

FACES

Self-described emo cowgirl, Megan Moroney, releases her debut album 'Lucky'

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Mike Pence ends his campaign for the White House

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STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 82 Edition 140 ©SS 2023 MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2023

平成12年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Israel widens ground offensive

PM declares 'second stage' of fight; thousands break into aid warehouses in Gaza



FATIMA SHBAIR/AP

Palestinians inspect the rubble of a house after it was struck by an Israeli airstrike in Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip, on Sunday.

BY WAFEE SHURAF
AND SAMY MAGDY

Associated Press

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip — Tanks and infantry pushed into Gaza over the weekend as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced a "second stage" in the war, which was ignited by Hamas' brutal Oct. 7 incursion into Israel. Israel also pounded the territory from air, land and sea.

Thousands of people broke into aid warehouses in Gaza to take flour and basic hygiene products,

a U.N. agency said Sunday, in a mark of growing desperation and the breakdown of public order three weeks into the war between Israel and Gaza's militant Hamas rulers.

Gaza's Health Ministry said the death toll among Palestinians has passed 8,000 — mostly women and minors. It's a toll without precedent in decades of Israeli-Palestinian violence, and one that is expected to climb even more rapidly as Israel presses its ground offensive. Over 1,400 people have died on the Israeli side, mainly civil-

ians killed during the initial Hamas onslaught.

The bombardment over the weekend — described by Gaza residents as the most intense of the war — knocked out most communications in the territory late Friday, largely cutting off the besieged enclave's 2.3 million people from the world. Communications were restored to much of Gaza early Sunday.

The Israeli military said Sunday that it had struck over 450 militant

SEE WIDENS ON PAGE 8

Air Force to start tests of all-electric plane in Fla.

BY PHILLIP WALTER
WELLMAN

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force is to begin testing an all-electric manned aircraft at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, as the U.S. military looks for ways to reduce its carbon footprint.

An Alia airplane arrived Thursday at Eglin's Duke Field ahead of months of experimental work by the 413th Flight Test Squadron, the Air Force said in a statement. The first test is scheduled for Nov. 7, the statement said.

"It is going to transform the way we see air travel in the world," Col. Elliott Leigh, director of the service's innovation arm AFWERX, said in the statement. "It is also going to transform the way we have air power in the Air Force."

SEE TESTS ON PAGE 5



SAMUEL KING JR./U.S. Air Force

Ron Sheridan directs an Alia electric airplane to a stop at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., on Thursday. The plane will begin a series of test flights over the next few months.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

US candy inflation hits double digits for 2nd year

Associated Press

Spooked by the high price of Halloween candy? There's not much relief in sight.

For the second year in a row, U.S. shoppers are seeing double-digit inflation in the candy aisle. Candy and gum prices are up an average of 13% this month compared to last October, more than double the 6% increase in all grocery prices, according to Data-assembly, a retail price tracker. That's on top of a 14% increase in candy prices in October 2022.

"The price of candy has gotten to be outrageous," said Jessica Weathers, a small business owner in Shiloh, Ill. "It doesn't make sense to me to spend \$100 on candy."

Weathers said she usually buys plenty of candy for trick-or-treaters and events at school and church. But this year, she only bought two bags and plans to turn off her porch light on Halloween when she runs out.

Other consumers are changing what they buy. Numerator, a mar-

ket research firm, said its surveys show about one-third of U.S. consumers plan to trade down to value or store brands when buying candy for trick-or-treaters this year.

Weather is the main culprit for the higher prices. Cocoa prices are trading at 44-year highs after heavy rains in West Africa caused limited production in the season that began last fall. Now, El Nino conditions are making the region drier and are likely to linger well into the spring.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates													
Euro costs (Oct. 30)	\$1.03	Switzerland (Franc)	0.9015										
British pound (Oct. 30)	\$1.18	Thailand (Baht)	36.12										
Japanese yen (Oct. 30)	147.00	Turkey (NewLira)	28.1865										
South Korean won (Oct. 30)	1318.00	<p>(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)</p> <div>INTEREST RATES</div> <table><tr><td>Prime rate</td><td>8.50</td></tr><tr><td>Interest Rates Discount rate</td><td>6.00</td></tr><tr><td>Federal funds market rate</td><td>5.33</td></tr><tr><td>3-month bill</td><td>5.48</td></tr><tr><td>30-year bond</td><td>5.09</td></tr></table>		Prime rate	8.50	Interest Rates Discount rate	6.00	Federal funds market rate	5.33	3-month bill	5.48	30-year bond	5.09
Prime rate	8.50												
Interest Rates Discount rate	6.00												
Federal funds market rate	5.33												
3-month bill	5.48												
30-year bond	5.09												
Commercial rates													
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770												
Britain (Pound)	1.2115												
Canada (Dollar)	1.3878												
China (Yuan)	7.3173												
Denmark (Krone)	7.0631												
Egypt (Pound)	30.9014												
Euro	0.9463												
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8217												
Hungary (Forint)	362.91												
Israel (Shekel)	4.0542												
Japan (Yen)	149.52												
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3092												
Norway (Krone)	11.1797												
Philippines (Peso)	56.94												
Poland (Zloty)	4.23												
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7513												
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3704												
South Korea (Won)	1357.77												

WEATHER OUTLOOK



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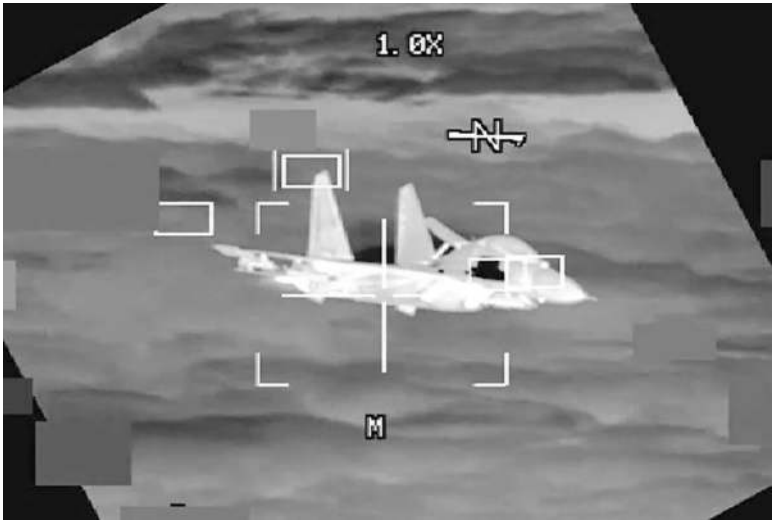
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MILITARY



A Chinese J-11 fighter jet nearing a U.S. Air Force B-52 on Tuesday in what the command described as an “unsafe intercept.”

Chinese jet almost collides with US B-52 over South China Sea

BY WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

A Chinese fighter jet flew within 10 feet of a U.S. bomber over the South China Sea on Tuesday, an “unsafe and “unprofessional” maneuver made all the riskier because it happened at night, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said in a news release Thursday.

The pilot of the J-11 fighter executed the “unsafe intercept” with a U.S. Air Force B-52 Stratofortress that was conducting routine operations in international airspace over the South China Sea, according to the release.

“During the night time intercept, the [Chinese] pilot flew in an unsafe and unprofessional manner, demonstrated poor airmanship by closing with uncontrolled excessive speed, flying below, in front of, and within 10 feet of the B-52, putting both aircraft in danger of collision,” the release said.

In such darkness and low visibility, it is possible the Chinese pilot could not assess how near his aircraft was to the bomber, according to the release.

“We are concerned this pilot was unaware of how close he came to causing a collision,” INDOPACOM said.

The flight route taken by the B-52 was not included in the release, but an undisclosed number of Stratofortresses deployed within the past week to Guam for a routine bomber task force mission.

Tuesday’s intercept was conducted “in a manner contrary to international air safety rules and norms,” the release said. “Military aircraft, when intentionally approaching another, shall operate with professional airmanship and give due regard for the safety of other aircraft.”

The near-miss is the latest in a sharp increase in risky behavior by Chinese pilots in the South China Sea, over which Beijing main-

tains broad claims of sovereignty that are disputed by neighboring nations.

On Oct. 17, the Pentagon released declassified images and videos depicting some of the roughly 180 incidents involving reckless maneuvers by Chinese pilots over the past two years.

“All [this is to try] to interfere in the ability of U.S. forces to operate safely in places where we and every country in the world have every right to be under international law,” Ely Ratner, the Pentagon’s assistant secretary of defense for Indo-Pacific security affairs, told reporters.

In response to the Pentagon’s disclosures, China’s Ministry of National Defense on Wednesday released video purporting to show the U.S. Navy guided-missile destroyer USS Ralph Johnson diverting its course to cross in front of a Chinese warship in the South China Sea on Aug. 19.

“This video proves that it is the U.S. side that is making provocations, taking risks and muddling the water,” Senior Col. Wu Qian, spokesperson for the defense ministry, said at a news conference in Beijing.

“We have much similar video evidence, but I won’t show them today because of time constraints,” he said.

INDOPACOM said in its release that the U.S. will continue to “fly, sail, and operate — safely and responsibly — wherever international laws allow.”

“The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Joint Force remains dedicated to a free and open Indo-Pacific region, and we expect all countries in the Indo-Pacific to operate in international airspace safely and in accordance with international law,” the release said.

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US jets hit Iran-backed sites in eastern Syria

BY MATTHEW ADAMS
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military launched airstrikes on two locations in eastern Syria linked to Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps and affiliated groups believed to be responsible for more than a dozen rocket and drone attacks on U.S. bases in the region, the Pentagon announced Thursday night.

“These precision self-defense strikes are a response to a series of ongoing and mostly unsuccessful attacks against U.S. personnel in Iraq and Syria by Iranian-backed militia groups that began on Oct. 17,” Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said in a statement. “President [Joe Biden] ... directed today’s action to make clear that the United States will not tolerate such attacks and will defend itself, its personnel, and its interests.”

The strikes were carried out near al-Boukamal by two F-16 fighter jets that struck two weapons and ammunition storage areas, according to a senior U.S. military official who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity. The facilities were known to be aligned with Iranian militia. The U.S. did not have an assessment of damage or casualties. The official did not say how much ammunition was launched by the F-16s.

The senior defense official said the sites were chosen because the IRGC stores the types of munitions there that were used in the

strikes against the U.S. bases in Syria and Iraq.

“I want to emphasize that the United States does not seek conflict, nor do we desire further hostilities. However, the Iran-backed attacks against U.S. forces are unacceptable and must cease,” the senior defense official said. “We are prepared to take further measures to protect our people if necessary.”

Since the surprise attack by Hamas militants against Israel on Oct. 7, the Pentagon and White House have said the U.S. has taken actions to contain the war between Israel and Hamas and prevent it from spreading into a regional conflict with Iran and its proxy forces in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq.

American troops stationed in Iraq and Syria have air-defense systems to help stop rocket and drone strikes that have been carried out by militants sponsored by Iran.

In March, for example, the U.S. struck sites in Syria used by groups affiliated with Iran’s Revolutionary Guard after an Iranian-linked attack killed a U.S. contractor and wounded seven other Americans in northeast Syria. American F-15 fighter jets flying out of Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar struck several locations near Deir al-Zour.

The U.S. recently deployed two aircraft carriers to the Eastern Mediterranean and additional fighter squadrons and air-defense

systems to the Middle East to deter Iran or Hezbollah, the Iran-sponsored militant group that operates in southern Lebanon, from getting involved in the Israel-Hamas war.

Austin decided several days ago to put 2,000 troops on pre-deployment orders to prepare for possible missions in the Middle East. On Thursday, the Pentagon said some of those orders have been activated.

“Approximately 900 troops have ... deployed or are in the process of deploying,” said Air Force Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder, the Pentagon’s top spokesman. “These include forces that have been on prepare-to-deploy orders and which are deploying from the continental United States.”

U.S. military bases throughout the Middle East continue to see drone and missile attacks from militant groups. Since Oct. 17, there have been 16 missile or drone attacks on American bases — 12 in Iraq and 4 in Syria, where U.S. and coalition forces are fighting terrorist groups such as the Islamic State, Ryder said. The number of attacks was 13 on Tuesday.

A senior military official told reporters later Thursday night that the Pentagon was tracking three additional attacks, bringing the total to 19.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.
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US, South Korea train near DMZ to counter ‘ Hamas-style surprise ’ raid

BY DAVID CHOI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — U.S. and South Korean troops joined forces last week to prepare for “ Hamas-style surprise ” attacks, potentially out of Pyongyang.

“In case of war,” roughly 5,400 troops kicked off the three-day exercise Wednesday focused on responding to long-range artillery strikes from the air and on the ground, South Korea’s Ground Operations Command said in a news release Friday.

Around 300 artillery weapons and 1,000 vehicles were used in the exercise, along with Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt IIs and South Korean F-15K Slam Eagle fighter jets, the release added.

The training wrapped up Friday with South Korean K-9 Thunder

and K-55A1 self-propelled howitzers firing live-rounds at a training site in Cheorwon county, roughly five miles from the Demilitarized Zone separating the Korean Peninsula, according to the release.

The Ground Operations Command release did not mention North Korea by name; however, the South’s military has warned that an attack from the communist regime could mimic Hamas’ deadly Oct. 7 assault on Israel.

If the North strikes the South, its troops’ “pattern of warfare would be similar to the pattern of Hamas’ invasion,” South Korean army Gen. Kim Seung-kyum, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told lawmakers in Seoul on Oct. 12.

Kim noted that North Korea’s military capabilities are a more serious threat than Hamas. Pyongyang possesses over 700 long-

range artillery systems, of which 300 “constitute a threat to the Seoul metropolitan area,” he said.

The allies routinely train near the border. During March’s Warrior Shield exercise, around 800 U.S. and 400 South Korean troops equipped with American Stryker vehicles and South Korean K1A2 main battle tanks carried out live-fire training in Pocheon city, roughly 16 miles from the DMZ.

North Korea’s state-run Korean Central News Agency regularly condemns the joint drills and describes them as a rehearsal of an invasion. The communist regime has fired 21 ballistic missiles — four of them intercontinental range — in 14 days of testing so far this year.

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MILITARY

Fort Gordon renamed Fort Eisenhower

Names of Confederate leaders in Civil War now fully stripped from Army installations

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

FORT EISENHOWER, Ga. — The names of Confederate leaders who took up arms against the United States in the Civil War have been fully stripped from Army installations, as the former Fort Gordon in Georgia was renamed Fort Eisenhower on Friday.

The post, which carried the namesake of Confederate Gen. John Brown Gordon since its inception as Camp Gordon in 1941, now carries the name of one of the Army’s most historic and revered figures — former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, a five-star Army general who commanded all Allied forces in defeating Nazi Germany in World War II.

A ceremony marking the name change was held on the post’s parade grounds, a location where Eisenhower conducted his final review of troops as commander in chief in January 1961 in the waning days of his second presidential term, officials at the post noted Friday.

“We’re transitioning from arguably a failed leader [as a namesake] to the visionary world leader who resonated with all of the soldiers that he led on a world stage,” said Army Maj. Gen. Paul Stanton, the commander of Fort Eisenhower and its Army Cyber Center of Excellence, which trains the service’s cyber and signal forces. “He was recognized and admired. There’s no doubt ... the soldiers under his command knew they were being led by a man of character, and he inspired them to do their life’s best work on a daily basis — whether that be in combat, whether that be in training, or whether that be later in life as a statesman.



From left, Dwight Eisenhower’s granddaughter Susan Eisenhower, Army Secretary Christine Wormuth and Army Maj. Gen. Paul Stanton, the commander of Fort Eisenhower and the Army Cyber Center of Excellence, speak during a renaming ceremony on Friday.

“So, he’s absolutely the right namesake.”

The renaming ceremony was the ninth — and final — among Army installations this year, capping a controversial three-year effort initiated by top Pentagon officials in 2020 amid a nationwide racial reckoning following the Memorial Day killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

Congress mandated the Naming Commission in a 2021 annual Pentagon policy bill, charging the panel with identifying all items in the Defense Department inventory associated with the Confederacy. Among the items that the commission was to study were the names of nine Army bases honoring Confederate generals, including Fort Gordon. Then-President Donald

Trump vetoed the bill, disapproving of the effort to remove Confederate names from the military. But lawmakers were able to override the veto.

During recent months, Fort Pickett, Va., became Fort Barfoot, Fort Lee, Va., became Fort Gregg-Adams, Fort A.P. Hill, Va., became Fort Walker, Fort Hood, Texas, became Fort Cavazos, Fort Rucker, Ala., became Fort Novosel, Fort Polk, La., became Fort Johnson, Fort Bragg, N.C., became Fort Liberty, and Fort Benning, Ga., became Fort Moore.

Retired Adm. Michelle Howard, who was the chairwoman of the Naming Commission, said Friday’s ceremony was “the cherry on top” of the massive, multimillion-dollar effort. In addition to

the Army bases, U.S. defense officials have spent 2023 removing hundreds of other Confederate-linked items, renaming buildings, roads and two Navy ships.

Howard, who was a Navy trailblazer as the service’s first female four-star admiral and the first Black female commander of a Naval battle group, said the commission found initial objections in the Augusta community to ridding the post of its namesake, a slave owner who challenged Reconstruction efforts as Georgia’s U.S. senator and governor after the Civil War. But, she said, the community rallied around the choice of Eisenhower, a name proposed by local Augustans because of his ties to the community.

Eisenhower, Army officials

said, often vacationed in Augusta during his presidency and especially enjoyed playing the city’s world-famous Augusta National golf course.

“There were some angry voices when we started this process. You know, this was a part of the heritage of the communities,” Howard said. “Working with the communities, I think we got to the names that fit well with each of the communities, and so this is a wonderful day in this community, which has just rallied around this name.”

Throughout Augusta, several businesses already sported the Fort Eisenhower name, and road signs had already been changed to reflect the installation’s new moniker.

But the Naming Commission’s efforts remain controversial in some circles. Multiple Republican candidates for president have vowed to undo the name changes if elected to the White House in the 2024 election.

Howard said such a move would be a step backward and illegal under current law. The 2021 law that created the commission outlaws naming any future Defense Department property for anyone who served the Confederacy voluntarily, she said.

“If an elected leader thinks that we should go back down this path, I would hope they would talk to their constituents first,” Howard said. “It was pretty clear to me that once we got into names that the communities rallied around those names. ... So, if you were going to go backward, you should talk to the constituents first and see how they feel about it.”

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Texas sues to stop agents from cutting barriers along Rio Grande

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas’ attorney general filed a federal lawsuit last week to stop federal border agents from cutting coiled barbed wire placed by Texas National Guard soldiers along the state’s border with Mexico, according to court documents.

Troops working on a state-sponsored mission at the border installed miles of the wire to curb the flow of migrants crossing between legal ports of entry, and federal agents are destroying state property as they cut it to let people through, Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton wrote in the lawsuit filed Tuesday in the Del

Rio Division of the Western District of Texas.

The wire is typically placed within the boundary of the United States and on land owned by the state, local governments or private citizens who have granted permission for the Guard to access it. The Texas Military Department has spent roughly \$11 million on more than 70,000 rolls of wire fencing, according to the lawsuit. Guard troops can lay a quarter of a mile of wire fencing a day.

The Department of Homeland Security said in a statement that it does not comment on pending litigation.

“Generally speaking, Border

Patrol agents have a responsibility under federal law to take those who have crossed onto U.S. soil without authorization into custody for processing, as well as to act when there are conditions that put our workforce or migrants at risk,” according to Homeland Security.

The lawsuit contends federal agents began cutting wire barriers more routinely last month than they had in the previous two years of the state’s border mission.

Border Patrol officials have cut wire barriers more than 20 times since Sept. 20, according to the lawsuit. That’s roughly the same number of times the Texas Mili-

tary Department documented it happening during the rest of 2023.

The increase coincides with a rise in recent months of migrants detained by federal authorities along the southwest border. Border Patrol detained nearly 2.5 million people in fiscal 2023 — nearly 100,000 more than the previous year, according to Customs and Border Protection.

In the Del Rio sector, which includes 245 miles of border in west Texas, there was a 54% increase in border crossings from August to September, according to federal officials.

Named plaintiffs on the lawsuit are Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro

Mayorkas, Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Troy Miller, Border Patrol Chief Jason Miller and Del Rio Sector Chief Juan Bernal.

Paxton asked the court to stop federal agents from “seizing and destroying” the wire barriers, declare the destruction illegal and repay Texas for the damage. The lawsuit does not specify a dollar amount.

“The courts must put a stop to it, or [President Joe] Biden’s free-for-all will make this crushing immigration crisis even worse,” Paxton said in a statement.

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MILITARY

Air Force, Space Force enlistment age raised

Men, women as old as 42 can serve in branches

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Forty is the new 30 when it comes to the Air Force and Space Force.

Men and women as old as 42 can now pack their boots and bifocals for basic training, under a policy change that gives the two services the highest age limit for recruits of all the military branches except the Coast Guard.

The previous maximum age for Air Force recruits was 39, a change authorized in 2014, when the service raised its enlisted accessions age limit from 27.

Raising the cutoff by three years aligns the Air Force and the Space Force with the maximum enlistment age allowed by the Pentagon. It also comes amid a recruitment crunch.

The Air Force announced last month that it will miss its active-duty recruiting goal by about 10%,

its first recruitment shortfall since 1999. The service fell about 2,700 applicants short of its fiscal year 2023 goal of 26,877.

An Air Force memo dated Tuesday that was posted on the service's website outlines the policy change for both officers and enlisted members.

Comments posted Thursday on the Reddit Air Force channel poked fun at the idea of "middle-aged" recruits.

"42?! Dudes will be enlisting at the age I'm eligible for retirement!" said one comment.

"Just in time for the mid life crisis Dodge Challenger!" said another.

But the Air Force isn't the only service opening the door to graying enlistees.

In November 2022, the Coast Guard raised its maximum enlisted age from 35 to 42 and increased the maximum direct commission

aviator age from 34 to 36.

The increases in the upper age limit were among other new eligibility standards approved to make it easier to recruit qualified candidates in a tight labor market, the service said at the time.

That same month, the Navy raised the maximum age for recruits from 39 to 41 to help with similar recruiting struggles. The Army accepts recruits up to the age of 39, though it may grant waivers for people as old as 45. The Marine Corps' cutoff age is a spry 28.

In 2006, Congress changed the maximum age for all enlisted military recruits from 35 to 42. From 2007 to 2016, the Army's maximum enlistment age was set at 42 to sustain demand for the surge in the war in Iraq, according to a paper by the Rand Corp. think tank.

Published in April, the paper suggested that the Army should



ETHAN JOHNSON/U.S. Space Force

Space Force Gen. John "Jay" Raymond gives the oath of enlistment to basic training graduates in 2022 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

consider raising the maximum enlistment age again to boost recruitment numbers.

Previous Rand studies found that compared to younger soldiers, older recruits have higher qualification test scores and higher levels of education, and also are more likely to get promoted and reenlist.

One of those studies compared recruits ages 25 to 35 with those in their teens. Another study, however, did not specify what ages qualified as "older" and "younger."

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US military pursues modern variant of B61 nuclear bomb

BY DOUG G. WARE
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military is developing a modern version of the B61 nuclear gravity bomb, which has been a mainstay in its arsenal for decades, the Pentagon said Friday.

The U.S. has made several variants of the B61 in the last 50 years. The new version, the B61-13, would be built by the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration, officials said. The Pentagon underscored the B61-13 is necessary to maintain readiness in a rapidly changing international climate but did not indicate when the weapon is expected to enter service.

"Today's announcement is reflective of a changing security environment and growing threats from potential adversaries," said John Plumb, the assistant secretary of defense for space policy. "The United States has a responsibility to continue to assess and



Department of Defense

An F-35 Lightning II fighter jet releases an inert B61-12 bomb during a test in December 2021. The Pentagon said Friday that it's seeking to develop a modern variant of the bomb, the B61-13.

field the capabilities we need to credibly deter and, if necessary, respond to strategic attacks and assure our allies."

The new B61 nuclear bomb could be dropped by various modern aircraft, the Defense Department said, and would give future presidents "additional options against certain harder and large-

Review, which said other countries are expanding, modernizing and relying more on their nuclear capabilities, according to the Defense Department. The review called for new investments in U.S. deterrence efforts while at the same time seeking arms-control and other risk-reduction measures. Developing the B61-13 ultimately will require congressional approval and authorization, the Pentagon said.

"The fielding of the B61-13 is not in response to any specific current event," the Pentagon said. "It reflects an ongoing assessment of a changing security environment."

The department said production of the new bombs, however, will not expand the U.S. arsenal.

"The number of B61-12s to be produced will be lowered by the same amount as the number of B61-13s produced," it said.

Previous versions of the B61 were deliverable by several aircraft, including the B-1 Lancer, B-2 Spirit, B-52 Stratofortress and F/A-18 Hornet fighter jet. It wasn't initially clear which aircraft will deploy the B61-13, but officials said the new weapon will help retire older legacy weapons such as the B83 bomb, which has been in service for 40 years. The United States has about 5,200 nuclear weapons in its stockpile, and Russia has almost 5,900, according to the Federation of American Scientists, a nonprofit Washington think tank that studies global security.

Both totals are dramatically lower than the number each nation had at their peak — 31,000 for the U.S. in the late 1960s, and 41,000 for Russia in the mid-1980s.

Earlier this month, the U.N. Disarmament and International Security Committee cautioned the threat of nuclear war will persist for as long as countries keep stockpiling the weapons.

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Tests: Alia model can fly more than 300 miles on a single charge

FROM PAGE 1

The single Alia model being tested in Florida can fly over 330 nautical miles on a single charge. It has a cruise speed of 100 knots, and can carry five passengers or 1,250 pounds of cargo plus a pilot, according to manufacturer Beta Technologies.

It will be tested for resupply missions, cargo delivery and personnel transport, the company said.

Beta will use its own pilots to fly the aircraft during the tests, the service statement said.

The U.S. military is the world's largest institutional producer of greenhouse gases. Electric aircraft like the Alia, which produce zero operational emissions, are seen as a way of helping the Pentagon reduce its carbon footprint.

Beta spokeswoman Lexi Pace was unable to immediately provide the estimated amount of

emissions involved with charging the aircraft when contacted by Stars and Stripes. However, the company recently opened a net-zero factory in Vermont where it will manufacture its aircraft, Pace said.

Other benefits of electric aircraft include reduced noise during flight and lower costs of operation and maintenance in comparison with their traditional counterparts, according to the Air Force.

The Alia being tested in Florida is a conventional electronic aircraft, meaning it cruises down a runway on takeoffs and landings. Electric vertical takeoff and landing, or eVTOL, aircraft are also being developed.

Last month, Edwards Air Force Base in California became the first U.S. military installation to have an eVTOL stationed on site when an S4 model built by Joby Aviation arrived there.

Beta's Alia is the first electric CTOL stationed at a U.S. base.

Beta and Joby Aviation are among a group of companies under contract with the Air Force as part of the service's Agility Prime program, which explores potential military applications for electric aircraft and is administered by AFWERX.

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MILITARY

VA hotline staff retrained after veteran's suicide

BY LINDA F. HERSEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — First-line responders received more training, and a supervisor was transferred from an oversight position following the suicide of a veteran who had texted a national crisis line for help, Department of Veterans Affairs officials told senators.

Several VA officials assured senators during a hearing Wednesday that they are taking steps to address a department inspector general's report that cited the Veterans Crisis Line for an inadequate response to communications from a veteran in Texas who killed himself less than an hour after texting with a crisis responder at the hotline.

Testifying before the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, a senior VA official said changes in operations are planned or underway at the crisis line.

"The actual event, as tragic as it is, as we all know, there were some opportunities for us to look at the process and procedures that were in place. And some changes have been made already," said David Perry, Veterans Health Administration's chief officer for workforce management and consulting.

"Retraining occurred for those crisis responders — and then also we're looking at the process of who can fill in when those positions need to be staffed adequately," he said. "The supervisor is still on staff, but they are not in a direct veteran crisis responder role."

The VA's Office of Inspector General issued a report in September that cited the Veterans Crisis Line for "mismanagement" of its response in 2021 to the Texas veteran's texts for help as well as "deficient" in follow-up actions af-

ter his death.

The IG report described the first responder's actions as inadequate in assessing the veteran's "suicidal preparatory behavior and alcohol use." The report also stated the national hotline does not have procedures in place for retaining text messages and took "problematic" actions after the man's death.

Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., pressed VA officials about what type of reforms are planned for the crisis line — and when they will be implemented — in response to the IG report. But Perry said the report is still "actively being reviewed."

When Cassidy asked when the review would be done, Perry responded: "I can't give you a timeline. It is on the top of our priority list."

"Four weeks seems plenty enough time to investigate," Cassidy said, referring to the release of the report last month.

The senator also criticized the hotline's former executive director for deciding not to conduct a "necessary root cause analysis" following the veteran's suicide. Cassidy said the decision was only reversed when an IG investigation was initiated. He also said the former executive director was moved up to a senior executive position at VA headquarters.

The national crisis hotline is used frequently by veterans and received more than 750,000 calls between July 2022 and July 2023. About 250,000 veterans contacted the crisis line via chat or text messaging, the VA has said.

The Senate committee was assured a plan to improve crisis response and veteran safety will be developed, after the IG report is reviewed, along with underlying evidence and recommendations.



PHOTOS BY JOE GROMELSKI/Special to Stars and Stripes

Left, Julius Kogo crosses the finish line as the winner of the Marine Corps Marathon on Sunday in Arlington, Va. Kogo was timed in 2:25:56 on a cloudy, warm day. Right, Bonnie Keating wins the women's competition with a time of 2:50:49.

30,000 run through Washington, Virginia in Marine Corps marathon

BY MATTHEW ADAMS
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Navy veteran Jay McManus leaves Sunday the winner of the Marine Corps Marathon push-rim race.

In addition to winning with a time of 1:42:41, McManus accomplished his personal goal of qualifying for the Boston Marathon.

"I was shooting [for] between an hour 35 [minutes] and an hour 45 [minutes]. Anything under two would qualify," he said. "I pushed a little hard."

McManus, 48, served in the Navy for nearly 22 years before medically retiring. He was one of approximately 30,000 runners who participated in the race.

The marathon began near Arlington Cemetery, and runners made their way over the Key Bridge into Georgetown and passed scenic spots along the National Mall and Tidal Basin in Washington.

His career, and life took a turn in July 2010 after an accident in Panama City Beach, Fla. Eight months after leaving Afghanistan, he was on a trip with the Navy Experimental



Navy veteran Jay McManus leaves as the winner of the Marine Corps Marathon push-rim race Sunday.

Diving Unit when he was stung in the left knee by a stingray. A barb from the stingray was undetected by the initial X-rays and remained in his knee for four months.

McManus had a total of six surgeries performed, forcing him to medically retire in 2019. He ran the Marine Corps Marathon for the first time last year after training for three years, completing it in about 3 hours and 34 minutes.

Julius Kogo, 38, of Durham, N.C., won the men's race with a race time of 2:25:56.

Navy Lt. Commander Patrick Hearn came within striking distance with a record of 2:26:18 for second place. Despite his legs being worn out afterward, he felt good about the race.

"I was probably running in seventh for the majority of the race," said Hearn, a nuclear engineer duty officer at the Pearl Harbor shipyard in Hawaii.

He said because of the coronavirus pandemic, he probably hasn't taken a race seriously since 2019. He ran the Marine Corps Marathon in 2018 with a time of 2 hours and 23 minutes.

"It was a lot cooler then. It's a little warm now," Hearn said.

In the women's race, Bonnie Keating, 38, won with a race time of 2:50:49 after finishing in third place last year.

"It was really cool to see the Marines out there cheering you on," said Keating, a strength and conditioning coach for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. "I saw a lot of Marines from 10 years ago, so it was really amazing to see them out there."

Navy official guilty on bribery charge for fancy meals from contractors

BY J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

A Navy official pleaded guilty recently to a bribery conspiracy charge after accepting free meals at fancy restaurants from two defense contractors who were later awarded millions of dollars in government contracts.

Dawnell Parker, 52, admitted guilt Thursday in a plea deal whose terms were not disclosed in public court documents. The sentencing in Southern California federal court is

scheduled for January. Parker accepted thousands of dollars in meals from the contractors while working in contracting at the Naval Information Warfare Center in San Diego, according to court records.

The two unidentified contractors are a Fredericksburg, Va., defense firm and a company with offices in Stafford, Va., and San Diego, the Justice Department said Thursday in a statement.

"Ms. Parker's actions directly undermined the fair competition

that ensures our warfighters always have the technological advantage over potential adversaries," Tyler Hatcher, an IRS special agent, said in the Justice Department statement.

Prosecutors said Parker began conspiring with a co-worker to accept the bribes in March 2016.

Parker and her co-worker accepted at least 11 meals valued at almost \$6,000, the plea agreement said. Parker and her co-worker first accepted a free meal worth more

than \$600 at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Arlington, Va., on March 31, 2016.

Days later, Parker served on a board evaluating the contractor. The next day, the company was awarded a roughly \$1 million contract, according to the stipulations in the plea deal.

Other freebies accepted included a \$697 tab at the De Medici Cucina in San Diego, a sushi lunch worth \$852 and another trip to Ruth's Chris Steak House in Arlington for a

\$917 meal.

In exchange for the meals, Parker and her co-worker submitted glowing contractor evaluations and gave the company information to help them win bids, the agreement said. In September 2016, the company was awarded a contract worth \$2.1 million over five years.

Another contractor also provided the pair with meals and employed Parker's co-worker's wife, prior to winning a \$47 million contract, the plea agreement said.

MIDEAST

Eisenhower group arrives in Mediterranean

By ALISON BATH
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — The Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group arrived in the Mediterranean Sea on Saturday after passing through the Strait of Gibraltar on its way to the Middle East.

The carrier strike group’s passage into the wider region comes as the U.S. works to stabilize the Middle East while it supports Israel and protects American service members under attack in Iraq and Syria, according to the Pentagon.

Eisenhower’s entrance into the Mediterranean was documented by ship watchers and open-source intelligence analysts on the social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

“USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) Nimitz-class aircraft

carrier eastbound in the Strait of Gibraltar — October 28, 2023,” posted @WarshipCam, along with several photos of the carrier and destroyers USS Gravelly and USS Mason.

Some of those analysts also noted the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group, including the dock landing ship USS Carter Hall, and the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit had moved into the Red Sea on Friday.

“The Bataan Amphibious Ready Group, consisting of the USS Bataan (LHD-5), USS Carter Hall (LSD-50), and approximately 2,500 Marines from the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, entered the Red Sea on October 27th, heading toward waters near Israel,” posted @DuanDang on Friday along with satellite images of the group.

U.S. 6th Fleet did not respond

Saturday to an email from Stars and Stripes seeking to confirm the arrival of the Eisenhower group. The Defense Department referred queries about the Bataan ARG/26th MEU to U.S. Central Command, which also did not respond Saturday.

Citing operational security concerns, the Navy typically does not offer information about the specific location of its ships. However, a carrier’s arrival into a region, along with port visits and other activities, often is announced.

Earlier this month, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin ordered Eisenhower to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. The U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. 5th Fleet AOR includes the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and portions of the Indian Ocean.

That move came after increas-

ing attacks by Iranian-backed terrorist groups on American bases in Iraq and Syria, and the destroyer USS Carney shot down missiles and drones launched by Houthi rebels in Yemen.

Eisenhower departed its home port in Norfolk, Va. Oct. 14, part of a scheduled deployment, presumably to relieve the Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group, already on duty in the Mediterranean.

But days after Hamas militants killed 1,400 civilians in Israel, the Ford and Eisenhower were ordered to the Eastern Mediterranean. Ford’s six-month deployment was extended.

On Thursday, 900 U.S. troops received orders to deploy to the region, as part of a plan to send a Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense battery along with Patriot and Avenger batteries to the Middle

East. That same day the DOD announced retaliatory airstrikes on two sites in eastern Syria linked to Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Since Oct. 17, Iranian-backed terrorist groups have conducted 16 missile or drone attacks on U.S. bases in Iraq and Syria that slightly injured 21 service members.

An American contractor suffered a heart attack and died while sheltering in place during one attack, the Pentagon said.

The Eisenhower group also includes the cruiser USS Philippine Sea and Carrier Air Wing 3. The Italian frigate ITS Virginio Fasan, already on duty in the Mediterranean, also will join the group as part of a planned deployment.

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900 US troops deploying to Middle East to support Israel

By DOUG G. WARE
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Almost 1,000 American troops have received orders to deploy to the Middle East to support Israel in its conflict with Hamas and provide stability in the region, the Pentagon said Thursday.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin decided several days ago to put 2,000 troops on pre-deployment orders to prepare for possible missions in the Middle East. On Thursday, the Pentagon said some of those orders have been activated.

“Approximately 900 troops have ... deployed or are in the process of deploying,” said Air Force Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder, the Pentagon’s top spokesman. “These include forces that have



U.S. Air Force

Soldiers prepare to load elements of a THAAD missile system onto a C-17 Globemaster III at Fort Bliss, Texas, in 2019.

been on prepare-to-deploy orders and which are deploying from the continental United States.”

Ryder said the deploying troops are part of existing plans that were

previously announced to send a Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense battery from Fort Bliss, Texas, and Patriot and Avenger batteries are also being sent from Fort Liberty, N.C., and Associated Air Defense headquarters elements from Fort Bliss and Fort Cavazos, Texas.

THAAD is an air defense system that can intercept short-, medium- and long-range ballistic missiles with radar and shoot them down. Patriot and Avenger systems work in a similar way.

Ryder declined to say specifically where the deploying U.S. forces are going.

“I can confirm they are not going to Israel,” he said. “They are intended to support regional deterrence efforts and further bol-

ster U.S. force protection capabilities.”

The Pentagon said the number of U.S. service members who have pre-deployment orders might fluctuate depending on what is needed in the region, which has seen a severe increase of violence since Hamas militants on Oct. 7 broke through a border fence between Gaza and Israel and killed hundreds of Israeli civilians. Israel’s military has been carrying out airstrikes on Gaza in retaliation, which have killed scores of Palestinian civilians.

Ryder said the Pentagon is also sending two Iron Dome batteries to Israel. Iron Dome is a sophisticated air-defense system that tracks incoming enemy rockets and knocks them out of the sky.

Since the Oct. 7 attack, Israel has intercepted dozens of rockets using Iron Dome batteries.

The two batteries had been assigned to the Army at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., but will now be transferred to Israel. The Pentagon has said previously that it’s been sending Iron Dome interceptors to Israel.

U.S. military bases throughout the Middle East continue to see drone and missile attacks from militant groups.

Since Oct. 17, there have been 16 missile or drone attacks on American bases — 12 in Iraq and 4 in Syria, where U.S. and coalition forces are fighting terrorist groups such as the Islamic State, Ryder said.

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MIDEAST

Biden: After war, leaders must look at 2-state solution

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As the 3-week-old Israel-Hamas war enters what Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said could be a “long and difficult” new stage, President Joe Biden is calling on Israeli and Arab leaders to think hard about their eventual postwar reality.

It’s one, he argued, where finally finding agreement on a long-sought two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict should be a priority.

“There’s no going back to the status quo as it stood on Oct. 6,” Biden told reporters, referring to the day before Hamas militants attacked Israel and set off the latest war. The White House said Biden conveyed the same message directly to Netanyahu during a telephone call this past week.

“It also means that when this crisis is over, there has to be a vision of what comes next, and in our view it has to be a two-state solution,” Biden said.

The push for a two-state solution — one in which Israel would co-exist with an independent Palestinian state — has eluded U.S. presidents and Middle East diplomats for decades. It’s been put on the back burner since the last American-led effort at peace talks collapsed in 2014 amid disagreements on Israeli settlements, the release of Palestinian prisoners and other issues.

Palestinian statehood is something that Biden rarely addressed in the early going of his administration. During his visit to the West Bank last year, Biden said the “ground is not ripe” for new attempts to reach a permanent peace even as he reiterated to Palestinians the long-held U.S. support for statehood.

Now, at a moment of heightened concern that the Israel-Hamas war could spiral into a broader regional conflict, Biden has begun to emphasize that once the bombing and shooting stop, working toward a

Palestinian state should no longer be ignored.

Until recently, Biden had put far more emphasis on what his administration saw as the achievable ambition of normalizing relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors than on restarting peace talks.

Even his national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, in a lengthy essay that was written shortly before the Oct. 7 attack and described Biden’s global foreign policy efforts made no mention of Palestinian statehood. In an updated version of the Foreign Affairs essay posted online, Sullivan wrote that the administration was “committed to a two-state solution.” White House official also said the normalization talks have always included significant proposals to benefit the Palestinians.

There is no shortage of obstacles in the way of Biden’s postwar vision. An independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza is viewed as a nonstarter by Israel’s far-right government. An ineffectual Palestinian Authority controls the West Bank and has little credibility with the population it governs. In the meantime, a looming U.S. presidential election could make Biden a less-than-ideal mediator in 2024.

Aaron David Miller, who served as an adviser on Middle East issues to Democratic and Republican administrations, said Biden’s recent emphasis on a two-state solution was an “aspirational talking point.”

“The odds are very, very low,” he said. “It’s essentially mission impossible.”

Dennis Ross, a negotiator in the peace process in both the George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations, said it is important to start planning for down the road even though there is no end in sight for the current conflict.

“You can’t go back to the point where you can ignore the Palestinians as an issue,” Ross said. “It’s not hopeless. When you get beyond this, it’s not hopeless.”



Friends and relatives of Yonat Or cry next to her grave during her funeral at Kibbutz Palmachim, Israel, on Sunday. Or was killed by Hamas militants on Oct. 7, in Kibbutz Be’eri near the border with the Gaza Strip.

Widens: Gaza death toll passes 8K

FROM PAGE 1

targets over the past 24 hours, including Hamas command centers and anti-tank missile launching positions. It said more ground forces were sent into Gaza overnight, and circulated footage showing tanks and troops operating in open areas.

The warehouse break-ins were “a worrying sign that civil order is starting to break down after three weeks of war and a tight siege on Gaza,” said Thomas White, Gaza director for the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, known as UNRWA. “People are scared, frustrated and desperate.”

UNRWA provides basic services to hundreds of thousands of people in Gaza. Its schools across the territory have been transformed into packed shelters housing Palestinians displaced by the conflict.

Juliette Touma, a spokesperson for the agency, said the crowds broke into four facilities Saturday. She said the warehouses did not contain any fuel, which has been in critically short supply since Israel cut off all shipments after the start of the war.

Israel has allowed only a small trickle of aid to enter. On Sunday, 33 trucks of aid crossed the only border crossing from Egypt, a

spokesperson at the Rafah crossing, Wael Abo Omar, told The Associated Press.

Elad Goren, the head of civil affairs of COGAT, the Israeli defense body responsible for Palestinian civilian affairs, said Israel had established a “humanitarian zone” near the southern city of Khan Younis and recommended that Palestinians flee there.

But he provided no details on the exact location of the zone or how much aid would be available. He also said Israel has opened two water lines in southern Gaza within the past week. The AP could not independently verify that either line was functioning.

Residents living near Shifa Hospital, Gaza’s largest, said Israeli airstrikes overnight hit near the hospital complex and blocked many roads leading to it. Israel has accused Hamas of having a secret command post beneath the hospital, but has not provided much evidence. Hamas has denied the allegations.

Tens of thousands of civilians have been sheltering in Shifa, which is also packed with wounded patients.

“Reaching the hospital has become increasingly difficult,” Mahmoud al-Sawah, who is sheltering in the hospital, said over the

phone. “It seems they want to cut off the area.”

Another Gaza City resident, Abdallah Sayed, said the Israeli bombing over the past two days was “the most violent and intense” since the war started.

The Palestinian Red Crescent rescue service said another Gaza City hospital received two calls from Israeli authorities Sunday ordering it to evacuate. It said airstrikes have hit as close as 54 yards from the Al-Quds Hospital, where 12,000 people are sheltering.

Israel had ordered the hospital to evacuate more than a week ago, but it and other medical facilities have refused, saying it would mean death for patients on ventilators.

Israel said most residents have heeded its orders to flee to the southern part of the besieged territory, but hundreds of thousands remain in the north, in part because Israel has also bombarded targets in so-called safe zones.

An Israeli airstrike hit a two-story house in Khan Younis on Sunday, killing at least 13 people, including 10 from one family. The bodies were brought to the nearby Nasser Hospital, according to an Associated Press journalist at the scene.

Israeli settler shoots, kills Palestinian harvester near West Bank city

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A Jewish settler shot and killed a Palestinian man harvesting olives near the West Bank city of Nablus, the man’s uncle said Sunday.

This brings the number of Palestinians reported killed by settlers to seven since Hamas’

bloody incursion into Israel three weeks ago.

Tayseer Mahmoud said his nephew, Bilal Saleh, was working in the grove in the village of Sawiya with his wife and their four children on Saturday when a group of settlers attacked them.

Saleh, concerned about the

safety of his children, tried to leave the area, but a settler shot him in the chest, Mahmoud said.

Mahmoud said he didn’t witness the confrontation but was close by and reached the scene within minutes of the shooting. Saleh died before he could be taken for medical care, he said.

Settler leader Yossi Dagan said in a video posted on Facebook on Saturday that the shooter was accompanied by family members and fired in self-defense after they were “attacked with rocks by dozens of rioting Hamas supporters.”

The deadly shooting took place

amid a spike in settler violence since Hamas militants infiltrated Israel on Oct. 7, killing more than 1,400 Israelis and taking over 230 others hostage.

The incursion touched off a war that has killed more than 8,000 Palestinians, according to the Gaza Health Ministry.

NATION

Maine residents gather, pray after shooting

BY DAVID SHARP,
ROBERT F. BUKATY
AND JAKE BLEIBERG
Associated Press

LEWISTON, Maine — Church bells rang Sunday as Maine residents gathered at somber and sometimes joyful services to pray and support one another following a traumatic week in which a fellow Mainer gunned down 18 people.

The Rev. Daniel Greenleaf began services at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Lewiston with a moment of silence. Then, he told the congregation that it was good to be able to finally pray together after days of lockdown imposed while police searched for the 40-year-old gunman Robert Card.

The body of Card was found Friday in a trailer at a recycling center in Lisbon Falls. Card died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound, but it was unclear when, authorities said. Card is suspected of also injuring 13 people during the shooting rampage on Wednesday night in Lewiston.

Several women wore black veils in the cavernous sanctuary, where a church official said they are raising funds to help shooting victims and others hurt by “the horrible events in our small town.”

“We can see the rays of light in darkness,” Greenleaf said during his sermon. He told the worship-



ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP

Pam Rousseau, center, and other worshippers pray during a service at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on Sunday in Lewiston, Maine.

pers that it is times like this that they have “practiced” their faith for.

“We cannot fix this, but then again human beings are not machines to be fixed,” Greenleaf said.

At Lisbon Falls Baptist Church, the mood was upbeat as church members arrived and greeted each other.

But the atmosphere became somber when the Rev. Brian Ga-

nong referenced the tragedy. He prayed for the victims fighting for their lives, those who lost family and friends, first responders and medical workers, and others — including the Card family, who he said had ties to some members of the church.

“It did happen. We may never know the reason why,” he said, encouraging the congregation to seek solace through a higher being.

Standing outside the basilica after attending early Mass, Marcel Roy said the last few days have been painful but that he’s hopeful the community can be the long process of healing.

“This feels good,” Roy said as the church bells rang.

The 70-year-old Lewiston resident said that he knew four of the shooting victims and is praying for them as well as the shooter.

“I can’t hate the guy,” he said of

the gunman. “He wasn’t brought up as a killer.”

Authorities recovered a multitude of weapons during their search for Card and believe he had legally purchased his guns, including those recovered in his car and near his body, said Jim Ferguson, the special agent in charge of the Boston office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

He declined to provide specific details about the guns, including their make and model, and wouldn’t say exactly how many were found.

Investigators are still searching for a motive for the massacre, but have increasingly been focused on Card’s mental health history. State Department of Public Safety Commissioner Michael Sauschuck said Card had been hearing voices and had paranoia.

Card believed “people were talking about him and there may even have been some voices at play,” Sauschuck said.

Family members of Card told federal investigators that he had recently discussed hearing voices and became more focused on the bowling alley and bar, according to law enforcement officials who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity in order to discuss details of the investigation.

Newsom’s trip shows US-China engagement still possible for states

Associated Press

BANGKOK — California Gov. Gavin Newsom’s trip to China, with the stated goal of working together to fight climate change, resulted in a surprise meeting with leader Xi Jinping and was filled with warm words and friendliness not seen in years in the China-U.S. relationship.

The trip was seen as one of the steps in paving the way for President Joe Biden and Xi to meet in San Francisco in November during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, but it also highlighted the existing relationship that China has with California, showing that even when tensions are high between the two countries, collaboration is still possible on some levels.

The reception from China “sends a very clear signal that working with California is desired and, at minimum, politically safe and encouraged,” said Alex Wang, a professor of law at UCLA who focuses on the environment.

U.S.-China relations have dete-

riorated significantly since 2018 over issues as wide-ranging as trade, the origin of COVID-19 and the national security crackdown in Hong Kong. That is true both for the two countries at the national level, and for state-level engagement.

States’ involvement with China has fallen off rapidly in the past five years, as the bilateral relationship deteriorated under the Trump administration and further soured with the pandemic, according to research from Kyle Jaros, a professor of global affairs at University of Notre Dame.

Yet, that engagement is what China wants, he said, as it views U.S. states as pragmatic partners in business without having to wade into politics.

California has a steady and long working relationship with China.

Arnold Schwarzenegger, a Republican governor, started the formal relationship with China over climate cooperation a decade ago, Jaros said. His successor, the Democrat Jerry Brown, contin-



AP

In this photo released by Office of the Governor of California, California Gov. Gavin Newsom, left, meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on Oct. 25.

ued the relationship even as the U.S. started turning away from China during the Trump administration. At one point, the California government even had a staffer based in China.

Much of the cooperation on climate is on technical information-sharing and showing the other side how they did things, said Wang, who has done some of the collaborative work himself. The information shared is often not high-level, but is about the thousands of smaller decisions, “such as how do you finance electric buses, who pays for it, how do you set up the charging infrastructure?”

California could learn more about offshore wind technologies from China, which is a global leader in using the tech, Wang said.

Politically, the trip allowed Newsom, who appears to be positioning himself for a future presidential run, to polish his diplomatic credentials by engaging with Chinese leaders on a signature policy issue, climate change.

Newsom’s administration is pushing to expand solar power and other clean energy as the state aims to cut emissions by 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. State regulators also have banned the sale of most new gas-powered cars in California by 2035.

UAW, Jeep maker reach tentative contract deal

Associated Press

DETROIT — Jeep maker Stellantis reached a tentative contract agreement with the United Auto Workers union on Saturday as it escalated strikes against General Motors by adding a plant in Tennessee.

The Stellantis deal, which still must be ratified by members, leaves only GM without an agreement with the union.

But the union walked out Saturday night at a GM factory in Spring Hill, Tenn., in an effort to increase pressure on the company to reach a deal.

The Stellantis deal mirrors one reached earlier in the week with Ford.

GM said it was disappointed with the additional strike at the Spring Hill assembly and propulsion systems plant “in light of the progress we have made.”

The company said in a statement that it has bargained in good faith with the union and wants to reach a deal as soon as possible.

NATION

Pence ends bid for White House

By JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former Vice President Mike Pence dropped his bid for the Republican presidential nomination Saturday, ending his campaign for the White House after struggling to raise money and gain traction in the polls.

“It’s become clear to me: This is not my time,” Pence said at the Republican Jewish Coalition’s annual gathering in Las Vegas. “So after much prayer and deliberation, I have decided to suspend my campaign for president effective today.

“We always knew this would be an uphill battle, but I have no regrets,” Pence went on to tell the friendly audience, which reacted with audible surprise to the announcement and gave him multiple standing ovations.

Pence is the first major candidate to leave a race that has been dominated by his former boss-turned-rival, Donald Trump, and his struggles underscore just how much Trump has transformed the party. A former vice president would typically be seen as a formidable challenger in any primary, but Pence has struggled to find a base of support.

He chose the Las Vegas event to announce his decision, in part, so he could continue to voice his support for Israel and to make his case one last time as a candidate

that the isolationist and populist tides that have swept the Republican Party pose a danger to its future and embolden the nation’s enemies, according to two people close to Pence who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss his thinking.

Pence’s decision, more than two months before the Iowa caucuses that he had staked his campaign on, saves him from accumulating additional debt, as well as the embarrassment of potentially failing to qualify for the third Republican primary debate, on Nov. 8 in Miami.

But his withdrawal is a huge blow for a politician who spent years biding his time as Trump’s most loyal lieutenant, only to be scapegoated during their final days in office when Trump became convinced that Pence somehow had the power to overturn the results of the 2020 election and keep both men in office — which he did not.

While Pence averted a constitutional crisis by rejecting the scheme, he drew Trump’s fury, as well as the wrath of many of Trump’s supporters, who still believed his lies about the election and see Pence as a traitor.

Among Trump critics, meanwhile, Pence was seen as an enabler who defended the former president at every turn and refused to criticize even Trump’s most indefensible actions.

Perry, Emmy-nominated ‘Friends’ star, dead at 54

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES—“Friends” star Matthew Perry, the Emmy-nominated actor whose sarcastic but lovable Chandler Bing was among television’s most famous and most quotable characters, has died at 54.

The actor was found dead of an apparent drowning at his Los Angeles home Saturday, according to the Los Angeles Times and celebrity website TMZ, which was the first to report the news. Both outlets cited unnamed sources confirming Perry’s death.

“Matthew was an incredibly gifted actor and an indelible part of the Warner Bros. Television Group family,” the company said in a statement. “The impact of his comedic genius was felt around the world, and his legacy will live on in the hearts of so many. This is a heart-breaking day, and we send our love to his family, his loved ones and all of his devoted fans.”


Perry

Asked to confirm police response to what was listed as Perry’s home address, LAPD Officer Drake Madison told the AP that officers had gone to that block “for a death investigation of a male in his 50s.”

Perry’s 10 seasons on “Friends” made him one of Hollywood’s most recognizable actors, starring opposite Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Matt LeBlanc, Lisa Kudrow and David Schwimmer as a friend group in New York.

Perry was open about his long and public struggle with addiction, writing at the beginning of his 2022 million-selling memoir: “Hi, my name is Matthew, although you may know me by another name. My friends call me Matty. And I should be dead.”



MICHAEL ROBINSON CHÁVEZ/The Washington Post

A memorial for victims of the August fires is along the Lahaina Bypass Road in Lahaina, Hawaii.

Hawaii to hand over Maui site for wildfire landfill, memorial

By AUDREY MCAVOY
Associated Press

HONOLULU — Hawaii’s land board has approved handing over state land on Maui to be used for a wildfire memorial and fire debris disposal, but officials urged Maui County to talk further with the community after some raised concerns about how the proposed landfill would affect nearby coral reefs and historic sites.

The state Board of Land and Natural Resources on Friday voted to allow the county to use the parcel in Olowalu, about 5 miles south of Lahaina.

The Aug. 8 wildfire left behind burned cars, charred beams and piles of rubble.

Officials have recovered remains from at least 99 people, but believe additional human remains are mixed in with the debris.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency teams have been removing toxic items like pesticides and solar-powered batteries from the town.

The steel and concrete will mostly be recycled, said Shayne Agawa, the director of Maui’s Department of Environmental Management. Debris destined for the

landfill will be mostly ash and small particles, he said.

The ash contains high levels of arsenic and lead and is now sitting outside exposed to wind or rain, creating hazards for people and pets. Removing it as soon as possible will reduce the risk to returning residents, Agawa said.

Using a landfill site near the town will also keep any people lost close to home.

“It allows the ash from Lahaina, which contains human remains, to stay in West Maui,” Agawa told the board before it voted.

Officials said the debris would be put into dumpsters lined with impermeable plastic, then wrapped up and sealed with glue. Another layer of plastic would then cover it before it’s placed in the landfill site, which would be closed and covered with grass. It would look like a park, Agawa said.

The county plans to monitor the area for the next 30 years, he said. Officials plan to install groundwater wells between the landfill and the ocean to check for potential contaminant leaks.

Several speakers said board authorities should be thinking about how the landfill would affect the

environment centuries from now, in part because the landfill is just 400 yards from the coast.

The reef off Olowalu hosts the largest known manta ray population in the U.S. and is a primary source of coral larvae for the reefs of Lanai, Molokai and West Maui, said Scott Crawford, the Maui marine director for The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii.

He’s worried the landfill would further stress the 939-acre reef, which is already under pressure from other environmental challenges, both global and local.

“I hope that we are thinking in terms of 100 or 200 years or more when the great-great-grandchildren are using this area,” Crawford told the board.

Crawford said he understood the urgency of moving quickly to find a landfill site and believes a memorial is important for the community, but urged that agencies mitigate any long-term environmental effects.

The county said it plans to hold open houses to talk to the public about what the landfill site would look like. Spokesperson Mahina Martin told the board the county has done some outreach, but needs to do more.

Canadian fishing boat saves American

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — A Canadian fishing boat rescued an American man one day after the U.S. Coast Guard ended its search for a missing commercial fishing boat from Washington state with two people board, authorities said.

U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Steve Strohmaier said the Canada-based Ocean Sunset spotted a covered life raft drifting in open ocean about 46 miles off the west

coast of Vancouver Island on Thursday.

Strohmaier said the Ocean Sunset’s crew found the man conscious on the raft, which was from the Evening fishing boat based in Gray’s Harbor, Wash. The man was taken to shore by the Canadian Coast Guard and was reported in stable condition. His identity was not released.

The fate of the Evening and the other person aboard were unknown. Strohmaier said Coast

Guard officials hoped to speak with the survivor soon to determine whether to renew the search.

A social media post from U.S. officials said the life raft from the 42-foot Evening was found more than 124 miles northwest of Gray’s Harbor.

U.S. officials had suspended the search for the Evening on Wednesday, 11 days after it was reported overdue and two weeks after it had set out on what was supposed to be a three-day trip.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police fatally shoot man wielding sledgehammer

IL ROUND LAKE BEACH — A man suspected of attacking two relatives with a sledgehammer was fatally shot by police after he charged at officers. Officers in Round Lake Beach responded to a domestic violence report and removed two injured women from an open garage. The suspect armed with the sledgehammer charged at officers and first was shot with a stun gun, the Lake County Major Crimes Task Force said. He continued toward the officers when at least one officer shot him with his service weapon. The man later died at a hospital. The Lake County Coroner’s Office on Thursday identified him as 22-year-old Brandon Barry of Round Lake Beach and said he died from multiple gunshot wounds. The injured women are believed to be his mother and an aunt. They were taken to a hospital, police said

Officials: Woman met men for sex, killed them

OH COLUMBUS — An Ohio woman has been indicted on murder charges in the deaths of at least four men in Columbus, the Ohio Attorney General said, though investigators believe there are more victims. Rebecca Auburn, 33, of Columbus, is accused of meeting men for sex before fatally drugging them and then robbing them, state Attorney General Dave Yost said in a statement. “Don’t buy sex in Ohio — it ruins lives and could cost you yours,” Yost said in a statement. Four of Auburn’s alleged victims died of overdoses between December 2022 and June 2023 and one man survived, authorities said, but they did not identify the victims.

Man accused of drunken driving can sue officer

MI FOWLERVILLE — A man from Japan wrongly accused of drunken driving can sue a Michigan police officer who grossly misread a breath test and conceded during the stop that she had “no idea” what she was doing, a federal appeals court said Thursday. The man blew a 0.02 on the breath test, but it was mistakenly read by the Fowlerville officer as 0.22 — nearly three times over the state’s blood-alcohol limit for driving. A blood draw subsequently revealed a blood-alcohol level of 0.01. Charges of driving while intoxicated were dropped days later in 2020 when the lab results came in. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the man’s lawsuit, alleging a violation of constitutional rights, can proceed against Officer Caitlyn Peca. The man, a 37-year-old native of



ALAN WARREN THE (OWENSBORO, KY.) MESSENGER-INQUIRER/AP

Horrors on parade

Chad Dillon Payne of Blue Moon Frights of Philpot puts a scare into trick-or-treaters with a life-size puppet during last week’s Trail of Treats in Owensboro, Ky.

Yonago, Japan, was in the U.S. on a work visa.

2 men shot by young, inexperienced hunters

MN MINNEAPOLIS — Two Minnesota men have been injured in separate hunting accidents when they were accidentally shot by young, inexperienced hunters during the youth firearms deer season. Both men survived but had to be hospitalized, the Minneapolis Star Tribune reported last week. The Sherburne County Sheriff’s Office said that a 45-year-old man was in a deer stand with his 13-year-old daughter. After shooting a deer, the girl accidentally fired a second round that struck her father in the leg. Another relative applied a makeshift tourniquet until deputies arrived. Also Sunday, a 50-year-old Bemidji man was struck in the buttocks when the 10-year-old hunter the man was supervising accidentally pulled the trigger while attempting to unload, authorities said. The man was airlifted to a hospital in Fargo, N. D., “due to the seriousness of his injuries.”

Private school voucher program challenged

SC COLUMBIA — A group of South Carolina parents and teachers’ advocates filed a challenge Thursday to a new Republican-backed law

allowing taxpayer dollars to help families pay for private schools. As it stands, up to 15,000 students will eventually access \$6,000 annually in publicly funded savings accounts that can be used toward private K-12 tuition. The South Carolina Education Association and state chapter of the NAACP want the state’s highest court to toss out the program that they said runs afoul of a prohibition on the use of government funds to directly benefit private educational institutions. Plaintiffs say the voucher program violates several other sections of the South Carolina Constitution. They argue the state is failing its duty to provide a “system of free public schools open to all children” by covering costs at private schools that are neither free nor open to all. **Fertility doctor accused of using his own sperm** **WA** SEATTLE — An Idaho woman is suing her one-time fertility doctor, saying he secretly used his own sperm to inseminate her 34 years ago — the latest in a string of such cases brought as at-home DNA sampling enables people to learn more about their ancestry. Sharon Hayes, 67, of Hauser, Idaho, said in the lawsuit that she sought fertility care from Dr. David R. Claypool, an obstetrician and gynecologist in Spokane in 1989 after she and her then-hus-

band had been unable to conceive. She wanted an anonymous donor, and, according to the complaint filed last week in Spokane County Superior Court, Claypool informed her the donor would be selected based on traits she selected, such as hair and eye color, and that the donor would be screened for health or genetic issues. But last year, her 33-year-old daughter, Brianna Hayes, learned who her biological father was after submitting her DNA to the genetic testing and ancestry website 23andMe. **Nonprofit director stole millions, indictment says** **MO** ST. LOUIS — The executive director of a Missouri nonprofit stole millions of dollars from a program intended to provide meals for low-income children, according to a federal indictment. Connie Bobo, 44, of St. Charles, was indicted on three counts of wire fraud, three counts of aggravated identity theft and two counts of obstruction of an official proceeding. Bobo is executive director of New Heights Community Resource Center in the St. Louis suburb of Bridgeton. The nonprofit accepted funding provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by the state to feed low-income school-aged children after school and during the summer, including during the CO-

VID-19 pandemic. According to the indictment, Bobo used the money to buy a home worth nearly \$1 million, bought homes for relatives and used \$2.2 million of the money on a commercial real estate investment. She also gave nearly \$1.4 million to a romantic partner who spent \$211,907 of the funds on a Mercedes-Benz. **Congressman pleads guilty to pulling fire alarm** **DC** WASHINGTON — Democratic Rep. Jamaal Bowman pleaded guilty Thursday to a misdemeanor count for triggering a fire alarm as lawmakers scrambled to pass a funding bill before a government shutdown deadline. He will pay a \$1,000 fine and serve three months of probation, after which the false fire alarm charge is expected to be dismissed under an agreement with prosecutors. The alarm forced the evacuation of a House office building for over an hour on Sept. 30. The New York lawmaker acknowledged pulling the alarm but said it was a mistake as he tried to open an unexpectedly locked door in a rush to get to vote. The funding package was ultimately approved with most Republicans and almost all Democrats, including Bowman, supporting the bill.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Russia says it shot down more than 30 Ukrainian drones

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian air defense shot down over 30 Ukrainian drones over the Black Sea and the Crimean Peninsula overnight Saturday, Russia's Defense Ministry said Sunday.

"The air defense systems in place destroyed 36 Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles over the Black Sea and the northwestern part of the Crimean peninsula," the ministry wrote on Telegram.

Local authorities in the southern Krasnodar region bordering the Black Sea said that a fire broke out at an oil refinery in the early hours of Sunday, but did not specify the cause. "The reasons for the incident are being established," a statement from local authorities

said, amid claims in local media outlets that the fire had been caused by a drone strike or debris from a downed drone.

Drone strikes and shelling on the Russian border regions and Moscow-annexed Crimea are a regular occurrence.

Ukrainian officials never acknowledge responsibility for attacks on Russian territory or the Crimean Peninsula.

In Ukraine, the country's air force said Sunday it had shot down five Iranian-made Shahed exploding drones launched by Russia overnight.

Close to the front line in the country's east, where Ukrainian and Russian forces are locked in a grinding battle for control, four



BRAM JANSSEN/AP

People push a broken down vehicle past a closed down restaurant in Slovyansk, Ukraine, on Thursday.

police officers were wounded when a shell fired by Russian troops exploded by their police car in the city of Siversk, located in the partly occupied Donetsk province.

British intelligence assessed this weekend that Russia had suffered some of its biggest casualty rates so far this year as a result of continued "heavy but inconclusive" fighting around the town of Avdiivka, also in the Donetsk

province. The UK Ministry of Defence's regular intelligence update on Saturday morning noted that Russia had committed "elements of up to eight brigades" in the area since it launched its "major offensive effort" in mid-October.

Also on Sunday, a prominent ally of Russian President Vladimir Putin warned that Russia might take action to seize assets of European Union member states it con-

siders hostile if the EU proceeds with its plan to "steal" frozen Russian funds to support Ukraine's post-war reconstruction efforts.

"A number of European politicians ... have once again started talking about stealing our country's frozen funds in order to continue the militarization of Kyiv," Vyacheslav Volodin, the Chairman of the State Duma, the lower house of Russia's parliament, wrote on Telegram.

Pentagon approves new \$150M aid package for Ukraine

By DOUG G. WARE

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon on Thursday announced another shipment of military weapons and equipment for Ukraine as Congress faces a deadline to authorize more aid to help the country in its war with Russia.

The new aid is worth \$150 million and includes mostly air-defense equipment, missiles, small-arms ammunition and various other maintenance and logistical items, the Defense Department said. Like most previous aid packages to Ukraine, the new tranche is being sent through presidential

drawdown authority, which allows the Pentagon to take equipment and weapons from U.S. military stocks and send them to Europe on an emergency basis.

Though Congress has not yet authorized fiscal 2024 funding for the Defense Department, the Pentagon still has a couple billion dollars in drawdown authority that can be spent on aid to Ukraine. Once those funds run out, however, federal lawmakers would need to approve more.

The drawdown funds would have already run out if it wasn't for an accounting error that the Pentagon uncovered in June that

opened an additional \$6.2 billion. The department had overestimated costs for missiles, ammunition and other equipment and that resulted in the unexpected surplus. The other main option for sending equipment, the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, has already run out of money, military officials said.

In its new aid announcement, the Defense Department called on Congress to quickly authorize more funds for Ukraine. Military officials and President Joe Biden have said recently that the United States can afford to send aid to Ukraine as well as help Israel, which

is now engaged in a war with the militant group Hamas.

"Security assistance for Ukraine is a smart investment in our national security. It helps to prevent a larger conflict in the region and deter potential aggression elsewhere, while strengthening our defense industrial base and creating highly skilled jobs for the American people," the Pentagon said in a statement Thursday. "The Biden administration calls on Congress to meet its commitment to the people of Ukraine by passing additional funding to ensure Ukraine continues to have what it needs to defend itself."

Congress must pass funding for 2024 by Nov. 17 to avoid a government shutdown after lawmakers agreed to a 45-day stopgap spending measure when the new fiscal year began Oct. 1.

Thursday's aid package is smaller than previous rounds of Ukrainian assistance. A package last month was worth \$325 million and another in July was worth \$400 million. Biden has so far committed roughly \$44 billion in security aid to Ukraine since Russia invaded the country in February 2022.

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WORLD



AHN YOUNG-JOON/AP

Families of the victims react during a rally marking the first anniversary of the crowd surge, at the Seoul Plaza, South Korea, on Sunday.

S. Korean families urge probe year after Halloween disaster

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Bereaved relatives of victims of last year's devastating Halloween crush in Seoul and their supporters demanded an independent investigation of the disaster as they marked the anniversary Sunday with a massive memorial service.

The crush, one of the biggest peacetime disasters in South Korea, killed 159 people, most of them in their 20s and 30s who had gathered in Itaewon, a popular nightlife district in Seoul, for Hal-

loween celebrations.

Commemorating the anniversary, the families, activists and others visited the Itaewon area and offered condolences at an alley where the crush happened. They also attended multi-religious prayer services for their loved ones.

In a speech, Lee Jeong-min, a representative for the families, urged President Yoon Suk Yeol to support efforts to legislate a special law to open an independent investigation into the disaster.

More help arrives in Acapulco as hurricane's death toll rises

BY MEGAN JANETSKY
Associated Press

ACAPULCO, Mexico — More resources are arriving on Mexico's battered Pacific coast, and the death toll from Hurricane Otis is growing as searchers recover more bodies from Acapulco's harbor and under fallen trees and other storm debris.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Saturday that his opponents are trying to inflate the toll to damage him politically, but few expect the latest mark of 39 dead to be where it stops. Hundreds of families are still awaiting word from loved ones.

Otis roared ashore early Wednesday with devastating 165 mph winds after strengthening so rapidly that people had little time to prepare.

Kristian Vera stood on an Acapulco beach Saturday looking out toward dozens of sunken boats, including three of her own, all

marked by floating buoys or just poking out of the water.

Despite losing her livelihood in Otis' brutal pass through Mexico's over Pacific coast, the 44-year-old fisher felt fortunate. Earlier in the day, she watched a body pulled from the water and saw families coming and going, looking for their loved ones.

Mexican authorities raised Otis' official toll to 39 dead and 10 missing Saturday. But Vera and others suggested that number will likely grow, in part because of the number of people who rode out on boats during what had started as a tropical storm and in just 12 hours powered up into a catastrophic Category 5 hurricane.

"That night I was so worried because I live off of this, it's how I feed my kids," Vera said. "But when I began to feel how strong the wind was, I said, 'Tomorrow I won't have a boat, but God willing Acapulco will see another day.'"

In Acapulco, government workers and volunteers cleared streets, gas station lines wrapped around the block for what fuel was to be had, and some lucky families found food essentials as a more organized relief operation took shape four days after the storm hit.

But on the periphery of the city, neighborhoods remained in total chaos.

The government presence found in the tourist center was not visible in other areas. With no signal, no water and no food, people young and old trudged through foot-deep mud and flooded streets to get to large warehouses someone had found full of food.

Aid has been slow to arrive. The storm's destruction cut off the city of nearly 1 million people for the first day, and because it intensified so quickly on Tuesday little to nothing had been staged in advance.

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market




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FACES

Emo cowgirl more than merely lucky

Breakout country musician and double CMA nominee Megan Moroney thriving on power of songwriting skills

By MARIA SHERMAN
Associated Press

Not so long before her platinum-selling single “Tennessee Orange” became inescapable on country radio, this year scoring Megan Moroney her first-ever CMA nominations (song of the year and artist of the year), the up-and-comer was attending the University of Georgia. The life of a country musician? It wasn’t supposed to happen.

“It is truly crazy because I went to school to be an accountant,” Moroney tells The Associated Press. “And here we are.”

Fate clearly had other plans. When she was a freshman, Moroney opened for singer John Langston at a sorority event, performing a few Miranda Lambert covers. There, she met Chase Rice, who told her she could open for him at the Georgia Theater — but she needed to write an original song first.

“So, I wrote my first song, called ‘Stay A Memory,’ and I performed it,” she says. “I didn’t put it out, but maybe one day I’ll tease it.”

After that show, she knew she wanted to move to Nashville and pursue music — but first, she switched her major to focus on music business and interned with Sugarland’s Kristian Bush, who’d later produce her stellar debut album, 2023’s “Lucky.”

After graduating in 2020, she moved to Nashville, and in 2022, released a debut EP, “Pistol Made of Roses,” catching the attention of all-star songwriters who she’d eventually work with on “Lucky,” like Lori McKenna, Luke Laird and Jessie Jo Dillon. The rest is only history because of the strength of her songwriting — “emo cowgirl” music, as she calls it.

That’s evidenced throughout “Lucky”

from the deceptively optimistic “Sad Songs for Sad People,” to the Johnny Cash and June Carter-referencing “Why Johnny” to the opener “I’m Not Pretty,” with its Gen Z Taylor Swift-level acuity: “Did you mean to double-tap that Spring Break throwback from 2016 in PCB?,” she sings on the track, a reference to Southeastern Conference (SEC) college football, social media doom scrolling, the devastation of past relationships and the universal experience of “creeping or getting creeped on,” as she puts it.

It’s also apparent on the acoustic self-worth ballad, “Girl in the Mirror,” which follows a simple chord progression and a woman sacrificing her agency in a relationship and learning to reclaim autonomy afterward. “I think ‘Girl in the Mirror’ has the most important message of all the songs on the record,” she says.

It’s the tear-jerker live, too. “That’s the one where girls are hugging their friends, group crying, like, having a full-on therapy session.”

All roads lead to the career-making “Tennessee Orange,” where Moroney, a Georgia Bulldog through and through, puts on University of Tennessee colors for a partner. It’s a football love song, one about the concessions people make in the name of affection and intimacy — and the track that fast-tracked Moroney into the country spotlight.

“It’s, like, not a conventional love song,” she says. “I think people can tell that I don’t write too many of those because I’m just like, not great at it.

“But it’s like, ‘I’m not madly in love with you, but I will wear a color for you and a shirt because I care about you.’ I think that was just my cheeky songwriting coming



REBECCA CABAGE, INVISION/AP

Country musician Megan Moroney released her debut album, “Lucky,” in May. Moroney has two nominations for the CMAs on Nov. 8, song of the year and artist of the year.

through with that one. But yeah, I definitely don’t belong in Tennessee Orange as a Georgia Bulldog.”

For that reason, she didn’t expect “Tennessee Orange” to be her breakout hit. “If I would have thought, like, ‘what is my break-

out moment going to be?’ It wasn’t going to be a song that was recorded, mixed, mastered and turned in in 48 hours,” she says.

“That’s the thing about putting out music,” she adds. “You just don’t know what’s going to resonate with people.”

Timberlake canceling gigs amid backlash from Spears memoir

From wire reports

Justin Timberlake is backing out of some scheduled gigs in the wake of the explosive claims made about him in ex-girlfriend Britney Spears’ memoir, which went on sale last week.

The “SexyBack” singer, 42, will no longer appear at some clubs early next year, as previously scheduled, sources told TMZ.

News of those canceled slots — which were intended to promote his upcoming new album — comes just days after the Oct. 24 release of “The Woman in Me.” The week leading up to the memoir’s debut brought a slew of bombshell revelations about Timberlake’s relationship with the “Stronger” singer, 41, from 1999 to 2002.

Spears in the book claims that the *NSYNC breakout — with whom she appeared on “The Mickey Mouse Club” — impregnated her and ultimately convinced her to get an abortion, which she long regretted. She also accused him of having cheated on her. Though she admitted to once having “made out” with choreographer Wade Robson, Spears criticized Timberlake for publicly positioning her as the “harlot who’d broken the heart of America’s golden boy.”

As of Oct. 25, “The Woman in Me” had already sold more than 400,000 copies.

In the days ahead of its publication, sources told Us Weekly that Timberlake was “not going to be happy” with the shout-outs he gets in the book. While it was “not Britney’s intention to skewer anyone,” the insider said the book does “relay the facts from her perspective.”

Christine McVie estate sells her stake in Fleetwood Mac’s music

Nearly one year after her death, the estate of Christine McVie has sold the rights to songs she made with Fleetwood Mac.

The Newark, N.J.-based investment firm HarbourView Equity Partners is behind the acquisition of her catalog, which includes hits that McVie either wrote, played or sang vocals on, including “Over My Head,” “Everywhere” and songs from the band’s seminal 1977 “Rumours” album, such as “Don’t Stop,” “You Make Loving Fun” and “Songbird,” the firm said in a statement announcing the sale on Oct. 25. She was part of the recording of 16 Fleetwood Mac albums between 1968 and 1995.

McVie is now the fourth member of Fleetwood Mac whose music rights have been snapped up by music publishers, private equity firms and others over the past several years for significant sums of cash, with the McVie estate joining Mick Fleetwood, Stevie Nicks and former member Lindsey Buckingham.

HarbourView declined to disclose the amount of the recent McVie deal.

In 2020, Nicks sold the majority of her songs to Primary Wave for a reported \$100 million, according to the Wall Street Journal. The following year, Fleetwood and Buckingham followed suit, selling their whole catalogs to BMG and Hipgnosis, respectively, for undisclosed sums.

Other news

■ “Chicago P.D.” star Tracy Spiridakos, who plays Detective Hailey Upton, will reportedly leave the series after its upcoming 11th season. According to Variety, it is unknown how long Spiridakos will be featured in the new season before she’s written off the Dick Wolf-produced procedural. Her departure will follow the 2022 exit of Jesse Lee Soffer, who played her onscreen husband, Jay Halstead.

Bizarro



Loose Parts



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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ACROSS

- 1 Molt
- 5 Hog haven
- 8 Diving duck
- 12 Sped
- 13 Metal source
- 14 Embedded spy
- 15 Grand tale
- 16 Recent recruits
- 18 Japanese emperor
- 20 Choose
- 21 Periodicals, for short
- 23 Prefix with natal
- 24 Dracula-inspired trick-or-treaters
- 28 "Frozen" reindeer
- 31 "Patience — virtue"
- 32 Heroic narratives
- 34 Rock's Brian
- 35 Tabloid writing
- 37 Rugged car parts for off-roading
- 39 "Exodus" hero
- 41 Thames town
- 42 Bribe
- 45 Title holders
- 49 Breathes
- 51 Infamous tsar
- 52 New York canal
- 53 Small battery

- 54 Jules Verne captain
- 55 Fly high
- 56 Sample
- 57 Seize

- 24 Big shot
- 25 Tempe sch.
- 26 Kuala Lumpur's land
- 27 "Alas ..."
- 29 Away from WSW
- 30 Refusals
- 33 Pack cargo
- 36 Prim partner
- 38 Baseball division
- 40 "Don't mind — do!"
- 42 Corp. honcho
- 43 Plane-related
- 44 Dorm alternative
- 46 Always
- 47 Hindu hero
- 48 Elitist
- 50 Jug handle

DOWN

- 1 Flower part
- 2 Pueblo people
- 3 Actor Estrada
- 4 Sneak away
- 5 Baby picture?
- 6 Three, in Rome
- 7 Evergreen trees
- 8 Happy faces
- 9 Besides
- 10 Power co. supply
- 11 Left on a map
- 17 Chick's mom
- 19 Lectern locale
- 22 Musical transition

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	I	L	A	C		I	T	C	H	E	D
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10-30

CRYPTOQUIP

DLIUXNI BQVLMO GEVL FP
SDL FEISQGMCL FEIIUIEPLCO
XMC QGUCMBQZK MZL'O

KEGL: MCQMILO' SNSMCQEIO.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT YOU CALL IT WHEN CAT GHOSTS ARE PRODUCING CONTENTED NOISES? PURR-ANORMAL ACTIVITY.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals G

Frazz



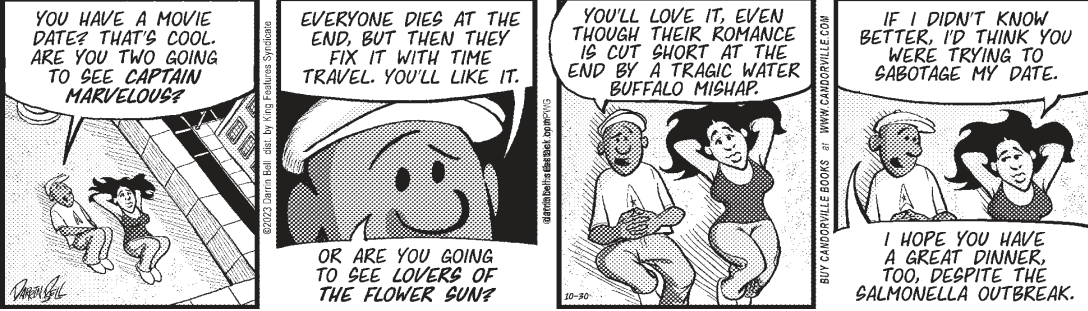
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



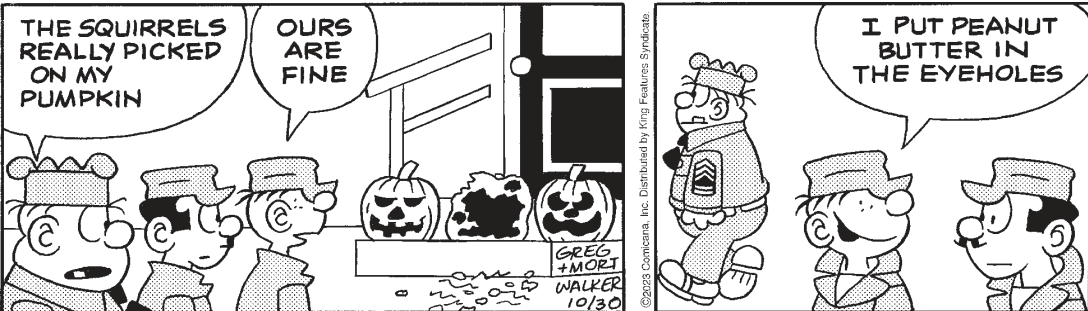
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey





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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published week-days (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96301-5002. This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located. The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

OPINION

Drug crisis adding to military struggles

By REP. MORGAN LUTTRELL
Special to Stars and Stripes

The fentanyl crisis continues to rage across the United States. Families from Alaska to Maine have felt the impact of this crisis driven by a manufactured opioid shake them to their core. Unfortunately, this crisis has reached our service members. In the U.S. Army and Navy, our two largest branches, we’ve learned that fentanyl deaths are on the rise. As a veteran, I recognize firsthand that this is a dangerous threat to our national security and the Biden administration must be held accountable for its policies that have played a central role in the crisis.

A committee on which I serve in Congress, the House Committee on Homeland Security, just last week released a report detailing the tragic human costs of the border crisis playing out under Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas’ policies, including the lives lost to the fentanyl flowing across the border.

And make no mistake, we found the rise in fentanyl deaths is a direct result of the current administration’s open borders policies, and our service members are paying the price.

In 2021, fentanyl was the leading cause of overdose deaths among active-duty service members. According to the Department of Defense, 127 soldiers died of fentanyl poisoning between 2015 and 2022.

Unfortunately, we also lost 27 soldiers in 2021, a record number, to fentanyl. Fentanyl was responsible for more than half of all the Army’s overdose deaths from 2017 to 2021. In the Navy, where I served for 14 years,

young sailors are also losing their lives to this lethal substance. In 2020 alone, the Navy launched five investigations into fentanyl-related deaths at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois. Since then, we have no information from the Navy regarding how many more have lost their lives in the past three years, despite the media’s effort to obtain answers from the department. This synthetic drug is killing our service members. We must stop its flow into our military installations.

Recruitment is already suffering under the politicized leadership of this administration. One 2018 report documented how only 29% of young Americans between 17 and 24 are eligible to serve in the military. We certainly cannot afford to lose those service members who are able to wear the uniform to a preventable tragedy like fentanyl poisoning.

China’s malign influence has not only been responsible for pervasive military intellectual property theft and gross abuse of human rights but also the fentanyl epidemic. The Chinese Communist Party manufactures the majority of the precursor chemicals needed to create fentanyl and then exports them to Latin America. The cartels create the fentanyl and either force others to carry the drug into the United States on their behalf or create diversions at the border to sneak it across themselves. We know that over 50% of all fentanyl coming into the country is coming through Arizona’s border.

The Biden administration’s refusal to secure our borders has resulted in American lives being lost. Our adversaries are attempting to undermine and weaken us,

Maine needs to fill empty spaces left by attack

By KATE WOODSOME

The Washington Post

Growing up in Portland, I remember thinking of Lewiston, about 35 miles up the road, as an old mill town of gritty Mainers who had to deal with the poverty, crime and lead paint that remained after the jobs disappeared.

Since I moved away, Lewiston has written a new story for itself. Somali immigrants have brought new vibrancy to my old, white state. Federal money has rehabilitated the downtown. New businesses and artists have decided the city on the Androscoggin River is a beautiful place to be.

In one night, one person with a gun changed everything. Maine is reeling after the suspect shot up a bowling alley, and then a bar and grill, killing at least 18 people. The suspect, an Army reservist, reportedly had been treated in a mental health facility for two weeks this summer.

After the Wednesday attack, gun rights advocates will focus on mental illness. Gun-control advocates will focus on guns. What the country should focus on is supporting the survivors. To do this, we need to understand the empty spaces that gun violence creates.

People go missing from homes and schools and friendships. A sense of safety and security vanishes. In the void, fear, grief and rage can take their place. All too often, anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder move in.

I learned the phrase “empty space” from

Jessica Abell, a pastor in the Denver area. We met when I was covering a sit-in to ban guns in June at the Colorado Capitol. As part of her ministry, she has comforted folks dying from chronic illness and has described their deaths as “tragic but beautiful.”

Shooting deaths are different.

Seeing them happen again and again in Colorado, Abell has learned that gun violence is so quick and impossible to prepare for that it radically and rapidly changes the lives not only of the victims’ loved ones but also of the people “on the fringe.” The school administrators, doctors and chaplains. The men and women working at the restaurant and bowling alley in Lewiston that night.

“We don’t really know how to address the empty spaces, so we pretend they aren’t there and hope they’re going to scar over,” she told me.

These scars look different for different people. Some cover their anger, heartbreak and even guilt by arming up with weapons or emotional defenses. They might withdraw from activities because they’re too overwhelmed to explain what they’re feeling, or don’t want to hear what others are experiencing.

Gun violence survivors have told me they’ve become isolated and alienated because they wanted to talk about the trauma, while their friends just wanted to move on.

People grieve and heal in different ways on different timelines.

There isn’t a simple solution to fix us all at

whether it’s our border security, our public health, or our military strength. We must secure our borders, hold the CCP accountable, and reinforce our military dominance on the world stage.

No parent should ever have to bury their own child. Sometimes, in the military, however, those are the immeasurable sacrifices our Gold Star Families are being forced to make.

Now, a growing number of families are losing their children not on a distant battlefield, but to the opioid crisis in our own backyard. How many of our nation’s heroes are we going to lose to this drug before President Joe Biden and Alejandro Mayorkas address this national security crisis?

As a combat veteran, our obligation is to support those who serve and make the ultimate sacrifices for our country. Our service members swore an oath to protect our nation, but it’s up to us to protect them in return. Just like we wouldn’t jump into another war because we value the lives of our soldiers, we cannot allow this crisis to continue.

The DHS’ primary objective is to protect the homeland. Mayorkas has done the opposite. Our nation is now in a more vulnerable state because he has enabled our adversaries, including the cartels, to take advantage of the administration’s open-borders policies. By allowing fentanyl to reach our service members, this administration has jeopardized our armed forces and national security. There will be accountability for these failures and for the needless deaths of our service members.

Rep. Morgan Luttrell, a Republican, represents Texas’ 8th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

once. But there is something that can keep us individually and collectively from falling further apart.

Community. It fills the space.

None of us should endure tragedy on our own. Funerals and memorial services allow us to come together to grieve. When they’re over, though, friendship, civic engagement — realizing you’re not alone — stock the empty space with humanity in the months and years ahead.

This doesn’t mean that everyone affected needs to join a sharing circle. It means that the community, our bullet-ridden country, needs to acknowledge the terror that gun violence sows.

This allows survivors to understand why they might jump at loud noises, have a short temper or feel hopeless. A community that allows room for suffering allows room for healing.

Lewiston will not be the same after this shooting. But it will, slowly, recover and write a new chapter that, sadly, reflects a little more of the American story.

Resilience defines Mainers, the old and the new. We have endured economic depression — and the addiction and poor health that come with it. Resilience drives the asylum seekers who are helping revive the economy in Lewiston, a city that didn’t welcome them at first.

Resilience will grow from this trauma — if community fills the spaces it leaves.

Kate Woodsome covers how social and political ills affect our mental health and what we can do to get better.

SCOREBOARD/BOXING

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL							
AMERICAN CONFERENCE							
East							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Miami	5	2	0	.714	240	187	
Buffalo	5	3	0	.625	222	136	
N.Y. Jets	3	3	0	.500	113	119	
New England	2	5	0	.286	101	177	
South							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Jacksonville	5	2	0	.714	173	146	
Houston	3	3	0	.500	135	113	
Indianapolis	3	4	0	.429	178	191	
Tennessee	2	4	0	.333	104	117	
North							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	171	97	
Cleveland	4	2	0	.667	134	115	
Pittsburgh	4	2	0	.667	103	127	
Cincinnati	3	3	0	.500	100	127	
West							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Kansas City	6	1	0	.857	178	105	
Las Vegas	3	4	0	.429	112	161	
L.A. Chargers	2	4	0	.333	144	155	
Denver	2	5	0	.286	148	217	

NATIONAL CONFERENCE							
East							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Philadelphia	6	1	0	.857	186	141	
Dallas	4	2	0	.667	154	100	
Washington	3	4	0	.429	140	190	
N.Y. Giants	2	5	0	.286	85	174	
South							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Atlanta	4	3	0	.571	115	133	
New Orleans	3	4	0	.429	133	127	
Tampa Bay	3	4	0	.429	121	128	
Carolina	0	6	0	.000	112	186	
North							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Detroit	5	2	0	.714	174	151	
Minnesota	3	4	0	.429	151	152	
Green Bay	2	4	0	.333	130	132	
Chicago	2	5	0	.286	158	188	
West							
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
San Francisco	5	2	0	.714	201	109	
Seattle	4	2	0	.667	144	118	
L.A. Rams	3	4	0	.429	155	141	
Arizona	1	6	0	.143	127	182	

Thursday's game	
Buffalo 24,	Tampa Bay 18
Sunday's games	
Atlanta at Tennessee	
Houston at Carolina	
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh	
L.A. Rams at Dallas	
Minnesota at Green Bay	
N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants	
New England at Miami	
New Orleans at Indianapolis	
Philadelphia at Washington	
Cleveland at Seattle	
Baltimore at Arizona	
Cincinnati at San Francisco	
Kansas City at Denver	
Chicago at L.A. Chargers	
Monday's game	
Las Vegas at Detroit	
Thursday, Nov. 2	
Tennessee at Pittsburgh	
Sunday, Nov. 5	
Miami vs Kansas City at Frankfurt, Germany	
Arizona at Cleveland	
Chicago at New Orleans	
L.A. Rams at Green Bay	
Minnesota at Atlanta	
Seattle at Baltimore	
Tampa Bay at Houston	
Washington at New England	
Indianapolis at Carolina	
Dallas at Philadelphia	
N.Y. Giants at Las Vegas	
Buffalo at Cincinnati	
Open:	Denver, Jacksonville, Detroit, San Francisco

NFL injury report

NEW YORK — The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league (OUT: Player will not play; DOUBTFUL: Player is unlikely to play; QUESTIONABLE: Player is not certain to play; DNP: did not practice; LIMITED: limited participation; FULL: Full participation):

Monday

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS at DETROIT LIONS — **LAS VEGAS:** OUT: LB Divine Deablo (ankle). **QUESTIONABLE:** LB Curtis Bolton (knee), K Daniel Carlson (right groin), CB Nate Hobbs (ankle). **LIMITED:** DE Maxx Crosby (knee). **CB** Marcus Peters (back). **FULL:** WR Davante Adams (shoulder), CB Jakorian Bennett (shoulder/knee), QB Jimmy Garoppolo (back), CB Tyler Hall (foot). **DETROIT:** OUT: G Jonah Jackson (ankle), RB David Montgomery (ribs). **DOUBTFUL:** C Frank Ragnow (toe/calf). **QUESTIONABLE:** DL Benito Jones (ankle), DE Joshua Paschal (knee), LB Malcolm Rodriguez (ankle), G Halapoulivai Vaitai (back). **FULL:** CB Jerry Jacobs (knee).

PRO SOCCER

MLS playoffs	
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Eastern Conference Wild Card
New York 5, Charlotte 2	Western Conference Wild Card
Sporting Kansas City 0, San Jose 0,	Sporting Kansas City advanced 4-2 on penalty kicks
First Round	Best-of-three
x-if necessary	Eastern Conference
Philadelphia 1, New England 0	Philadelphia 3, New England 1
Wednesday, Nov. 8:	at New England
x-Sunday, Nov. 12:	at Philadelphia
Orlando vs. Nashville	
Monday:	at Orlando
Tuesday, Nov. 7:	at Nashville
x-Sunday, Nov. 12:	at Orlando
Columbus vs. Atlanta	
Wednesday:	at Columbus
Wednesday, Nov. 7:	at Atlanta
x-Sunday, Nov. 12:	at Columbus
Cincinnati vs. New York	
Sunday:	at Cincinnati
Saturday, Nov. 4:	at New York
x-Saturday, Nov. 11:	at Cincinnati
Western Conference	
Los Angeles FC 1, Vancouver 0	
Saturday:	Los Angeles FC 5, Vancouver 2
Sunday, Nov. 5:	at Vancouver
x-Thursday, Nov. 9:	at Los Angeles FC
Houston vs. Real Salt Lake	
Sunday:	at Houston
Monday, Nov. 6:	Salt Lake
x-Saturday, Nov. 11:	at Houston
Seattle vs. FC Dallas	
Monday:	at Seattle

TENNIS	
Humbert, France, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (5).	Felix Auger-Aliassime (6), Canada, def. Holger Rune (1), Denmark, 6-3, 6-2.
Men's Doubles	Semifinals
Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, and Santiago Gonzalez (3), Mexico, def. Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz, Germany, 6-4, 6-4.	Hugo Nys, Monaco, and Jan Zielinski, Poland, def. Michael Venus, New Zealand, and Jamie Murray (4), Britain, 4-6, 6-4, 10-7.
Erste Bank Open	
Saturday	At Wiener Stadthalle
Vienna	Purse: Euro 2,409,835
Surface: Hardcourt indoor	Men's Singles
Semifinals	
Daniil Medvedev (1), Russia, def. Stefanos Tsitsipas (4), Greece, 6-4, 7-6 (6).	Jannik Sinner (2), Italy, def. Andrey Rublev (3), Russia, 7-5, 7-6 (5).
Men's Doubles	Semifinals
Rajeev Ram, United States, and Joe Salisbury (2), Britain, def. Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands, and Marcelo Arevalo-Gonzalez (3), El Salvador, 6-7 (2), 6-3, 10-6.	
DEALS	

Saturday's transactions	
FOOTBALL	National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS	— Signed WR Andre Baccellia to the active roster. Promoted DL Ben Stille and RB Damien Williams to the active roster from the practice squad. Placed OL Elijah Wilkinson on injured reserve.
ATLANTA FALCONS	— Signed P Pat O'Donnell to the practice squad and promoted him to the active roster. Released LB Donovan Muti from the practice squad.
BALTIMORE RAVENS	— Promoted DB DeAndre Houston-Carson and RB Owen Wright to the active roster from the practice squad. Reinstated WR Tylan Wallace from injured reserve.
CAROLINA PANTHERS	— Promoted S Matthias Farley and LB Eku Leota to the active roster from the practice squad.
CHICAGO BEARS	— Reinstated DE Khalid Kareem from injured reserve. Released OT Aviante Collins and S A.J. Thomas.
CINCINNATI BENGALS	— Placed HB Chase Brown on the reserve/injured list.
CLEVELAND BROWNS	— Promoted T Ty Nsekhe and RB Jordan Wilkins to the active roster from the practice squad.
DALLAS COWBOYS	— Promoted LB Rashaan Evans and TE Eric Saubert to the active roster from the practice squad.
DENVER BRONCOS	— Promoted WR Tre'Quan Smith to the active roster from the practice squad. Placed WR Brandon Johnson on injured reserve.
HOUSTON TEXANS	— Reinstated DL Hasan Ridgeway from injured reserve. Promoted CB D'Angelo Ross to the active roster from the practice squad. Released LB Cory Littleton.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS	— Promoted CB Chris Lammons and DT McTelvin Agim to the active roster from the practice squad.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS	— Reinstated DT DaVon Hamilton from injured reserve. Promoted CB Tevaughn Campbell to the active roster from the practice squad.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS	— Placed LB Nick Bolton on injured reserve. Promoted S Deon Bush to the active roster from the practice squad.
LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	— Promoted WR Alex Erickson to the active roster from the practice squad.
LOS ANGELES RAMS	— Promoted RB Darrell Henderson to the active roster from the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS	— Reinstated CB Jalen Ramsey from injured reserve. Released CB Parry Nickerson.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS	— Signed WR Trishton Jackson to the active roster. Pro-

Saturday, Nov. 4:	at FC Dallas
x-Friday, Nov. 10:	at Seattle
St. Louis vs. Kansas City	
Sunday:	at St. Louis
Sunday, Nov. 5:	at Sporting Kansas City
x-Saturday, Nov. 11:	at St. Louis
Semifinals	
Nov. 25 - Nov. 26	Eastern Conference
Cincinnati/New York winner vs. Columbus/Atlanta winner	
Philadelphia/New England winner vs. Orlando/Nashville winner	
Western Conference	
St. Louis/Kansas City winner vs. Los Angeles FC/Vancouver winner	
Houston/Real Salt Lake winner vs. Seattle/Dallas winner	
Conference Finals	
Dec. 2 - Dec. 3	Eastern Conference
Semifinals winners	
Championship	
Saturday, Dec. 9	Conference Finals winners
NWSL playoffs	
Quarterfinals	
Friday, Oct. 20	OL Reign 1, Angel City FC 0
Sunday, Oct. 22	Gotham FC 2, North Carolina 0
Semifinals	
Sunday, Nov. 5	Gotham FC at Portland
OL Reign at San Diego	
Championship	
Saturday, Nov. 11	Snap Dragon Stadium
San Diego	
Semifinals winners	

AUTO RACING

Dead On Tools 250	
NASCAR Xfinity Series	
Saturday	
At Martinsville Speedway	
Ridgeway, Va.	
Lap length: 0.53 miles	
(Start position in parentheses)	
1. (2) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 256 laps, 50 points.	
2. (8) Sheldon Creed, Chevrolet, 256, 42.	
3. (1) Sammy Smith, Toyota, 256, 50.	
4. (4) Riley Herbst, Ford, 256, 38.	
5. (12) Josh Berry, Chevrolet, 256, 41.	
6. (14) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 256, 31.	
7. (10) Parker Retzlaff, Chevrolet, 256, 35.	
8. (22) Anthony Alfredo, Chevrolet, 256, 34.	
9. (38) Jeb Burton, Chevrolet, 256, 28.	
10. (15) Parker Kligerman, Chevrolet, 256, 27.	
11. (19) Layne Riggs, Chevrolet, 256, 26.	
12. (26) Rajah Caruth, Chevrolet, 256, 0.	
13. (34) Cj McLaughlin, Ford, 256, 24.	
14. (24) Josh Williams, Chevrolet, 256, 23.	
15. (11) Myatt Snider, Toyota, 256, 33.	
16. (6) Brandon Jones, Chevrolet, 256, 23.	
17. (20) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 256, 20.	
18. (5) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 256, 27.	
19. (3) Cole Custer, Ford, 256, 30.	
20. (16) Brett Moffitt, Ford, 256, 17.	
21. (9) Austin Hill, Chevrolet, accident, 255, 23.	
22. (31) Blaine Perkins, Chevrolet, accident, 255, 15.	
23. (18) Josh Bilicki, Chevrolet, accident, 255, 15.	
24. (32) Ryan Ellis, Chevrolet, transmission, 245, 13.	
25. (17) Sam Mayer, Chevrolet, accident, 244, 12.	
26. (29) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, accident, 244, 11.	
27. (30) Chad Finchum, Ford, accident, 244, 10.	
28. (23) Kaz Grala, Toyota, accident, 243, 15.	
29. (33) Joe Graf Jr, Ford, 240, 8.	
30. (35) Chris Hacker, Chevrolet, garage, 237, 0.	
31. (25) Connor Mosack, Toyota, garage, 232, 6.	
32. (27) Brennan Poole, Chevrolet, engine, 218, 5.	
33. (36) Akinori Ogata, Chevrolet, garage, 217, 0.	
34. (21) JJ Yeley, Chevrolet, accident, 207, 3.	
35. (13) Ryan Sieg, Ford, garage, 203, 2.	
36. (7) Chandler Smith, Chevrolet, accident, 187, 7.	
37. (37) Devin Jones, Chevrolet, engine, 131, 1.	
38. (28) Kyle Sieg, Ford, accident, 40, 1.	
Race statistics	
Average speed of race winner: 55.257 mph.	
Time of race: 2 hours, 26 minutes, 7 seconds.	
Margin of victory: 0.032 seconds.	
Caution flags: 15 for 101 laps.	
Lead changes: 13 among 8 drivers.	
Lap leaders: S.Smith 0-44; J.Allgaier 45-64; S.Smith 65-123; M.Snider 124; L.Riggs 125-133; S.Smith 134-177; C.Custer 178; J.Nemechek 179-195; A.Hill 196-205; J.Nemechek 206-242; A.Hill 243-253; S.Creed 254; A.Hill 255; J.Allgaier 256	
Leaders summary (driver, times led, laps led): S.Smith, 3 times for 147 laps; J.Nemechek, 2 times for 54 laps; A.Hill, 3 times for 22 laps; J.Allgaier, 2 times for 21 laps; L.Riggs, 1 time for 9 laps; S.Creed, 1 time for 1 lap; M.Snider, 1 time for 1 lap; C.Custer, 1 time for 1 lap.	
Wins: J.Nemechek, 7; J.Allgaier, 4; S.Mayer, 4; A.Hill, 4; C.Custer, 2; S.Smith, 1; C.Smith, 1; J.Burton, 1; R.Herbst, 1; R.Truex, 1.	
Top 16 in points: 1. J.Nemechek, 4000; 2. J.Allgaier, 4000; 3. S.Mayer, 4000; 4. C.Custer, 4000; 5. A.Hill, 2229; 6. S.Smith, 2216; 7. D.Hemric, 2208; 8. P.Kligerman, 2188; 9. S.Creed, 2187; 10. C.Smith, 2176; 11. J.Berry, 2137; 12. J.Burton, 2101; 13. R.Herbst, 870; 14. B.Jones, 759; 15. B.Moffitt, 657; 16. P.Retzlaff, 638.	
GOLF	
Maybank Championship	
LPGA Tour	
Sunday	
At TPC Kuala Lumpur - West Course	
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	
Purse: \$3 million	
Yardage: 6,596; Par: 72	
Final Round	
(x-won on ninth playoff hole)	
x-Celine Boutier, \$450,000	70-64-69-64-267 -21
Atthaya Thitikul, \$275,072	66-71-62-68-267 -21
J. Suwannapura, \$176,954	63-69-67-70-269 -19
Rose Zhang, \$176,954	65-68-65-71-269 -19
Peiyun Chang, \$124,246	65-69-68-68-270 -18
Gemma Dryburgh, \$87,097	67-69-67-68-271 -17
Brooke Henderson, \$87,097	69-67-69-66-271 -17
Nelly Korda, \$87,097	69-69-67-66-271 -17
Megan Khang, \$67,018	67-70-65-70-272 -16
Gaby Lopez, \$60,993	66-71-68-68-273 -15
Nasa Hataoka, \$54,591	69-69-64-72-274 -14
Lydia Ko, \$54,591	68-71-65-70-274 -14
P. Anannarukarn, \$47,890	73-69-66-67-275 -13
C. Wannasaen, \$47,890	70-66-71-68-275 -13
Allisen Corpuz, \$42,468	68-74-67-67-276 -12
A Lim Kim, \$42,468	69-66-74-67-276 -12
Hannah Green, \$37,450	64-70-72-71-277 -11
Minami Katsu, \$37,450	69-71-67-70-277 -11
Ruoning Yin, \$37,450	68-68-72-69-277 -11
Olivia Cowan, \$29,986	70-70-70-68-278 -10
Sei Young Kim, \$29,986	69-67-65-77-278 -10
Cheyenne Knight, \$29,986	69-71-70-68-278 -10
Jin Young Ko, \$29,986	69-70-69-70-278 -10
Xiyu Lin, \$29,986	69-70-69-70-278 -10

Fury too much for Ngannou

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Reigning WBC heavyweight champion Tyson Fury’s appearance against an MMA fighter making his boxing debut figured to be another show to go along with his other ventures.

Francis Ngannou proved, however, he wouldn’t be the pushover so many anticipated.

Ngannou not only shockingly took Fury the 10-round distance, he came within one judge’s scorecard of pulling off the upset



early Sunday morning. Juan Carlos Pelayo of Mexico scored the fight 96-93 for Fury and Alan Krebs of the United States gave him a 95-94 victory. Ed Garner of Canada gave the fight to Ngannou at 95-94.

“That definitely wasn’t in the script,” Fury said. “Francis is a hell of a fighter — stronger, big puncher and a lot better boxer than we all thought he would ever be.”

Fury remained undefeated at 34-0-1 with 24 knockouts.

Ngannou, whose UFC record was 17-3, knocked down Fury in the third round, but this was a mis-sed opportunity at a major upset. Ngannou landed only six of 38 punches in the final two rounds, according to CompuBox, compared to 14 of 37 for Fury.

Fury landed more punches overall (71-59), but Ngannou hit the mark with more power shots (37-32).

“I feel fantastic,” Ngannou said. “I’m very happy. It didn’t go my way, but I want to thank ... the kingdom of Saudi Arabia (for) the opportunity to prove people wrong one more time.”

Fury’s championship belt was never on the line in this bout, though it counts as an official fight.

In the co-feature between two undefeated British heavyweights, Fabio Wardley knocked down David Adeleye with a right-left combination in the final minute of the seventh round, then finished him off at 2:43 when referee John Latham stopped the fight. Adeleye then shoved Latham, which could draw a suspension.

Wardley, 28, improved to 17-0 with 16 knockouts, and he owns the British, Commonwealth Boxing and WBO European heavyweight championships. Adeleye, 26, is 12-1.

ROUNDUP

Bruins stay unbeaten in regulation

Associated Press

BOSTON — David Pastrnak scored his second penalty-shot goal of the season and banked in an empty-netter, leading the Boston Bruins past the Detroit Red Wings 4-1 on Saturday night. Pavel Zacha and Charlie McAvoy scored first-period goals and Jeremy Swayman made 22 saves for the Bruins, who improved to 7-0-1. Boston posted NHL records with 65 wins and 135 points last season.

After blowing a two-goal lead in the final minute of regulation before losing in overtime against Anaheim on Thursday, the Bruins closed this one out in an Original Six matchup between two Eastern Conference teams off to strong starts.

Joe Veleno sent a wrister over Swayman’s left shoulder from the slot, slicing it to 2-1 midway into the third period.

But Pastrnak was awarded the penalty shot when he was slashed by defenseman Jake Walman breaking to the net. The Bruins winger went down the middle, shifted the puck a few times before lifting a wrister over Ville Husso 11:19 into the third period.

“He’s got a mixed bag,” Swayman said of Pastrnak’s penalty shot. “That’s hard to do in this league, be unreadable and have so many different ‘go-to’ moves. I think he’s really good at reading the goalie when he has the puck on his stick. That’s why he’s a world-class player.”

Pastrnak fired a shot off the side boards near center ice that caromed into an empty net for his team-leading eighth goal with just over 2 minutes left.

“I was just trying to get it out (of the zone) and get a change, honestly,” Pastrnak said. “It kind of picked up the speed off the board, a lucky bounce.”

Husso made 27 stops for the Red Wings, who dropped their third straight game.

Predators 3, Maple Leafs 2 (OT): Roman Josi scored at 2:13 of overtime and host Nashville beat Toronto.

Ryan O’Reilly scored two power-play goals and Juuse Saros made 33 saves for the Predators, who have won three of four.

William Nylander and Mark Giordano scored and Ilya Samsonov made 21 saves for Toronto, which concluded its season-high five-game road trip at 3-1-1.

In overtime, Josi took a drop pass from Luke Evangelista just inside the blue line and beat Samsonov on the blocker side with a wrist shot from the high slot.

Rangers 4, Canucks 3 (OT): K’Andre Miller scored his first goal of the season at 3:48 of over-



MICHAEL DWYER/AP

The Bruins’ David Pastrnak scores against the Detroit Red Wings’ Ville Husso on a penalty shot during the third period Saturday in Boston. The Bruins won 4-1 to move to 7-0-1 on the season.

time to lift visiting New York to its fourth straight win.

Artemi Panarin, Mika Zibanejad and Adam Fox all scored power-play goals for the Rangers. Igor Shesterkin finished with 30 saves. Zibanejad also had two assists, and Panarin and Fox each had one.

J.T. Miller, Tyler Myers and Carson Soucy scored for the Canucks, and Filip Hronek had two assists. Casey DeSmith finished with 20 saves.

In the extra period, K’Andre Miller took a pass from Chris Kreider and buried it behind DeSmith.

Panthers 3, Kraken 2: Matthew Tkachuk snapped the longest start-of-season, goal-scoring drought of his career, Nick Cousins scored the go-ahead goal with 5:52 left and host Florida beat Seattle.

Gustav Forsling also scored and Sergei Bobrovsky made 30 saves for the Panthers, who have now won 13 games since the start of the 2021-22 season after trailing by at least two goals.

Jared McCann and Eeli Tolvanen scored for the Kraken, who led 2-0 in the second period. Joey Daccord made 35 saves.

Forsling, Tkachuk and Cousins were all goalless through the first six games of the season, and picked the right night to change that for Florida. Forsling and Tkachuk got their goals 11 seconds apart to tie the game; Forsling’s goal was on the power play, barely a minute after Schwartz gave Seattle the 2-0 lead.

Golden Knights 4, Kings 3

(SO): Jack Eichel scored the only goal in the shootout and visiting Vegas bounced back from its first loss of the season.

Mark Stone, Michael Amadio and William Carrier all scored in regulation for the Golden Knights, who improved to 8-0-1 one night after a 4-3 overtime defeat to the Chicago Blackhawks. Logan Thompson made 29 saves through overtime before stopping all three attempts in the shootout.

Drew Doughty, Alex Laferriere and Trevor Lewis each had a goal for the Kings, who have dropped four of five at home to start the season. Cam Talbot finished with 26 saves.

Islanders 2, Blue Jackets 0: Semyon Varlamov stopped 35 shots for his 39th career shutout, leading visiting New York to its second straight victory and first on the road.

Kyle Palmieri and Matt Martin scored for New York in Varlamov’s first win of the season.

Spencer Martin had 31 saves for Columbus, which has lost three straight games and its last two at home. The Blue Jackets have been shut out twice in their first six home games.

Senators 5, Penguins 2: Brady Tkachuk scored twice, Joonas Korpisalo made 39 saves and visiting Ottawa snapped a three-game losing streak.

Ridly Greig, Dominik Kubalik and Drake Batherson also scored for the Senators. Claude Giroux added two assists. Korpisalo withstood relentless early pressure from the Penguins to win for the second time in five starts.

Sidney Crosby scored for the second straight game for Pittsburgh and Jake Guentzel picked up his second of the season in the final seconds. Tristan Jarry, who got his 15th career shutout by beating Colorado on Thursday, stopped just six of the nine shots he faced before being pulled early in the second period.

Canadiens 4, Jets 3 (SO): Nick Suzuki scored the only shootout goal to lift host Montreal past Winnipeg.

Justin Barron, Sean Monahan and Joel Armia scored in regulation for the Canadiens. Kaiden Guhle had two assists and Jake Allen stopped 42 shots.

Adam Lowry scored twice, Nino Niederreiter had a goal and an assist, and Mason Appleton pitched in two assists for Winnipeg. Laurent Brossoit made 26 saves.

Ducks 7, Flyers 4: Frank Vatrano recorded his fifth career hat trick and visiting Anaheim beat Philadelphia.

Adam Henrique, Ryan Strome, Trevor Zegras and Brett Leason also scored for the Ducks. Lukas Dostal had 27 saves as Anaheim improved to 3-0 on its four-game trip east, with overtime wins in Columbus and Boston before the dominating effort in Philadelphia.

Travis Konecny scored twice to increase his season total to eight while Cam Atkinson and Joel Farabee each added a goal for Philadelphia. Backup Flyers goaltender Samuel Ersson took the loss with 18 saves on 25 shots, many of which were off turnovers that gave the puck to Anaheim in prime scoring slots.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference								
Atlantic Division								
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Boston	8	7	0	1	15	26	12	
Toronto	8	5	2	1	11	29	24	
Montreal	8	5	2	1	11	26	27	
Detroit	9	5	3	1	11	36	28	
Tampa Bay	8	4	2	2	10	29	24	
Florida	7	4	3	0	8	20	20	
Ottawa	8	4	4	0	8	32	26	
Buffalo	8	3	5	0	6	23	27	
Metropolitan Division								
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
N.Y. Rangers	8	6	2	0	12	25	16	
Carolina	9	5	4	0	10	34	35	
N.Y. Islanders	7	4	2	1	9	18	19	
New Jersey	7	4	2	1	9	29	27	
Philadelphia	8	4	3	1	9	28	25	
Columbus	8	3	3	2	8	20	25	
Washington	7	3	3	1	7	16	25	
Pittsburgh	8	3	5	0	6	23	25	

Western Conference								
Central Division								
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Colorado	7	6	1	0	12	28	16	
Dallas	6	4	1	1	9	17	15	
Winnipeg	8	4	3	1	9	27	28	
Nashville	8	4	4	0	8	23	21	
Minnesota	8	3	3	2	8	29	34	
St. Louis	7	3	3	1	7	14	20	
Arizona	7	3	4	0	6	20	20	
Chicago	8	3	5	0	6	18	24	
Pacific Division								
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Vegas	9	8	0	1	17	38	23	
Vancouver	8	5	2	1	11	31	19	
Los Angeles	8	4	2	2	10	38	33	
Anaheim	8	4	4	0	8	25	24	
Seattle	9	2	5	2	6	20	31	
Calgary	8	2	5	1	5	17	29	
Edmonton	7	1	5	1	3	17	30	
San Jose	8	0	7	1	1	8	32	

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Friday's games									
Chicago 4, Vegas 3, OT									
New Jersey 5, Buffalo 4									
Carolina 3, San Jose 0									
Washington 3, Minnesota 2, SO									
Vancouver 5, St. Louis 0									
Los Angeles 5, Arizona 4									
Saturday's games									
Boston 4, Detroit 1									
Nashville 3, Toronto 2, OT									
N.Y. Rangers 4, Vancouver 3, OT									
Florida 3, Seattle 2									
Vegas 4, Los Angeles 3, SO									
N.Y. Islanders 2, Columbus 0									
Ottawa 5, Pittsburgh 2									
Montreal 4, Winnipeg 3, SO									
Anaheim 7, Philadelphia 4									
Sunday's games									
Colorado at Buffalo									
Minnesota at New Jersey									
San Jose at Washington									
Calgary vs. Edmonton at Commonwealth Stadium									
Monday's games									
Anaheim at Pittsburgh									
Carolina at Philadelphia									
Florida at Boston									
Seattle at Tampa Bay									
Detroit at N.Y. Islanders									
N.Y. Rangers at Winnipeg									
Columbus at Dallas									
Chicago at Arizona									
Montreal at Vegas									
Tuesday's games									
Los Angeles at Toronto									
Nashville at Vancouver									

Scoring leaders				
Through Sunday				
	GP	G	A	PTS
Jack Hughes, NJ	7	5	13	18
Dylan Larkin, DET	9	4	11	15
Elias Pettersson, VAN	8	2	11	13
David Pastrnak, BOS	8	8	5	13
Alex DeBrincat, DET	9	9	4	13
Artemi Panarin, NYR	8	4	8	12
J.T. Miller, VAN	8	4	8	12
Mikko Rantanen, COL	7	5	7	12
William Nylander, TOR	8	6	6	12
Kevin Fiala, LA	8	1	10	11
John Tavares, TOR	8	4	7	11
Leon Draisaitl, EDM	7	4	7	11
Jesper Bratt, NJ	7	4	7	11
Nikita Kucherov, TB	8	6	5	11
Travis Konecny, PHI	8	8	3	11

NBA

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	2	0	1.000	—
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	1
New York	1	2	.333	1½
Toronto	1	2	.333	1½
Brooklyn	0	2	.000	2
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	2	0	1.000	—
Charlotte	1	1	.500	1
Washington	1	1	.500	1
Miami	1	2	.333	1½
Atlanta	0	2	.000	2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	2	0	1.000	—
Milwaukee	1	0	1.000	½
Detroit	2	1	.667	½
Cleveland	1	2	.333	1½
Chicago	1	2	.333	1½
Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	2	0	1.000	—
Dallas	2	0	1.000	—
San Antonio	1	1	.500	1
Memphis	0	3	.000	2½
Houston	0	2	.000	2
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	2	0	1.000	—
Oklahoma City	2	0	1.000	—
Minnesota	1	1	.500	1
Utah	1	2	.333	1½
Portland	0	2	.000	2
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	2	1	.667	—
Golden State	1	1	.500	½
L.A. Lakers	1	1	.500	½
L.A. Clippers	1	1	.500	½
Sacramento	1	1	.500	½
Friday's games				
Denver 108, Memphis 104				
Detroit 111, Charlotte 99				
New York 126, Atlanta 120				
Boston 119, Miami 111				
Oklahoma City 108, Cleveland 105				
San Antonio 126, Houston 122, OT				
Dallas 125, Brooklyn 120				
Chicago 104, Toronto 103, OT				
Utah 120, L.A. Clippers 118				
Orlando 102, Portland 97				
Golden State 122, Sacramento 114				
Saturday's games				
Detroit 118, Chicago 102				
Philadelphia 114, Toronto 107				
Minnesota 106, Miami 90				
Indiana 125, Cleveland 113				
Washington 113, Memphis 106				
Phoenix 126, Utah 104				
New Orleans 96, New York 87				
Sunday's games				
Denver at Oklahoma City				
Atlanta at Milwaukee				
Golden State at Houston				
Portland at Philadelphia				
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento				
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers				
Monday's games				
Boston at Washington				
Brooklyn at Charlotte				
Chicago at Indiana				
Minnesota at Atlanta				
Portland at Toronto				
Dallas at Memphis				
Detroit at Oklahoma City				
Golden State at New Orleans				
Miami at Milwaukee				
Utah at Denver				
Orlando at L.A. Lakers				
Scoring leaders				
Through Saturday				
	G	FG	PTS	AVG
Doncic, DAL	2	29	82	41.0
Lillard, MIL	1	9	39	39.0
Curry, GS	2	22	68	34.0
Thomas, BKN	2	25	66	33.0
Maxey, PHI	2	22	65	32.5
Gil.-Alexander, OKC	2	27	65	32.5
George, LAC	2	20	63	31.5
Embiid, PHI	2	23	58	29.0
Fox, SAC	2	20	57	28.5
Tatum, BOS	2	22	56	28.0
Durant, PHO	3	29	83	27.7
Jokic, DEN	2	20	51	25.5
LaVine, CHI	3	26	75	25.0

ROUNDUP

Pistons overcome LaVine, top Bulls

Associated Press

DETROIT — Jalen Duren had 23 points and 15 rebounds as the Detroit Pistons overcame a career-high 51 points from Zach LaVine to beat the Chicago Bulls 118-102 on Saturday night.

“I’m feeling really comfortable in my second season, but that’s not because of me,” said Duren, who doesn’t turn 20 until Nov. 18. “My teammates and coaches have helped me make the game a lot easier.”

LaVine’s effort was the first 50-point game of the NBA season and made him the first Bulls player with 50 points and no assists since Michael Jordan did it against the Miami Heat on Nov. 6, 1996.

“It’s our third year here together, and we know how this business is,” LaVine said. “We all love each other. DeMar (DeRozan) is one of my best friends, and we talk all the time, but we have to figure out how to make this work.”

LaVine had been a game-time decision with back spasms.

“You know me,” he said. “I’m going to play.”

Cade Cunningham added 25 points and 10 assists for the Pistons, who ended a 15-game losing streak to the Bulls, while Alec Burks added 18 off the bench.

“I think Cade and I are just kind of a match,” Duren said. “He’s got a high IQ and I’ve got a high IQ and we know the type of players we are. When he’s got the ball in his hands, good things are going to happen. So I’m trying to get the ball to him.”

Rookie Ausar Thompson had nine points, 12 rebounds and five assists in Detroit’s home opener. He also helped hold LaVine to two points in the final eight minutes.

“It’s hard to explain all the ways he makes winning plays on the floor,” Pistons coach Monty Williams said. “He had a track-down steal on LaVine that most players can’t do, and he’s blocking jump shots by guys that most defenders can’t even close out. He’s doing that and he’s just getting started.”

76ers 114, Raptors 107: Joel Embiid and Tyrese Maxey each scored 34 points, and visiting Philadelphia beat Toronto to give new coach Nick Nurse his first win against his former team.

Kelly Oubre Jr. scored 18 points and Tobias Harris had 15 as the 76ers won their fourth straight over the Raptors.

Toronto fired Nurse in April after five seasons as head coach. Nurse led Toronto to the NBA championship in 2019 and was voted NBA Coach of the Year in 2020. Fans rose for a brief standing ovation when Nurse was honored with a video tribute during a first-quarter timeout.



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Detroit Pistons center Jalen Duren makes a layup as Chicago Bulls guard Zach LaVine defends during the first half Saturday in Detroit. The Pistons won 118-102 despite LaVine scoring 51 points for the Bulls.

Scottie Barnes scored 24 points, Gary Trent Jr. had 17 and rookie Grady Dick scored 16 points for the Raptors.

Timberwolves 106, Heat 90: Naz Reid scored 25 points on 10-for-14 shooting in 28 minutes off the bench, sparking host Minnesota over short-handed Miami in its home opener.

The fan favorite Reid swished back-to-back 3-pointers during an 11-0 run for the Timberwolves midway through the fourth quarter and went 4 for 7 from deep. Rudy Gobert (14 points, 14 rebounds) and Karl-Anthony Towns (12 points, 10 rebounds) also played their parts in a dominant performance by the Minnesota big men as the Heat faded hard down the stretch.

Anthony Edwards finished with 19 points after a late flurry for the Timberwolves (1-1), who outscored the Heat 24-4 over a seven-plus minute stretch that lasted deep into the fourth quarter.

Tyler Herro scored 22 points on 8-for-23 shooting and Bam Adebayo added 19 points for Miami, which played without starting forwards Jimmy Butler (rest) and Kevin Love (bruised left shoulder) on the second half of a back-to-back set of games.

Pacers 125, Cavaliers 113: Aaron Nesmith scored a career-high 26 points and Tyrese Haliburton had 21 points, 13 assists and eight rebounds, sending visiting Indiana over short-handed Cleveland. Cleveland played without three

starters, including All-NBA shooting guard Donovan Mitchell (right hamstring soreness). Point guard Darius Garland (left hamstring strain) and center Jarrett Allen (left ankle bone bruise) also remained out.

Myles Turner had 20 points and 12 rebounds for Indiana, which outscored the Cavaliers 29-12 in the second quarter and won its second straight game to open the season. Bennedict Mathurin and Jalen Smith added 13 points apiece.

Evans Mobley had 33 points, 14 rebounds and three blocks for Cleveland. Caris LeVert started at the point and had 31 points and eight assists, while Max Strus finished with 21 points, 11 rebounds and six assists.

Wizards 113, Grizzlies 106: Corey Kispert scored all of his 22 points in the first half, and host Washington held off winless Memphis in its home opener.

Memphis, which is without suspended star Ja Morant, has dropped its first three games this season after surpassing 50 wins in each of the past two. The Grizzlies were on the second night of a back-to-back after a four-point loss to defending champion Denver.

Jordan Poole led the Wizards with 27 points and Kyle Kuzma added 21. They attempted 23 field goals apiece, with Kuzma going 1 of 10 from 3-point range.

Desmond Bane scored 26 points for Memphis.

Suns 126, Jazz 104: Kevin Du-

rant scored 26 points, Eric Gordon added 21 and host Phoenix easily handled Utah.

Phoenix was playing without two-thirds of its star trio. Devin Booker (ankle) missed his second straight game while Bradley Beal (back) has missed all three games this season.

Grayson Allen added 17 points, while Jusuf Nurkic had 10 points, seven rebounds and six assists. Phoenix poured in 40 points in the third quarter to put away the game. Durant was a methodical 8 of 11 from the field and hit all nine of his free throws. The 13-time All-Star added seven assists.

The Jazz had 19 turnovers in a sloppy performance. Lauri Markkanen had 19 points, making five 3-pointers. Collin Sexton scored 14 points over the bench while rookie Keyonte George, the 16th overall pick out of Baylor, added 12 points, seven rebounds and six assists.

Pelicans 96, Knicks 87: Brandon Ingram scored 26 points, Zion Williamson added 24 and host New Orleans remained unbeaten on this young NBA season with a victory over New York.

Ingram hit an array of mid-range pullups, turnaround and fades, while Williamson was a force going to the hoop to give him at least 22 points in each of New Orleans’ first two games.

RJ Barrett scored 18 for the Knicks, who appeared to run out of steam in the fourth quarter after winning in Atlanta one night earlier.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Nix, No. 8 Oregon thump No. 13 Utah

By JOHN COON
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Bo Nix spent four quarters picking apart one of the Pac-12’s toughest defenses.

Nix threw for 248 yards and two touchdowns to lead No. 8 Oregon to a 35-6 victory over No. 13 Utah, snapping the Utes’ 18-game home winning streak.

The senior completed 77% of his passes, finishing with a 70% or better completion rate for an eighth consecutive game dating back to the 2022 Holiday Bowl.

“I want to go out here and make sure that it’s not me tripping up the team,” Nix said. “I want to go out there and put our team in the best situation possible. I feel like when I do that, they have my back and they go out and perform at a high level as well.”

Troy Franklin tallied 99 yards and a touchdown on eight catches for the Ducks. Bucky Irving added 83 yards and a touchdown on the ground.

Oregon (7-1, 4-1 Pac-12) won in Salt Lake City for the first time since 2016. The Ducks racked up 390 total yards and forced two turnovers.

Bryson Barnes threw for 136 yards and had two interceptions. Devaughn Vele had a season-high 80 yards on seven catches for the Utes (6-2, 3-2), who tallied 241 total yards.

Utah averaged 3.7 yards per play while surrendering 6.7 yards per play to Oregon.

“When you get beat like that, you don’t want to berate your team and browbeat them,” Utah coach Kyle Whittingham said. “What happened out there was enough.”

Nix sliced through Utah’s defense with surgical precision during both halves. He totaled only two incomplete passes over Oregon’s first six drives. The Ducks had no trouble moving the chains behind his steady passing.

Nix threw an 18-yard dart to Jordan James and a 3-yard strike to Troy Franklin and rushed for a 1-yard score to help Oregon jump out to a 21-3 lead early in the second quarter. The Ducks averaged 9.0 yards per play on their first three scoring drives.

“He thinks he’s Goliath and at times he performs like it,” Oregon coach Dan Lanning said. “The proof’s in the pudding. We got an elite quarterback.”

Gaining ground proved much more cumbersome for the Utes. Utah forced Oregon to lose a fumble for the first time this season when Junior Tafuna stripped the ball from Irving as he tackled him and recovered it at the Oregon 27.

The Utes turned the turnover into a 32-yard field goal from Cole Becker, who later added a second field goal from 30 yards to cap Utah’s final first-half drive.

Irving ran in untouched from 9 yards out to extend Oregon’s lead again early in the in the third quarter. Tysheem Johnson then intercepted Barnes a second time to set up a 5-yard run from Traeshon Holden to put the Ducks up 35-6 midway through the third quarter.

“I am absolutely upset,” Barnes said. “Interceptions are never fun.”

The takeaway

Oregon: The Ducks’ offense caught Utah’s defense flat-footed early and their defense made enough consistent stops to keep the Utes from knocking off a second consecutive ranked opponent.

Utah: An inability to generate a consistent running attack prevented the Utes from generating much offensive momentum. Utah tallied just 28 rushing yards through the first three quarters and averaged 1.2 yards per carry in that span.

Delayed attack

Oregon started off its first drive of the game with a delay-of-game penalty. The Ducks soared on offense immediately after that snafu. Nix completed four straight passes to get Oregon in the red zone and set up his team’s first touchdown two plays later.

“It didn’t faze us,” Nix said. “We went right down the field. We overcame it.”

Ground control

Utah finished with five rushing first downs. Four of those plays came during the Utes’ final two drives. Oregon lived in the backfield, racking up six tackles-for-loss and a pair of sacks. Utah averaged 282 rushing yards in wins over California and USC before finishing with 99 yards on the ground against the Ducks.

“They kind of had to play with two left arms because they really got out of their game,” sophomore cornerback Jahlil Florence said. “They really wanted to keep running but we shut the run down. It was hard for them to keep going.”

No sacks allowed

Oregon excelled at protecting Nix against a normally punishing Utah defense. The Utes finished without a sack for the first time since their Week 2 win over Baylor. Connor O’Toole provided Utah’s lone tackle-for-loss.



Rick Bowmer/AP

Oregon wide receiver Troy Franklin tries to shake off Utah cornerback Zemaiah Vaughn during the first half Saturday. Franklin caught eight passes for 99 yards and a touchdown in Oregon’s 35-6 victory.

Scoreboard

Saturday’s scores		
EAST		
Albany (NY) 37, Maine 21	Florida A&M 45, Prairie View 7	Monmouth (Ill.) 45, Ripon 3
Allegheny 27, Thiel 3	Florida St. 41, Wake Forest 16	Mount St. Joseph 55, Franklin 0
Anna Maria 49, Gallaudet 14	Fort Valley St. 37, Va. Lynchburg 26	Mount Union 51, Otterbein 14
Bentley 12, Franklin Pierce 10	Furman 16, ETSU 8	N. Dakota St. 38, Murray St. 6
Bloomsburg 14, Shepherd 10	Georgia 43, Florida 20	N. Iowa 24, Illinois St. 21
Boston College 21, Uconn 14	Georgia Tech 46, North Carolina 42	NW Missouri St. 52, Washburn 31
Bowie St. 19, Elizabeth City St. 7	Grambling St. 28, Bethune-Cookman 14	Nebraska 31, Purdue 14
Brockport 38, Utica 3	Greensboro 47, S. Virginia 7	North Central 56, North Park 0
Bucknell 49, Colgate 34	Hampden-Sydney 42, Guilford 21	North Dakota 36, Indiana St. 33, OT
California (Pa.) 58, Mercyhurst 19	Hampton 26, NC A&T 24	Northwestern (Minn.) 21, Mart. Luth. 14
Catholic 26, Keystone 14	James Madison 30, Old Dominion 27	Northwestern 33, Maryland 27
Charleston (WV) 28, Frostburg St. 25	Johnson C. Smith 35, Winston-Salem 31	Notre Dame (Ohio) 28, Wheeling Jesuit 25
CNU 33, Will. Paterson 13	Kennesaw St. 28, Lincoln Oaklanders 12	
College of NJ 36, Salisbury 27	Kentucky St. 23, Morehouse 21	Notre Dame 58, Pittsburgh 7
Concord 38, WV Wesleyan 9	Limestone 28, Newberry 24	Ohio St. 24, Wisconsin 10
Cortland 73, Hartwick 7	Livingstone 34, St. Augustines 14	Ohio Wesleyan 50, Oberlin 7
Curry 48, Nichols 46	La.-Lafayette 33, South Alabama 20	Pittsburg St. 55, Sioux Falls 6
Dean 19, Castleton 18	Louisville 23, Duke 0	Rose Hulman 44, Hanover 39
Delaware 51, Towson 13	Mars Hill 49, Virginia-Wise 18	S. Dakota St. 37, South Dakota 3
Delaware Valley 21, Stevenson 14	Maryville (Tenn.) 20, Belhaven 7, OT	S. Illinois 63, W. Illinois 0
Dickinson 28, Gettysburg 25	Mercer 45, W. Carolina 38	SW Baptist 20, Truman St. 17
Duquesne 27, Sacred Heart 0	Miami 29, Virginia 26, OT	St. John’s (Minn.) 62, St. Scholastica 7
East Stroudsburg 41, Shippensburg 17	Mississippi 33, Vanderbilt 7	St. Norbert 56, Concordia (Ill.) 7
Endicott 23, Husson 13	Morgan St. 32, Norfolk St. 28	St. Thomas (Minn.) 49, Marist 14
FDU-Florham 24, Eastern 19	NC State 24, Clemson 17	Tiffin 40, Walsh 13
Fairmont St. 21, W. Virginia St. 20	NC Wesleyan 27, Methodist 3	W. Michigan 45, E. Michigan 21
Framingham St. 28, Mass. Maritime 3	North Greenville 34, Mississippi Coll. 10	Wabash 52, Wittenberg 20
Franklin & Marshall 40, Kean 14	Northwood (Mich.) 28, Kent. Wesl. 13	Warburg 24, Central 14
Gannon 16, Indiana (Pa.) 15	Randolph Macon 35, Wash. & Lee 12	Washington (Mo.) 66, Elmhurst 0
Geneva 43, Waynesburg 29	Rhodes 34, Birmingham Southern 8	Wayne St. (Mich.) 41, N. Michigan 17
Grove City 56, Bethany (WV) 14	Richmond 44, Campbell 13	Wayne St. (Neb.) 14, Augustana (SD) 12
Hamilton 36, Tufts 34, SOT	SE Missouri 35, Nicholls 31	Wheaton (Ill.) 75, Millikin 0
Harvard 17, Dartmouth 9	Samford 37, The Citadel 7	Wis.-La Crosse 59, Wis.-Eau Claire 14
Hobart 35, St. Lawrence 0	Shenandoah 49, Averett 35	Wis.-Oshkosh 66, Wis.-Stevens Pt 28
Holy Cross 49, Fordham 47	Southern U. 23, Texas Southern 17, OT	Wis.-River Falls 49, Wis.-Stout 35
Howard 17, Delaware St. 10	Tennessee 33, Kentucky 27	Wis.-Whitewater 45, Wis.-Platteville 23
Ithaca 62, Buffalo St. 0	Tennessee St. 43, Lindenwood (Mo.) 20	Wooster 47, Hiram 14
Johns Hopkins 34, Muhlenberg 28	Tusculum 52, Erskine 14	Youngstown St. 44, Missouri St. 28
Kutztown 17, Millersville 12	Tuskegee 14, Clark Atlanta 3	
Lafayette 35, Georgetown 25	UNC-Pembroke 49, Glenville St. 0	SOUTHWEST
Lebanon Valley 34, Alvernia 26	Valdosta St. 31, West Florida 28	Arkansas Tech 18, East Central 16
Lycoming 56, Juniata 10	Virginia St. 75, Lincoln (Pa.) 25	Cent. Washington 21, Texas A&M Kingsville 17
Lyon 43, Hilbert 27	West Alabama 14, Chowan 6	E. Texas Baptist 24, Sul Ross St. 10
MIT 29, Norwich 26	West Virginia 41, UCF 28	Hardin Simmons 24, Mary Hard.-Bay. 14
Mass.-Dart. 34, Bridgewater (Mass.) 14	William & Mary 31, Monmouth (NJ) 28	Harding 55, SE Oklahoma 0
Misericordia 38, Albright 9	Wingate 34, Lenoir-Rhyne 30	Henderson St. 51, NW Oklahoma 0
New Haven 25, Assumption 14		Hous. Christian 17, Tex. A&M Comm. 13
Pace 23, St. Anselm 16	MIDWEST	Howard Payne 31, Texas Lutheran 27
Penn St. 33, Indiana 24	Albion 34, Adrian 21	Incarinate Word 17, Lamar 7
Plymouth St. 20, Westfield St. 19	Alma 41, Olivet 20	Iowa St. 30, Baylor 18
Princeton 14, Cornell 3	Ashland 28, Thomas More 20	Jackson St. 40, Ark.-Pine Bluff 14
RPI 49, Rochester 10	Augustana (Ill.) 44, Illinois Wesleyan 14	McMurry 51, Austin 13
Rhode Island 34, New Hampshire 28, OT	Aurora 77, Rockford 10	Memphis 45, North Texas 42
Rowan 21, Montclair St. 14	Bemidji St. 38, Minn. Duluth 31	Midwestern St. 56, W. New Mexico 7
S. Connecticut 35, Post 14	Benedictine (Ill.) 34, Wis. Lutheran 24	Oklahoma Baptist 28, Ark.-Monticello 7
SUNY Maritime 24, Coast Guard 21	Bethel (Minn.) 40, Carleton 0	Oklahoma St. 45, Cincinnati 13
Salve Regina 27, WPI 24	Bluffton 45, Anderson (Ind.) 7	S. Arkansas 41, SW Oklahoma 10
Seton Hill 38, Edinboro 28	Butler 17, Valparaiso 7	SMU 69, Tulsa 0
Slippery Rock 42, Clarion 14	Carthage 30, Carroll (Wis.) 27	Tarleton St. 25, Cent. Arkansas 23
Springfield 21, Merchant Marine 14	Cent. Missouri 42, Missouri Southern 21	Texas 35, BYU 6
St. Francis (Pa.) 28, Merrimack 21	Central St. (Ohio) 17, Lane 14	Texas A&M 30, South Carolina 17
St. John Fisher 30, Alfred 12	Chicago 55, Lawrence 12	Texas-Permian Basin 28, W. Oregon 16
Susquehanna 33, Moravian 14	Coe 64, Luther 2	Trinity (Texas) 63, Millsaps 0
Tennessee Tech 38, Robert Morris 13	Concordia (Moor.) 30, Augsburg 10	Troy 31, Texas State 13
Umass 21, Army 14	Concordia (St.P.) 20, Northern St. 14	Tulane 30, Rice 28
Ursinus 49, McDaniel 6	Concordia (Wis.) 35, Eureka 21	UTSA 41, East Carolina 27
Villanova 48, Stony Brook 13	Cornell (Iowa) 28, Knox 21	
Virginia Union 57, Bluefield State 12	Davenport 24, Saginaw Valley St. 21	FAR WEST
W. New England 42, New England 7	DePauw 58, Kenyon 7	Air Force 30, Colorado St. 13
Wagner 28, Stonehill 17	Defiance 51, Manchester 27	Angelo St. 27, West Texas A&M 10
Washington & Jeff. 38, Case Western 33	Drake 33, Stetson 7	Arizona 27, Oregon St. 24
Wesleyan (Conn.) 34, Amherst 7	Dubuque 45, Simpson 21	Arizona St. 38, Washington St. 27
West Chester 42, Lock Haven 27	Emporia St. 39, Neb.-Kearney 17	Baldwin Wallace 59, Capital 35
Westminster (Pa.) 22, St. Vincent 20	Ferris St. 56, American International 0	Black Hills St. 34, Fort Lewis 20
Widener 31, Kings (Pa.) 14	Findlay 24, Ohio Dominican 3	Boise St. 32, Wyoming 7
Yale 35, Columbia 7	Fort Hays St. 34, Cent. Oklahoma 0	CSU-Pueblo 59, Colorado Mesa 20
	Grand Valley St. 44, Michigan Tech 13	Chadron St. 24, N.M. Highlands 21
	Greenville 38, Westminster (Mo.) 6	Chapman 14, Claremont Mudd 10
	Gustavus Adolphus 41, St. Olaf 40, OT	Colorado Mines 42, W. Colorado 7
	Hamline 38, Macalester 27	E. Kentucky 34, Utah Tech 30
	Heidelberg 49, Wilmington (Ohio) 35	Fresno St. 31, UNLV 24
	Hillsdale 52, Lake Erie 21	George Fox 35, Pacific Lutheran 25
	Hope 63, Kalamazoo 17	Idaho 24, Montana St. 21
	Illinois College 93, Grinnell 0	Linfield 42, Pacific (Ore.) 27
	Indianapolis 35, Upper Iowa 7	Montana 40, N. Colorado 0
	John Carroll 42, Muskingum 13	N. Arizona 38, UC Davis 21
	Kansas 38, Oklahoma 33	Nevada 34, New Mexico 24
	Kansas St. 41, Houston 0	Oregon 35, Utah 6
	Lake Forest 41, Beloit 0	Pomona Pitzer 38, California Lutheran 24
	Loras 49, Buena Vista 21	Portland St. 47, E. Washington 35
	Marietta 21, Ohio Northern 17	Puget Sound 40, Willamette 21
	Mary 27, Minot St. 23	S. Utah 52, Abilene Christian 14
	McKendree 41, Quincy 34	S.D. Mines 63, Adams St. 9
	Miami (Ohio) 30, Ohio 16	Sacramento St. 51, Idaho St. 16
	Minn. St. (Moorhead) 20, Winona St. 17	San Diego 17, Morehead St. 11
	Minn.-Morris 56, Crown (Minn.) 23	San Jose St. 35, Hawaii 0
	Minnesota 27, Michigan St. 12	Southern Cal 50, California 49
	Minnesota St. 30, SW Minnesota 12	UCLA 28, Colorado 16
	Missouri S&T 57, William Jewell 20	Washington 42, Stanford 33
	Missouri Western 44, Northeastern St. 0	Whitworth 63, Lewis & Clark 21

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Pratt, Hughes push Tulane over Rice for 6th straight win

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Michael Pratt threw for 263 yards and accounted for three touchdowns as No. 22 Tulane held on to defeat Rice 30-28 Saturday for its sixth straight win. Pratt finished 22-for-30 and threw touchdown passes of 26 yards and 1 yard. He rushed for a 1-yard TD in the first half as the Green Wave (7-1, 4-0 AAC) built a 27-7 lead by the break.

Tulane nearly lost a 20-point lead for a second straight week. The Green Wave blew a 21-point lead in the second half last week against North Texas before earning a 35-28 win.

Pratt pointed to the team's culture for its ability to pull out the close victories.

"I don't think we should have been in that situation this week or last week," Pratt said. "I have to do a better job as a leader on this team of keeping the guys corralled and keeping the intensity up, so I take part ownership of that. It shows that no matter what the situation is and no matter the adversity we are going through, we keep our foot on the gas and fight all the way until the end."

Tulane has won its four conference games by 12 points or less.

"I'd rather win by a whole bunch to be honest with you," Tulane coach Willie Fritz said. "We'll take it how we can get it. I'm just glad we played until the bitter end and came out with the W."

Tulane's Makhi Hughes rushed for a career-high 153 yards.

"He just runs hard," Fritz said. "He runs behind his pads. He's just a really good football player. Smart, hard worker. That's a lot of yards. That helps us offensively. That helps us defensively being able to run the ball."

Chris Brazzell II had five catches for 75 yards, and Yulkeith

Brown had five receptions for 57 yards and a touchdown. The Green Wave outgained Rice 457-271, including 194-82 on the ground.

JT Daniels was 18-for-29 for 189 yards and two touchdowns and Juma Otoviano rushed for two scores for Rice (4-4, 2-2). Luke McCaffrey caught five passes.

"A wave of emotions of being so disappointed with the way we played the first half where we weren't playing anywhere near what we were capable of," Rice coach Mike Bloomgren said. "Then, coming out in the second half and putting the ball in the (end zone), then making a big play on defense.

"I felt we had turned the tide and we were going to find a way to win this thing. We came up short. They got it done. We didn't."

The Owls opened the second half by scoring 14 straight points on a 4-yard touchdown run by Otoviano. After a 72-yard interception return by Gabriel Taylor, Daniels found Boden Groen for a 4-yard TD pass with four minutes remaining in the third quarter.

But after Valentino Ambrosio's third field goal increased Tulane's lead to nine points, Daniels connected with McCaffrey for a 35-yard touchdown with eight minutes remaining, cutting the deficit to 30-28. Tulane ran out most the clock, however, and a last-second play by Rice was snuffed out to end the game.

"There are a lot of decisions to be made in the second half," Fritz said. "I hate those kinds of games. I'd rather it go smooth. Our guys, when we needed to make some tough calls, they came through. ... We played well in the first half. We didn't play very good in the third quarter. We had to answer, and we did."



ERIC CHRISTIAN SMITH/AP

Tulane quarterback Michael Pratt throws during the first half against Rice on Saturday in Houston. Tulane won its sixth straight, 30-28.



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Air Force wide receiver Dane Kinamon tumbles into the end zone for a touchdown past Colorado State defensive back Chigozie Anusiem in the first half Saturday in Fort Collins, Colo. Air Force won 30-13.

Air Force drives through snow, remains unbeaten

BY DENNIS GEORGATOS
Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colorado — Zac Larrier scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 1-yard run in the third quarter, punctuating a drive aided by an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty on the Colorado State bench because of fans pelting the visiting Falcons' sideline with snowballs, and No. 19 Air Force remained undefeated with a 30-13 win over the Rams on Saturday night.

Larrier also threw for a score and Emmanuel Michel and John Lee Eldridge III ran for touchdowns as Air Force (8-0, 5-0 Mountain West) matched a school record with its 13th straight win, dating to last season.

Michel finished with 130 yards on 20 carries, including a 5-yard TD run in the fourth quarter. Matthew Dapore had a 29-yard field goal late in the third quarter as the Falcons pulled away in the second half to win their seventh in a row against Colorado State (3-5, 1-3).

"I think we just keep fighting and keep pushing and just know that we've got to finish and eventually we'll wear people out," Michel said. "Nobody wants to take that punishment down the middle over and over again."

Brayden Fowler-Nicolosi threw 61 yards for a touchdown to Justus Ross-Simmons, and Jordan Noyes had field goals of 40 and 49 yards for Colorado State during a game played in a driving snowstorm.

"Air Force did what it needed to do in the second half to win the game," Colorado State coach Jay Norvell said. "I thought our defense fought really hard. We gave up a couple of drives in the second half and we couldn't respond offensively."

Scoreboard

AP Top 25 fared

No. 1 Georgia (8-0) beat Florida 43-20. Next: vs. No. 16 Missouri, Saturday.
No. 2 Michigan (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Saturday.
No. 3 Ohio St. (8-0) beat Wisconsin 24-10. Next: at Rutgers, Saturday.
No. 4 Florida St. (8-0) beat Wake Forest 41-16. Next: at Pittsburgh, Saturday.
No. 5 Washington (8-0) beat Stanford 42-33. Next: at No. 24 Southern Cal, Saturday.
No. 6 Oklahoma (7-1) lost to Kansas 38-33. Next: at Oklahoma St., Saturday.
No. 7 Texas (7-1) beat BYU 35-6. Next: vs. Kansas St., Saturday.
No. 8 Oregon (7-1) beat No. 13 Utah 35-6. Next: vs. California, Saturday.
No. 9 Alabama (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 15 LSU, Saturday.
No. 10 Penn St. (7-1) beat Indiana 33-24. Next: at Maryland, Saturday.
No. 11 Oregon St. (6-2) lost to Arizona 27-24. Next: at Colorado, Saturday.
No. 12 Mississippi (7-1) beat Vanderbilt 33-7. Next: vs. Texas A&M, Saturday.
No. 13 Utah (6-2) lost to No. 8 Oregon 35-6. Next: vs. Arizona St., Saturday.
No. 14 Notre Dame (7-2) beat Pittsburgh 58-7. Next: at Clemson, Saturday.
No. 15 LSU (6-2) did not play. Next: at No. 9 Alabama, Saturday.
No. 16 Missouri (7-1) did not play. Next: at No. 1 Georgia, Saturday.
No. 17 North Carolina (6-2) lost to Georgia Tech 46-42. Next: vs. Campbell, Saturday.
No. 18 Louisville (7-1) beat No. 20 Duke 23-0. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.
No. 19 Air Force (8-0) beat Colorado St. 30-13. Next: vs. Army, Saturday.
No. 20 Duke (5-3) lost to No. 18 Louisville 23-0. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Thursday.
No. 21 Tennessee (6-2) beat Kentucky 33-27. Next: vs. Uconn, Saturday.
No. 22 Tulane (7-1) beat Rice 30-28. Next: at East Carolina, Saturday.
No. 23 UCLA (6-2) beat Colorado 28-16. Next: at Arizona, Saturday.
No. 24 Southern Cal (7-2) beat California 50-49. Next: vs. No. 5 Washington, Saturday.
No. 25 James Madison (8-0) beat Old Dominion 30-27. Next: at Georgia St., Saturday.

Officials twice warned fans in the first half, over the public address system, to stop throwing snowballs onto the Air Force sideline or risk ejection and a penalty on the home team. The snowballs persisted when Air Force got the ball to start the third quarter, and the unsportsmanlike penalty levied on the Rams kick-started the Falcons' drive leading to Larrier's tie-breaking 1-yard touchdown

run. After the penalty, fans sitting in the lower stands behind Air Force's sideline were ordered to move up to row 16 or higher, and ushers and security guards formed a protective barrier between the fans and the Air Force players on the sideline.

"They're a spirited student body, which you like from a school," Air Force coach Troy Calhoun said. "They were into it, but when it ends up being a snowball and it's ice and frozen a little bit, then there's a concern there it can hit somebody. But they were stirred up and they were passionate."

The teams played to a 13-all tie in the first half in the driving snow and worsening conditions. Colorado State's Noyes kicked his second field goal, a 49-yarder, in the waning moments of the second quarter to pull the Rams even.

A rugged Air Force defense set up both the Falcons' first-half touchdowns around a long strike by Colorado State, when Fowler-Nicolosi passed downfield to Ross-Simmons for a 61-yard touchdown. Larrier's 9-yard touchdown pass to Dane Kinamon followed Air Force's fourth-down stop near midfield that gave the Falcons a short field when defenders stuffed Fowler-Nicolosi's sneak for no gain.

Linebacker Bo Richter sacked Fowler-Nicolosi and forced a fumble that he returned to the Colorado State 11 yard line. Three plays later, Eldridge took a pitch around right end for a 10-yard score. Dapore missed the extra point.

"It's team football where you get contributions that and somebody does kind of get it going even more so, and we did come up with some key stops," Calhoun said.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

TOP 25 TAKEAWAYS

Sooners sink; expected CFP favorites roll

By RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

The upsets have arrived. Kansas made it two weeks in a row with an unranked team beating a top-10 team, when the Jayhawks knocked No. 6 Oklahoma out of the ranks of the unbeaten Saturday to snap an 18-game losing streak against the Sooners.

OU's loss comes a week after then-No. 10 North Carolina lost to Virginia at home, and three days before the first College Football Playoff rankings are released. Before the Tar Heels were tripped up, there hadn't been a top-10 loss to an unranked team since Week 1.

Kansas' upset wasn't as stunning of Virginia's. These are not your older brother's Jayhawks (6-2). Coach Lance Leipold has Kansas bowl eligible for the second year in a row. That's only happened one other time in the history of the program.

"It's time for me to start talking about how far we've come," Leipold said.

In just three seasons in Lawrence, Leipold has turned around what was the worst Power Five program. The Jayhawks won 21 games from 2010-20.

Kansas' next big win will be convincing Leipold, who won six Division III national titles as coach at Wisconsin-Whitewater and took Buffalo to three bowl games, to stay put. He should expect a call from Michigan State at the very least.

The funny thing is all the Michigan State message board posters fantasizing about the school hiring Urban Meyer should actually be pining for Leipold.

For Oklahoma (7-1), there were signs this could be coming. The Sooners' defense has been shaky since Red River, but the offense had been good enough to mask the problems.

A sloppy performance opened the door to the upset and threw a twist into the Big 12 race, which now has a four-way tie for first and is the first Power Five conference to have no unbeaten teams left.

"No excuses," Oklahoma coach Brent Venables said. "We didn't do the things it takes to win a game — a

tough, tight game. But KU did."

Suddenly, the Kansas State-Texas game next week in Austin looks massive. Both the Wildcats and seventh-ranked Longhorns romped Saturday, but Texas' offense was low-frills against BYU with quarterback Maalik Murphy starting for the injured Quinn Ewers.

It will also be interesting to see where the CFP selection committee ranks Texas relative to Oklahoma. The Sooners beat the Longhorns in a thriller, but it could be argued Texas has been more impressive overall, with that road victory against No. 9 Alabama at the top of the résumé.

Texas also blew out Kansas, for whatever that's worth.

Most of the other highly ranked teams romped Saturday. None more impressively than No. 8 Oregon.

Bo Nix and the Ducks were too much for No. 13 Utah, which has gamely stayed in the Pac-12 race despite been wracked by injuries.

"That's a tough team, but so are we," Oregon coach Dan Lanning said.

That'll be another interesting call for the committee, too. No. 5



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Kansas running back Devin Neal dives past several Oklahoma defenders into the end zone for the winning touchdown during the final minute of the game Saturday. The Jayhawks pulled off the upset 38-33.

Washington beat the Ducks in a classic in Seattle. Still, a case could be made Oregon has been the better team overall.

No. 1 Georgia crushed Florida to begin what it hopes will be a closing stretch that re-asserts the two-time defending national champions' dominance. The Bulldogs are up to 25 straight victories.

No. 2 Michigan was off, though the Wolverines are never out of the news these days.

No. 3 Ohio State pulled away in the fourth quarter against Wisconsin.

No. 4 Florida State had no issue with Wake Forest.

It wasn't all easy. No. 5 Washington had its second-straight sloppy performance against a lower-tier Pac-12 and survived on the road

against Stanford.

No. 10 Penn State looked hungover from its loss at Ohio State and needed a late TD and safety to hold off Indiana. The Nittany Lions will get a chance to re-write their story against No. 2 Michigan in a couple of weeks, but it's hard to consider them a playoff contender at this point.

The line for serious playoff contenders for now is drawn at Alabama, which hosts No. 15 LSU next week in a game that could all but decide the SEC West.

Just another ACC team

North Carolina State beat Clemson in a game that was broadcast on the CW and that it wasn't the least bit surprising says all you need to know about the Tigers right now.

Since Dabo Swinney complained about how Clemson fans were getting spoiled and maybe the team needed to lose a few to empty out the bandwagon, the Tigers (4-4) have lost two straight.

Mission accomplished, coach. Clemson's streak of 12 straight seasons with at least 10 wins is over.

The most-damning assessment of Clemson right now is the simple truth: The Tigers are just another middle-of-the-pack Atlantic Coast Conference team.

Around the country: Oklahoma State's Ollie Gordon II had 19 carries in Oklahoma State's first three games. He's run for over 100 yards in five straight since, including an eye-popping 553 on 54 carries in the last two games. The Sooners come to Stillwater next week for the last Big 12 Bedlam Game. ... Northwestern knocked off Maryland to improve 4-4 and move into contention — yes, really — in the muddled Big Ten West. The Wild-

cats are a game behind a four-way tie for first between Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Nebraska, all 3-2. Give the Wildcats and interim coach David Braun credit for salvaging a season that seemed doomed after the hazing scandal that led to the firing of Pat Fitzgerald. ... Which will be the highest ranked team from outside the Power Five in the CFP rankings? Tulane should be in the running with unbeaten No. 19 Air Force, which beat Colorado State in the snow. No. 25 James Madison (8-0) of the Sun Belt remains unbeaten but ineligible for the postseason in its second transition year to the FBS, and therefore ineligible for the CFP rankings. ... Miami won a second straight overtime game, this time against Virginia, which might be the best 2-6 team in the country. The Hurricanes (6-2) are bowl-eligible for the first time under second-year coach Mario Cristobal and this season would feel a lot different but for that Georgia Tech debacle. Miami is still in position to make noise in the ACC, though, with games against Florida State and No. 18 Louisville, which shut out No. 20 Duke, still to come. ... Some teams that have quietly righted their seasons: Iowa State (5-3) is part of that four-way tie for first in the Big 12; Boston College (5-3) has won four straight games and is in good position to become bowl-eligible; UTSA has won four straight — all in conference — since getting QB Frank Harris healthy, and is tied for first in the American. ... No. 24 USC snapped a two-game losing streak, beating Cal in very USC-fashion. The Trojans are technically still in the thick of the Pac-12 race, but what's the chances this team can hold up against Washington and Oregon the next two weeks?



MORRY GASH/AP

Ohio State's Marvin Harrison Jr. makes a catch with Wisconsin's Jason Maitre defending on Saturday in Madison, Wis. Ohio State won 24-10.

WORLD SERIES

Even: Texas has won all 8 road playoff games

FROM PAGE 24

old Evan Longoria each singled in a run for Arizona, which got its first World Series road win after four losses dating to 2001.

The best-of-seven Series, just the third between wild-card teams, shifts to Arizona for Game 3 on Monday in the first Series game at Phoenix since 2001.

Texas has won all eight of its road games this postseason, equaling a major league record.

“We’d be naive to think that we’re going to run away with four in a row against a team that really fights hard like the same way we did,” Rangers first baseman Nathaniel Lowe said.

Kelly was drafted by Tampa Bay in 2010 and had spent six seasons in the minors when he was told by pitcher Doug Mathis he had been spotted by a South Korean scout while pitching in Rochester, N.Y. Kelly’s agents at Apex Baseball arranged a contract and Kelly spent 2015-18 with SK Wyverns in Incheon.

“I definitely had visions and images about me sitting on this podium,” Kelly said in the postgame interview room, recounting how he got up each morning, made coffee and checked MLB games. “It felt literally and figuratively miles away.”

In an on-field interview with MLB Network, he called it “Lost in Translation” type stuff, referring to the 2003 Sofia Coppola movie of cultural displacement, saying “as far as how they view pitching, for four years I pretty much had to figure it out myself.”

“The coaches that I had, the translation factor, obviously, is a bit of a hindrance,” he said later in the interview room. “At the end of the day, I think what helped over there the most is almost being my own voice and my own pitching coach.”

Kelly made his big league debut with Arizona in 2019 and is 48-43. He went 12-8 with a 3.29 ERA in 30

starts this season and is 3-1 with a 2.25 ERA in four postseason starts.

He went to only one three-ball count Saturday.

“Just great command. He hit his spots all night, four pitches. He was on,” Rangers manager Bruce Bochy said.

Kelly’s grandmother June was at the game and he looked forward to seeing her for the first time since a 2011 visit when he was driving to spring training with his wife. Kelly’s brother Reed also was in the stands. Last year, Merrill took Reed to Game 3 of the World Series in Philadelphia.

“His birthday is Halloween,” Merrill Kelly said. “He texted me the other day saying that obviously this is probably the best birthday present I could give him.”

Pham-tastic

Pham, a trade-deadline acquisition from the New York Mets, entered in a 3-for-29 skid that included a Game 1 homer. He singled in the second, hit opposite-field doubles to right in the fourth and sixth, and singled in the eighth. He also was picked off second base by Montgomery.

Pham was inspired by Kurt Reece’s self-help book “Good Is The Enemy Of Great.”

“One of my mentors, who the St. Louis Cardinals hired, he gave it to a group of us to read that were hand-chosen from the Cardinals to work with him,” Pham said. “Highly recommend it.”

Slow down

Montgomery, coming off his second big league relief appearance, a win in Game 7 of the ALCS at Houston on Monday, had a velocity dip of about 1.5 mph from his season average. Diamondbacks batters failed to make contact on just two of the 37 pitches they swung at.

“Sometimes you’ve just got to grit,” he said.



GODOFREDO A. VÁSQUEZ/AP

Texas Rangers starting pitcher Jordan Montgomery holds his hat after giving up a home run to the Arizona Diamondbacks’ Gabriel Moreno during the fourth inning of Game 2 in Arlington, Texas. Montgomery allowed four runs on nine hits, pitching into the seventh inning without recording a strikeout.

Montgomery has gritty start, suffers first loss

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — As gritty as Jordan Montgomery was in his first World Series start for the Texas Rangers, including an unexpected third time through the middle of an Arizona lineup that had already hurt him, the left-hander just wasn’t at his best.

“Just kind of tried to piece together as many outs as I could for the guys,” Montgomery said after his first postseason loss. “Obviously I didn’t have my best stuff. But you’re not going to be perfect out there every time. And just sometimes you’ve just got to grit.”

Five days after pitching 2½ innings in relief to win the deciding Game 7 in the AL Championship Series, Montgomery’s sinker velocity was down from his season average, as was the spin on his curveball. He got only two swing-and-misses while pitching into the seventh inning and didn’t record a single strikeout.

Montgomery allowed four runs and nine hits as the Rangers fell 9-1 to the Diamondbacks. That evened the series at a game apiece going into Game 3 at Arizona on Monday night.

“He was pitching well. Here he was in the seventh, the pitch count was good, had a one-run ballgame,” manager Bruce Bochy said when asked if Montgomery’s second career relief outing threw him out of his normal routine. “That’s always a hard one to answer. But he felt good. ... I don’t know how much it affected him,



World Series
x-if necessary (Best-of-seven)
Arizona 1, Texas 1
Texas 6, Arizona 5, 11 innings
Saturday: Arizona 9, Texas 1
Monday: Texas (Scherzer 13-6) at Arizona (Pfaadt 3-9), **AFN-Sports, 1 a.m. Tuesday CET; 9 a.m. Tuesday JKT**
Tuesday: at Arizona, **AFN-Sports, 1 a.m. Wednesday CET; 9 a.m. Wednesday JKT**
Wednesday: at Arizona, **AFN-Sports, 1 a.m. Thursday CET; 9 a.m. Thursday JKT**
x-Friday: at Texas, **AFN-Sports, 1 a.m. Saturday CET; 9 a.m. Saturday JKT**
x-Saturday, Nov. 4: at Texas, **AFN-Sports, 1 a.m. Sunday CET; 9 a.m. Sunday JKT**

but he’s not saying it did.”
Montgomery, who threw 50 of his 75 pitches for strikes and walked only one batter, said he was on his regular rest and had a good bullpen session after the ALCS clincher.

“Pretty much one or two mistakes that hurt us, but other than that, I thought he pitched really well,” All-Star catcher Jonah Heim said.

A trade-deadline acquisition from the St. Louis Cardinals, the 30-year-old Montgomery is eligible for free agency after the season. He had been 3-0 with a 2.16 ERA in his first five playoff games.

The Rangers’ bullpen was stirring in the fifth inning, just like in Game 1. But Montgomery got out of it on consecutive popouts by Ketel Marte and Corbin Carroll, the

top two batters in Arizona’s lineup.

It certainly looked like that could be the end of the night for Montgomery, considering what was coming up next.

Arizona had gone ahead 2-0 in a four-batter stretch in the fourth, when Gabriel Moreno homered, Tommy Pham hit a one-out double and Lourdes Gurriel drove in Pham with a single. The only out in that span was on All-Star rookie third baseman Josh Jung’s incredible defensive play, when he made a backhanded diving stop, got up in foul territory and threw out Christian Walker at first.

But Montgomery came back out in the sixth and Moreno swung at the first pitch, dribbling a ball about 3 feet in front of the plate — about 410 feet shorter than his homer — where Heim pounced on the ball. Walker popped up the third pitch before Pham doubled for the third of his four hits and Gurriel was intentionally walked. Montgomery then picked off Pham, who got too far off second base, to end the inning.

“Executed some good changeups and got some quick outs,” Montgomery said. “Pham put another good swing on a sinker, put it down the line, and caught him a little overaggressive at second.”

With the bottom of the order due, the lefty went back out for the seventh, but gave up consecutive hits to the Nos. 7-8 batters, the first a left-hander. That ended Montgomery’s night, and both eventually scored to put Arizona up 4-1.



GODOFREDO A. VÁSQUEZ/AP

The Diamondbacks’ Emmanuel Rivera scores as Rangers catcher Jonah Heim tries to tag him Saturday during the eighth inning of Game 2 of the World Series in Arlington, Texas. Arizona won 9-1.

SPORTS



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WORLD SERIES

Diamondbacks even it up

Kelly dominates after Korean detour as Arizona routs Texas

BY RONALD BLUM
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Merrill Kelly called his four-season detour to South Korea a “Lost in Translation” experience. When he made his World Series debut, it was Texas Rangers batters who were disoriented.

The 35-year-old right-hander pitched three-hit ball over seven innings, Ketel Marte extended his postseason hitting streak to a record 18 games and the Arizona Diamondbacks routed Texas 9-1 on Saturday night to even the World Series at one game apiece.

“At this point in my career, nothing is going to shock me,” Kelly said. “I think going over to Korea as a 26-year-old is way scarier than pitching in the big leagues or even in the World Series.”

Kelly struck out nine, walked none and allowed his only run on Mitch Garver’s leadoff homer in the fifth on a sinker at the bottom of the strike zone. His 22 called strikes were the most for a Series pitcher since Stephen Strasburg in Game 6 for the 2019 Washington Nationals.

“I thought he might go nine innings today at one point,” Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo said, contemplating what would have been the first complete game in the World Series since 2015. “But for that to happen, 89 pitches, you’ve got to jump him up probably another 35. I wasn’t going to let him throw 120 pitches.”

Gabriel Moreno hit a go-ahead homer in a two-run fourth against Jordan Montgomery, and Tommy Pham went 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles. Arizona batters broke it open late as the young Diamondbacks rebounded quickly from an agonizing defeat the night before. Marte had a two-run single in a three-run eighth, snapping a tie for the longest postseason hitting streak with Derek Jeter, Manny Ramírez and Hank Bauer. Marte has a hit in every postseason game he’s ever played.

A night after wasting a two-run, ninth-inning lead in a 6-5, 11-inning loss, the Diamondbacks out-hit Texas 16-4 — the most hits for one team in a Series game in nine years.

Emmanuel Rivera also had a two-run single, and rookie Corbin Carroll had a pair of RBI singles. Lourdes Gurriel Jr. and 38-year-

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Lovullo



PHOTOS BY JULIO CORTEZ/AP

Above: Arizona Diamondbacks starting pitcher Merrill Kelly throws against the Texas Rangers on Saturday during Game 2 of the World Series. The 35-year-old right-hander gave up three hits over seven innings, striking out nine and walking none. Left: Arizona’s Ketel Marte hits a two-run single during the eighth inning. Marte extended his postseason hitting streak to a record 18 games.



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