werner Gustav Doehner was 90.

His son said a church service was held Friday for Doehner, who died on Nov. 8 at a hospital in Laconia.

Doehner was the only person left of the 62 passengers and crew who survived the May 6, 1937, fire that killed his father, sister and 34 others. As the 80th anniversary approached in 2017, Doehner told The Associated Press he and his family were returning from a vacation in Germany on the 804-foot-long Hindenburg.

The weight in pounds of a blue catfish caught recently by a 9-year-old boy who was fishing in the Elephant Butte Reservoir in New Mexico. Kris Flores told KIVA-TV that his son, Alex, made the catch on Nov. 10 and shattered his dad’s record. Flores named Alex the fish Whale Lord. He released it back into the reservoir after taking some photos and videos.

2 men arrested in robbery, shootouts

AZ TUCSON — Two men were in custody following an armed robbery, a carjacking and two shootouts with police in the Tucson area.

Pima County Sheriff Mark Napier said the incident began with a robbery call at a dollar store Friday. Responding officers arrested one man while another fled.

Four minutes later, authorities say a deputy found the suspect’s vehicle and exchanged gunfire. The man drove off and later crashed, again exchanging gunfire with two deputies. He ran and carjacked a pickup truck towing a trailer.

The man drove off and later crashed, again exchanging gunfire with two deputies. He ran and carjacked a pickup truck towing a trailer.

Ex-police clerk gets 6 years for secret videos

NY CORAM — Federal authorities said a Long Island man with a history of violence toward sex workers twice attempted to kidnap women, but each escaped by jumping from his moving vehicle.

Andrew Frey, 54, pleaded not guilty Friday to charges of attempted kidnapping and attempted trafficking by force. The married father of two was ordered jailed pending a Nov. 22 court date.

Prosecutors said they found rope, zip ties and knot-tying manuals at his Coram home and that he kept handcuffs in his car.

Prosecutors said Frey tried to abduct one woman in October 2018, approached her again after she escaped and targeted a second woman in July.

Another sex worker obtained a restraining order after Frey allegedly rammed her vehicle with his.

Man accused of using car as battering ram

WI LA CROSSE — Prosecutors have accused a Minnesota man of using a Porsche as a battering ram to get his Nissan Altima out of an Onalaska impound lot.

The La Crosse Tribune reported that Benjamin Gjere, of Lanesboro, was charged Thursday with operating a motor vehicle without the owner’s consent, property damage, threat and jumping bail.

According to investigators, Gjere’s 2019 Altima was impounded Nov. 6 after he was pulled over.

Surveillance video shows Gjere and an unidentified accomplice on the lot Sunday. An unlocked 2012 Porsche with the keys inside was parked behind the Altima.

The video shows the Porsche crashing through the lot’s fence and a fence of a nearby house and the Altima being driven through the holes in the fences.

Gjere was pulled over in Winona County about an hour later.

4 allegedly planned to bring knives to school

CT GROTON — Four Connecticut high school students are facing breach of peace charges after allegedly planning to bring knives to school.

Police said the male students from Fitch High School in Groton planned to bring the knives to school Friday. Authorities received complaints from students and parents about 10:30 p.m. Thursday and immediately investigated.

The students allegedly threatened violence against one another on social media, though the threats were not directed against the school or the general student population.

From wire reports
Success forcing ‘This Is Us’ actor Sterling K. Brown to be choosy

BY ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

With a hit TV series, awards, plus film and TV opportunities, Sterling K. Brown admits he’s experienced “a lot of pinch-me moments” in recent years. But, with all those possibilities and offers, the 43-year-old has also learned a very important lesson — how to say no.

“No has become my best friend,” said Brown without hesitation during an interview in a New York hotel suite. He says it’s not an ungrateful no, but a “no, with integrity” and shares an example.

“Honestly, I appreciate your consideration of me to be a part of this project, but at this particular time, this is what’s on my plate and I have to say no.”

But when he says yes, the “This Is Us” star picks some pretty powerful projects. Besides his Emmy-winning role on the NBC drama that regularly elicits tears from its viewers, Brown has three roles coming out this season that will likely amplify his rapidly rising star in Hollywood.

The first came out over the weekend in “Waves,” in which he plays a demanding father who pushes his son to reach perfection — until the teen reaches his breaking point.

“He’s a dad that I know,” said Brown, who has two sons, ages 4 and 8, with his wife, actress Ryan Michelle Bathe.

“There’s a point in the film when Brown’s character, Ronald, laments to his son that the expectations put upon him are great because he’s a young black man. Brown says that’s something his mother imparted — ‘you’ve got to be twice as good to get far,’” he recalls her saying — and he’s even begun to broach it with his oldest son.

“I feel like it’s conscious and unconscious,” said the actor.

“You try to give them the mentality to know that it’s not the same walk. Your young, white counterparts can make certain sorts of mistakes and they’ll be called boys being boys. But when a young, black boy does the exact same thing, the repercussions, the ramifications are just different. I don’t think that’s a bad lesson.”

While “Waves” grapples with weighty subjects and has garnered some early Oscar buzz, his other film project of the fall is a more joyful experience, and a sure blockbuster. He stars in “Frozen 2” in a supporting role as a figure from Elsa and Anna’s past.

While he’s glad to be in something his children can enjoy, there’s a self-serving reason he took the job. He’s a self-professed “Disney fiend.”

“I would go to see animated films all the time opening weekend before I had children,” he said. “The ‘Toy Story’ trilogy is my joint. ... I remember going to see ‘Kung Fu Panda’... and weeping like a baby.”

He particularly enjoyed getting to peek behind the curtain into how animated films get made.

“They’re so detail-oriented because different faces make different sounds. The way that I smile they’re like, ‘You have a really big smile,’ so they tried to incorporate that into the character. I watched it and I can see it.”

And in December, we’ll see Brown jump into the fast-talking, colorful world of Amazon’s Emmy-winning “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel.” It’s a role that he says executive producers Amy Sherman-Palladino and Dan Palladino wrote with him in mind.

“It’s a whole other playground. The Palladinos’ playground,” Brown said. “They write eight-page lines and as soon as you mess up you go back to the top and you do it again. It’s like doing theater, which I appreciate because I come from NYU (New York University) and I’ve got a theater background.”

“Maisel” and “Frozen 2” not only benefit from Brown’s considerable acting prowess and star power but also gain diversity. Helping increase quality opportunities for actors of color is a key priority for Brown, and led him to create his own production company, Indian Meadows, named after his hometown neighborhood in St. Louis. On the docket: a film co-starring Kerry Washington that they each will help produce.

Brown hopes to produce smart, sophisticated work that he says he often didn’t see when he was just entering the business.

“I think when I came out of school, the UPN and the WB hadn’t merged into The CW yet. There were a lot of shows that were ... simple is not the world but, I don’t know, you could do laundry while you watched it. You didn’t have to really pay attention to what was transpiring in terms of the story that was being told,” he said.

“In my career I played one side of the law or the other. I was a cop or I was a bad guy. I would turn on the TV and I’d see the ultra-rich or the ultra-poor,” he added. “Do I see the middle where I think most of the people that I know actually exist? I’m just trying to make television and film that reflects.”

After those early years playing one-dimensional roles like the cop or the bad guy, Brown is glad to be in a groove where showing his range is just a typical day at the office.

“You’re constantly trying to broaden people’s minds,” he said. “I want to do it all and be like Tom Hanks, man.”

Creator of Lizzo slogan could get Grammy nod

Associated Press

Mina Lioness’ longstanding battle to finally receive writing credit on Lizzo’s megahit song “Truth Hurts” is paying off in more ways than one: it could win her a potential Grammy Award.

Lizzo’s breakthrough tune featuring the line “I just took a DNA test, turns out I’m 100% that bitch” — a lyric that originated from a 2017 tweet by Lioness and was turned into a popular meme. And now Lioness, a singer based in London who Lizzo agreed to give writing credit to, has a chance at earning her first Grammy nomination if “Truth Hurts” scores a nomination for song of the year — a category reserved for the writers of a song.

“I haven’t really been able to kind of just sit and ponder what the ramifications is of this happening. I mean, it’s just surreal to me,” Lioness said. “It’s just another one of those moments when you’re like, ‘Wow.’

The Recording Academy will announce its nominees Nov. 20. When Grammy submissions were due earlier this year, Lioness had not been a listed writer of “Truth Hurts,” but Atlantic Records, Lizzo’s label home, told the AP they are in the process of submitting Lioness’ name as a co-writer of “Truth Hurts” to the Grammys.

“Truth Hurts,” which topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart for seven weeks, is a likely contender in categories like song of the year, in which Lioness would share the nomination with co-writers Lizzo, Ricky Reed, Sounwave and Jess Stoll.

The song could also land a nomination for record of the year, a category that awards the song’s performers, producers and engineers/mixers, or best pop solo performance, an award that would only be given to Lizzo.

Rosalia win top honor at Latin Grammys

Spanish singer Rosalia, the breakthrough performer known for blending flamenco music with sounds like reggaeton and Latin trap, won album of the year at the 2019 Latin Grammys, becoming the first solo female performer to win the top honor since Shakira’s triumph 13 years ago.

Rosalia won five awards Nov. 14, tying top nominee Alejandro Sanz and besting the veteran singer-songwriter in categories like album of the year and best contemporary pop vocal album with her project, “El Mal Querer.”

Shakira’s “Fijacion Oral Vol. 1” won album of the year at the Latin Grammys in 2006.
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Demographics could doom Eastern Europe

BY CHARLES LANE
The Washington Post

Thirty years ago, the Berlin Wall fell, signaling that the end was near for communism in Eastern Europe. The epoch now is endless and the second one death no one whether the end might be near for Eastern Europe, demographically.

This is a Nicholson Baker moment — but not a to-tally unfounded one. Of the 20 most rapidly shrinking countries in the world, 15 are erstwhile Warsaw Pact members, ex-Soviet republics and satellites of Haidungia, plus neighboring Albania.

If East Germany were still a politically separate entity, it would also be on the list, which is headed by Bulgaria. That Slavic nation’s population is on track to decline 25%, from 7.2 million to 5.2 million by 2050, according to United Nations projections.

As you may also have noticed, Eastern Europe, including eastern Germany, is a hotbed for a “socialist” — and ethnic separatist — Viktor Orban reigns in Hungary (current population 9.8 million, with an annual growth rate of -0.25%), while in the eastern German state of Thuringia, whose population of 2.1 million represents roughly a 20% decline since the end of Communism, the Free Democratic parties captured a combined 54% of the vote in elections on Oct. 27.

The movement of extremist politics and population decline is not coincidental — and it has powerful implications both for Europe’s political future and that of the United States.

Eastern Europe’s looming demographic crisis stems directly from its escaping the Soviet orbit in 1990. Freedom of personal travel, coupled with membership in the borderless European Union, enabled millions of working-age people to leave the former East and work in the most prosper-

Yemen gets a rare, much-needed shot at peace

By Bobby Ghosh

Yemen is a graveyard of optimism. In five years of war, a cessation of hostilities — even if temporary — seemed possible several times.

There was hope for a peace treaty after two cease-fires and peace talks in Kuwait in 2016, and talks in Stockholm at the end of 2018.

Each time, the hopes raised were just as quickly snuffed out, interfered along with the political and financial interests of figures in Saudi Arabia, the Houthis, and the Houthis rebels. But a flurry of other developments in the past two weeks allow for a resurgence.

First, a quick reminder of how we got here. In 2014, the Houthis, a Shiite sect from northern Yemen backed by Iran, took Sanaa in the government of Mohamed Hadi, the former president of the former republic.

Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi. A Saudi-led Arab coalition joined the fighting on Hadi’s side, with billions in arms, military and logistical sup-

port from the U.S. The Houthis advanced all the way south to Aden, where they encountered stiff resistance from a combina-

tion of Hadi’s forces, southern militias and the Arab coalition.

But earlier this past summer, that coali-
tion, especially the United Arab Emirates, now receiving more support from Tehran, was tiring of the endless war. The Houthis, having now revealed more support from Tehran, were launching missile, rocket and drone attacks on the Saudi capital.

Now for the fresh signs of hope. In late September, the Houthis announced they were suspending attacks on Saudi territory. Shortly afterward, the Saudis announced a limited cease-fire in some parts of Houthi-controlled Yemen, including Sanaa. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman told CBS’ “60 Minutes” that he was open to “all ini-
tiatives for a political solution in Yemen.”

Houthi leaders echoed the sentiment. There was hope for a deal that would bring the Houthis to the table in the south, and sponsored a peace deal between Hadi and the southern separatists. This allowed the UAE to pull some troops out of Aden.

The Emirates also declared that the Houthis were “a part of Yemeni society and they will have a role in its future.” There had been growing Western and Iranian interest in the war, which was a key voice missing: Iran’s. The Islamic Republic has been somewhat distracted in recent weeks by mass protests in Lebanon and Iraq over the rise of Iranian proxies — Hezbollah and Shiite militias — in national affairs. Iran also finds itself sidelined from the conversation in Syria, where Russia and Turkey seem to be calling the shots.

Meanwhile, elements of the Arab coali-
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Bloomberg Opinion

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US exports to China ravaged amid trade war

By Anita Sharpe

The Trump administration’s trade war is ravaging exports to China across the U.S. and well beyond the farm belt, new data from the U.S. Commerce Department shows.

More than 30 states stretching from Florida to Alaska suffered double-digit drops in merchandise exports to China through September of this year. Sales to the Asian nation fell 39% in Texas, where oil and gas products comprise the largest export to that country.

In Alabama, which touts its status as the No. 3 auto-exporting state in the U.S., total shipments to China plunged 49% in the first nine months. Florida's merchandise sales to the country slumped 40% in the period, while West Virginia and Wisconsin each saw drops of about 25%. Product exports to China from the U.S. as a whole dropped 15% to $78.8 billion.

“Chinese demand for imports overall has been weak,” said Brad Setser, senior fellow for international economics at the Council on Foreign Relations. The recovery time for various U.S. products will depend on the nature of the trade deal, he said.

“In some cases, U.S. exports with little exposure,” he added.

Washington state, home of Boeing’s industrial base, saw total Chinese merchandise exports fall 45% from the third quarter amid the grounding of the 737 Max, the company’s best-selling jet.

China has struck back in the trade war by imposing duties on about $135 billion of U.S. goods, targeting everything from farming products like soybeans and pork to motorcycles, cosmetics and wigs. With talks underway for a phase-one deal, Beijing has re-upped its demands for the removal of tariffs the U.S. has put on $360 billion of Chinese imports.

Meanwhile, a new report says China’s retaliatory tariffs on U.S. goods likely cost the GOP five House seats in the midterm 2018 election, said Emily Blanchard, an economics professor at Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business and an author of the study.

That’s not happening yet, said Ahmad Ijaz, an economist at the University of Alabama’s Center for Business and Economic Research.

“The trade war, coupled with cuts to health care, “appear to have hurt Republican candidates where swing voters matter most,” said the analysis released this month by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

If tariffs remain and companies reduce jobs or wage growth slows due to declining exports, “there’s room for stronger effects on workers and on how they vote” in the 2020 elections, said Emily Blanchard, an economics professor at Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business and an author of the study.

Although exports to China have fallen sharply in 2019, it hasn’t had any significant impact on payrolls so far,” he said, adding that vehicle manufacturers are hiring workers and some lost sales to China are being offset by gains in other places, particularly Europe.

Exports to China support more than a million U.S. jobs, according to the U.S.-China Business Council, which represents American companies doing business in China.

Amid the Chinese export carnage are a few bright spots. Buyers are still snapping up semiconductors made in Oregon, primarily by Intel Corp., which produces one of its biggest manufacturing plants in the state.

Oregon’s total exports to China surged 65% in the nine months, according to the data.

Only about a third of the state’s products are affected by the proposed tariffs, according to Business Oregon spokesman Nathan Buehler, who said semiconductors for the most part are exempt.

Similarly, South Carolina’s sales to China jumped 30% through September, partly on airplane exports. Some Boeing Co.’s Dreamliner planes are made in the state, and about 17% of those aircraft to date have been sold to China. The Chinese were set to buy 100 more Boeing wide-body jets, including the 787 and 777X, but the deal has stalled on trade uncertainties.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>Exchange Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia (Ringgit)</td>
<td>$0.2640</td>
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<tr>
<td>China (Yuan)</td>
<td>$0.1465</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea (Won)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan (Yen)</td>
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<td>France (Euro)</td>
<td>$0.0147</td>
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Interest rates

<table>
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<th>Rate Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prime rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discount rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds market rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-month bill</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-year bond</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WEATHER OUTLOOK

TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.
1. Mouth part
2. Gather
3. Beer barrel
4. Monk’s title
5. Washington
6. Sound
7. Swelled head
8. Serena, to Venus
9. A Bobbsey twin
10. Plopped down
11. Mortar partner
12. 2010 NBA champs
13. Tools with teeth
14. Botanist Gray
15. Evergreen type
16. Actress Holmes
17. Body powder
18. UFO fliers
19. “I did it!”
20. Asparagus unit
21. Farm pen
22. Hanoi holiday
23. Persian
24. Bigwig
25. Dido’s lover
26. “Debt of Honor” author
27. Mother’s Day month
28. Texter’s chuckle
29. Tally a team’s points
30. — carte
31. Vacant, as a flat
32. Rug cleaner, briefly
33. Rate
34. Rice field
35. Past
36. With curly-leaved greens
37. Scale amts.
38. Notion
39. Vittles
40. “Let It Snow” lyricist
41. Bankroll
42. Apothecary’s place
43. Not-to-be-missed
44. Sales rep.
45. “Laughing” animal
46. Big Apple, briefly
47. Days of yore
48. Eggs
49. Cleaning cloth
50. Author Umberto
51. Served with 19, briefly
52. Served with 58, briefly
53. “The Big Apple, briefly”
54. “Days of yore, briefly”
55. “Eggs, briefly”
56. “Cleaning cloth, briefly”
57. Answer to previous puzzle

ACROSS
1. Mouth part
2. Gather
3. Beer barrel
4. Monk’s title
5. Washington
6. Sound
7. Swelled head
8. Serena, to Venus
9. A Bobbsey twin
10. Plopped down
11. Mortar partner
12. 2010 NBA champs
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55. “Eggs, briefly”
56. “Cleaning cloth, briefly”
57. Answer to previous puzzle

DOWN
1. NYC airport
2. Onassis
3. Bankroll
4. Beekeeper’s place
5. Not-to-be-missed
7. “Laughing” animal
8. Joy sans togs
9. Ohio university
10. Alike (Fr.)
11. Vanished
12. Compass dir.
13. Smack a baseball
14. Back muscles, for short
15. Now, in a memo
16. Served with 19, briefly
17. Served with 58, briefly
18. “Days of yore, briefly”
19. “Eggs, briefly”
20. “Cleaning cloth, briefly”

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
H I P F E A R A E R O
I D E E L L E P L A N
G E O S T U B N E V E
H A N D S O M E D E V I L
R E N C I A
B O G U S I C E B H M M
A N A G M B A M E A D
D O G G L U M W A R P S
H E F F I R
A N G E L F O O D C A K E
R O L L I N G L Q L
A M O S E S T H E N O
B E B E R B E S T C A N

CRYPTOQUIP
LSZZ-NJILJ ETJ CIJP XIRSAMJP
KFS KIQMX IE HSZOJMO,
MROJNO OJY KMEEOJV: “KFS
ZOYV MC O KATHQ.”
Saturday’s Cryptquip: WEST AFRICAN
REPUBLIC IN WHICH EVERYBODY LOVES ONE
PARTICULAR COMPOSER OF OPERAS: CAPE
VERDI.

Today’s Cryptquip Clue: K equals T
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College basketball

AP Top 25 Fared

2. Arizona (3-0) did not play. Next: vs. UAA, Tuesday.
3. Texas Tech (3-0) did not play. Next: vs. USC, Saturday.
4. Baylor (3-0) did not play. Next: vs. UConn, Sunday.

AP Poll (as of Feb. 7, 2020)

1. Kentucky, 49-2
2. Arizona, 48-1
3. Texas Tech, 47-2
4. Baylor, 46-2
5. Kansas, 45-3

Auto racing

Ford EcoBoost 200

NASCAR Xfinity

Saturday

At Homestead-Miami Speedway

Homestead, Fla.

(Start position in parentheses)

1. T. Kaulig (18)
2. (2) Cole Custer, Ford, 200.
5. (7) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 200.
8. (4) Brandon Jones, Toyota, 200.
9. (19) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 199.
10. (16) Harrison Burton, Toyota, 199.

Driver standings

1. (2) Cole Custer, $10,000 for the season to over $10 million.
2. (18) Alexei Mercante, $10,000 for the season to over $10 million.
3. (7) Christopher Bell, $10,000 for the season to over $10 million.

Golf

Mayakoba Golf Classic

Saturday

At El Camaleon Golf Club

Punta de Mita, Mexico

Purse: $2.3 million

2020 Mayakoba Golf Classic: Second Round

Harrris English 64-69=-133
T 64-68=-132
Brendon Todd 64-72=-136
Bob Estes 66-67=-133
Aaron Wise 64-71=-135
Adam Long 66-67=-133
Steven Bowditch 66-67=-133
J.J. Spaun 66-67=-133
Alvaro Ortiz 66-67=-133
David Toms 67-67=-134
Pat Perez 64-69=-133
Zach Johnson 65-68=-133
Cuartero 66-67=-133
Bo Hoag 65-69=-134
Darrin Bradshaw 68-66=-134
Robert Streb 67-66=-133
Patrick Cantlay 68-66=-134
Scott Piercy 66-68=-134
Marcus Kinhult 67-67=-134
Jordan Smith 67-67=-134
Oscar Mellet 69-65=-134
Ben Martin 69-65=-134
Patrick Cantlay 69-65=-134
Trey Mullinax 68-66=-134
Jordan Smith 68-66=-134

Maggie Hall

Cal State Fullerton Stiffs Saint Louis

Colorado 72, San Diego 63

Southern Utah 75, Oral Roberts 67

Arkansas-Pine Bluff 85, Central Arkansas 74

Stetson 75, South Alabama 66

Morehead St. 76, Md.-Eastern Shore 65

South Alabama 74, West Alabama 67

Miami 80, Quinnipiac 52

Memphis 102, Alcorn St. 56

Liberty 77, East Carolina 57

Providence 68, St. Peter’s 47

NJIT 88, Wagner 69

Maryland 80, Oakland 50

Hartford 86, Gordon College 79

Delaware 81, Lafayette 73

Canisius 83, Bucknell 81

Robert Morris 4, Bentley 2

MIDWEST

Nov. 18

Saturday

with 554 for the Rams in 1951.

Norm Van Brocklin holds the record for the season to over $10 million.

six touchdown passes, completes a

margin of victory for the season to over $10 million.

LAPTOPS

in the season to over $10 million.

AP Poll (as of Feb. 7, 2020)

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2. Arizona, 48-1
3. Texas Tech, 47-2
4. Baylor, 46-2
5. Kansas, 45-3

1974

Colorado (2-0) beat San Diego 71-24. Baylor (2-1) did not play. Next: vs.

Nicholls 75-65. Next: vs. LSU (2-1) beat Nicholls 75-65. Next: vs. LSU (2-1) beat Nicholls 75-65.

Next: vs. Oregon (3-0) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon (3-0) did not play. Next: vs.

Texas Tech (3-0) did not play. Next: vs.

Virginia (3-0) beat Columbia 69-42. Next: vs. Virginia (3-0) beat Columbia 69-42.

Kansas City Chiefs.

touchdowns in a 42-34 loss against the


Middle Tennessee, Thursday.

Next: vs. UT-Martin, Thursday.

Next: vs. UAA, Tuesday.

Next: vs. USC, Saturday.

Next: vs. UConn, Sunday.

Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.

Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.

Next: vs. UT-Martin, Thursday.

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Next: vs. UConn, Sunday.

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Next: vs. UAA, Tuesday.

Next: vs. UConn, Sunday.

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Harden scores 49, leads Rockets’ rout over Timberwolves

**Associated Press**

MINNEAPOLIS — James Harden scored 49 points on a career-high 41 shots from the field and the undermanned Houston Rockets won their seventh straight game, 125-105 over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Saturday night.

With Russell Westbrook resting, the Rockets needed Harden to shoulder an even bigger scoring load than usual. The 41 attempts are the most in his career, and the most in the NBA this season, surpassing the 37 Golden State’s D’Angelo Russell took in an over-time overtime win in the same building in Minnesota.

Harden made 16 of the 41 shots, going 6-for-14 from three-point range. He was 9-for-11 on free throws.

Ben McLemore scored 20 points. Undrafted rookie Chris Clemmons scored a career-high 19 for the Rockets, who broke open the game with a 9-0 run in the third quarter and coasted to a victory against Minnesota.

**Roundup**

Houston Rockets guard James Harden flexes after scoring a point against the Minnesota Timberwolves. He had 49 points in a 125-105 win Saturday in Minneapolis.

**Clippers 150, Hawks 101**

Clippers guard Devonte’ Graham made his ninth point after Friday night’s game.

Raptors 102, Hawks 83

Bucks 102, Pacers 83

Heat 109, Pelicans 94

**Nets 117, Bulls 111**

**Hawks 110, Celtics 105**

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## NHL

### Scoreboard

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<th>Team</th>
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**Playoffs**

- **Stanley Cup Playoffs**
  - Eastern Conference: New Jersey 1-0-0-0 (32 pts) vs. Carolina 0-1-0-0 (28 pts)
  - Western Conference: San Jose 1-0-0-0 (32 pts) vs. Los Angeles 0-1-0-0 (28 pts)

### Roundup

**Coyotes’ Kuemper puts flares out**

**Associated Press**

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Darcy Kuemper stopped 37 shots and added an assist to help the Arizona Coyotes earn their longest win streak of the season with a 5-3 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks in an NHL matinee.

After Calgary’s Johnny Gaudreau cross-checked Arizona’s Johann Danilak in the second period, when Kuemper was down on the ice, Kuemper put the Flames’ Matthew Tkachuk in a headlock and flipped him off his feet. Tkachuk came up swinging and landed a few blows on Kuemper before the NHL officials jumped in and included Calgary goaltender David Rittich barreling in from the other side of the rink.

The crowd chanted Kuemper’s name as he returned to the net. Three Flames and two Coyotes combined for 14 penalty minutes. Vinnie Hinostroza scored Kuemper’s four-minute roughing penalty, and Rasmus Andersson sat for two minutes on the rink’s penalty box.

Kuemper made 30 saves for the Coyotes, which have won six straight and earned 14 points in their last 10 games.

**Hurricanes 4, Wild 3 (OT):**

Andrei Svechnikov’s goal 1:33 into overtime lifted Carolina to a victory over Minnesota. Joel Edmmondson, Brock McGinn and Warren Foecke also scored for the Hurricanes.

**Penguins 6, Maple Leafs 1:**

Dominik Kahun scored two goals and host Pittsburgh routed Toronto. Kuemper matched a career-high with three goals. Bryan Rust also had a three-point game, with a short-handed goal and two assists.

**Islanders 4, Flames 0:**

Anthony Beauvillier and Mathew Barzal each scored twice for New York’s three-goal, third-period rally, and the Islanders won at Philadelphia in a shootout.

**Capitals 3, Bruins 2 (OT):**

T.J. Oshie tied it with 59 seconds left in regulation and Jakub Vrana scored the decisive goal in the shootout as Washington won at Boston.

**Penguins 3, Flyers 3:**

Evgeni Dadonov scored twice to lead host Florida over New York.

**Sabres 4, Senators 2:**

Jack Eichel scored four goals to lead Buffalo over Ottawa.

**Devils 4, Canadiens 3 (OT):**

Kyle Palmieri scored a power play goal 3:10 into overtime to complete New York’s three-goal, third-period rally, and the Islanders won at Philadelphia in a shootout.

**Blackhawks 7, Predators 2:**

Patrick Kane had a goal and an assist, and Chicago won a 2-0-0-0 (10 pts) season opener against Nashville.

**Jets 4, Lightning 3**

Winnipeg won its fifth straight game and became the second NHL team to reach the 20-win mark.

**Hurricanes 4, Wild 3 (OT):**

The 29-year-old Stambos is the ninth active player and 98th overall to make 500 career games and host Los Angeles beat Vegas.

Drew Dougherty had a goal and an assist for the Kings, who are on their longest win streak of the season.

Nikola Prokhorov scored his first career goal, and Jonathan Quick made 28 saves.

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Late audible: Kaepernick moves workout to school

By PAUL NEWBERRY  Associated Press

RIVERDALE, Ga. — Colin Kaepernick's saga took another surreal turn Saturday — a last-minute audible to mix an NFL-arranged workout and a quick dash 60 miles to the other side of metro Atlanta, where the exiled quarterback staged his own impromptu passing display on a high school field in dwindling light as hundreds of fans cheered him on from behind a chain-link fence.

Kaepernick threw passes for about 40 minutes at Charles Drew High School and spent nearly that long signing autographs for a crowd that steadily grew as word spread that a quarterback who led the San Francisco 49ers to the Super Bowl and grew as word spread that a quarterback who led the San Francisco 49ers to the Super Bowl and

...
Hammond leads Air Force rally past Colorado State

Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — Ger- raud Sanders transformed a short catch into a turning point.

Donald Hammond III ran for a touchdown and threw for three more, including a go-ahead 50- yard catch-and-run to Sanders in the fourth quarter as Air Force shook off an early two-touchdown deficit to beat Colorado State 38-21 on Saturday night.

“(Hammond) found me and I saw the hole open up downfield,” Sanders said. “I wanted to take the lead back for our team and spark some energy and that’s what happened.”

Sanders came open on a short crossing route and Hammond hit him in stride, allowing the receiver to break up field along the left sideline and then cut back all the way across the field, outrunning his pursuers to the goal line. The score was part of a string of 24 straight points for the Falcons (4-6, 3-3) within three points. But the Falcons responded by grabbing out another scoring drive that Hammond capped with a 1-yard run with 2:32 left to play.

Colorado State mounted another drive that reached the Air Force 1, but cornerback Zane Lewis stepped in front of O’Brien’s goal-line pass and returned the interception 99 yards for a touchdown to seal the Falcons’ fourth win in a row against the Rams. It capped a superb defensive effort by Air Force that also included eight sacks.

“They pressured me pretty well,” O’Brien said. “They were stunting and they were adding linemen late in the pass rush. I couldn’t avoid the pressure.”

Jake Koehnke kicked a 31-yard field goal in the final minute of the second quarter, pulling the Falcons to within 14-10 at the half after Colorado State struck for two first-quarter touchdowns. Defensive lineman Jake Ksiazek helped set up the score when he recovered a fumble by O’Brien at the Rams 34.

Army 47, VMI 6: Three times on short runs and classmate Kell Walker added a touchdown on a 59-yard scamper off a pretty pitch to the outside from Hopkins midway through the third quarter as Army (5-6) won its second straight after snapping a four-game losing streak.

“Overall, a good day,” said Army coach Jeff Monken, who notched his 40th win at the academy to tie Tom Cahill for fourth all-time at West Point. “We’re excited. Just proud of the effort of everybody.”

“It’s a good win,” said senior Connor Slobom scored three times on short runs and classmate P.J. Walker added a touchdown on a 59-yard scamper off a pretty pitch to the outside from Hopkins midway through the third quarter as Army (5-6) won its second straight after snapping a four-game losing streak.

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Notre Dame wide receiver Chase Claypool, left, makes a touchdown reception against Navy cornerback Cameron Kinley on Saturday.
Georgia holds off Auburn

No. 5 Bulldogs clinch SEC Eastern Division title with win over No. 13 Tigers

By JOHN ZENOR
Associated Press

AUBURN, Ala. — Georgia’s defense entered the fourth quarter with one of the league’s top defenses. It was clear that the Bulldogs had prepared well in the lead-up to Saturday’s game against Alabama.

“Our kids were very resilient to come into this place and lose momentum — obviously lost momentum — and be able to go back out and get it,” coach Kirby Smart said. “I thought they showed some fortitude and ability to handle some tough, adverse things.”

The Bulldogs (9-1, 6-1 SEC), No. 4 in the CFP, rallied from three with 21-0 lead before Alabama (7-3, 4-3) rolled in the fourth quarter.

Georgia held on to become the first team to win three consecutive SEC East titles since Florida won five in a row from 1992-96.

Fromm and DeAndre Swift produced enough to keep the Bulldogs on track for a shot at the College Football Playoffs. Most of Georgia’s fans, though, were already celebrating a game featured by two of the league’s top defenses.

Auburn scored two touchdowns in the fourth, then had a pair of drives stopped on fourth down in the final minutes. Freshman Ben Cox threw three interceptions and was sacked on the Tigers’ final drive starting from their 27.

Saturday’s scores

7

Wingate 64, Mars Hill 34

West Florida 48, West Alabama 37

Washington & Lee 34, Shenandoah 31

UAB 37, UTEP 10

Trinity (Texas) 52, Rhodes 7

Southern U. 40, Jackson St. 34

Randolph-Macon 45, Hampden-Sydney 0

Monmouth (NJ) 47, Campbell 10

Louisville 34, NC State 20

Lenoir-Rhyne 49, Catawba 3

Lamar 40, MVSU 0

Florida St. 49, Alabama St. 12

ETSU 38, Mercer 33

Michigan 44, Michigan St. 10

Martin Luther 53, Crown (Minn.) 20

Lindenwood (Mo.) 42, SW Baptist 10

Indianapolis 70, Lake Erie 6

Illinois St. 17, Missouri St. 12

Hope 42, Adrian 7

Gustavus 49, St. Olaf 7

Florida 23, Missouri 6

Dubuque 42, Nebraska Wesleyan 7

Defiance 10, Bluffton 7

Dayton 46, Drake 29

Culver-Stockton 17, William Penn 10

Butler 24, Valparaiso 21

Benedictine (Ill.) 44, Concordia (Ill.) 0

Alma 46, Finlandia 0

BYU 42, Idaho St. 10

Texas A&M 30, South Carolina 6

TCU 33, Texas Tech 31

SE Louisiana 35, Abilene Christian 14

Memphis 45, Houston 27

Fort Hays St. 91, Northeastern St. 7

Cent. Arkansas 30, Stephen F. Austin 7

BY John ZenoR

SOUTHWEST

ARKANSAS

Arkansas 28, Coastal Carolina 27

Ventura, Ark. (AP) — Arkansas beat Coastal Carolina 28-27 on Saturday, clinching a spot in the SEC East Division and setting up a showdown with Georgia for the conference title.

In 33 games with Alabama, Tagovailoa has thrown 87 touchdown passes and 11 interceptions.

Some might question why Georgia’s defense was so much better than Alabama’s, a little less than a month after suffering a high ankle sprain, was playing. At that point in the game? Against that team Alabama could have walked away with.

Saban’s comment sums it up: “If the player can play (clearly) and wants to play (with the blessing of his family), he can play. It’s a dangerous game. Tagovailoa’s injury is awful for Alabama, college football and his family.”

Georgia wide receiver Demetris Robertson, right, is knocked out of bounds by Auburn defensive back Christian Tutt during the second half of Saturday’s game in Auburn, Ala. The Bulldogs won 21-14.

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Georgia quarterback Tua Tagovailoa is carted off the field after being injured in the first half of Saturday’s game against Mississippi State.

Blame: Sad end to season for Tagovailoa

will produce a better outcome for Tagovailoa.

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Georgia wide receiver Demetris Robertson, right, is knocked out of bounds by Auburn defensive back Christian Tutt during the second half of Saturday’s game in Auburn, Ala. The Bulldogs won 21-14.
Saturday’s stars

- Anthony Gordon, Washington, State, threw for 520 yards and five touchdowns as the Cougars beat Stanford 49-22.
- Jonathan Taylor, Wisconsin, ran for 204 yards and two touchdowns in the No. 15 Badgers’ 37-21 win over Nebraska.
- Joe Burrow, LSU, threw for 499 yards and five touchdowns and had five fumbles.
- Tua Tagovailoa, Miami, scored on four of his first five possessions jump out to a 28-0 lead over the Rebels.

Next: vs. No. 9 Penn State, Saturday.

How the AP Top 25 fared

- LSU (10-0) beat Mississippi 58-37. Joe Burrow, LSU, threw for 520 yards and five touchdowns and LSU built a big lead and held off Mississippi. The Tigers’ 58-0 shocker scored on four of their first five possessions.

Next: vs. No. 9 Penn State, Saturday.

- Oregon (9-1) beat Arizona 34-6. Justin Herbert threw for 333 yards and four touchdowns and Oregon won its ninth straight game and secured a share of the Pac-12 title.

Next: vs. Arizona, Saturday.

- Minnesota (10-0) lost to No. 23 Iowa 23-19. Minnesota got 23-19 with 3:37 to play when Rodney Smith scored on a 1-yard dive. The Gophers had a final chance, b. But quarterback Tanner Morgan was sacked by Joe Evans and A.J. Epenesa on back-to-back plays, then backup Cole Krammer’s pass was intercepted by Riley Moss on fourth down.

Next: at Northwestern, Saturday.

- Utah (9-1) beat UCLA 49-3. Zack Moss ran for 127 yards and two touchdowns and added 65 receiving yards to help the Utes rout UCLA. Tyler Huntley threw for a season-high 335 yards and two touchdowns on 14-17 passing. Brant Kuithe had a career-high 132 yards and a touchdown on five carries.

Next: at Arizona, Saturday.

- North Carolina (8-1) beat Boston College 56-10. Sam Howell completed 30 of 50 passes for 245 yards and added three catches for 66 yards and a score in a 47-10 win over Campbell.

Next: vs. No. 10 Sooners, Saturday.

- Auburn (7-3) lost to No. 5 Georgia 21-14. The Tigers fell 1-3 in games against teams currently ranked in the Top 11, but all of the games have been competitive. Freshman quarterback Bo Nix completed 30 of 50 passes for 245 yards and a touchdown.

Next: vs. No. 22 Texas, Saturday.

- Michigan (8-2) beat Michigan State 34-31. Quarterback Scarlett Brown completed 14 of 20 passes for 284 yards and five touchdowns before exiting midway through the third quarter.

Next: vs. Boston College, Saturday.

- Notre Dame (8-2) beat Missouri 23-6. Kyle Trask threw two touchdown passes after a sluggish first half for Florida. Trask completed 23 of 35 passes for 260 yards. That was plenty of offense for Florida, which held Missouri to 204 total yards. Linebacker Jon Greenard had two sacks and five tackles.

Next: vs. No. 12 Florida State, Saturday, Nov. 23.

- Texas (6-4) lost to Iowa State 23-21. Connor Assaly kicked a 39-yard field goal as time expired to give No. 14 Iowa State a 23-21 win over Texas. The Cyclones improved to 5-2 in the Big 12 and knocked off No. 14 Texas. Brock Purdy had 354 yards passing and two TDs for the Cyclones.

Next: vs. No. 10 SMU, Saturday.

- Notre Dame (8-2) beat No. 16 Navy 52-20. Chase Claypool caught four touchdown passes to match a school record and the Irish shut down Navy’s triple-option, Ian Book completed 14 of 20 passes for 284 yards and five touchdowns before exiting midway through the third quarter.

Next: vs. No. 12 Baylor, Saturday.

- Iowa (7-3) beat No. 7 Minnesota 23-19. Nate Stanley threw for two touchdown passes and Tyler Goodson ran for a score and Iowa handed Minnesota its first loss. The Hawkeyes struck quickly, scoring touchdowns on their first three possessions, then held off Minnesota’s charge in the second half.

Next: vs. Illinois, Saturday.

- Boise State (9-1) beat New Mexico 42-9. Jaylon Henderson threw for 292 yards and three touchdowns, and the Broncos beat New Mexico. Boise State raced out to a 28-0 lead in the first quarter and was never seriously challenged.

Next: at Utah State, Saturday.

- SMU (9-1) did not play. Defense is an issue for the Mustangs, who have allowed at least 500 yards four times in five games after posting mostly respectable numbers early in the season.

Next: at No. 21 Navy, Saturday.

Northwestern’s Evan Hull, center, celebrates as he scores a touchdown against Massachusetts during the first half on Saturday in Evanston, Ill. Hull ran for 220 yards and four touchdowns in a 45-6 victory.

The Associated Press

JIM YOUNG

- Northwestern

- Iowa State

- Ohio State

- Oregon

- Auburn

- Michigan

- Notre Dame

- Texas

- Minnesota

- East Carolina

- Boise State

- SMU

- Mississippi State

- Rice

- Tulane

- Temple

- Memphis

- Army

- Southern Miss

- Arkansas

- Oklahoma

- Oklahoma State

- Arizona State
QB lifts No. 10 Oklahoma past No. 12 Baylor with 3 second-half TD passes

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts was shouting at himself coming off the field after his third turnover, a fumble when running toward the end zone.

When it was all over, Hurts and coach Lincoln Riley were sharing a joyous embrace and the No. 10 Sooners’ playoff hopes were still alive.

Gabe Brkic kicked a 31-yard field goal with 1:45 left after Hurts threw four touchdown passes for the Sooners, who overcame a 25-point deficit and the quarterback’s miscues in a 34-31 win over No. 12 Baylor on Saturday night that ended the Bears’ bid for an undefeated season.

“I put us in a horrible situation and we found a way to come back,” Hurts said. “We overcame adversity, and you’re remembered for what you do in November. So it’s a big-time win today.”

Oklahoma (9-1, 6-1 Big 12, No. 10 CFP) made the big comeback without stand-out receiver CeeDee Lamb. The national leader with 13 touchdown catches didn’t play because of what Riley called only a “medical decision.”

Hurts still completed 30-of-42 passes for 297 yards with three of his TDs to freshman wide receiver CeeDee Lamb. The national leader with 13 touchdown catches didn’t play because of what Riley called only a “medical decision.”

Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts, left, is chased by Baylor linebacker Blake Lynch, right. Hurts had four touchdown passes, including three in the second half, to lead his team to a 34-31 win Saturday in Waco, Texas.

Rhule said. “But hopefully we’ll come back next week rejuvenated, learn from it with a chance to play these guys again sometime down the road.”

The Sooners and Baylor could meet again in three weeks in the Big 12 championship game. The league’s top two teams play Dec. 7 in Arlington, Texas.

Oklahoma erased a three-touchdown halftime deficit and tied the game at 31-all on Hurts’ 2-yard TD pass to Willis in the third quarter when he fumbled — big defensive end James Lynch reached out and knocked the ball loose, before recovering it in the end zone.

That was after the Sooners had opened the second half with Stogner’s second TD catch, a 3-yarder that made it 31-17. Hurts bounced back from his fumble on the next drive, hitting Theo Wease for a 19-yard touchdown.

“We all felt like we had a chance,” Riley said. “Not one person on this sideline didn’t believe it. … You’ve still got to go make it happen.”

Grayland Arnold returned an interception 71 yards to set up Brewer’s 9-yard TD to Mims that made it 28-3 with 11 minutes left in the first half. Brewer had a 4-yard TD run on the first play of the second quarter that set up when Blake Lynch tripped up Hurts, who fumbled when he reached down to try to stay on his feet.

After Brkic kicked a 39-yard field goal on Oklahoma’s opening drive, Brewer had a 2-yard TD run and then lofted a perfectly thrown 39-yard touchdown pass that Mims caught crossing the goal line.

Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts, left, is chased by Baylor linebacker Blake Lynch, right. Hurts had four touchdown passes, including three in the second half, to lead his team to a 34-31 win Saturday in Waco, Texas.

By P.J. Fleck said.

The Bears (11-1, 6-1, No. 9 CFP) haven’t won at Kinnick Stadium since 1999, losing nine straight on the road in the series. The loss will hurt them in the rankings, but they stay in control of their own fate in the Big Ten West Division race.

That, coach P.J. Fleck said, is something his team needs to remember.

“This is one game,” Fleck said. “Everything else is sitting right in front of us. If we can play a game that poorly, we can come back from it.

“This is not the end of the world. It hurts. It should hurt — it’s a rivalry game. This is what college football is all about. … This is one game. That’s all that means.”

The Hawkeyes (7-3, 4-3) struck quickly, scoring touchdowns on their first three possessions, then held off Minnesota’s charge in the second half for their first victory over a ranked opponent this season.

“We did a great job of controlling the first half,” Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. “We knew we were going to have to score some points today. It’s no miracle how many points they’ve scored, the yards that they’ve had.”

“Iowa City, Iowa — Minnesota’s undefeated season came to an end in a place where the Gophers have struggled for a while.

Nate Stanley threw two touchdown passes and Tyler Goodson ran for a score to help No. 23 Iowa beat No. 7 Minnesota 23-19 on Saturday, handing the Gophers their first loss while hurting their playoff prospects.

The Gophers (9-1, 6-1, No. 8 CFP) haven’t won at Kinnick Stadium since 1999, losing nine straight on the road in the series. The loss will hurt them in the rankings, but they stay in control of their own fate in the Big Ten West Division race.

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“No. 23 Iowa holds off No. 7 Minnesota

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“We had to open it up,” said wide receiver Nico Ragian, who scored the Hawkeyes’ first touchdown on a 21-yard pass from Stanley.

“Defensively, we started too slow,” Gophers linebacker Thomas Barber said.

Minnesota got to 23-19 with 3:27 to play when Rodney Smith scored on a 1-yard dive. But Brock Walker’s extra-point attempt missed. Iowa’s Nate Wieting then recovered the onside kick.

The Gophers had a final chance. But quarterback Tanner Morgan was sacked by Joe Evans and A.J. Epenesa on back-to-back plays, then backup Cole Kramer’s pass was intercepted by Riley Moss.

By Ralph D. Russo

The only foolproof way to avoid being injured playing football is to not play at all.

Alabama star Tua Tagovailoa started Saturday at Mississippi State, a week after he looked gimp on a surgically repaired ankle but played great against LSU. The junior quarterback seemed done for the day with the Crimson Tide up 28 points late in the first half, but Tagovailoa lobbied for one more series and Tide coach Nick Saban gave it to him.

“We can second-guess ourselves all we want,” Saban said. “We told Mac (Jones) to warm up and we were going to go 2-minute before the half. Tua wanted to play in the game and so I don’t really make a lot of decisions worrying if a guy is going to get hurt.”

That final series ended with Tagovailoa seriously injured. Alabama announced hours after it had beaten Mississippi State 38-7 that Tagovailoa had suffered a dislocated right hip and would miss the remainder of the season.

The quarterback who was a national championship game MVP and Heisman Trophy candidate before he ever started a game at Alabama will probably never take another snap for the Tide. A junior who had a real chance of being the first pick in April’s NFL draft is now facing an uncertain future. When a football player gets a hip injury the first name that comes to mind is Bo Jackson, whose career was ended by a dislocated hip in 1990. Hopefully, advancements in medicine...